

# THE LAKEWOOD OBSERVER

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

Volume 2, Issue 21, October 17, 2006

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Tom Barrett's Rosewood Place

## Lakewood's Newest "Place" Almost Ready

By Stan Austin

It started as a vacant used car lot with a shack in the middle. Tom Barrett and North Coast Capital Partners saw that lot and had a vision. They saw the luxury of city living within a real community and all its amenities.

Dirt was turned in a Lakewood civic ceremony in early spring at the corner of Rosewood and Detroit Avenues. The drawings showed an elegant building with shops on the ground floor and expanses of glass leading to two story town homes above. The promise was made for occupancy by the end of the year.

Rosewood Place delivered and is on schedule for a brokers open house this October 17 and 31 and a public open house October 22.

The Observer went for a tour of the bones of the building, before the finishing materials go up. Construction standards in the United States

have become more stringent over the past few decades with particular attention being paid to energy efficiency. An upscale homeowner demands it. Rosewood Place delivers it. Steel and concrete frame the first floor. The walls are different patterns of brick which are distinctive yet blend with existing buildings. The roof exceeds insulating standards by over 40%. Dramatic two story window expanses offer views of Lakewood that will be memorable.

All of the new exterior ties in with a completely refurbished building next door.

Inside, an elevator takes the owner up to the suites. State of the art security allows the owner to let visitors upstairs wherever his cell phone might ring. Inside, strong construction is evident. Silent wall systems have been developed in the last few years by the construction industry and are used between suites. Skylights let an abundance of natural light in to compliment the expansive



Tom Barrett stands in the near-completed structure for Rosewood Place.

front and side windows.

A porch or a rear outdoor balcony tops off the features.

Rosewood Place will not only be the new destination place in Lakewood, it is already in a prime location, a few blocks from the new

YMCA, the new Lakewood Library, coffee shops, and restaurants, and is only a ten-minute drive from Cleveland Hopkins airport.

Drive by or better yet walk by and see the new look of Lakewood and stop in for the open houses.

## Sexually Violent Predator Gets Life Plus Plus

By Kenneth Warren

Phillip Distasio, the admitted Rocky River pedophile whose ideas on ministry, sanctuary and teaching children compelled Lakewood Observer citizen journalists in June 2005 to notify police authorities in Lakewood and Rocky River, received twenty six consecutive life sentences without parole for seventy four counts

including rape and kidnapping from Common Pleas Judge Kathleen Sutula on Monday, October 16.

In a courtroom packed with victims, their parents and relatives, the long-winded Distasio declared his faith in God, the change in his nature and the messianic thrust of his pedophile ministry. Shorn of mutton-chops and pony tail, Distasio said that it was his intention to get arrested by divulging

information about his sanctuary for pedophiles to hackers, journalists and police. He explained to Judge Sutula that he was leading the way to the redemption and protection of society.

Distasio's rambling and self-aggrandizing dissertation lacked any measure of remorse for his crimes, however. Consequently Judge Sutula cut him off and chastised him for his arrogance.

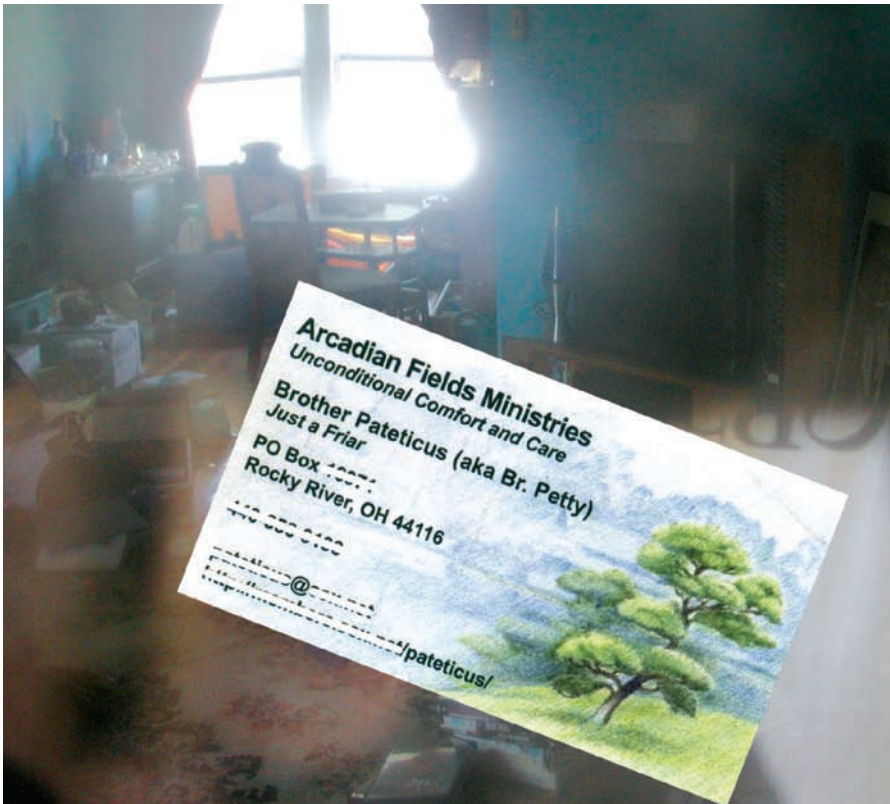
With courage and emotional power, victims and parents of victims then petitioned Judge Sutula to administer the maximum sentence with no opportunity for parole.

After calling Distasio's statement to the court "a bunch of crap" and his ministry "a joke," the parent of one victim thanked the Lakewood Observer "for seeing what I was unable to see."

Assistant County Prosecutor Brendan Sheehan presented sexually explicit excerpts from Distasio's journals, which described criminal acts and named names of seven autistic boys he molested while employed in the PEP program. To convince Judge Sutula to administer the strongest possible sentence, moreover, Sheehan was prepared to present as further evidence Distasio's videotapes of sexual encounters with children. Judge Sutula did not deem such viewing necessary for the sentencing.

Judge Sutula declared Distasio a

sexually violent predator and stipulated that no Internet computer access be granted him in prison. In addition, Distasio will be assigned an attorney, who will screen all incoming and outgoing mail in order to ensure no one else is victimized by the sexually violent predator's attempts at ministry from behind prison walls.



Distasio's apartment, and his business card promising comfort and care!

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# Government

## Investigation into the Pending Sale of 18 Tops Grocery Stores to Giant Eagle: Kucinich Works to Mitigate Effects of Sale on Consumers and Workers

Washington - Congressman Dennis J. Kucinich (D-OH), today, personally delivered a letter to the offices of Attorney General Gonzales and to the five Federal Trade Commissioners at the Justice Department and FTC urging an investigation into the recently announced sale of 18 Tops grocery stores to Giant Eagle.

“This is about the price of food. This is about jobs. This action is essential to protect consumers and workers in Northeast Ohio. Possible market domination by Giant Eagle in the Northeast Ohio grocery market is real and federal intervention is the most appropriate step,” stated Kucinich. “We have to examine any potential impacts on the price of food in the region resulting from this acquisition.”

“Because of the serious effects this transaction will have on the grocery and labor markets in Northeast Ohio, I ask that you look closely at this proposed merger agreement and provide the tough scrutiny that the people of Northeast Ohio and the nation deserve with respect to transactions which could cause illegal market domination,” stated Kucinich in the letter.

“All 4,000 Tops employees will lose their jobs as a result of this sale, whether buyers are found for the other 28 stores or not. There is no guarantee that Giant Eagle will retain any of the laid off workers,” stated Kucinich in the letter.

The Kucinich letter, sent today, states:

I am writing to express my concern about the recently announced sale of 18 Tops grocery chain stores to the Giant Eagle grocery chain.



Politicians and union leaders from all over Northern Ohio came to Lakewood to show support for Congressman Kucinich’s discussion. Here Lakewood’s Mayor Thomas George, Cleveland Councilman Kevin Conwell, Congressman Dennis Kucinich, State Representatives Kenny Yuko, and Mike Skindell.

I am concerned about possible market domination by Giant Eagle in the Northeast Ohio grocery market. I am concerned about the impact on the price of food in the region if this acquisition is allowed to go forward. I am concerned about the Giant Eagle’s control of the region’s warehouse facilities. I am concerned about smaller grocery chains falling under the control of Giant Eagle.

Under the letter of intent, Giant Eagle will purchase 18 Tops stores. The fate of the other 28 area Tops stores is unknown. Some of the 18 Tops stores, such as the Lakewood store in Ohio’s 10th Congressional District, will become Giant Eagle’s while Giant Eagle shuts down nearby Giant Eagle stores. Others, such as the Tops on Buckeye Road in Cleveland, will become a Dave’s Supermarket, with Giant Eagle pharmacies and food commodities supplied by Giant Eagle warehouses.

According to the Cleveland Plain Dealer, a “source in the grocery community says a group of buyers is interested in keeping all 46 stores locally owned and operated,” but Tops declined to discuss other possible buyers. See, Janet H. Cho, “Questions surround rival’s bid for Tops,” The Plain Dealer, Oct. 14, 2006, p. C1.

Not only could this sale of assets from Tops to Giant Eagle violate antitrust laws, but there are serious implications for the labor market in Cleveland. Today’s Plain Dealer reports that a union representative visited the Lorain Avenue store in the 10th District advising workers that they “would lose seniority, pay and benefits when the business converted to Giant Eagle.” See, Alison Grant, “Grocery chain cuts

pay after store buy,” The Plain Dealer, Oct. 16, 2006, p. A1.

All 4,000 Tops employees will lose their jobs as a result of this sale, whether buyers are found for the other 28 stores or not. There is no guarantee that Giant Eagle will retain any of the laid off workers.

Because of the serious effects this transaction will have on the grocery and labor markets in Northeast Ohio, I ask that you look closely at this proposed merger agreement and provide the tough scrutiny that the people of Northeast Ohio and the nation deserve with respect to transactions which could cause illegal market domination.

Specifically, the manner in which this agreement was executed, raises questions as to whether this transaction would tend to substantially lessen competition and create a monopoly in violation of federal antitrust law. See, e.g., United States v. Von’s Grocery Co., 384 U.S. 270 (1966); Clayton Act Section 7, 15 U.S.C. 18.

Thank you for your attention to this serious matter on behalf of the people who will be affected by this transaction.

Sincerely,  
Dennis J. Kucinich  
Member of Congress



THE

LAKWOOD

OBSERVER

Your Independent Source for  
Lakewood News & Opinion

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

## Leukemia And Lymphoma Fundraiser To Be Held In Lakewood

### News Release

Local favorite Crazy Rita’s will be hosting a fundraiser for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society on October 21st, 2006. The fundraiser is being held to raise money for research aimed at finding a cure for leukemia, lym-

phoma, Hodgkin’s disease and other types of cancer. Come enjoy food, live music and fun while pitching in to fight the good fight!

The event will feature a Chinese Raffle including prizes such as a Browns tailgate package, gift certificates to local restaurants and much

more. Tickets cost \$25 and can be purchased at the door. The ticket includes one free drink, all you can eat buffet and two raffle tickets. Additional raffle tickets can be purchased at the event.

Please help support this important cause by stopping at Crazy Rita’s on Saturday, October 21st at 6 p.m.

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!**



Good News  
for the Community



## Primary Stroke Center Receives Gold Seal of Approval

Lakewood Hospital has once again been certified as a Primary Stroke Center by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations. Earning the Gold Seal of Approval™ for health care quality in recognition of exceptional efforts and superior stroke care is a distinction achieved by only 14 hospitals in Ohio and a few select hospitals in the nation.

It takes a team of highly skilled health care professionals supported with state-of-the-art technology to receive the distinction as a JCAHO-accredited Primary Stroke Center.

**Congratulations and thank you to our employees, medical staff, volunteers and pre-hospital care providers for your dedication to putting Patients First.**

For a free stroke information kit, call 1.877.234.3488 or go to [www.lakewoodhospital.org/stroke](http://www.lakewoodhospital.org/stroke)

Your Life is Our Life's Work.



# Lakewood City Council

## Winterhurst Report

# Citizen Action at its Best

Council Vice President Michael Dever, substituting for Council President Robert Seelie, called the October 2 meeting to order.

Lakewood is fortunate because it can rely on enthusiastic and qualified citizen volunteers for task forces on important issues. One of the best examples of such a group was the Winterhurst Task Force which presented its findings to council on Monday night.

This group was formed after the budget hearings last winter. Those hearings pointed out continuing financial problems and an outdated physical plant at the ice facility, which jeopardized its very existence. Winterhurst encapsulates the full range of Lakewood from the grit of hockey teams to the world-class excellence of figure skaters. This was reflected by the task force chairman, Corky O’Sullivan providing the grit and Olympic gold medalist Carol Heiss-Jenkins supplying the elegance. Heiss-Jenkins leads the Figure Skating Club which counts as its members Miki Ondo, the Japanese National Champion, and former Olympian Tim Goebel.

The committee determined that the rink had to increase its profits. First, a more accurate accounting method must be applied to the rink such as

By Stan Austin  
City Council Reporter

making it an enterprise fund. Currently, the rink bears costs that aren’t incurred by it and consequently makes its financial condition look worse than if it were an enterprise or stand-alone fund. Then, a comprehensive financial management and marketing plan can be applied. Better exploitation of advertising space and signage along with rental rate increases should all be implemented.

Included in this portion would be an improved concession stand and spectator area. Other rinks have found that turning this portion of operation over to a private concessionaire increases profits dramatically.

Physically, the rink needs major upgrades. The facility is over 30 years old and much of the HVAC equipment is not up to today’s efficiency standards. A refurbishing of the bleacher areas and making them handicap accessible is necessary.

Finally, the task force felt that the rink should have a specific council committee committed to its oversight and a permanent citizens oversight committee.

All council members as well as

Mayor George expressed deep appreciation for the task force’s timely and comprehensive report.


The Lakewood Chamber of Commerce has been providing quarterly observations from the business community to council. Terry Vincent of the Chamber reported on several issues. Specifically, he said the chamber supports proposals for pay raises for the position of mayor and council. “Empirical data and common sense support this raise,” he said. The chamber was also supportive of rate increases for parking meters.

Council and the Mayor then voiced unanimous support for County Issue 18 which will appear on the November ballot. This is a measure to increase the sales tax on cigarettes sold in Cuyahoga County and applying the proceeds to the arts community in the county. George indicated that the arts are a huge economic development component in Lakewood and add to the quality of life in the city.


Council members Ryan Demro (ward two) and Kevin Butler (ward one) each submitted proposals for a pay raise for the positions of mayor

and council. The amounts in each proposal were different and Demro wants health insurance premiums that are accepted by council members applied against the salary. Both measures will go before the committee of the whole. In Corridor Comments, Mayor George pointed out that the Charter currently provides for automatic salary adjustments for the mayor so the issue might be moot.

Public Works Director Tony Beno then requested that council suspend the rules to allow the city to apply immediately for a grant from the Ohio Public Works Commission to pay for half of the estimated \$3.5 million Clifton water main project. The city had previously applied for a full grant and was turned down. Council member Edward Fitzgerald (at large) questioned the urgency of the request. He has complained in the past that the administration does not allow council to provide proper oversight if council can’t give three readings to non-urgent issues. Planning Director Thomas Jordan indicated that the city engineer was notified only days before that the commission might look favorably on a reduced request and that new information was what drove the urgency of the request.



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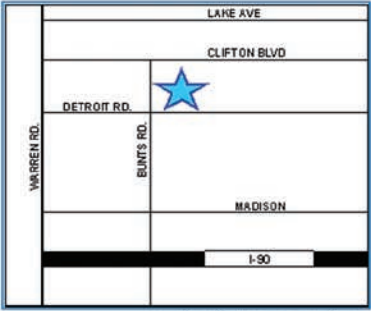
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# Lakewood Public Library

## Lakewood Public Library Offers Homework Help and More for Students

By Andrew Harant

It's 3:00 p.m. on a weekday, so the Homework Doctor is in. This doctor's office is an emergency room for homework maladies in Children and Youth Services at Lakewood Public Library called Homework ER.

From 3:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m., Mondays through Thursdays, children's librarians transform part of the library into this homework help program, complete with school supplies and reference materials, which include dictionaries, thesauri and copies of many of the textbooks used by Lakewood City Schools. Plus, a librarian is always on hand to assist the students with questions they may have about their assignments.

Since October, 2001, Homework ER has been assisting students in kindergarten through eighth grade with their homework and providing an atmosphere in which to work at both Main Library and Madison Branch. To date, almost 13,000 students have used this service.

In conjunction with Homework ER, Lakewood Public Library offers other after-school programs for students in grades kindergarten through eight, providing them with options for personal growth through entertainment and education in the hours between school and dinner.



Children's librarian Kate MacGregor works with students in Lakewood Public Library's homework help center.

In the 4:00 Club, students make crafts, play games and do other activities. This program, which begins at its namesake time, is offered Monday through Friday during the school year at both Main Library and Madison Branch. Each day of the week has a different theme: Mondays and Fridays are craft days; Tuesdays are mystery days; Wednesdays feature music, movement or drama; and Thursdays are game days. Last year alone, 2,600 students participated in the club.

Family TekTurns, a program in

which students can play computer games, occurs at 3:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. and is held in the Computer Connections Room in the basement of Main Library. Students may choose from a wide variety of CD-ROM games that were selected for this room for their combination of education and entertainment values.

Main Library's Technology Center and Madison Branch offer yet another after-school program designed to help students complete their assignments and gain self-knowledge. Homework

Connections, a time for students to use computers for research and word processing, is offered at each location Monday through Thursday, 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., and Sunday, 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

On top of the programs the library offers after school, Lakewood Public Library reaches out to students during the school day by visiting classrooms with books, storytelling and activities. Last year, children's librarians from Main Library and Madison Branch presented programs to each grade level from kindergarten through eighth and at most of the schools in Lakewood, including every elementary school, all but one of the parochial schools and two of the three middle schools. In total, over 900 library programs were presented at schools to over 17,500 students. Teachers may request programs for their classrooms from Lakewood Public Library's menu of ready-to-go programs called "Library Goes to School" or work with a children's librarian to plan unique programs specifically tailored to a class's needs.

For more information on Lakewood Public Library's after-school or outreach programs, contact Children's and Youth Services at (216) 226-8275, extension 140 or Madison Branch at (216) 228-7428.

### Lakewood Public Library Events Calendar

<p>Wednesday, October 18:</p> <p>Job Hunting on the Internet This hands-on tour of career-related sites will show you how to find a job using the Internet. Call 226-8275 to register. 7:00 p.m. in the Technology Center.</p> <p>Friday, October 20:</p> <p>Fall Book Sale 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium</p> <p>Saturday, October 21:</p> <p>Fall Book Sale 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium</p> <p>WEB SEARCHING BASICS</p> <p>Find what you're looking for on the Internet with strategies for speed and precision. For more information about our class schedule, visit <a href="http://www.lkwdpl.org/classes/">http://www.lkwdpl.org/classes/</a>. 3:00 p.m. in the Main Library Technology Center Family Music and More: Dos Cuentos, Dos Lenguajes—Stories and Songs by Kulture Kids 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium</p> <p>Monday, October 23:</p> <p>Authors in the Area: Gift of Incense: A Story of Love and Revolution in Ethiopia by Judith Ashakih Share in the unique life story of an East African musician, Abraham Ashakih, from his childhood in Eritrea, to the court of Emperor Haile Selassie, through the military revolution of 1974 and on to Northeast Ohio to open a nightclub. As told by his widow, this loving memoir began as a family history and grew into an inspirational story for everyone. 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium</p>	<p>Tuesday, October 24:</p> <p>Maintenance and Efficiency</p> <p>Inspect your home from the roof to the basement with tips from the Cleveland Restoration Society and make your older home more energy efficient. 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium</p> <p>Saturday, October 28</p> <p>E-mail Basics It's not too late to join the e-mail revolution. Keep in touch with friends and family. Call 226-8275 to register. 3:00 p.m. in the Main Library Technology Center</p> <p>Writer's Workshop</p> <p>Renew your creative energy and get positive feedback from fellow writers. Whether you're a seasoned pro or just have a hankering to write, everyone is welcome to join this workshop. 4:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium</p> <p>Sunday, October 29:</p> <p>UP ensemble This eclectic, instrumental trio is back by popular demand! 2:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium</p> <p>Monday, October 30:</p> <p>In Other Worlds: Homeland - The Dark Elf Trilogy</p> <p>Our resident barbarian, Nick Kelley, conquers the worlds of Fantasy and Science Fiction in this exciting new book club. Tonight's title is Homeland - The Dark Elf Trilogy by R.A. Salvatore. Book one of this classic trilogy recounts the origin of Drizzt Do'Urden, one of the best-known figures in fantasy literature. 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium</p>
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Lakewood Opinion

Tales of a Gen-X G.D.I.

How I Got George Bush Elected

By Bret Callentine

For those of you with Attention Deficit Disorder, I'll skip to the chase: I'm the man you hate. In a state with a delicate balance between Republican and Democrat, a state that holds the key to the Electoral College, its me, a thirty-something, middle-income, middle-American, self-professed Independent that cast one of the deciding votes in 2004 that handed "W" four more years.

But here's the kicker: even knowing what we know now, I'd do it again in a heartbeat. And until the Democratic party understands the reasons behind my actions, I've got bad news for them in the years and elections to come.

Before you start calling me names and trying to pigeon-hole me into some pre-conceived conservative classification, I'll tell you right where I stand:

I'm pro choice – although I do think minors should be required to get parental consent before getting an abortion, and each state should be allowed to hold their own vote on what is and isn't legal.

I'm for the Iraq war – the "W.M.D.'s" are not the issue. Hussein was testing us, breaking nearly all of the treaties signed at the conclusion of

Desert Storm, and America had to reassert itself.

I believe in God – and I think it's reprehensible that American schools confuse the "Theory" of evolution with the "Fact" that we as humans will never be able to prove how the universe came into being.

I'm in favor of gay marriage – and until someone gives me one solid non-religiously founded reason why it should be illegal, I think the government has no grounds upon which to reject it.

The point I'm trying to make is this: winning my vote, and winning elections, is no longer just a matter of ideological position. I think it's safe to say that no single candidate will ever reflect the exact mindset of you or me on all of the issues we're faced with in society. The world is way too divided among way too many issues for any one person to cover all the combinations.

With the understanding that we won't get everything we want, the game switches to a delicate balancing act. We weigh the positives of what we do get against the potential negatives of what we do not. A difficult equation that can only be completed by knowing the details behind each candidate's intended course of action.

And herein lies the problem that

has held back the Democrats for the past several years. In general, the only candidates coming forth with a plan of action are the Republicans. When the two parties are confronted with questions, the Republican candidate will tell you his plan, and the Democrat will tell you that the Republican is wrong. We're left with only "Plan A" and "Not Plan A".

A case in point was the 2004 discussion on public education. Although personally I despise Bush's policies (which my family refers to as "No Child Gets Ahead"), the only thing I consistently heard out of the Kerry camp was a need to increase funding. Yes, Kerry gave different speeches in which he talked about options such as "charter schools", etc. But on the whole, it appeared to me that he was searching for votes, not presenting a course of action. In my judgment as a voter, Kerry built his political platform aiming for popularity, while Bush focused on a specific plan.

Standing at the voting booth, I found myself feeling like a contestant on the 70's game show "Let's Make a Deal". Monty Hall was offering me a choice between the set of luggage or what's behind curtain number two. And while I don't necessarily need an

orange plaid suitcase, it's better than risking the chance of getting the donkey while hoping for the car. While it doesn't exactly suit my personal beliefs, knowing what's ahead of me, I can work with Bush's system. I can focus my efforts to adapt and create positive effects. And knowing where you stand is always more advantageous than "going in blind".

While I'm not a political strategist, I'd bet it's this distrust in the unknown that has swung the popular vote. The voting populace is ever-changing, and as Generation-X slowly overtakes the power of the Baby Boomers, the middle-ground, independently-minded voters would rather face an opponent they know than put their trust in a stranger.

So if you still want my vote, calling yourself a Republican or Democrat will get you no favors. Stop the name calling and end the blame game. Don't come to me with vague promises; have a plan and a backbone strong enough to stand up for it.

When I go to the polls, if there is no candidate who completely fits the bill, I look for leadership founded on principal, not promises based on political gain. And if the Democrats don't like it, they can continue to watch from the sidelines.

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Lakewood Chamber of Commerce and Beck Center Sponsor Halloween Window Painting Contest

This Halloween watch the school kids in the community transform the West End of Lakewood along Detroit Avenue into a SPOOKY outdoor art gallery with the 2nd Annual West End Halloween Window Walk.

Many of the West End businesses have agreed to have their store front windows painted by Lakewood students in grade K-12 for a Halloween window painting contest. Last year we had over 80 painted store front windows and over 100 children participated! The second year will be even better!

Students will begin painting on October 22nd and must finish their masterpieces before the judging takes place on Friday, October 27th. An awards ceremony will take place at The Beck Center for the Arts on Saturday the 28th at 1:30 p.m. Several West End businesses are sponsoring \$50 Best in Show prizes in 4 different age groups, a family category, and a group

category. The Beck Center for the Arts is donating Honorable Mention prizes.

After the awards ceremony, students from the Beck Center will be dressed in costumes and handing out candy along the West End of Lakewood, and the community is invited to TRICK OR TREAT while admiring the talent of our aspiring artists. Many other fun family activities are planned that day; like a harvest festival and pet blessing at the Lakewood Congregational Church, face painting by Venture Crew 1932 in front of the Beck Center, live music and more!

So sign your kids up to paint or come down to the West End and enjoy the fun. But beware...the 2nd Annual West End Halloween Window Walk won't last long. The window paintings mysteriously disappear after Halloween and won't return until next year. For more information please contact the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce at (216) 226-2900.

Lakewood Chamber of Commerce To Host Election Luncheon

The Lakewood Chamber of Commerce will be hosting their annual October Election Luncheon at Sweetwater Landing on Friday, October 20th at 11:30 am. Informed speakers will be discussing both sides of important issues facing Lakewood voters on the

November Ballot. The cost is \$15.00 for chamber members and \$20.00 for non-members. Space is limited so reservations are required. Contact the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce office at 216-226-2900 for more information.



You Are Here

Eileen Libens



Coy pond in Eileen’s Back Yard.

By Jason Weiner

You Are Here is a photo-documentary project that highlights what Lakewood residents think and feel about their city. We feel a project like this shares a great affinity with many of the community efforts going on in our city. We are witnessing the emergence of an engaged, pro-active and committed community dedicated to creating the kind of place that we want to live in. But the question remains: who are you? To answer that, we would like to use this project as a forum to meet as many Lakewood residents as possible. We would like to photograph you in your favorite place in Lakewood and discuss with you what you feel makes Lakewood a special place. These biographical vignettes will regularly be published in the Lakewood Observer. Publishing them in the Observer means that you get to share, and other people get to learn about, who you are and what you feel makes Lakewood a special place. Ultimately, a quilt of individuals and experiences will be available to all who live here, and those who do not live here yet, strengthening the sense of community that is Lakewood, Ohio.

Are you interested in participating? Contact Jason Weiner and Kristine Williams at lakewoodandyou@yahoo.com or by calling 216.221.5146.

Her Own Little Space

Eileen Libens is 64 years old, born and raised in Lakewood. She is

a Conference Center Coordinator and Caterer for IMG. Her favorite Place is the Koi Pond in her back yard.

“I just like the closeness. You always want to have a little more land but still having the neighbors relatively close, I find that pleasant... I can’t imagine leaving. When I lost my tree I was a little depressed because it was so beautiful. And I did look at different places, condominiums and things like that and then I thought, I can’t leave. I can’t do it. So I came back home and I’m here to stay. So I’m constantly redoing the house so I can get my wheelchair around or my walker or whatever, you know, when the time comes. That’s the idea. To be here until the end.

I do go to Caribou. I like their lattes (laughs). I go there a lot. I do try to utilize anything Lakewood. As a matter of fact, if I have something going on, Lakewood is the first [phone] book that I open or I do call Jeff Fillar [Acting Assistant Building Commissioner for Residential Housing, City of Lakewood] and say, OK, who do you suggest to do plumbing, electrician... He’s very good about suggesting.”

Jason Weiner lives in Lakewood with his wife, Kristine Williams, and their two dogs, cat, and several fish. He teaches Sociology and plays drums; she teaches third grade and does painting and knitting for local galleries. Jason’s favorite place in Lakewood is the Purple Martin house in Lakewood Park, while Kristine is perfectly content under the oak trees in their own back yard.

Kiwanis Blood Drive Huge Success  
Red Cross Overwhelmed By Turnout



Sean Twining & his dad pose for a picture with Marilyn Monroe & Humphrey Bogart cutouts after Sean gave a pint of blood in honor of Kiwanian Jim McCready.

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Lakewood Schools

Prizes, Costumes, And Games, Oh My!



By Tess Endress  
H2O Youth Volunteer

All year, every kid looks forward to the one night they're allowed to go crazy and eat as much candy as possible. For all the kids who just can't wait till Halloween for costumes and fun, there's Pumpkin Palooza! Pumpkin Palooza is Lakewood's annual "Make a Difference Day" event to benefit Lakewood Christian Service Center, and the Lakewood Charitable Assistance Corporation.

Don't miss Pumpkin Palooza's giant patch of decorated pumpkins. All of the pumpkins will be raffled off at 2:30pm. Last year the patch had over 100 pumpkins. Pumpkin raffle ticket costs 25 cents. The more you buy, the more chances you have to go home with a winner. Anyone is encouraged to decorate a pumpkin for Palooza's patch.

All decorated pumpkin donations can be dropped off at Lakewood High's East Cafeteria on Friday, October 27th, from 3:00-5:00, and on Sunday, October 29th, from 10:00 a.m.-12:30 pm. (Pumpkins must be decorated, no carved pumpkins please).

For the kids, there are plenty of activities to enjoy. Lakewood High's East Gym will be filled with carnival games featuring prizes for every participant. Kids are encouraged to wear a costume and participate in the costume parade at 2:00pm. For everyone's safety, please don't allow kids to wear masks or other items that may impair their vision. There will be a spooky storytelling room for kids of all ages and a haunted hallway to explore. At 1:30pm, the McKinley Elementary Choir will entertain the crowd. Pizza

will be provided by Roman Fountain and Domino's. There will also be lots of homemade baked goods to purchase at any time during the event.

Major sponsors for the 7th annual Pumpkin Palooza are Lakewood Observer, Hinkley Lighting, First Federal of Lakewood, Regency Construction, Erie deSign, and Larsen Architects. Entertainment areas are provided by Cox Communications and A/V Environments. Game booth sponsors include:

Drs. Harter, "Cats on Holiday", Goddess Blessed, and Local Girl Gallery.

Pumpkin Palooza takes place at Lakewood High School in the East Gym, on Sunday, October 29th, from 1:00-4:00pm. There is no admission charge, but donations of canned goods are greatly appreciated. Over 150 community volunteers come together to make Pumpkin Palooza possible. We hope to see you on October 29th. Don't forget to wear your costume!

Spooky And Speedy Costume Race To Benefit Lakewood Charities

The Junior Women's Club of Lakewood Second Annual Pumpkin-Fun Run & 5K Race will take place at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, October 28, 2006, at Lakewood Park (Lake and Belle Avenues). Proceeds from the event will benefit three Lakewood non-profit organizations: Keep Lakewood Beautiful, Lakewood Christian Service Center, and Project H2O. Awards will be given in the following categories:

- Top overall male and female runners
- Top three finishers by gender age bracket
- Best costumes (scary and fairytale themes)
- Fastest and longest caterpillars (five-

person minimum)

Families are encouraged to participate. The one-mile fun run is a way for children to show off their Halloween costumes to the community while raising money. The event also will include games and activities in the park for children of all ages.

The 5K run or walk will begin at Lakewood Park. The one-mile fun run will take place on the one-mile track located in the park. Entry fees are \$20 for the 5K run or walk and \$12 for the one-mile fun run.

For more information, please call 216.623.9933 or visit us at [www.hermes-cleveland.com](http://www.hermes-cleveland.com).



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	4:00 P.M. - 6:00 P.M.	Skills Practice/All Ages
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	2:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.	All Ages
	8:30 P.M. - 10:30 P.M.	All Ages
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# Sports News



Senior Nicco Maddaluna rushes for a gain through a gaping hole made by the offensive line

## Inaugural “Tuesday Night Lights” A Big Hit

By Mike Deneen

Lakewood Stadium has been home to “Friday Night Lights” for many decades. Over the years, thousands of high school football players and fans have made wonderful memories at the corner of Bunts and Madison.

On Tuesday, October 10, a new era of night football came to Lakewood. The Lakewood Middle School football team, comprised of seventh and eighth graders from Horace Mann, Harding and Emerson, hosted Lorain Whittier Middle School in their first ever night game.

The idea was introduced to increase interest and participation on the program. LHS head coach Jim Slagle, who was in attendance at the game, enjoyed every minute. “This is cool” said Slagle, “it’s a big thrill for the kids”. The experience reminded Slagle of his days playing junior high football in Warren, Ohio. “When I was in school we played under the lights for our big cross-town

rivalry game”.

The kids were extremely excited about the chance to play a night game, complete with special pregame festivities and all the trappings of high school football. The Harding Middle School singers sang the national anthem, and there were contests and prizes at halftime. Over 300 people were in attendance, including students, parents and family.

The fans were treated to a great performance by Lakewood. The team, which is led by head coach Bruce Giberson, won the game 36-14. Nick Ramsey, an eighth grader from Harding, scored four touchdowns. The team moved to 4-1 on the season with the victory.

LHS Athletic Director Bob Thayer hopes that “Tuesday Night Lights” becomes an annual event in Lakewood. He is hoping that next year teams from Garfield and Harding Middle Schools will square off at Lakewood Stadium in the final game of the year



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Chef Geoff

# Happy As A Clam?

With the fall season, there are some traditional culinary events to which we all look forward. Of course, there's Thanksgiving and all that goes with it. For the kids, there's the candy bonanza of Halloween. Fall squashes, pumpkin pies, apple cider, tailgate parties, and haunted houses are all annual fall events that give us one last breath of the outdoors before the onset of cabin fever. But, I think one of my favorite treats of the fall culinary season is the mass availability of clambakes. I love those mollusks and the outdoor fun of the last picnic of the season. There is nothing like a clambake to make me "happy as a clam." In point of fact, this uniquely American description of the joyful condition is actually an abbreviation of a slightly wordier bit of wisdom, but one that makes a good deal more sense. The actual phrase, as it was used in the 1830s, was "happy as a clam at high tide," with high tide being the time of the lunar cycle when the clam was safely under water, protected from the rakes of those who would otherwise gather them on the tidal flats.

Many area restaurants offer "clambakes" at this time of year, but, in my mind, a real clambake has to be outdoors (and maybe even in crummy weather). There's something in the event, as you wait for the steam to rise from the kettles and savor that warming sip of broth, that just can't be duplicated in a restaurant dining room. While my mind is probably playing tricks on me, somehow, everything even tastes better on the paper plates. That is the way that clambakes were meant to be served: outdoors, in picnic fashion.

The Native Americans were enjoying clambakes long before the pilgrims arrived. Indeed, Indian "wampum," the Native American currency, was made of beads carved from clamshells. Because of this fact, for many years, "clams" was a slang reference for money. It is thought that the first Thanksgiving most likely resembled more of a clambake than a turkey roast. Clams, mussels, and fish were plentiful in the area and were an important part of the diet. But, of course, there were no propane-fueled steamers. Those bakes were done in the traditional fashion,

By Jeff Endress

## Stove Top Steamed Clams

- 4 Dozen middle neck clams (1 dozen per person), scrubbed
- 1 Cup dry vermouth
- 1 Clove garlic, crushed
- 2 Ribs celery
- A grind of pepper
- Juice and rind of 1/2 lemon
- 1/4 Cup melted butter

To avoid unopened clams due to overcrowding the pot, it is better to use a shallow, large diameter pan than a deep, narrow pot. Place all ingredients (except clams) in pan. Add the clams, cover tightly, and place on high heat. Since there is minimal liquid, it should come to a boil rapidly. It is best not to check on the progress, as that allows the steam to escape (and it is the steam from the liquid which does the cooking)! Allow to steam 5 minutes, then vigorously shake the pot to distribute the cooking juices throughout. Allow to steam another 5 minutes and serve immediately with crusty French bread, warm drawn butter, and lemon wedges. The cooking juices may be reserved, after being strained through a coffee filter, for use in preparing clam chowder.



a technique that is still enjoyed along the Atlantic coast, particularly in New England.

The traditional clambake began with the digging of a shallow pit in the seashore sand. A large bonfire was constructed, interspersing layers of rock with driftwood. Once the wood had burned down to embers, and the rocks were hot, a layer of kelp was placed over the pit, followed by the clambake food: typically lobsters, clams, mussels, sweet potatoes, and corn. The food was followed by another layer of kelp. The pit was then covered with animal skins. The heat from the rocks would cause the seaweed to gently steam the food. After an hour or two, the pit was uncovered and the feast would begin. The same methods are still in popular use except that the food is now placed in large wire steaming baskets and the pit is covered with tarps. The food is succulent - the intermixing of the flavors is accented by the fresh brininess of the seaweed.

The Cleveland version of the clambake is somewhat different. Usually chicken is substituted for lobster, more out of cost consideration than anything else, and, typically, the chicken has been grilled rather than steamed. The clams themselves, while steamed, are not cooked in a pit, but in huge pots. With a spigot at the bottom of

the pots - and the addition of stock, onions, carrots and celery - there is the added benefit of hot clam broth. And, more likely than not, the clams themselves are also different.

More and more, the clams that we buy are a product of aquaculture. In the same way that "farmers" raise the bulk of commercial catfish, salmon, and shrimp, so too are they raising clams. Most certainly, there is some benefit realized in cultivated clam beds: more control over diet, better monitoring of potential disease and pollution issues, and a more predictable harvest. Of course, wild clams are still available and, while their taste may be superior to the cultivated varieties, there is usually more concern over sand as well as what these bottom-feeders have recently eaten. The age-old adage of only eating clams in a month with an "r" had much less to do with summer shipment concerns than it did with summer's near shore algae, red tide, and bacterial issues.

There are over 2,000 varieties of clams found in the wild, including both salt and freshwater varieties (although saltwater calms are far superior for the purpose of consumption). Razor clams, with their long rectangular shells, are so named because of their similarity in appearance to a straight razor. Their availability is limited and

they are found on the West Coast. The soft-shell clam, which does not completely close its bivalve shell due to its protruding neck, is usually found in the tidal shallows of New England. The most frequent variety seen in our area is the quahog, an intrinsically saltwater clam generally raised in commercial farms. The quahog is further divided into classes, based primarily on size. The smallest are referred to as "little necks," clams slightly larger as "middle necks," and those larger still as "top necks." Beyond the top necks are cherrystones and, lastly, chowder clams. Because clams become tougher as their size increases, the ideal sizes for steaming are little necks, middle necks, and top necks. Both the cherrystone and the chowder clam are best used in making a rich, creamy clam chowder.

With a serving size of twelve to sixteen medium-sized quahogs, clams are very low in saturated fat, but high in cholesterol. They are surprisingly rich in many vitamins and minerals, including: iron, manganese, phosphorous, potassium, B-12, and C. Clams are also a good source of niacin, zinc, and riboflavin. Additionally, they are very low in carbohydrates and high in protein. All of this nutritional information, of course, is before you dip the little morsels in melted butter, the preferred way of consuming them.

Clams are easily prepared and, although they can be baked (as in Clams Casino) or breaded and deep-fried (the Howard Johnson signature standby), the customary method of preparing them is simply to steam them. Because they are bottom-feeders, before preparing clams, it is best to scrub the shells under running water to remove any residual sand. Although commercially raised clams tend to have reduced grit and sand inside the clam itself, the scrubbed clams can be soaked briefly in cold water with a tablespoon of cornstarch to help remove any internal sand. As a rule of thumb, any clams that are open before cooking (and do not close when touched) should be discarded. Likewise, if a clam does not open when steamed, it should also be discarded.



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Around The Town

Lakewood World Cuisine Tour #3: El Tango Taqueria

By Jeff Endress

After the first two stops on the culinary tour of the ‘Wood took us to India and Vietnam, I wanted this next venture to return closer to home, but still enjoy something out of the ordinary. With that in mind, I found myself at El Tango Taqueria - a restaurant highly recommended by a number of Lakewood Observer readers. Having experienced Texas’ Tex-Mex cuisine and taken classes with Diana Kennedy - the guru of Mexican cooking - I was anxious to give Lakewood’s version a try.

El Tango’s interior could very well be that of a small restaurant off of an alley in the Southwest. Its décor is clearly influenced by the Tex-Mex style with its tiles and bright colors. In reality, it is a storefront, just west of Lakewood High’s football stadium, distinguished only by its neon sign. The restaurant itself is small - half is an open kitchen and the other half, a small, almost cozy dining area. A counter separates the kitchen from the entrance. The menu, including specials, is displayed on a large chalkboard visible upon entering the restaurant. Patrons place their order at the counter before sitting in the dining room. After preparation, the food is brought to the table. It is not, however, “fast food,” as each order is individually prepared, not taken from a steam table or from under a heat lamp. Beyond the delivery of food to your table, there is no waitstaff, although pitchers of ice water are placed in the dining area for self-service.

At most Mexican restaurants, baskets of chips and salsa are provided for you to enjoy while waiting for your food to arrive. While these are available at El Tango, they are not complimentary, but are included as one of a number of “sides” at \$4.50. The menu at El Tango includes such standards as tacos (\$2.95) and burritos (\$5.95), as well as some specialty dinners at \$14.95, including Mayan barbequed pig (Yucatan Cochinita Pibil) served with tortillas, rice, beans and Poblano sauce.

My luncheon partner opted for the Chicken Enchiladas Rojas (\$12.95) - two generous enchiladas served with

cascabel sauce and sides of rice and beans. The beans from El Tango are described on the menu as “jamaican beans” and are different in flavor and texture from the typical refried beans with which most people are familiar. They reminded me more of island-style red beans and rice than Mexican refried beans. The steak burrito (\$5.95) was indeed a large burrito with Spanish rice, beans, salsa and cheese, but the serving size of the meat and its tough-

ness would cause one to look towards either the vegetarian or chicken option as a better choice.

Because this was a luncheon visit, I did not have the opportunity to sample the dinner offerings, such as the Cuban Grilled Red Snapper or Roasted Chicken with Oaxacan Mole Sauce (both \$14.95), although as described in the menu, they sound as if they would be delicious. El Tango Taqueria is certainly a step above and

beyond the local franchises in terms of atmosphere, décor, and cuisine, but its migration northward from the cuisine’s roots is both geographic and gastronomic. While certainly the quality and preparation of the dishes tasted was acceptable to good, they did not evoke memories of the Riverwalk in San Antonio.

*El Tango Taqueria (216-226-9999) is located at 14224 Madison Avenue in Lakewood, Ohio.*

The Lakewood Y’s “Little Secret”  
Creator Of RAPS® Keeps Members Long and Lean

By Amy Kloss

Exercise is different for each of us. Some avoid it, some embrace it. Shelley Mellino lives it.

As Group Exercise Coordinator for the Lakewood YMCA, Mellino is the creator of RAPS®, a low impact, total body conditioning method designed to develop a long, lean body, a flat stomach and strong back.

RAPS is an acronym for Rhythm, Alignment, Posture and Stretch and Strength. Mellino developed the program based on the anatomy and physiology she learned in nursing school and the theories of Joseph Pilates. In nursing school, Mellino learned ways to move patients without injuring herself. She applied those techniques to RAPS, as well as nursing techniques which keep bedridden patients stretched out to prevent them from ending up in a fetal position.

In addition to receiving a bachelor’s and master’s degree in nursing, Mellino is certified in several forms of exercise instruction, such as kickboxing and spinning. But in 1995, she realized that the types of exercise being taught at the Y were still not good for people who were weak due to illness, pregnancy or age. Although high-impact aerobics and weight lifting are good for you, they can’t be done by everyone.

“We were missing a whole population of people on either end,” says Mellino. She conceived of RAPS as a program to help people strengthen

their bodies in order to complete everyday activities, such as lifting a toddler or cleaning a house.

She developed a pilot program in 1995 at the Lakewood Y and started teaching RAPS, as well as training others to teach it. “In our first class,” says Mellino, “we had a pregnant lady on one end and an OB-Gyn doctor on the other.”

The first pilot class of eight women grew through word of mouth until a core of loyal followers developed. The Lakewood YMCA now offers RAPS in the morning, afternoon and evening. Classes, free with a YMCA membership, have continued over the last year in the Y’s temporary location. Several different instructors teach RAPS, which keeps the classes interesting. Each instructor teaches in a slightly different way.

Taking a RAPS class with Mellino can be a transcendent experience. It’s just you and your body, no machinery, no pounding the pavement. Most of the class is done lying down on a mat, with exercises working the core muscles of the torso, legs and arms. Mellino emphasizes stretching and proper breathing, as well as strengthening the muscles. When the class is completed, students often feel worn out but vibrant, muscles literally humming. It sort of feels like you’ve been lightly pummeled over your whole body -- but in a good way.

When you feel good, RAPS stretches and lengthens all your muscles and leaves you feeling vibrant and

strong. On a bad day, it can make you feel like your legs and arms are lead weights. As a lifelong exerciser, I’ve biked, jogged, walked and Jazzercized my way through the decades. I’ve tried yoga and step classes, weight machines and elliptical trainers. Middle age aside, RAPS is the hardest thing I’ve ever done.

Mellino believes the greatest benefits of RAPS are balance, flexibility and core strength. “People leave class saying they feel so much taller,” she says. Tennis players and golfers say it helps their game, and it helps weightlifters lengthen overdeveloped muscles. It can prevent injury and aid people in simply living their daily lives. “RAPS is energizing,” says Mellino. “It meets whatever your individual goal is.” One loyal student is a woman in her eighties who takes the class so that she can continue to live independently, walk her dog and care for her Lakewood home.

Although Mellino obtained a registered trademark for RAPS in 1999, she has no plans to market the class nationally. It has been taught in a few other locations in Northeast Ohio, and the YMCA in Naples, Florida has expressed interest in a program. Due to Mellino’s work at the Lakewood Y and her job as a school nurse in Cleveland, she simply lacks time to train instructors or develop classes in other locations.

“Right now, it’s the Lakewood Y’s little secret,” she says.

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# Minding The Issues

## On the Norms Of The Professions, Journalism In Particular

By Gordon Brumm

I am notorious in certain circles for remarking that newspaper stories should contain no quotes. My view is this: If you as a reporter know something to be true, say it – on your own authority. If you don’t know it to be true, don’t try to give a false impression by hiding behind someone else’s words.

Of course, that isn’t the whole story. When I made my remark, I was in a state of intellectual intoxication, because I had read a story in the first issue of the Observer by Don and Lynn Farris, titled “Park It Buddy.” The article was about the parking situation in Lakewood, and it listed four different types of parking problem in the city, pointing out that the different types of problem require different solutions.

This is what pleased me so much: The authors gave us the facts and then gave us their analysis as their best possible grasp of the truth. They did not fall back on merely reporting what other people said.

To be sure, the article contained one quote, and I have to concede that quotes have their place (though in all honesty, I believe the quote in that story weakened it). However, quotes can be overdone, and often are. They can serve bad journalism in at least two ways – by allowing the reporter to be lazy, or by introducing bias.

Lazy is obvious. As for bias, you can prove almost anything if you quote the right person. Nevertheless, we often see one quote given as if it contains the whole truth on that subject (a practice that also occurs frequently in academia, by the way.)

In other words, an overuse of quotes can lead away from good journalism.

This brings up the broader question as to what good journalism is. What are the norms that journalism ought to follow? One answer is that good journalism accurately reports the news. But what is news? News, you might say, is made up of facts. But which facts? If I counted the number of trees in the Metroparks, would that number be news? Well, no, because if it’s not about

something that happened recently. What if I reported that the number of trees in the Metroparks had increased by five – would that be news? Hardly.

So you might say that news concerns facts that are unusual, or facts that the public wants to know about. But by this standard, good journalism would include reports on the 600-pound man in Peru or the latest tiff between two Hollywood stars -- sensationalism of the kind you might peruse at the supermarket checkout counter. Surely that’s not what we mean by good journalism.

So what is the standard by which we should measure journalism? We get closer if we say that journalism should report the important facts. But important for what purpose?

Obviously, for the purpose that journalism is meant, and assumed, to serve. But what is that?

A newspaper or magazine of course has many purposes. Some parts are devoted purely to entertainment, such as humor columns (apart from satire) or the puzzle section. Or some stories (they used to be called “sob stories”) might be written just for their emotional appeal. But when we think about the essential and serious part of journalism – what First Amendment protections are for – we don’t think of humor or sob stories. We think about helping readers make well-reasoned decisions as citizens and in their personal lives.

The purpose of journalism, then, is to help readers address the public and private issues they have to face – especially the public issues – in a well-reasoned, well-founded way. This means looking at arguments on all sides of a controversy, reporting all the facts that go into making a decision, and analyzing the controversy in a way that serves the reader’s understanding (as the authors of “Park It Buddy” did).

Does the journalistic profession achieve that purpose? Only partly. Let’s look at what journalism does, or better, what it aims to do. Let’s look at the norms that journalists follow in practice. Here, I am not talking about bad journalism; I am talking about good journalism, the kind of journalism to which the profession professes to aspire. The dominant norm is summed up neatly in the slogan “Get it fast, get it first, and get it right.” Or in the NBC motto some years back: “Wherever it breaks. Whatever it takes.”

Of course I have no quarrel with the aim of getting it right. But I have plenty of doubts about the rest – about what counts as a good news story, about the aim of getting it first, of “scooping” the competition on a “breaking” story. I see two attributes that work against journalism’s proper purpose:

Vagueness: The journalistic norm makes no reference to the purpose of helping readers make decisions. Therefore it provides too much latitude about what should be included and emphasized. On the one hand, it allows

for too much – that is, stories that are supposed to serve a socially valuable purpose, but don’t. On the other hand, it allows for too little – that is, stories that don’t give us the facts we need. Consider a couple of examples:

The anguished mother’s call to 911: Some months ago the sister of the Browns’ owner called 911 because her daughter had drowned. The tape of the conversation was a matter of public record. Most news outlets refused to air it or publish it, but Channel 19 did. A respected columnist lauded Channel 19’s decision because Channel 19 had treated the rich the same as the poor. He never questioned whether the tape should have been aired in the first place. He considered airing the tape to be good journalism, despite the fact that the mother’s anguished conversation (as distinguished from the bare facts of the case, which serve a cautionary function) did nothing to further understanding or decision-making but merely played to the emotions.

Gasoline prices: Here we have been told everything except what we need to know. Why did prices sky-rocket and then plummet? We are told it was a matter of supply and demand – as if the supply and/or demand had changed by a third or a half within a few months. As further explanation, we are told that anticipated events, such as major hurricanes, did not occur – so it’s not supply and demand that are crucial, but anticipated supply and demand. Who does the anticipating? What part do the oil companies, with their infamous profits, play? We aren’t given the facts we need to arrive at the answers to these questions.

Worship of the Current: Journalists focus on particular events – particular events that are happening now, in preference to examining and analyzing a subject as a whole. Top priority is given to particular events, such as news conference, at the expense of stories that gather all the relevant facts and analyze them. (I’m not saying that investigative reports are never done, but they don’t generate the hype and emphasis that reporting of particular events does.)

This goes hand in hand with the aim of getting the story out first – to “scoop” the competition. Journalists make a fetish of reporting “breaking” news instantaneously. But why? Not for the sake of understanding or decision making, because we don’t need to understand or to make a decision instantaneously. Rather, it’s for the same reason that football scores are broadcast as soon as possible – because it satisfies our curiosity (the “horserace approach”).

### College teaching

College teaching is related to journalism because the two share the same general purpose – to promote understanding, and the ability to reason well. As with journalism, the accepted norms of college teaching work against

that purpose. I see two features of college teaching at fault:

The LECTURE METHOD. This is still the conventional and predominant method, though it should have gone out when copying machines came in. A lecture consists of spoken one-way transmission of information from teacher to student. It is faulty in two ways. First, it is an ineffective way to transmit information, depending on the student’s memory and/or note-taking abilities. Second and more important, lecturing prevents class time from being used in ways that promotes the student’s active thinking about the subject matter. Thus it works against student understanding and reasoning ability. It promotes student passivity by making the student a passive recipient of information instead of an active thinker.

And it promotes student passivity in another way, by giving students to understand that wisdom and understanding come by way of receiving the contents of the professor’s mind, rather than actively thinking through a controversy or subject. I call this the “Sistine Chapel” approach – just as God is depicted as transmitting life to Adam in Michelangelo’s fresco, so the professor is construed as transmitting wisdom to the student.

To be sure, the instructor has something to say that isn’t in the text. But she can convey that information most efficiently by having her lecture notes copied and passing them out to class, leaving class time available for better things.

ORGANIZATION OF SUBJECTS: The college curriculum, as we all know, is almost always divided into separate subjects – history, psychology, etc. This is so accepted that it seems natural, but why so? Not because it helps the student to understand the world around him. Most real-life problems involve a number of disciplines which need to be synthesized if the problem is to be understood.

Why, then, is the college curriculum divided as it is? Because those traditional subjects are what the college instructors learned in graduate school. College education is designed to fit what college instructors have been taught.

In short, the norms that govern journalism and college teaching do a poor job of serving the purposes to which they are dedicated. If this seems unfair, I suggest that it’s only because we have become so accustomed to the existing ways of doing things that we’ve lost our ability to look at their shortcomings.

And the same might apply to many other professions. Think about it.

High school and college students might do well to think about professional norms also. Students with social consciences might get some valuable guidance from discussing, presumably in an extracurricular group, how their work as professionals can best achieve their aspirations.

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Pulse Of The City

# When Camelot Came to Lakewood

“Let the word go forth from this time and place, to friend and foe alike, that a torch has been passed to a new generation of Americans.” With these words, and many others just as meaningful and hopeful, the newly inaugurated President of the United States, John Fitzgerald Kennedy, began to lay out his vision for a new America.

To us kids, this guy was really something! We watched our circular black and white TV screens with rapt attention on that blustery January day. Although both Presidents Kennedy and Eisenhower had been World War II veterans, John Kennedy seemed so young, strong, and full of “vigah.” We listened further, as he began to outline his vision with so many words that seemed to ring into eternity.

Regarding democracy: “If a free society cannot help the many who are poor, it cannot save the few who are rich.” Regarding our adversaries: “Let us never negotiate out of fear, but let us never fear to negotiate.” And regarding our world: “A new world of law, where the strong are just, and the weak secure, and the peace preserved.”

Oh yeah, the clincher, when his strong youthful voice rose in pitch, and he made that immortal clarion call: “And so, my fellow Americans, ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country.”

That did it, we were hooked. We would follow that man to the ends of the earth, leading other countries proudly down the road to a magnificent future, based on the Rule of Law and freedom for all.

At least that was the ideal. We did not learn, until later, that ideals sometimes fall a little short.

Those of us in Scouting were so proud to be in such a great organization. Although Scouting was not a political organization, many of us thought of ourselves as being “Kennedy Scouts” nonetheless. Every paper drive, every service project, every flag raising--all of it was done with just a little more pizzazz, a little more pride, and a little more elan. After all, we had a great role model. At least, we thought so then.

In the early 1960’s, President Kennedy came through Lakewood. I remember standing with my father across the street from St. James Church when that magnificent dark blue Lincoln limousine pulled to a stop. Looking around, the President smiled and waved to us all before proceeding with his escort down the street. As was true later in Dallas, the Lincoln’s protective, removable bubble-top was nowhere to be seen. President Kennedy believed that the American people deserved to see him at just about every opportunity. After his assassination, the car was refitted with a permanent armoured top and was used by presidents until about 1977. Presently, it is at the Henry Ford Museum in Michigan.

I seem to remember that President Kennedy also stopped off at St. Edward

High School around that time, to the absolute delight of staff and students alike.

People called President Kennedy’s time in office a time of Camelot, in a dreamy comparison to the mythical past of Arthurian legends. It was felt that there was nothing we could not achieve. After all, the President said: “We shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe, to assure the survival and the success of liberty.”

I even wrote to the White House back then. Mom suggested that I write to Jackie, thinking it might actually have a better chance of making it to the President through his wife. I enclosed a picture I drew of the PT-109, the President’s WW II PT boat. I received a nice response from their secretary, saying that the President and Mrs. Kennedy had enjoyed seeing my picture. I received two autographed pictures of them as well.

It was on a cold November Friday, shortly after noon in English class, that we were told that he had been

shot. Not long afterwards, in Science class, we learned that he had passed on. Coming out of church on Sunday, we learned that the man arrested had also been killed. Exactly who did kill our President would become a matter of conjecture and debate that continues to this day.

I had only played the drum for a short time when, sitting in my living room with my muffled snare drum, I played along to the televised beat of those drummers lining the avenue. The horse-drawn Presidential funeral caisson made its way forward in the cold November air, accompanied by that prancing black horse, with those shiny boots reversed in the saddle. I think they said that this was to commemorate the loss of a leader. It was hard for a boy my age to understand. It was even harder for a boy John-John’s age to understand. Remember his salute to his father? Remember John-John’s mother and sister? It was hard, as well, for a world to understand. We all grew a little older, and a whole lot sadder, under those cold November skies.

Little did we know that the flame that “would truly light the world” ended up being the one ignited over President Kennedy’s grave at Arlington. Nothing was the same for us kids ever again as that decade began to unfold. My grandmother’s neighbors in Alabama were nice people. One day, their son left on a secret mission, and never returned. I just remember his heart-broken father, sadly sitting on that hot Alabama porch in his rocker. Day after day after day.

I also remember a kid from Lakewood who died in Vietnam. Then, I think there was another Lakewood kid who was never found over there. “Pay any price”? I suppose we did. Yeah, we still do, I guess.

The days of the early ‘60’s stand out in my mind as a special time indeed. It was almost as if we were standing at the pinnacle of our times. Maybe we were.

President Kennedy showed us that anything was possible. He certainly felt that our country was a blessed land, but he also admonished us in the last words of his inaugural speech, that “here on earth, God’s work must truly be our own.”

## An Open Letter to Dan Chabek, Lakewood’s Wonderful Historian

By Gary Rice

What a wonderful surprise to have received your call last night! Thank you for your kind words of inspiration and encouragement. I regard your call as one of the most beautiful things that has happened to me in a long time.

I understand, as well, your reluctance to be interviewed at this point in your life. You have earned the right to enjoy your privacy.

Still, I feel a deep obligation to recognize you as one who presented Lakewood’s history to all of us in a manner that we still enjoy today. Anyone wishing to learn about virtually all things Lakewood has only to go to the Lakewood Historical Society’s site at <http://lakewoodhistory.org>. I believe one can purchase your fantastic book, Lakewood Lore, from the Society too. These columns of yours were originally published in the Lakewood Sun Post, were they not? They are still relevant and inspiring today.

Inspirational speakers often compare life to a relay race, where runners pass the baton to the next runner, in order to keep the race going. Some compare the effect that one has on others to the rippling of waves moving out from the place where a pebble was dropped into the waters.

Although these are wonderful metaphors for inspiring people to move ahead in their lives, I find that they are still inadequate in describing the effect that you have had on keeping the history of Lakewood alive for all of us. Especially me.

When I retired from school teach-

ing in 2005, Mom had recently passed on, and Dad needed some help at home. Additionally, I had recently fallen and hit my head on black ice. I needed something to do while watching out for Dad--and writing seemed to fit the bill. Although I had written columns for some time for a music-related publication, the opportunity came to write for The Lakewood Observer, and The Pulse of the City was born.

As I researched my topics, your name kept coming up. When I discovered all that you have written about Lakewood, I was tempted to give up, and write about cars, trains... or anything but Lakewood! You see, you’re a tough act to follow!

I understand that both you and your wife, Marge, were former Lakewood Sun Post columnists. I believe that Marge told me she wrote

about arts-related issues, like the Cleveland Orchestra, while you wrote about Lakewood memories.

I am still in awe of what you both willingly gave to the City of Lakewood with your time and your ink, helping to educate your readers about the many unique aspects of this town.

I really believe that we who wish to continue to write about Lakewood need to honor those who have laid the groundwork for increased civic awareness and appreciation. As well, I think we need to thank those who inspire us to achieve our own goals. And this inspiration is what you have given so unselfishly to me!

That’s one of so many reasons why my tip of the hat goes to you and Marge this week! Thanks again to you both for helping us all to better understand the magic that is Lakewood.



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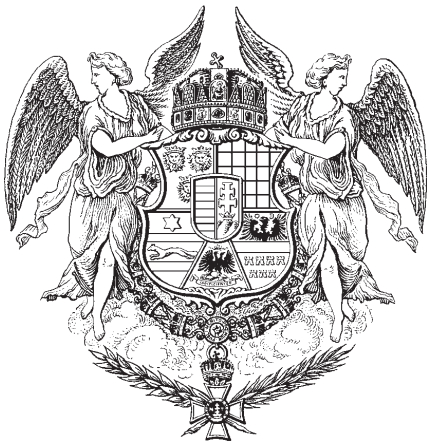
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# The Buck Stops Here

## The Buck Stops In Budapest

By Robert Buckeye



“Every time I describe a city, I am saying something about Venice,” Marco Polo tells the Great Khan of China in response to the Ruler’s question why Polo tells him about every city he has seen except the one he is from.

The night before we arrived in Budapest there had been protests against the government. Ferenc Gyurcsany, the Prime Minister, had been caught on tape acknowledging that he had lied about the economy. The protesters wanted him to resign because he had lied to the people. Tanks were brought in to quell the protests. 150 Hungarians were injured. On succeeding nights the protesters swelled to 20,000. Gyurcsany had lied. He should resign. It was the worst protests in Hungary since 1956.

In 1956, Hungarians had risen up against their Communist oppressors and declared themselves a free country. “For many years,” the new Radio Free Budapest reported, “the radio has been the instrument of lies. It lied day and night.” Hungary was free for four days. On November 4, the Soviet Union sent in 6000 tanks. At that time, Olympic squads were already in Melbourne, Australia, for the 1956 Olympics. The Russians and Hungarians had the best water polo teams in the world and met in the gold medal game. Spectators

report the water was red with blood after the match. (In water polo, there are no fouls under water.)

In 1956, about the same time Soviet tanks clanked into Budapest, the President of the Lakewood High School Student Council made a motion to discuss a purchase. I raised some objections and the discussion lengthened with no apparent resolution. Finally, the President cut off discussion, saying we had more business to discuss, and there was no point to this discussion, since the faculty advisor to the Student Council had already made the purchase of what we were discussing.

“History,” Ernst Bloch notes, “shows its Scotland Yard pass,” but as anyone knows, history does not always look in the right places, ask the relevant questions or follow up clues. 1956 was as crucial here as it was in Hungary, but it tends to get lost in the Sixties decade that followed. Were it not for 1956, however, the Sixties would not

have happened or would have been different.

In 1956, the Supreme Court ruled in *Brown vs. Board of Education* that the doctrine of separate but equal schools had no place in America and Martin Luther King led the Montgomery bus boycott, among the first of civil rights protests and marches that bled into Sixties’ demands. Allen Ginsberg ran off mimeographed copies of *Howl*, his counterculture barbaric yawp which changed the sensibility of our culture forever. If there was underground samizdat writing behind the Iron Curtain, *Howl* was America’s own samizdat, a work maligned and dismissed by academics and mainstream media alike.

Carl Perkins’s “Blue Suede Shoes” became the first record to reach the top of the pop, R & B, and country music charts, but Perkins seemed merely the herald for the King to follow, Elvis Presley, who materialized unexpectedly one day in Sam Phillips’s studio.

By mid-summer, Elvis was reviled by whatever establishment could find its voice. He needed to be banned, run out of town, somehow silenced. In the fall, I heard him with 10,000 other suddenly freed kids at the Cleveland Arena. (One night in Budapest I went to hear some traditional Hungarian folk music. The lead singer gave an Elvis impersonation.)

The protests in Budapest in 1956 and 2006 formed in Lajos Kossuth Square. Kossuth, a Hungarian revolutionary hero, led Hungary to freedom in 1848 and became the first president of an independent Hungary until Russian troops intervened on behalf of Austria and overthrew the short-lived Kossuth government. Kossuth and his fellow Hungarians fled, many to America. Kossuth was treated as a hero in the States.

In Margaret Butler’s history of Lakewood, *The Lakewood Story*, she describes the Andrews farm in the nineteenth century: “Often during the season, a dozen or more Bohemian women picked and loaded the fruit for market.”

There were 57 Bukais (the way my grandfather spelled his name) in the Budapest phone book.

(I am indebted to J. Hoberman for calling my attention to 1956 in America.)

### Arts & Dance Calendar by Ruth A. Koenigsmark

#### The Beck Center

17801 Detroit Avenue 216.521.2540

“Paintings and Prints,” Marge Arthur, September 1 – October 27, 2006  
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#### bela dubby

13221 Madison Avenue 216.221.4479

This month’s show features the work of two female sculptors: Rebecca Ozbolt and Kortney Niewierski and will be up for the month of October. Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 10 am – 10 pm, Friday and Saturday 10am-midnight.

#### Local Girl Gallery

16106 Detroit Avenue 216.228.1802

Local Girl Gallery’s 3rd annual Breast Cancer Awareness fundraiser! Join LGG for an evening of fundraising to benefit The Northern Ohio Breast Cancer Coalition Fund as Local Girl Gallery Presents: “Hope Chests” Friday October 20th 7-10 pm  
Local Artists have transformed over 30 ordinary wooden chests into beautiful works of functional art. Auction begins at 8:00 pm.  
Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 12-5pm, Friday and Saturday, 12-6pm.

#### Pop Shop Gallery & Studio

17020 Madison Avenue 216.227.8440

Hours: Monday-Friday 4pm-8pm, Saturday 2pm-6pm.

#### Wobblefoot Gallery & Frame Studio

1662 Mars Avenue 216.226.2971

Wobblefoot Gallery presents “Art Has Many Forms” Art Show on Saturday, October 28, 2006. Reception is from 4:00 - 8:00 p.m. Many prominent artists from around the country will be featured in the show  
Hours: Tuesday – Friday 10am-6pm, Saturday 10am-4pm.

#### Dance

Contra Dance, Saturday, October 20, at Trinity Lutheran, Margaret Glenn (Caller), band Mud in Yer Eye. Combining Music and Dance:  
Mark your calendars for Saturday, November 11 at Mahall’s (13200 Madison Avenue) for Retro Rock a Bowl featuring KB & The Riptides and belly dancer, Haleema Chandani from Wind and Sand Dance Company

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

### Concert Calendar by Bob Ignizio

#### The Hi Fi Concert Club

Friday October 20th

Oval Opus, Minor Setback, Baby Shaker, and Return to Simple. Looking for some modern rock with a sense of melodicism? This might just be the show for you. This is an 18 and over show. \$5 for 21 and over, \$8 for 18-20. Show starts at 8pm.

Saturday October 21st

Ground Zero, Watson 387, Mind Traveller, and Black Trinity. Get your metal fix with Cleveland thrash/power metal band Ground Zero. This is an 18 and over show. \$8 for 21 and over, \$12 for 18-20. Show starts at 9pm.

#### The Lakewood Civic Auditorium

Friday October 20th

Lindsey Buckingham. Guitarist/vocalist Buckingham joined Fleetwood Mac in 1974, along with his then girlfriend Stevie Nicks. This is an all-ages show and starts at 8pm. Tickets are \$35 and can be purchased in advance at Ticketmaster.

Sunday October 22nd

The Indigo Girls with special guests Three5human. The Indigo Girls have been making their brand of folk rock since the mid eighties. This is an all-ages show and starts at 7:30pm. Tickets are \$29.50 for general admission and \$37.50 for “gold circle” seating, and can be purchased in advance through Ticketmaster.

#### The Phantasy Nite Club

Saturday October 28th

Starloft presents “a Halloween bash like no other” featuring The Family Riot, Calo, Dohm, Complex Mold, Watson 387 and Last Six Days on The Phantasy Stage, and Saucy Jack, Midnight at the Savoy, Suckerpunch, and Doc’s Ferment playing downstairs at the Symposium. One price gets you into both venues. The only catch is that the Phantasy portion of the show is 16 and over, but The Symposium is 18 and over. Admission is \$6 for 21 and over, \$9 for 16-20. 8:30pm.

#### The Winchester

Saturday October 21st

Naked Eyes. Naked Eyes was the duo of Pete Byrne (vocals) and Rob Fisher (keyboards). They scored a couple of major hits in 1983 with “Always Something There to Remind Me” and “Promises, Promises”, both on their self titled debut album. This is an all-ages show, and starts at 8:30pm. Admission is \$15.

Friday October 27th

The Strawbs. The Strawbs have been around since 1968 playing their brand of folk rock (sometimes with progressive rock leanings). The current version of the band is an acoustic trio, with guitarist Dave Lambert and bass player Chas Cronk (both veterans of the mid-seventies era of the band) joining Cousins. This is an all-ages show and starts at 8:30pm. Admission is \$20.



## Lakewood Theatre

# Beck Produces Daring Innovation On Hamlet

By Mark Moran

The Beck Center's production of "Hamlet" in the Studio Theater opens with a stylized piano score reminiscent of silent movie music as the title of the scene appears in white print on a small black screen above the stage. The device recalls the little known silent film on which the Beck's take on Shakespeare's most famous tragedy is based, a unique adaptation of cinematic experience to the stage and a daring re-interpretation of the Dane's motivations.

In 1920, Danish silent film actress Asta Nielsen starred in a production of Hamlet based on an obscure 19th century scholarly work by Edward Vining that put forward the proposition that Hamlet was a woman. From Shakespeare's text, we know that young Hamlet was born the day his father slew King Fortinbras on the fields of Norway. But Nielsen's film, drawing on Vining, depicts the young Queen Gertrude and her newborn baby girl receiving the erroneous account that it was in fact her own husband who had been killed. To ensure succession and her own security, the Queen chooses to conceal the baby's gender, a lie which cannot be retracted when her husband returns from battle.

The innovation is not as improbable as it may seem. Men in the guise of women and women in the guise of men appear throughout Shakespeare's work, often speaking truths that cannot be said any other way. Here, the lie of Hamlet's birth is the founding deceit in a kingdom of lies and deceit.

On Beck's stage the back story about Hamlet's birth is told in scenes of ghostly pantomime. The twist requires some critical diversions from the original text: it is Horatio, we learn, who harbors the obsession for Ophelia; and Hamlet's feeling for Horatio, which is only suggestive in the text, is here made more explicit as a thwarted woman's love. The second half of the play, especially, tightly compresses much of the original text; Rosencrantz and Guildenstern, for instance, are not just dead but written out.

For director David Hansen, the story is "the journey of a man who feels cheated of the opportunity to be king"—that is, a woman forced to play a false role for the good of the state only to have the throne pulled out from underneath her in adulthood when her scheming mother marries the murdering uncle. "Her mother has told her she had to deny herself a life, deny herself love, deny herself everything for the state," Hansen explains. "She tells her 'we told this lie and because you are the only child, for the sake of the family and the divine succession you need to maintain it.' But everything the mother has told her is false."

Hamlet's disgust with her mother, then, is meant to be as much about the original lie and subsequent betrayal as the fact that she is sleeping in the

bed of a murderer. And the prince's famous "hesitation" or ambivalence, which scholars have long debated (and which was presumed by Vining to be a reason for considering Hamlet a woman) is rejected by Hansen. "I've never bought that," he said. "After all, that Hamlet hesitates is not a bad thing—she is talking about regicide, which would be a suicidal act. And she has only the word of a ghost to go on so she has to make sure the ghost's word is true."

So, Sarah Morton's Hamlet is no dithering ineffectual. Rather she is sleek and canny and careful, all too aware of the dangers of the disingenuous world around her. By the time of the dual with Laertes at the end she has completed the "journey," Hansen says, to acceptance of her rightful place on

the throne. Playgoers who are used to more robust masculine rage in scenes with Gertrude or Ophelia will find a different emphasis; where the traditional Hamlet storms at Ophelia to "get thee to a nunnery," the words are here proffered almost as sisterly advice to one who is far less wise in the ways of the world. In the bedchamber scene with Gertrude when Hamlet laments her dead father, the femininity of the Prince is forcefully real: this is a daughter's grief.

But the notion of thwarted ambition as a motivating factor is not fully communicated. More important, whether the play earns the stunned silence that should fall on the stage at the scene of the slaughter when the play concludes—whether ultimately we feel sympathy for the uniqueness of this

Hamlet's journey—is questionable.

Still, the Beck's production is accessible to those new to the play, while at the same time, for all its innovation, remaining recognizably Shakespeare's play for traditionalists.

Hamlet as a female answers some questions that Hamlet as a man cannot, though it is likely for some audiences to leave or raise anew some others. But that is only to say that Hamlet remains Hamlet, fated to live in a time out of joint in which things never completely add up, and to struggle to set it right with only the tools of an irreducible human wit, cleverness and will. This is the reason it pays to revisit this classic in every variation creative people devise, like the inventive and imaginative production at Lakewood's Beck Center for the Arts.

## A Gala 75th Anniversary Celebration To Benefit The Beck Center For The Arts

By Fran Storch

The Beck Center for the Arts and National Honorary Chair, Martin Savidge, along with eight West Shore mayors are proud to bring Cleveland the best of Broadway as we present one incredible evening with Beck alumni and Broadway stars Rebecca Pitcher and John Wasiniak, accompanied by Broadway musical theater director Jack Lee, along with Master of Ceremonies, Kevin Joseph Kelly. Pitcher and Wasiniak, who are currently appearing on Broadway in Phantom of the Opera, will perform as part of Beck Cabaret, on Saturday, October 28 at 8:00 p.m. at Signature at LaCentre.

This spectacular event will benefit the Beck Center for the Arts – Northeast Ohio's arts resource – educating and entertaining Greater Cleveland for 75 years. Be a part of the excitement that is Beck Cabaret. Enjoy the vocal talents of performers who attended Beck Center for theater education or appeared on our stages and are now performing on Broadway. Witness the inaugurating of Beck Center's Hall of Fame, as four individuals are honored for their significant contributions.

The Beck Center is delighted to host this gala along with National Honorary Chairman, Martin Savidge of NBC. Savidge is a graduate of Beck Center Children's Theater. Chair Rosemary Corcoran and Raffle Chairs Kathleen Lawther and Max Thomas welcome you along with Honorary Host Committee members: Avon Mayor, James Smith; Avon Lake Mayor, Robert Berner; Bay Village Mayor, Deborah Sutherland; Fairview Park Mayor, Eileen Patton; Lakewood Mayor, Thomas George; North Olmsted Mayor, Thomas O'Grady; Rocky River Mayor, Pamela Bobst; and Westlake Mayor, Dennis Clough.

Rebecca Pitcher has recently returned to The Majestic as Christine Daae in Phantom of the Opera after having performed the role on national tour. She has been praised for performances in roles such as Johanna in the Beck Center's Sweeney Todd, Gretel in Hansel and Gretel and Adina in The Elixir of Love. In addition to her operatic and theatrical performances, Rebecca has appeared as a soloist in works such as Carmina Burana and The Mozart Requiem. She graduated with a Bachelor of Music from Baldwin Wallace College and a Graduate Performance Diploma from the Peabody Institute. She is also an alumna of the Pittsburgh Opera Center at Duquesne, where she performed Papagena in The Magic Flute and Mary Warren in The Crucible.

John Wasiniak is currently appearing on Broadway as the porter and fireman in Phantom of the Opera. He has appeared Off-Broadway and at the Beck Center in Howard Crabtree's When Pigs Fly and as Gonzorgo in Babes in Toyland (Avery Fisher Hall). His work in Europe includes Gus/Growltiger in Cats (Hamburg), The Phantom and Firmin in Das Phantom der Oper (tour) and Francis in the German premiere of Elegies...for Angels, Punks and Raging Queens.

Jack Lee is one of the most respected musical directors in theater today. Originally from Cleveland, Jack has conducted numerous Broadway shows, as well as national and international tours. He has worked with Tommy Tune on Broadway, with Debbie Reynolds, Peter Palmer, Jane Powell and Juliet Prowse, and with Shirley MacLaine in Postcards from the Edge. Jack is a contributing staff member of New York University and Carnegie Mellon University. He is a frequent guest instructor and master class teacher at his alma mater, Baldwin Wallace, and was the subject of an

Emmy award winning PBS documentary on his life and work.

Kevin Joseph Kelly is a Director/Actor/Performance Coach in the Tri-State area. He has directed at Beck Center for the Arts, Cassidy Theatre, Lake Performing Arts, Clague Playhouse, and Rocky River Community Theatre, where he served as Artistic Director for over three years. Last year, Kevin performed in a new version of Alice in Wonderland at the Cleveland Play House. He has appeared at Star Restaurant in Playhouse Square in a one-man Cabaret Show. His favorite roles include Molina in Kiss of the Spiderwoman, Sweeney Todd in Sweeney Todd, Henry Higgins in My Fair Lady, Albin in La Cage Aux Folles, Headmaster/Ahab in Moby Dick, the Musical, Gary/Roger in Noises Off, and Jeffrey in The Dying Gaul.

The Beck Center for the Arts is proud to bring Greater Clevelanders a taste of Broadway for this musical extravaganza. Cocktails and hors d'oeuvres will be served at 6:30 p.m. in the beautiful Signatures at LaCentre, followed by dinner at 7:30 p.m. and a dessert reception. Master of Ceremonies, Kevin Joseph Kelly will open the Cabaret show at 9:30 p.m. Individual tickets are available at the "Producer" level for \$250 and the "Director" level for \$100. Valet parking will be available.

As part of this exciting evening, the Beck Center will hold a "luxury" raffle with a grand prize of a two-week stay on Sanibel Island. Other items include a Great Northern Shopping Spree and tickets to Wedding Singer and Wicked on Broadway. Raffle tickets are \$25 each or three for \$50.

For more information, please contact John Farina, Director of Development, at (216) 521-2540, ext. 242. To reserve tickets, contact John Coyne at (216) 521-2540, ext. 236.



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