

THE LAKEWOOD OBSERVER

Your Independent Source For Local News And Opinion – An Official Google News Source

Volume 3, Issue 11, May 29, 2007

Free – Take One!
Please Patronize Our Advertisers!

Local Police, W.E.B. S.W.A.T. And Veterans Give Us Reason To Celebrate

Honoring All Who Serve And Protect Us



Kicking off the Lakewood/Rocky River Memorial Day Parade is Lakewood Police Sergeant Ed Favre, Rocky River Sergeant Carl Gulas, and Patrol Officer Ted Morely. Left Michael Carroll son of Lakewood Municipal Judge Pat Carroll wins the SWAT 5 K.

Local Girl Gives Birth to Bullock's Creative Campaign

by Kenneth Warren

When Tom Bullock, a candidate for Ward Two councilman, asked Jeni Matousek, the creative director for his campaign, to identify an inspiring space to launch a fundraiser, he was hoping she could find a light-filled venue that would distinctly mark for all to see his reformist break from the darkly lit pub associated with old-school Democratic machine politics. With Local Girl Gallery, planted squarely in Ward Two, Matousek delivered a masterful stroke, smartly marking the arrival of Bullock's campaign for the seat on Lakewood City Council that Ryan Demro will be vacating in his run for Mayor.

Indeed, the lightness of Bullock's event at Local Girl Gallery marked an interesting contrast with, say, the heavy-weights who gathered recently at Swingo's On The Lake for Mayor Tom George's birthday fundraiser. At Bullock's Local Girl birthing center for reformed Democratic politics there was no Jimmy Dimora. There was no Frank Russo.

But there was Lakewood Observer City Hall reporter Stan Austin, who said he had never seen a campaign ramp up so quickly with such grassroots enthusiasm. And there were doubts Dan Shields, who ran for the Ward Two seat in 2003, would enter the contest.

"I'm a rock-the-boat reformer. I'm not a kiss-the-ring democrat," claims



Tom Bullock addresses some of the crowd that assembled at Local Girl Gallery for this kick off fundraiser.

Bullock, who arrived in Lakewood from Washington, D.C. with the influx of campaigners for John Kerry during the 2004 presidential election.

"The energy was like something out of a West Wing episode," Bullock recalls. "In Lakewood there'd be 250 people gathered making calls on cell phones. That election turned the soil."

Bullock liked Lakewood so much, he decided to stay. "Lakewood is a compact city, a human size community. It's the perfect incubator for real community," he believes.

With a Masters degree in Classics from the University of London, Bullock supplied brainpower to the Lakewood

Observer in the early stages of its formation. In fact, Bullock's article on economic development "Lakewood on the Threshold" help set the standard for the brainy, prolix and unpredictable hyper-local powers that signify the Observer's brand of civic journalism.

Bullock, who was the fifth person to register for the LO Observation Deck back on March 23, 2005, understands better than others running for political office the power of the Lakewood Observer.

"The Lakewood Observer is built on the most powerful kind of politics, which is the one that reawakens the creative spark that is sleeping within all of us and crying to speak out," asserts

Bullock. In addition to writing articles for the paper, Bullock has posted 208 statements on the paper's Observation Deck, far and away more than any other candidate. "I'm here to try something and do something," he declares. He also learned first-hand the value of front-porch conversations and campaigning by delivering the Lakewood Observer door-to-door.

Not surprisingly, there was a large turn-out from the Lakewood Observer

continued on page 6

In This Issue

News & Events	2
City Council	4
Lakewood Schools	5-6
Lakewood Public Library....	7-9
Lakewood Police SWAT .	12-13
Chef Geoff	12
Memorial Day	14
Secret Shopper.....	15
Lakewood People	16
Chef Geoff	17
Pulse Of The City	18
Minding The Issues	20
Real Estate	23

Free Online Classified Ads All Summer!

Free Online Business Ads! *

***must be Lakewood business, or resident!**

Events & Notices

The Lakewood Observer is pleased to publish Notices on a first-come first-serve basis. Please be patient with us as we have a limited amount of free space available for these items. All notices must be submitted through the Member Center at www.lakewoodobserver.com

MAMA Kicks Off Summer With Madison Ave. Walk And Other Events!

Madison Avenue Merchant’s Association (MAMA) is a group of dedicated and passionate Madison Avenue business owners who are working together to build a vibrant and thriving shopping/dining experience in Lakewood. Each owner is a hard-working visionary committed to bettering this unique city with their family owned business. While they each value the uniqueness and charm of small city shopping, they recognize the enormous benefits of working together to beautify Madison Avenue and energize the entire area.

MAMA will be offering special sales as well as events such as a Summer Kick Off, Art Walk, and celebrate

the Car Show in August. Their first official event is the Summer Kick-Off on June 16th 12-5 pm and will include a cash raffle and incentives at each participating business. Some of the businesses include Goddess Blessed, Class Act Resale, Fuzion Martial Arts, Lakewood Hardware, Omega Salon, Carabel Beauty Salon, Turnstyle, Lakewood Home Furnishings, and Silhouette Dance & Fine Arts. The entire list will be published in the next issue and the shops and pubs will be marked with a locally designed flag out front.

The Summer Kick Off is a walk that encourages people to walk as

many blocks as possible, with some locations handing out free bottled water. This is child-friendly and includes great features such as a cash prize as well as the opportunity to meet neighbors along the way. Kathy from Goddess Blessed will be offering a \$20 gas card raffle for stopping in, Omega Cuts (located just off Madison) will be generously offering ten gift certificates. Fuzion Martial Arts will have demonstrations for the family to enjoy. Silhouette Dance & Fine Arts will offer a drawing for one month of classes, that consists of one-hour once a week,



A \$45.00 value, plus clothing value of \$15.00 for a total package of \$60.00 All incentives will be listed in next issue with participating businesses.

Please check out the full event on the Observation Deck in two weeks or next issue of the LO. Remember to shop locally and keep Lakewood vibrant!

Cox Helps Lakewood Residents Learn How to “Fight Like a Girl”

by Stacie Schafer

Do you know how to “Fight Like a Girl?” After this past weekend, a lot of Lakewood residents do, thanks to Cox Communications, the Oxygen Network, Fuzion Martial Arts Center, and the Lakewood YMCA. Cox and Oxygen partnered with Fuzion Martial Arts for this powerful event for women held at the Lakewood YMCA.

“Fight Like a Girl” is an hour-long self-defense class taught by several instructors from Lakewood’s Fuzion

Martial Arts and was offered free to Lakewood residents. Nearly 40 women participated in the event, investing them with self-defense skills designed to fight with their bodies and minds.

The hands-on class encouraged women to stand up for themselves using their own strength as a weapon against would-be attackers. Fuzion Martial Arts Center instructors worked closely with the women as they broke into pairs to practice “fighting like a girl.”

“Oxygen believes in empowering

women and one of the best ways we can do that is through self defense classes,” said Amy Willis, national account manager at Oxygen. “It’s also a great way for us to partner with Cox and help be involved in the local community.”

For Cox, “Fight Like a Girl” was another way to extend their commitment to the Lakewood community and bring an empowering event for women to the YMCA on Mother’s Day weekend.

“We were pleased to be able to bring this great program from Oxygen to

Lakewood and work with a local martial arts studio at the Lakewood YMCA,” said Kelly McGrath, Cox spokesperson. “It was a great opportunity for us to bring women of all ages together to teach them to be empowered.”

Because of the excellent response from the event, Cox and Oxygen said they are likely to bring this event, and others, to Lakewood in the future.

Lakewood Community Progress Inc. Names Mary Anne Crampton Executive Director

Lakewood Community Progress Inc. named Mary Anne Crampton Executive Director effective June 19, LCPI is a nonprofit economic development corporation devoted to facilitating revitalization and economic development in the City of Lakewood. A Lakewood resident since 1990, Ms. Crampton is an active community member. She is a founding member and current president of LakewoodAlive. She serves as a board member of the Lakewood Public Library Foundation, a trustee of the

Lakewood Hospital Foundation, and is past-president and current member of the Clifton Park Association Trust. She is also an associate member of the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce and a volunteer at St. Edward High School . Ms. Crampton is currently Manager, Marketing and Public Relations at the Cleveland Sight Center. A native of Pittsburgh, she holds a bachelor’s degree in marketing from Michigan State University, and was awarded a Certificate in Nonprofit Management



Mary Anne Crampton

from the Mandel Center for Nonprofit Organizations at Case Western Reserve University on May 20.



Saturday, June 2, 2006

CITY OF LAKEWOOD PUBLIC AUCTION

Viewing of items at 8:00 am
Auction begins at 9:00 am
Payment by cash only.
Items purchased must be removed from city grounds at the end of the auction.

**Bicycles, Fitness Equipment, Lawn Mowers, Leaf Blowers
Copy Machines, Furniture & Computer Equipment, Cell Phones
Stereos, Automotive Operating Equipment and Obsolete Parts**


**Inquiries: 216-529-6075
www.ci.lakewood.oh.us**

At Service Dept. Garage (located behind City Hall) 12650 Detroit Ave.

VASE TO VASE

the flower store

For Special Occassions Or No Occassion,
Vase To Vase Is Your Fresh Flower Source



Welcome To Our Newest Location!
1390 Bonneview Avenue Lakewood, Ohio
www.vasetovase.com vase2vase@aol.com
phone: 216.221.7250 fax: 216.221.7270



Your Independent Source for
Lakewood News & Opinion

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

216.228.7223

Copyright 2007
Lakewood Observer, Inc.

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

PUBLISHER
Jim O'Bryan

EDITOR
Heidi Hilty

ADVERTISING
216.228.7223

ADVISORY BOARD	CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Kenneth Warren	Teresa Andreani
Steve Davis	Stan Austin
Heidi Hilty	Devin Baty
D.L. Meckes	Gordon Brumm
Jeff Endress	Bob Buckeye
Dan Ott	Paul Burns
EDITORIAL BOARD	Bret Callentine
Emily Hilty	Christine Capadona
Vincent O'Keefe	Justine Cooper
Kim Paras	Mike Deneen
Joe Rafidi	Amy Dreger
Heather Ramsey	Jeff Endress
Casey Ryan	Maggie Fraley
Karen Schwartz	John Guscott
Beth Voicik	Bob Ignizio
WEBMASTERS	Arlie Matera
D.L. Meckes	Gerry Nelson
Dan Ott	Gary Rice
PHOTOGRAPHY	Stacie Schafer
Rhonda Loje	Stephanie Sheldon
Ivor Karabatkovic	Michelle Todd
David Lay	Jeannie Vtypka
Bob Ignizio	PRODUCTION
Gary Rice	Brian Simko

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

Lakewood Hospital ER



Shorter wait. Superior care.



We've added to our family to better serve yours.

Lakewood Hospital ER considers your family part of our family. That's why we've added more ER staff, to ensure the highest quality care — faster.

Here's more news to keep close at hand:

- **Shorter wait time:** More staff to care for you. And adults or children with minor illnesses and injuries are treated in our Express Care.
- **Backed by quality:** Our Trauma Center's Level II rating means we treat even the most critical emergencies. In fact, no other ER west of the Cleveland border is rated higher than Lakewood Hospital, in part thanks to the support of the far West Side's only nationally ranked Primary Stroke Center.

For more information on Lakewood Hospital's ER excellence and to receive your FREE First Aid Kit, log on to www.lakewoodhospital.org/ER or call toll-free 1.877.234.FITT (3488).

Your Life is Our Life's Work.

City Council

Four Projects Set The Standard

Every year there are a select few homeowners and businesses who set the standard, or raise the bar when it comes to property renovations. They provide examples of what can be done with a home or storefront to make it reach its potential.

After council passed the resolution honoring this year's winners Richard Sicha stepped forward to give the tutorial slide show of the selected projects. Sicha is chair of the Heritage Advisory Board and his background in architecture and planning add immeasurably to participating property owners and the city as a whole.

Many years there are over a dozen winners but this year there were only four, due mostly to vagaries of construction scheduling Sicha said. This might mean a surfeit of winners next year.

Keith Galestock and Fred Kemp won the category of historic rehabilitation for their house on Manor Park. A slide showed a rather drab and utilitarian room which was transformed into an elegant sun room. Also, exterior walkway, masonry, and step work was completed this year.

The Napolitan family on Maple Cliff won the award for new garage construction. Their new garage with a steeply pitched roofline matches the grand design of their house.

The Rybickis on Overlook won the sympathetic addition award. Their home had an attached garage that

matched an adjoining front gable. A third gable was added for an updated garage along with an unobtrusive dormer on the side.

And Ines Rehner, owner of Sweet Designs on Detroit Avenue won the category of commercial revitalization. This is a second location at which she has won this award.

The presentation of these awards is made in May which is recognized by the city as National Preservation Month.

The city and its various bargaining units continue to come to agreements. In this instance the corrections officers and dispatchers, both represented by the Fraternal Order of Police settled on contracts with the city for the next three years. Council suspended the rules in order to pass the legislation to enter into the agreements.

Kevin Butler (ward one) submitted legislation to revise Lakewood's ordinances regarding bicycles in order to conform with House Bill 389 which was enacted by the General Assembly. Butler emphasized that the proposed Lakewood revisions as well as the new state law were supported by state and local bike advocacy groups including BikeLakewood. The effort is to make

laws regarding bike operation uniform throughout the state so as to minimize confusion when biking in different cities and to promote bike safety.

And, finally, this past week has been an all SWAT week without any emergencies requiring their response. The Ohio Tactical Officers Association has been meeting in Westlake

throughout the week. They have been having training seminars as well as competitions at the Cleveland Police shooting range. The Westshore Enforcement Bureau (WEB) SWAT sponsored a 5K run on Sunday which drew several hundred entries. According to Lakewood Officer and WEB Commander Pat Fiorilli, they hope to make this an annual event with proceeds going to C.O.P.S. which stands for Concerns of Police Survivors. This is an organization set up to provide assistance to the families of police killed in the line of duty. The Lakewood Observer was one of the proud sponsors of this race. And, on Monday night Mayor Thomas George made the decision to help honor area police by attending the dinner hosted by WEB SWAT on Monday

night instead of attending the council meeting. George helped in the presentation of checks to the widows of slain Cleveland Police Officers Leon and Schroeder.

And continuing the SWAT theme and tying it to local development, Rick Foran who is a principle partner in the Cliffs condominium project on Sloane Avenue was at the council meeting. He is following the progress of the tax incremental financing legislation which will assist that project. Part of the initial work on that project included demolition of two houses on Sloane. Safety forces really like to practice and hone their skills on homes about to be demolished. In this case, the Foran Group readily agreed to let the SWAT team stage a mock raid on one of the houses. Foran was standing with a group of tree landscapers and watching while the cops staged their "raid." The tree fellows expressed great appreciation and a little envy at the assault rifles, rams, and other equipment that the SWAT team was using.

Foran then stepped over to the police group and listened in as they expressed their own high regard and envy at the chain saws and heavy equipment that the tree guys were using!

Perhaps it was a case of two groups of professionals respecting the work and skills of the other.



Cleveland Grill

Bistro & Winery

Steak, Seafood & Spirits

3359 W. 117th St.

Cleveland 216-251-1025

Open Daily 5-10pm • 5-11pm Weekends

Bar, Catering, Parties, Gift Cards Available

WWW.CLEVELANDGRILL.COM

LA PITA

EXPRESS

Fine Lebanese Cuisine

& Vegetarian Food

Ask Us About Party

Catering Prices

Proudly

Serving Lakewood

13615 DETROIT AVE

216-221-9925

India Food Emporium

17796 Detroit Ave. Lakewood, OH 44107

New to Indian food and cooking? We offer personal assistance to help you find what you need and cook it right. We carry Rotis, paneer, tiffin, samosas, naans, basmati rice, lentils, spices and much more. Many frozen and ready to eat foods. We also have a wide selection of Indian DVDs and CDs. Cigarettes, sodas, long distance calling cards, western union services, & American grocery items.

Spend \$12 and get

2 gits packets for free

*Spend \$25 get

3 samosas free

Also be sure to stop in at

India Garden Restaraunt

just down the street at 18405 Detroit Ave. Lakewood

Lakewood Hospital

a Cleveland Clinic hospital

100

years

A Century

of Touching Lives.

Health Fair

Thursday, May 31 | 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Lakewood Hospital, Third floor and Wasmer Auditorium

14519 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood

The SeniorCare team at Lakewood Hospital invites you and your family for a health fair and so much more!

Meet the experts to learn about:

• Assisted Living • Home Health Care

• Independent Living • Hospice • Nursing Homes • Transportation

Join us for FREE:

Health screenings, chair massages and refreshments

Noon: Hall of Famer Bob Feller, Major League baseballs' greatest left-hand pitcher of all time, will make an appearance to sign autographs.

For more information, please call 216.227.2273

lakewoodhospital.org/seniorcare

Lakewood High Alumni

Lakewood Alumni Foundation Awards

\$63,500 in College Scholarships to LHS Seniors

On May 21, 2007 at the Celebration of Excellence, held at Lakewood Civic Auditorium, the Lakewood Alumni Foundation announced scholarship winners from the Lakewood High School Class of 2007. Ms. Barbara Breese Winbigler, LHS Class of 1945, offered the keynote address. Each scholarship winner received a medallion of the LHS shield and will receive their cash prize later this summer. Scholarship applicants were interviewed, and winners selected, by a panel of LHS alumni. A total of \$63,500 was awarded to 54 graduating seniors. The named scholarships and recipients are listed below. Notation in *italics* indicates children of LHS Alumni.

Carolyn Brown Nursing Student Scholarship: Megan Dresner, Western Carolina University - Nursing, daughter of Sam Dresner '88

Norm & Ruth Cherington Brown Scholarship: Barbara Summers, Bucknell University - Environmental Science, daughter of Mike Summers '72

Cunningham Memorial Scholarship: Angela Marquis, University of Pittsburgh - German; Dani Fribourg, Baldwin Wallace College - Pre-Medicine

Anthony J. DiBiasio, Jr. Scholarship: Julie Schreiner, Eastern Michigan University - Special Education; Candiss Clementson, University of Arizona - Early Childhood Education; Laura Knab, Miami University - Political Science



Seated: Angela Marquis, Tom Hollander, Renee Blackburn, Alex Krueger, Emma Sleva. Standing: Kevin Tuleta, Ron Kasper, Trevor Davis, Paul Woidke, Benjamin Krumreig

Carl E. & Margaret F. Dryer Scholarship: Rachel Brieck, Miami University - Business, daughter of Michael '78 and Eileen Hastings Brieck '78; Grace Diffenbacher, Loyola University Chicago - International Business; Tom Hollander, Kent State University - Electronic Media (Video) Production; Allison Ochocki, Walsh University - Nursing; Aleksandar Pupovac, Lakeland Community College - Architecture; David Rusnak, University of Akron - Engineering, son of William Rusnak '79; Paul Verga, Hocking College - Fire & Emergency Services; Zach Toole, University of Akron - Business; Anne Trenholme, Case Western Reserve University - Anthropology, daughter of Katherine Roksandic Trenholme '69; Bridget Walsh, Kent State University - Architecture/Interior Design; Paul Woidke, Bowling Green State University - Digital Arts; Jenny Young, University of Tampa - Marine Biology, daughter of George '78 and Laurie McGrew Young '80

Pat Fahey Memorial Scholarship: Justin Smith, Kent State University - Flight Technology; Kristi Purbollari, John Carroll University - International Business/Political Science



Seated: Bridget McMahan, Julie Girman, Max Mueller, Megan Dresner, Lillian Elliott. Standing: Ivor Karabatkovic, Aleksandar Pupovac, Dani Fribourg



Seated: Vicki Hamm, Julie Schreiner, Noreen Lucic. Standing: Patrick MacGregor, Kyle Marti, Barbara Summers

Nancy Furst Figgie Scholarship: Alexandra Krueger, University of Chicago

Harry E. Figgie Scholarship: Sam O'Leary, George Washington University - Political Science & Public Policy

Charley Geiger Volunteerism Scholarship: Noreen Lucic, College of Wooster - Liberal Arts, daughter of Mary Carol Warren Lucic '75

Herman & Katie Kleinmeyer Scholarship: Trevor Davis, Ohio University, son of Ruthy Mallinak Davis '72; Heather Helbig, Marietta College - Psychology; Ivor Karabatkovic, Lorain County Community College - Photojournalism; Ron Kasper, University of Cincinnati - Engineering; Bridget McMahan, Miami University - Education; Jayna Pappas, Ohio University - Journalism/Broadcasting; James Pitchford, Cleveland State University - Physics; Justin Smith, Kent State University - Flight Technology; Andi Sulovari, Baldwin-Wallace College - International Business/Political Science; Kevin Tuleta, University of Dayton - Finance/International Business, son of Maureen Caine Tuleta '78; David Warsinskey, Ohio Northern University - Engineering

Ryan J. Meinke Memorial Music Scholarship: Benjamin Krumreig, Baldwin-Wallace College - Music Education/Vocal Performance, son of Richard Krumreig '76

Ryan J. Meinke Memorial Volunteerism Scholarship: Julie Girman, Bowling Green State University - Math Education, daughter of Lee Mast Girman '73

Alan & Carol Oatey Scholarship: Courtney Moran, University of Chicago - Biochemistry, daughter of Walter '81 and Susan Dodson Moran '81

George P. Read Music Scholarship: Renee Blackburn, Case Western Reserve University - Violin Performance & Chemistry; Alexandra Fletcher, Butler University - Music Business; Vicki Hamm, Baldwin Wallace College - Cello Performance & Music Education; Ashley Lance, Baldwin-Wallace College - Music Education; Kyle Marti, Capital University - Percussion Performance; Max Mueller, Cal-State Northridge - Film scoring/composition, son of Lauren Welty Mueller '81; Samantha Stewart, Cincinnati Conservatory of Music - Viola Performance & Education

Watters Science Seminar Scholarship: Courtney Moran, University of Chicago - Biochemistry, daughter of Walter '81 and Susan Dodson Moran '81

Kyle Peter Wolf Scholar-Athlete Award: Alexandra Krueger, University of Chicago; Patrick Beargie, Miami University - Diplomacy & Foreign Affairs

Lakewood Chamber of Commerce Scholarship: Justin Smith, Kent State University - Flight Technology; Paul Woidke, Bowling Green State University - Digital Arts; Jenny Young, Jacksonville University - Marine Biology, daughter of George '78 and Laurie McGrew Young '80

Class of 1941 Scholarship: Lillian Elliott, Bowling Green State University - Physical Therapy, daughter of Holly Osborn Elliott '83; Clarissa Kmieck, Mount Union College - Sports Management

Lakewood Public Schools

Class of 1944 Scholarship: Katrina Kmieck, Mount Union College - Physical Therapy/Athletic Training; Emma Sleva, Case Western Reserve University - Journalism; Kelly Stasko, University of Akron - Nursing, daughter of Michelle Dunphy Gruss '81 and James Stasko '77

Class of June 1946 Scholarship: Marinela Prifti, Miami University - Pre-Law

Class of 1947 Scholarship: Taylor Weiss, Allegheny College - Environmental Science

Class of 1954 Scholarship: Patrick Beargie, Miami University - Diplomacy & Foreign Affairs

Class of 1955 Scholarship: Kristi Purbollari, John Carroll University - International Business/Political Science

Class of 1958 Scholarship: Patrick MacGregor, Cornell University - Chemical Engineering, son of Scott '72 and Kathleen Brennan MacGregor '75

Class of 1960 Scholarship: Rebecca Huffman, Carleton College - Political Science/International Relations, daughter of David Huffman '69

Class of 1972 Scholarship: Bridget Walsh, Miami University - Education



Seated: Marinela Prifti, Zach Toole, Kelly Stasko, Allison Ochocki, Sam O'Leary. Standing: Sam Stewart, James Pitchford, Taylor Weiss, Justin Smith



Seated: Courtney Moran, Jenny Young, Laura Knab. Standing: Grace Diffenbacher, Rachel Brieck, Patrick Beargie



Seated: Anne Trenholme, Heather Helbig, Clare Kmieck, Bridget Walsh, Katie Kmieck. Standing: Paul Verga, Candiss Clementson, Ashley Lance

Lakewood Politics

continued from page 1

name a few.

"Bullock's brought in the power elite," quipped Eadeh, tongue-in-cheek, gazing up to the figure of Pinocchio nested in a corner of the gallery.

Alllevity aside, however, the rumples, rough-and-tumble cadre of Lakewood Observer civic journalists could see that the candidate had access to a well-dressed network of gentlemen policy makers that spanned the region, including Dr. John Bender of the Ohio Board of Education, who Bullock introduced as his mentor.

Perhaps the most stimulating aspect to Bullocks's candidacy is the best-of-both-worlds interface he is developing between Lakewood's civic grassroots neighbors and a new generation of reformist-minded Democrats. On this night that meshing of minds could be seen in an intellectually astute compare-and-contrast policy and problem-solving conversation between Troy Bratz from the Parma Public Housing Agency and Jason Braddock, a young wash-a-shore Lakewood professional who owns a home on Lewis Drive and wanted to understand what the purchase of two foreclosed homes by HUD could mean to his neighborhood.

Bullock is running a classic Lakewood front porch campaign. "I've covered half the ward. I'll cover the full ward no later than the end of June. I am learning from people that we need to go back to the old fashioned front



Jeni Matousek hosted Tom Bullock's political coming out party. Jenni is also know for her participation in the Lakewood Democratic Club.

porch neighborhood communication network so we know who belongs and who doesn't belong," says Bullock.

The face-to-face communication between voter and candidate hold a subtle spiritual meaning for Bullock, too. Gary Pritts, a Lakewood medical professional who attended the fundraiser, suggested to Bullock that a front porch campaign provides opportunity not only to gain political capital but also to achieve through the eyes an auspicious viewing of neighborhood blessing and healing, sometimes called Darshan.

With Lakewood civic activists like Pritts, Jack and Janice Campbell and Jeni Matousek supplying enthusiasm and good energy, Bullock's vision of front-porch Darshan and caring neighborhood conversation establishes an emotional campaign theme that diverges from the discipline and punishment of the old-time political machine.

Bullock loves Lakewood's built environment. He regards houses in Avon Lake as sensory deprivation tanks with flat screens where people live alone with big consumerist media, sapped of creative energy, voting for the American Idol candidate. Yet he is hearing on Lakewood porches the stories about disorderly neighbors that eventually drive people with the means toward those sterile suburbs. He wants to re-connect people to the familiar order of good neighborhoods.

"There's a lot of anxiety about Lakewood's neighborhoods. People feel alone with a problem neighbor who may not be maintaining the quality of a home. There may defiant teenagers walking down the center of the street. People are afraid to speak directly to their neighbor. They don't know what to do. They wonder 'should I be in Lakewood?'" explains Bullock. The candidate also has a new appreciation for police work. Having participated in a Police Ride-Along from 9 p.m. to midnight on a Friday night, Bullock knows that speeding, hooliganism, and alcohol-related offenses constitute the bulk of disorder on that shift. "Community policing strategies," he claims, "can help us inspire one another to face challenges together."

As a founding member of the Lakewood Earth and Food (LEAF) Community, Bullock has turned the earth in the Plover Patch community garden, too. At first, LEAF members were skeptical about the candidate for Lakewood City Council in their midst. When LEAF Community members assembled for a Lakewood Observer photo-op, Bullock faced good-natured teasing from Dan Slife, who insisted the candidate work the earth like a peasant rather than a politician. Bullock eventually put in two-and-a-half hours hauling dirt and leaf humus to prepare the community garden, giving credence to his grass-roots-and-front-porch campaign.

"Tom arrived early and stayed until the job was done," professes Slife.

Lakewood Public Library

Sign-up Now for Library’s Summer Storytime Season

by Amy Dreger

Summer is just around the corner and with it come promises of warm nights, trips to the beach, baseball games and regular visits to the ice cream shop. But summer is also the perfect time for you and your children to cool off at one of Lakewood Public Library’s summer programs. Although construction has forced programming at the Main Library to be put on hold, summer storytimes and family fun will be in full swing at the Madison Branch.

Parents may be tempted to take a vacation from library visits and storytimes during the warm summer months, but keeping children interested in books throughout the summer can help instill a life-long love of reading.

Storytimes provide the perfect opportunity to introduce children to the magic of books, reading, language development and socialization skills as they interact with others their own age. They also present opportunities to learn basic preschool skills such as body part recognition, ABCs, colors, numbers, left and right, how to sit quietly and how to listen in a large-group setting. Music and movement allow for gross motor skills development and crafts, offered at some of Lakewood Public Library’s storytimes, encourage the development of fine motor skills.

Research has shown that early experiences with books and stories are critically linked to a child’s success in learning to read. The National Institute for Literacy has noted that “reading aloud to children has been called the single most important activity for building the knowledge required for success in reading. Reading aloud, with children participating actively, helps children learn new words, learn more about the world, learn about written language, and see the connection between words that are spoken and words that are written.”

Research has, likewise, identified six pre-reading skills that are crucial to a child’s learning to read. Known as “early literacy,” these skills can be

nurtured from birth and continue to develop throughout the preschool years. Early literacy involves:

Narrative skills – being able to describe things and events and tell stories. Phonological awareness – being able to hear and play with the smaller sounds in words. Letter knowledge – knowing letters are different from each other, knowing their names and sounds and recognizing letters everywhere. Print motivation – being interested in and enjoying books. Vocabulary – knowing the names of things. Print awareness – noticing print, knowing how to handle a book and knowing how to follow the words on a page.

Parents and caregivers play a critical role in helping children cultivate early literacy skills. Trips to the library and, particularly, regular visits to storytimes, can supplement the foundations being laid at home. Children’s librarians at Lakewood Public Library have been trained to give instruction to parents and

caregivers during storytimes to help them understand how their children are benefiting from the activities and to show them ways they can facilitate children’s literacy development.

“Besides offering fun and entertaining storytimes, our storytellers infuse their programs with ideas and activities that help develop early literacy skills in young children,” notes Andrew Harant, Manager of Children and Youth Services at Lakewood Public Library. “We want to model positive and educational interactions with books for parents and caregivers, while having lots of fun.”

Lakewood Public Library’s summer storytime session will run from Monday, June 11 through Thursday, July 19. The following storytimes will be offered:

Just Baby ‘N Me: For you and your 9-24 month old baby. Enjoy books, songs and fingerplays while networking with other parents.

Shake, Rattle and Roll: for you and your child age 2-6. Tune in to the magic

of music. Enjoy stories that leap off the page with song, dance and rhythm instruments. For added fun, each child will be given a special “shaker.”

Super Summer Stories: for the whole family. Hear stories, songs and movements perfect for a summer day.

Camp Story Time: for the whole family. Wear your pj’s and sit under the “stars.” Come and listen to soothing stories perfect for a summer’s eve.

In addition to the six-week summer storytime season, the Madison Branch will also offer the Family Weekend Wonders drop-in storytimes with a craft. No registration is required. They are held each Friday throughout the year at 10:30 a.m., 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m., each Saturday at 10:30 a.m., 2:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. and each Sunday at 2:00 p.m.

With the exception of Family Weekend Wonders, registration is required for the summer storytime season. Please call the Madison Branch at (216) 228-7428 for more information or to register your child.

Blizzard In The Forecast For Library TV

by John Guscott

With the Main Library shutting down from June 12 through July 9 while all your favorite books, movies and music are schlepped over to the new building and with musical concerts, movies, book clubs and lectures not scheduled to resume until the fall, what exactly is a library-based TV show to do with itself? If you’re What’s Going On at the Lakewood Public Library?, Lakewood’s five-year-old public access program with the self-explanatory name, you curl up with a good book and pretend it’s snowing outside.

Throughout the months of June and July, WGOLPL? will feature a dramatic, British-accented reading of the first two chapters of The Time Machine by H.G. Wells for easy summer entertainment. As a semi-appropriate visual component, time-compressed footage

of downtown Lakewood taken at sunset during the Valentine’s Day Blizzard will fill the screen and hopefully cool heat-vexed viewers. A brief tag at the end of the program shows the city beginning to dig itself out the next day around noon.

Why has the Library chosen to mix winter wonderland footage with classic science fiction? Quite frankly, with the big move ahead, a bold new kind of filler episode was needed to keep the Library ahead of schedule. Besides, the book is an undisputed classic whose first two chapters are fit to whet the reading appetites of the whole family.

This special edition of What’s Going On at the Lakewood Public Library? airs every Thursday in June and July at 11:00 a.m., 4:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. on Cox Cable’s Community Channel 45. Previous episodes featuring music by Colin Dussault, Tracy Marie, Bob Fraser, Ki Allen and more are available on DVD at both Main Library and the Madison Branch. The recording of The Time Machine is provided by Project Gutenberg (www.gutenberg.org) a favorite online source for free, public domain books offered in a variety of formats.

Normal programming for the Library TV show will return in the fall with a special presentation of the last Sunday with the Friends concert ever staged in the old auditorium—Flamenco Guitar. Nearly 80 people gathered for the farewell presentation to see Stuart Vokes illustrate the lively history of flamenco music through its Andalusian, Islamic, Sephardic and Gypsy roots with his skilled hands and trusty guitar. Crystal-clear audio accompanied by crisp digital photography will make you feel like you were there. The breathtaking performance will air in August and September along with information on the new Library and a sneak peek at the upcoming season of concerts and films and more. A circulating DVD of the August/September episode will also be available in early August for music lovers unable to see the program on Cox 45.

Library Events Calendar

Thursday, May 31 SCIENCE VS. MAGIC

A book discussion program for students in fourth through eighth grade

Explore new worlds in six amazing fantasy and science-fiction series. We'll read the first installment of each saga to determine whether aliens are smarter than fairies, or whether genies are more powerful than Greek gods. Each title must be read by its discussion date. To register, please stop in, call (216) 228-7428 or use the form provided on the last page of this booklet.

Summary of the Six Books

7:30 P.M. - 8:30 P.M. in the Madison Branch

Friday, June 8 Special Friday Performance

Magic with Zap the Wonder Chap

3:00 P.M. in the Madison Branch Auditorium

Tuesday, June 12 English for Immigrants

ESOL Instructors Janet Sheffler and Carol Litzler will lead informal, dynamic and fun summer sessions for adults who are looking to improve their English language and vocabulary skills. The format will provide a venue of cultural exchange for Lakewood's diverse population. This is one of the few opportunities for adults seeking language development skills during the summer months, and one of the best!

2:00 P.M. – 3:30 P.M. in the Madison Branch



Brinkman-Dress
Funeral Home

Same Family Ownership Since 1868

**Large Enough to Serve
Small Enough to Care**

Sorry For The Inconvenience

While sewer work on detroit is being done, we have arrangements made to serve our families from either a Lakewood home or various facilities in surrounding communities.

John C. Brinkman

13443 Detroit Avenue • Lakewood, Ohio • 216-226-5700



bela dubby

free live music every Fri & Sat!

Coffee • Art • Beer

Phoenix Roasted Coffees

Big Microbrews Selection

13321 Madison Ave 216-221-4479

Mon-Thurs 10am-10pm • Fri-Sat 10am-12am • Closed Sundays

Lakewood Public Library

Lakewood Public Library Prepares to Meet the Challenge of Outreach to New Lakewood Preschool Program

by Stephanie Sheldon

The Lakewood Public Library has provided outreach services to the Project 1-2-3 pre-kindergarten program since 1997. The library has also provided services to the Special Needs programs at Hayes, Grant, and Emerson since 2003. One of the reasons that the library is so thrilled to reach out to these programs is because students and their families are exposed not only to literature, but to the wide array of services the library offers. Beginning with the 2007-8 school year, the Project 1-2-3 program and the current Special Education Preschool Program will be merging into a new preschool program, referred to as the Lakewood Early Childhood Program.

A public meeting on May 1st revealed details of this new program. There will be seven classrooms with a full inclusion model in place—a blend of special education students and typical (or regularly developing) peers. Lincoln, Harrison and Hayes Elementary Schools

will have morning and afternoon sessions. McKinley will have a morning class only. Each classroom will have 6 children identified as having special education needs, ranging in age from three to five-years-old. Each classroom will also have 14 typically developing four-year-old peers. A team-teaching approach will be used in each of these classrooms, with one regular education preschool teacher, one special education preschool teacher, one regular education aide and one special education aide. In addition to the inclusion classrooms, there will be two to three classrooms for special education children only.

The concept for this new program was designed by Dr. Kate Foley, Director of Student Services for the Lakewood City Schools, and Kathleen Stack, Director of Federal Funding for the Lakewood City Schools, including Project 1-2-3. According to Dr. Foley, the reason behind this change involves a mandate from the state of Ohio requiring all special education preschool classrooms to be full inclusion.

Kathleen Stack has stated that funding for the Project 1-2-3 program has significantly decreased over the past few years. Due to the lack of funding the number of students able to be enrolled in Project 1-2-3 dropped from 140-150 children this year to just 98 for the 2007-8 school year. This means that there will be potentially 52 fewer students exposed to the projects and services the library offers families. Both Dr. Foley and Ms. Stack maintain that the new program will provide better compliance with the No Child Left Behind Act.

Kenneth Warren, Director of the Lakewood Public Library, raises the question, "What does 'No Children Left Behind' really mean? No child is left standing in the middle. It's extreme education." Education in the Lakewood City Schools, as well as surrounding districts, makes special accommodations for special needs children—special needs ranging from gifted education to those with disabilities. Where does the larger percentage of typically developing children fit in to these designs? As with the new Lakewood Early Childhood Program, they are left to a program that may be the only option for some, since private preschools often cost more than the pocketbook of some families will allow. Project 1-2-3 has traditionally been a program designed to provide access for pre-kindergarten to those who could not otherwise afford to take part in a private preschool. In addition to the spaces held for income needy families, there have always been tuition-based spaces available for financially non-qualifying students. With the implementation of this program, those numbers drop considerably. Will all the children who need this program be given space?

There seems to be immediacy to the actions of this program merger. During the May 1st meeting, Dr. Foley stated repeatedly that Project 1-2-3 and the Special Needs Preschool were teaming based on a state mandate for typical children to be included in special education preschool programs. Jane Renner from the Ohio Department of Education refuted that claim, stating that "although there is a federal 'push' for an inclusion model, it is not a mandate." Ms. Renner agreed that it would be logical to begin any new model with a pilot program. The program could then be modified as necessary, and a district-wide program started after this trial-run. The main question raised by the new program is whether or not it will serve the needs of the children involved. Toni Gelsomino, Program Manager of the Department of Early Childhood and the Lakewood Family Room, often has the first contact with new families of the Lakewood community. As such, she sees the spectrum of needs that families here require. Ms. Gelsomino's primary concern in recommending a program is whether or not it will meet all the needs of the children involved, as well as the family as a whole. She stresses that a program "should be built around the needs of a child."

Project 1-2-3 was one of twelve programs recognized by the State of Ohio for their excellence in programming and structure. That structure is becoming a model for Early Learning Program state-wide. By merging Project 1-2-3 and the Special Needs Preschool Program, the structure and design will change drastically. Project 1-2-3 is currently a pre-kindergarten program. Its primary purpose is to educate four-year-old children in kindergarten readiness. The same age restriction will be placed on the typical children coming into the Lakewood Early Childhood Program. However, instead of being a strictly pre-kindergarten program, the children enrolled will now be part of a preschool program where typical children will be expected to be role models for special needs children who may be as young as three. Although the typical children are required to be four-years-old by September 30th to enroll in the program, children identified as having needs for special education must be three-years-old by December 1st. There is a large discrepancy in developmental, learning and behavior ages in this new model.

Currently, Lakewood librarians in outreach situations prepare programs geared towards their audience. A new challenge is presented to engage all of the children in the classroom with the combination of typical students and special needs students. What engages a typical student may overwhelm a special needs student. What engages a special needs student may bore a typical student. Librarians must work diligently to address this new combined audience. According to Kate Brennan-MacGregor, Supervisor in the Children's and Youth Services at Lakewood Public Library, "Quality storytime planning involves a combination of several basic elements: books, music, movements, fingerplays and visual stories. In the past I have asked teachers in new class settings to guide me with suggestions on presenting a storytime to their special needs students so that everyone enjoys the experience. This will be the manner in which I proceed this fall when outreach scheduling begins." Many of the surrounding school districts currently have an inclusion model in place. One major difference between the preschool programs in other districts, such as Berea and Westlake, and the new Lakewood Early Childhood Program is that other districts have historically conducted screenings of their typical children who want to attend the program. Lakewood does not propose to conduct such a screening. Children do not always develop at the same rate. There are some children who are not mature enough to be in a classroom with children with special needs. There are some children who may not make good role models for those special education children who are behind developmentally, socially or with learning disabilities. For some typical children, this program will be their first

LAKEWOOD LIBRARY GALA RSVP

Join us for an extravagant evening of hors d'oeuvres, cocktails, a silent auction, live music and dancing as you get the first look at the newly-renovated library, designed by renowned architect A.M. Stern. All proceeds from the gala will support public art Both in and around the new library.

SATURDAY, JUNE 23, 2007
15425 DETROIT AVENUE, LAKEWOOD OH
SEVEN O'CLOCK IN THE EVENING

LAKEWOOD LIBRARY GALA RSVP

☐ **I can't wait to be the first to see the best - count me in!**

- **PUBLISHER \$ 5,000** 20 VIP tickets with valet parking; gala room sponsor prominent company name on printed materials, gala publicity and gala signage; full-page advertisement in commemorative event program.
(\$3,900 tax deductible)
- **AUTHOR \$2,500** 10 VIP tickets with valet parking; gala publicity and gala signage; half-page advertisement in commemorative event program.
(\$1,950 tax deductible)
- **LIBRARIAN \$1,500** 10 VIP tickets with valet parking; quarter-page advertisement in commemorative event program.
(\$950 tax deductible)
- **AVID READER \$100** x _____ number of tickets = \$ _____
(\$45 per ticket tax deductible)

☐ I'm going to have to see the best some other time, but I'd still like to make a donation!

name _____

phone _____

email

- ☐ My check made payable to LPL FOUNDATION for \$_____ is enclosed.
- ☐ Please charge my _____ Mastercard _____ Visa for \$_____

name as it appears on card _____

credit card number _____

expiration date

Payment may also be made online at www.bethefirsttoseethebest.com.

ALL TICKETS WILL BE HELD AT THE DOOR

continued on next page

Lakewood Public Library

Something Magic This Way Comes

by Arlie Matera

Ours is an era of over exposure. No secret is safe, and nothing is sacred. Or so some people would have you believe.

Bob Durante is not one of those people. "Magic still is magic, and it really does exist in our real world," he says. He should know. He's been studying and performing magic for over thirty years. His apprenticeship began at the Yellow Barrel of Magic, a Cleveland magic shop where he worked in the 1970's. He eventually left the Yellow Barrel to branch off on his own, forming Zap Entertainment with his wife, Sue. He performs as Zap the Wonder Chap; she's the Bubble Lady. "My wife is the famous one in the family," Durante says with a laugh, referring to the enormous popularity of her bubble act with the three to nine year old set.

But Zap is no slouch when it comes to children's entertainment.

Though he does perform magic and mind reading for adults, the majority of his shows are geared toward younger audiences. Zap performs regularly at schools, libraries, summer camps, and private parties throughout Ohio, Pennsylvania, Michigan, and Indiana. He loves the work, and his travels are a constant source of inspiration to him. "At every hotel...I find myself looking in the local Yellow Pages for magic shops," he says. "Most cities have no such places, but once in awhile you see a listing and your heart starts to pound faster."

Nowadays, tricks are sold cheap on the internet, and magic shops have been disappearing as if by some dark magician's design. But for Durante, nothing compares to learning a new trick at a real magic shop. His favorite is Encore Magic in Flint, Michigan. "Walking in to this shop I was reminded of the old time shops from 20-30 years ago. Old wood and glass cases, stacks of dusty magic

stuff sitting here and there. I told the owner I was on the road doing shows... and he said to follow him. We went to the (back) of the store where he had a whole room (just) for visiting magicians."

Though Durante will never reveal

the secrets of the back room, you can catch his act on Friday, June, 8th, at the Madison Branch of the Lakewood Public Library. The free performance begins at 3:00 p.m. and is a family friendly event.

Friends To Hold Computers & Furnishing Sale At Omni In Lakewood

The Friends of Lakewood Public Library will hold a "Surplus Computers and Furnishings Sale" on Saturday June 2 from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. at the Omni Lakewood Complex, 13000 Athens Avenue, located across the street south of Madison Park.

There is a wide range of computers, chairs, shelving, tables and odds and ends available for sale at bargain prices.

The Friends of Lakewood Public have a long tradition of commitment to sustainability and recycling.

"We continue to be known for our re-cycling efforts. We hope to see all the surplus find good homes and organizations," says Paul Dimmick, President of The Friends of Lakewood Public Library.

Payments for the surplus can be made in cash or check. Credit cards are not accepted. Items paid may be stored for a period of five days.

"We are counting on any money from this sale to purchase a new van for Lakewood Public Library," says Dimmick.

continued from page 8

exposure to a school setting. This is an adjustment to their daily routines and social behaviors. Just as the special education children have certain needs, these "rookie" preschoolers have needs as well. Will they be expected to push past their needs while being good role models for the other children? As Mona Ewing, a parent of a current Project 1-2-3 student, stated, "My daughter was the youngest four-year-old in the classroom. She had a very difficult time adjusting to being away from me. It was difficult enough to get her to cope and learn new 'school' behavior...let alone if she was expected to model behavior for other children. I don't think it would have worked."

Just as there are some typical children who may not do well with inclusion, not all special needs children will thrive in an inclusion setting. The idea of going from a self-contained classroom of eight children with two teachers, as in the current model, to a classroom of 20 children with four teachers could be overwhelming. Variables outside the control of the

teachers, including noise, activity, etc., would be difficult to cope with for many children. Although the other option is the strictly special education preschool classrooms, some children would not fit there either. Melissa Kress, a parent of a current Special Needs Preschool student, attested that her son was not quite three-years-old when he entered the Special Needs Preschool program. He would have been too high-functioning to be placed in an all-special education classroom, but would not necessarily have thrived where his peers were four and five-years-old—they would be nowhere near the same in development or social skills. This change to a full inclusion preschool model will present challenges to all preschool families in Lakewood.

Despite questions surrounding the new program, Lakewood Public Library's Children and Youth Services Department is committed to the Lakewood Early Childhood Program to provide a continuum of services. Storytimes will be designed to address the needs of all children within the classroom.

Who, What, When and Where?



Answer any two of the above questions and you will win your choice of Lakewood Observer T-Shirts. This popular Lakewood person can be seen at his place of business, usually talking and having fun. If you are really lucky you can catch him at The Place To Be during lunch hour. 3 winners only! Send entry to LO, PO Box 770274, Lakewood Ohio 44107

Class Act

RESALE SHOPPE

Mon. Noon - 7pm
Tues., Wed., Fri. & Sat. - 10-6pm; Closed Sun. & Thurs.

216.712.6977

www.ClassActResale.com

Lakewood's Newest "Upscale" Resale Shop!

Designer Clothing for Men & Women
Handbags & Shoes
Vintage, Costume, & Fine Jewelry
Home Decor & Furniture
Framed Artwork
Antiques & Estate Collectibles
Hand-beaded & Jeweled Easter Crosses

15649 Madison Ave - Lakewood
(corner of Madison & Morrison)
Accepting Consignments by Appointment Only!

N F C

NORRIS FAMILY CHIROPRACTIC

- Woman Owned & Operated
- 4 Yrs. in Downtown Lakewood
- Full Physical Therapy Outlet
- Worker's Comp & Personal Injury
- Nutrition Care with All Visits
- Family Friendly Office

Summer Visit Special

50%

off all first visit charges

applies to cash & out-of-pocket costs for patients using insurance

Dr. Allison Norris (216)227-1490

ARTS and MUSICFEST

Your summer starts here!

Join our 20th Annual Celebration

A Free Family Event * Over 90 Artists * Held Rain or Shine
Children's Activities * Juried Art Venue * Great Food
Entertainment throughout the Day * Specialty Exhibits

National City

Saturday, June 16

PRESENTED BY CUPELL IMPROVEMENT, INC.

On Clifton Blvd. - W. 112th to W. 117th Streets
10am to 6pm on Cleveland's northwest side

Lakewood Observer

Women In History Acting Troupe Welcomes Two New Members

by Michelle Todd

We've all heard of gutsy women – but did you know you can see them, hear them speak, and even ask them questions? In a sense you can, through our own local Women in History organization.

This non-profit group is made up of actresses who portray various historic women. The majority of these women, despite the stringent times in which they lived, broke through the boundaries, overcame obstacles and nay-sayers, and achieved victories against all odds.

The actresses, like the historic figures, come from all walks of life, and perform individually or in groups for schools, businesses and organizations – visit the website for more information, at <http://www.lkwdpl.org/wihohio/>.

And now, two more local women have joined the ranks of actresses with this troupe: Emmie Hutchison and Julie Wang-Warren. Also with their addition, two more historic figures grace the list of almost 100 women the combined group portrays.

Emmie Hutchison Portrays Nellie Bly

Emmie Hutchison first learned of Women in History (WIH) when her daughter came home gushing about a performance at her school. Then, as a part-time children's librarian at Lakewood Public Library, Emmie worked firsthand with the group during the recent All-American Heroes role-playing program.

"I was moved by the way the kids embraced the spirits of their characters," she said. The WIH members



Julie Warren as Ruth Etting and Emmie Hutchison as Nellie Bly

taught the middle school participants general facts about American history through a timeline and weekly games and activities. After the students chose characters, the group members helped them write theatrical monologues and rehearse performances in character.

"After this great experience with the students and the dedicated members of WIH, I knew without a doubt I had to be involved," Emmie added. After several months of building up the courage, through support of family and co-workers, she contacted WIH and began preparing a ten-minute audition on her selected figure, Nellie Bly.

Nellie Bly was the penname of Elizabeth Cochran, a journalist who wrote for Joseph Pulitzer's newspaper The World in the late 1880's. She pioneered investigative journalism – at the time a radical new form of reporting – by feigning insanity to be committed to the Bedlam Asylum in New York to report on the conditions there. It struck

a nerve, and part sensationalism, part powerful defiance of corruption and injustice were born – both of which were embodied by Nellie Bly.

Nellie's most famous stunt was traveling around the world in 72 days, besting Jules

Verne's fictional feat by eight days. Her editors wanted to assign to a man instead, rationalizing that a man would need less luggage and no chaperone. She said, "Fine, send a man. I'll leave the same day for another paper and beat him." By that time, her editors knew she didn't bluff.

"My intention is to bring the details of Nellie's life and triumphs to light in a way that truthfully represents her," Emmie said. "She was bold, adventurous and outgoing but she is also portrayed by biographers as endlessly self-promoting and self-centered. I guess it's one thing to speak the truth to those in power, but another to get noticed; so I hope to portray the con-

traditions and complications of such an interesting life."

Julie Wang-Warren Portrays Ruth Etting

Julie Wang-Warren knew she wanted to join WIH as soon as she heard about the group. As the baby following four older brothers, she recalled offering opinions at the dinner table, to which her brothers would tease, "That's nice, but you're a girl and girls don't count."

"I believe these women's lives DO count," Julie said, "and their stories should matter." Julie had singers in mind, as she loves music, but couldn't decide on one until a friend told her about Ruth Etting, known as 'America's Sweetheart of Song' in the '20s and '30s. She realized her father had sung many of Ruth's songs to her as a child.

"I contacted the fabulous staff of Lakewood Public Library who dug in and researched Ruth for me," Julie said. "They found significant information, including an actual interview with Ruth later in life, filled with anecdotes and recollections of her Broadway and Hollywood experiences. To have direct quotes from her to use for my monologue was so interesting. LPL even went so far as to order me a copy of a movie that Ruth was in, called Roman Scandals, so I could see and hear what she was like."

Ruth Etting rose to unprecedented fame through vaudeville and the Ziegfeld Follies, singing such songs as "Shine on Harvest Moon," "Button Up Your Overcoat," "Shaking the Blues Away," and "Ten Cents a Dance." She sang with Bing Crosby, had a radio show with Jimmy Durante in the mid-1930s, and had over 60 hits with Columbia Records. In a 1933 radio poll, she was named the leading singer of popular songs.

Her downfall was love and an early marriage to her manager, a mobster named Marty ("Moe the Gimp") Snyder. The mental and physical abuse she endured from him actually helped her convincing renditions of the torch songs she made famous, like "Love Me or Leave Me" and "Mean to Me." Ruth later fell in love with her pianist (whom Marty shot) and then divorced in 1937, something unheard of back then. Unfortunately, all that ended her career.

"I am most anxious to share the stories of amazing women and their accomplishments with my own two daughters, who are 6 and 4 years old," Julie added. "There is so much that I don't know about those women who came before, but thanks to the ladies from WIH whose portrayals I am witnessing, I am learning so much."

I Love Lakewood

by Gerry Nelson

I love Lakewood. It's a great city. We have an honest mayor who has the welfare of the town in his heart; kind of a phenom, isn't it?

Our police, fire and EMS departments are all second to none and we have a congressman, Dennis Kucinich, who chose Lakewood for his Congressional district office site with a staff whose rea-

son for being is constituent service.

Our Division of Aging is the jewel of the county -- and believe me the county knows it. I've served on county agency boards that are concerned with senior matters. Sometimes the subject of a new senior service to be offered to communities comes up. Very often someone on the board says "well, we don't have to worry about giving the service to Lakewood -- they already have it".

I love driving down Clifton Boulevard and seeing moms pushing their little ones in strollers with their dog in hand.

We're close to our beloved Lake Erie with all her moods.

We're minutes from the Metro Park where I rode my horse as a kid and where I often walk my dogs.

Now, I admit the parking situation is a little iffy and takes some ingenuity. But we're up to it.

Oh, I know. Rocky River has their beautiful manicured lawns, Westlake has many rich people, Fairview has a huge shopping center with plenty of parking and Bay Village is, well, Bay Village.

But as for me, I'll take Lakewood -- and historic Bird Town, our beautiful park, our lake, our trees and best of all our diversity.

Candy Bouquet

Candy Bouquets
Gourmet Chocolates
Specialty Gifts

You don't need a
special occasion
to send something sweet!

Some people just
make you
smile everyday!

17100 Detroit Ave.
216-226-3910
Visit us online at
www.4215.candybouquet.com

CANDY
BOUQUET

Visit the Candy Bouquet Franchise nearest you.
www.candybouquet.com

NOW
OPEN
FOR THE SEASON!

HONEY'S
GOURMET

COUPON GOOD FOR ONE
Free Ice Cream Or Gelato
Cup Or Cone with purchase
of same. Offer expires 6-12-07

216-221-4444

14877 Detroit Rd., Marc's Plaza

COIN WASH LAUNDRY

The Cleanest Laundry in Town!

9 am to 9 pm

16212 Madison Ave. • Lakewood (in the Northland Plaza)

Join the Discussion at: www.lakewoodobserver.com

OLD FUSE BOX? Call Mike...

24 HOUR EMERGENCY SERVICE

Mike Azzarello Brings You 15 Years Experience From The Illuminating Co.

DEPENDABLE ELECTRIC

440-845-8661

FEDERAL PACIFIC BOXES MUST BE REMOVED

\$ 50 OFF ON A NEW BREAKER BOX

Fuse Box Troubles?

We Install New Breaker Boxes!

Meter Service Troubles?

We Upgrade Meter Services!

LICENSED • BONDED • INSURED

Service Upgrades • 220 Lines • Violations Corrected • GFCI's Installed

SERVICING EAST & WEST

• Free Inspection •

• Free Estimates •

Savings in bloom!

When you purchase a high-efficiency home comfort system...

Receive up to \$1,000 toward your utility bills*

OR

Up to 12 Months NO PAYMENT**

Deferred Interest Financing**

(216) 221-0310

13029 Madison Avenue

Lakewood, OH 44107

slifehvac@sbcglobal.net

License #16431

Offer expires 6/15/2007.

*Rebate offer is valid only with the purchase of qualifying Lennox® products.

**Offer is subject to credit approval by GE Money Bank with purchase of qualifying Lennox product. No finance charge will be assessed and no minimum monthly payments will be required on your promotional purchase balance if you pay the promotion purchase balance in full by the end of the 12 Month promotion period. If you do not, finance charges will be assessed on the promotional purchase balance from the date of purchase and minimum monthly payments will be required on the remaining promotional purchase balance. Standard account terms apply to non-promotional purchases and, after promotion ends, to your promotional purchase. Variable APR is 21.15% as of 01/01/2007. Variable delinquency APR of 23.99% as of 01/01/2007 may apply if you fail to pay your minimum payment by your due date for two consecutive billing periods. Minimum finance charge \$1.50. Offer void where prohibited by law.

© 2007 Lennox Industries Inc. See your participating Lennox dealer for details. Lennox dealers include independently owned and operated businesses.

HOME COMFORT SYSTEMS

Innovation never felt so good.™

Join the Discussion at: www.lakewoodobserver.com


Lakewood Police & SWAT



Lakewood Police Investigators Pay Foye and Pat Fiorelli give the widows of slain police officers Leon and Schroeder the big check.

Ohio Tactical Officers Association Guest Of W.E.B. - S.W.A.T.

Stan Austin - Photos By Rhonda Loje & Jim O'Bryan



Friends of W.E.B. S.W.A.T

Date: May 21, 2007

Pay To The Order Of: Concerns Of Police Survivors

\$4,500.00

Four Thousand, Five Hundred and 00/100

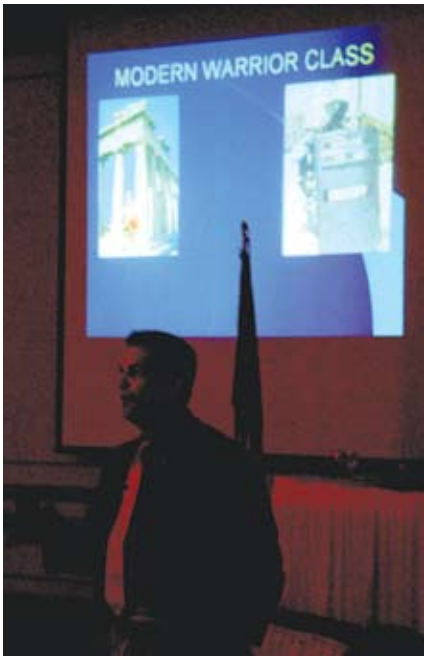
Dollars

KALT Mfg.
Geigers
State Farm
Hinkley Lighting
ART American

Lakewood Observer, Inc.
Vivid Jewelers
Gold's Gym
Lake Erie Harley Davidson
First Federal Lakewood

Memo: Friends of W.E.B. S.W.A.T.

084823///_84678329_/_8888201200



Guest speaker for the night talked about the Modern Warriors being ready. No need to worry about WEB SWAT!



Motorcycles from all of the cities in West Shore Enforcement Bureau lead the way.



Next stop was the Cleveland Obstacle Course for running and shooting.



A couple hundred runners take to the streets on a perfect day for a 5K.



Over the wall is not as easy as it sounds or looks.



Mike Fiorelli runs with his niece, as they come to the finish line.



Investigator Pat Foye shows Debra O'Bryan and Stan Austin a bullet proof vest.

Lakewood Police & SWAT

This past week the Ohio Tactical Officers Association was meeting here in Cleveland. The headquarters location for activities was the Westlake Holiday Inn. The Westshore Enforcement Bureau (WEB) SWAT was the host team.

Activities included training and seminars. On Sunday the group sponsored a 5K Run with proceeds going to Concerns of Police Survivors (COPS). Lakewood Officer and WEB SWAT Commander Pat Fiorilli said that they want to make this an annual tradition.

Among notable Lakewood finishers was Michael Carroll who was overall male winner and his brother Kevin, third in male 14 and under. Both are the sons of Lakewood Municipal Court Judge Patrick Carroll and wife, Bonnie.

On Monday night at a dinner the group awarded its first checks to the widows of slain Cleveland Police Officers Leon and Schroeder.

Other activities included team contests which featured obstacle courses and rifle marksmanship. These were held at the Cleveland Police shooting range. The obstacle course had barriers to jump and victims to drag but the primary emphasis is on marksmanship under stress.

The Westshore Enforcement Bureau is comprised of officers from the police departments of Bay Village, Fairview Park, Lakewood, North Olmsted, Rocky River, and Westlake. It was formed in the late 1960's when a need for riot control was perceived. It has since evolved into a unit where special weapons and tactics (SWAT) are required in hostage situations or barricaded suspect situations. The unit has been called out twice in Lakewood in the past year to deal with a suspect threatening to blow up a city block and another suspect who was an active shooter.



Lakewood Patrol Officer Ted Morely, talks with Stan Austin in front of the armored car.



A nice crowd fill the Holiday Inn dining room for dinner and motivation.



My table during the event with Investigator Pat Foye, and others. Everything was going great when one officer said, "O'Bryan I know you, I'll see you in September!" That was classmate Bob Flynn now from the North Olmsted Police Department.

Lakewood Memorial Day

Memorial Day Images from Ivor Karabatkovic and David Lay

more on line at <http://lakewoodobserver.com/gallery>



Bob's Appliance Service

Repairs On Most Major Brand Appliances

- Stoves
- Dishwashers
- Refrigerators
- Washers/Dryers

• **Free Estimates—No Trip Charges or Service Charges**

• Serving Lakewood and the Westside Suburbs for 25 Years

• Quality Rebuilt Washers and Dryers

• Delivery Available

216/521-9353

Leave Message on Machine

2003/2005 Angie's List Super Service Award!



Ed's Vac Service

Quality New and Rebuilt Vacuums

- **Free Pick-up and Delivery**
- Parts & Repair For All Brands
- Reasonable Rates—Prompt Service
- All Sales and Service Guaranteed!


216/221-6820

Leave Message on Machine

We Can Save You Time and Money!







If you are having **chest pain**
And **live** in one of these **cities**,

Avon Lake

Bay Village

Fairview Park

North Olmsted

North Ridgeville


Olmsted Township

Rocky River

Sheffield Lake

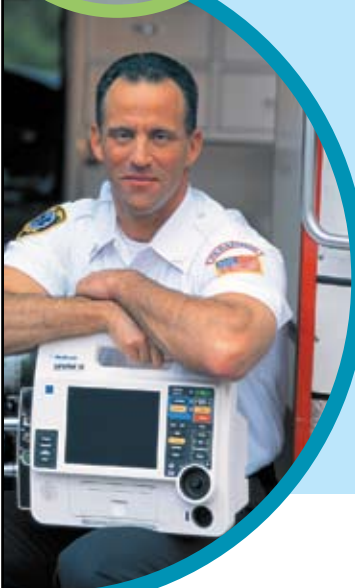
Sheffield Village

Westlake




Your chance of **survival**
has **greatly increased.**

REAL-TIME TECHNOLOGY SAVES LIVES



Because of the critical nature of sudden cardiac distress,

it is understood that even five minutes could make a difference in how well a patient may survive and recover from a cardiac event. This is what prompted St. John West Shore Hospital (SJWS) to obtain a LIFENET Receiving Station that will allow our emergency department to receive real-time 12-lead EKG data from paramedics while they are still in the field. SJWS is the first hospital on the West Side to assist local EMS to purchase the equipment necessary to relay real-time 12-lead EKG data in order to save valuable time in the diagnosis and treatment of cardiac emergencies.



ST. JOHN WEST SHORE HOSPITAL

A partnership of

The Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine Health System and **University Hospitals HealthSystem**

www.sjws.net

Revelations Salon & Spa

Hair • Nails • Skin • Massage

Don't forget Father's Day!

Buy a men's gift certificate and receive a 8oz Crew shampoo free.

Haircut, sports manicure, men's facial and one hour massage

15516 Detroit Avenue
Lakewood, Ohio 44107 www.revelationshairsalon.com 216-228-2966

Haircut and chair massage **\$30.00**

One hour massage **\$50.00**

One half hour massage **\$32.00**

Gentleman's Retreat **\$97.00**

SEE RACE GIRL

Details for Fingers & Toes!

Buy Redken Products
All Soft, Blonde Glam,
or Men's Haircare
& get FREE GIFTS (while supplies last)

216.226.8616

CARABEL BEAUTY SALON & STORE 15309 Madison Avenue





LAKEWOODnewlife

CHURCH

Join us Sundays @ 11am

**A Place to Belong...
A Place to Become!**

Meeting in the Masonic Temple
15300 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood
216-221-6174
www.lakewoodnewlifechurch.org

Lakewood New Life is a non-denominational church



Lakewood Business

by Justine Cooper

This month's Secret Shopper pick has become one of my favorite Lakewood shops. Since my first visit several months ago, I have shopped and consigned at the special boutique, CLASS ACT RESALE SHOPPE, 15649 Madison Avenue, on the corner of Morrison and Madison Avenue in Lakewood. This shop doesn't look or feel like any consignment shop I have been to before and has unique and artistic finds. Class Act Resale is really more like an upscale boutique with a variety of new and slightly used designer clothes, artisan works, antiques and wonderful vintage finds at affordable prices with free gift wrapping.

I love the assortment of fine artwork (much of it provided by local artists, including Lakewood photographer Lucian Bartosik) and I have also been able to find several authentic framed oil paintings for under \$150, designer clothes for under \$20, several very nice pieces of vintage jewelry and handmade jewelry (by Lakewood artisans, Janet Beattie, Anne Medzie and Renee Rothhaas) and gorgeous Coach and designer handbags for under \$100. If you enjoy a combination of high-end resale, consignment and antique shops, then you will love this shop for its eclectic home decor items as well. You have to circle the store two or three times to see everything. It is a unique concept the owner developed more than two decades ago – to couple furniture, jewelry and antiques with local artisan pieces and clothing.

Class Act Resale Shoppe is as classy as its name implies, and it's as fun and lively as its owner, Sharon K. Neura. She's a former interior decorator for Ethan Allen (while a student at JCU) and more recently a former VP of Marketing/PR for Samaritan Regional Health System in Ashland County. She definitely has a knack for making used items look spectacular. All the store fixtures were designed by her and the

In A Class All Its Own Class Act Resale

shop's layout features a look similar to that of Urban Outfitters, Smith & Hawken or The Gap.

It's decorated so beautifully that everybody is talking about the New York and Chicago ambiance. Even its window decorations draw cars to a halt at the intersection of Madison and Morrison. It is definitely the new hot spot in town to shop. I must say it's a refreshing welcome addition to the neighborhood on Madison Avenue. It is located on the same block as other well-loved Lakewood businesses which makes for a nice shop hop. This shop in a space that laid vacant for nearly 16 years definitely attracts a nice crowd from all over since it opened last November. It brings out the regular resale shoppers in town, but it really seems to attract the clientele which normally wouldn't be caught shopping at a resale establishment, let alone buying such items for friends and family members there. For so many that venture into this wonderful shop it is the neat selection of items including designer clothing, chic fashion accessories, vintage hats, unique costume jewelry, home decor and plenty of fine artwork that seems to catch the eye. For me it is the overall presentation I like best. It looks like it belongs on a hot and energized street in the SOHO district of New York City except the prices are nothing like NYC.

This shop has great product provided by an assortment of high-end consigners and a careful selection of fine items. It does take time to build up quality inventory and this shop is full of great things just in time for spring and summer. More items are turned away than are accepted for consignment typically for 60 days making the products you see all fresh and unique.

I have been in the shop several times and heard people ask, "Are the things in the store all new?". People seem to be shocked when they find out most of the things they see are consignments, but that is really what makes shopping here a real treat. This shop needs to be on the map for the entire Lakewood community. I highly encourage you to check it out. Madison Avenue needs a resurgence of businesses and Class Act Resale Shoppe has a great reputation, a friendly and dynamic owner and a warm boutique feeling. When I asked Sharon, "why Madison Avenue?" she smiled and pointed to the street sign outside her shop's front door and replied, "It's on Madison Avenue, and that in itself, sounds so New York."

Class Act Resale is also part of Madison Avenue Merchants Associa-

tion (Mama), a group of dedicated and passionate business owners who are working together to keep Madison Ave. alive, vibrant, and thriving. Look for upcoming events of Mama, including cash raffles, specials, etc. just for walking in the store and checking them out. Without Mama Lakewood would not be Lakewood!

Class Act Resale
15649 Madison Avenue
216-712-6977
Hours Tues, Wed. Fri, & Sat 10-6; Mon 12-8



Asian Martial Arts Center

Adults
Kids Kung Fu

Kung Fu • Kali • Kickboxing • Tai Chi • Gi Gong • Yoga

Kids Learn Kung Fu In A Fun Supportive Environment

Self Defense • Physical Skills • Mental Focus • Self Confidence

18522 Detroit Ave. Lakewood OH 44107 phone: (216)410-7475

Landfall

TRAVEL

Book Early
Family Getaways For
Summer Vacations!

AMERICAN EXPRESS
Travel Services Representative

Ask about our
American Express
Vacations Packaged
Specials

**BONUS
BOOKING COUPON
\$50⁰⁰ OFF**

Not valid with any other offers. Some restrictions apply. Present coupon when booking. One coupon per customer.

Gift Certificates Available!

14724 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood
(216)521-7733 (800)835-9233
www.landfalltravel.com travel@landfalltravel.com
Open Mon-Fri 9am-7pm & Weekends By Appointment

Hungry Howie's Pizza

SUPPORT THE
PIZZA THAT EATS
THE PAPER!

Hungry Howie's Pizza

16210 DETROIT AVE (216) 521-7200

Lakewood Phoenix Coffee

BIKE DELIVERY
Now Available

NOW SERVING
Handcrafted Beers

15108 Detroit Ave. Lakewood, OH 44107 216-226-4401

Lakewood People

Those Among Us: Robert Rice

By Gary Rice

On Thursday, May 17th, at Harding Middle School, my dad, Robert Rice, was honored by being invited to return to conduct “The Harding March” that he wrote many years ago as the school prepares to relocate to the new building.

He was also honored by a Mayoral Proclamation from Lakewood Mayor Thomas George’s office, recognizing his achievements over the years and naming the day “Robert Rice Day” in Lakewood. He also received Congressional recognition through Congressman Dennis Kucinich’s office.

Dad, in turn, presented the present Harding Band Director, Mr. Brian Griebel, and the Harding Music

Department with his original “electric baton” used for Harding finales.

Dad taught in Lakewood from 1958 to 1983. He was named a Lakewood Schools Staff Hall of Fame member in 1997.

Perhaps less well known was Dad’s service in World War II. He served with the Chemical Warfare Service and with the 336th ASF band. Dad suffered from temporary blindness and respiratory distress while in the service, and still has breathing problems from time to time.

In spite of this, he pushed his difficulties aside in order to inspire generations of Lakewood students.

Thank you, Dad: For your service to your country, to your students, and to the writer of this column.



Robert Rice, with Lakewood Mayor Thomas George

MEET THE TRUCKS!

“Safety Saturday”
Presented by the City of Lakewood and the Lakewood Early Childhood PTA
Saturday, June 2nd
10am-1:30pm
Lakewood Park
in front of the Women’s Pavillion
Come and see your city’s finest fleet of trucks.
They’ll be on display to see, touch, & even blow the horns!

Fire Dept. Ladder Truck Police Cruiser Ambulance
Garbage Truck Dump Truck Aerial Truck Zamboni
Police Motorcycle Cushman Scooters and More!

Pizza and Drinks provided by LECPTA
(While supplies last)
Crafts, Bounce House, Face Painting, DJ & MUCH more!
**Donation of canned goods requested to go to the Lakewood Christian Service Center

You make the call!

Cox Digital Telephone

Save \$15 a month for 10 months on either
Cox Connection 100® or Unlimited Connection®

Cox Digital Telephone
Talk’s cheap.

Unlimited Connection®
Unlimited local and nationwide calling for one low price

Cox 100 Connection®
100 long distance and nationwide minutes plus \$.05 additional minute rate

- Get plenty of features like Caller ID, Call Waiting, Voice Mail and more
- Switch to Cox Digital Telephone and keep your current phone number
- Reliable, crystal-clear connection
- Excellent 24/7 customer service

Get a **FREE** Exclusive ‘Pronk’ On DEMAND T-shirt when you sign up!
—Travis ‘Pronk’ Hafner

Call **216-535-3683**
Mention code **HAFNER2**

COX COMMUNICATIONS

*Offer expires 06/30/07 and are available only to new residential customers in Cox Cleveland serviceable areas. \$150 savings and T-shirt offer available only to customers taking Cox Digital Telephone Connection 100 or Unlimited Packages. T-shirt will be mailed within 8 to 10 weeks. After 10 month period, regular rates for all services and equipment will apply (currently \$33.95 for Connection 100 and up to \$47.95 for Cox Digital Telephone Unlimited Connection Plan). Discount price does not include taxes, fees or surcharges. Telephone modem equipment required. Modem with battery backup will be provided and installed by Cox. Modem and battery backup shall remain the property of Cox and must be returned upon discontinuation of service. If modem is disconnected or removed, or battery is not charged or otherwise fails, telephone service, including access to emergency 911 services, will not be available. Installation, inside wiring, jacks, activation fees, and surcharges may be additional. Unlimited long distance minutes are limited to direct-dialed long distance calls within the U.S. and requires Cox local, toll and long distance service. Excessive long distance usage may subject account to review. Other restrictions apply. Telephone service is provided by Cox Ohio Telecom, L.L.C. ©2007 Cox Communications, Inc. All rights reserved. JAB10149-01 5/07 ©2007 SPECTRUM MARKETING, LLC

CRAZY RITAS

OPEN FOR LUNCH

MON-FRI AT 11:30
SAT & SUN AT NOON

NEW MENU

Great Happy Hour Specials

216.226.7482
14810 DETROIT AVE

Chef Geoff

Service with a Smile?

Jeff Endress

Dining out can and should be a relaxing experience. Beyond the standard drive-ins, the experience of dining out is intended to allow for dinner conversation while the concerns of preparation and service are left to others who, presumably, are trained to properly perform those tasks.

Personally, I feel that this expectation (and one also of both food quality and ambiance) is not unreasonable for a restaurant. It is the combination of these three factors which lead us to frequent any given dining establishment. With that said, I would like to discuss one of my restaurant pet peeves.

Now, in fairness, I acknowledge that each of us is human and that we sometimes have bad days. And, sometimes no matter how hard we try, that bad day with its accompanying bad attitude flows into our work. This, however, does not excuse the display of this to or towards a customer, but may make it somewhat understandable. However, in the area of dining out, poor service is something we are less inclined to forgive because of our expectation of relaxation and conversation.

There are a number of levels on which a service problem can exist. Clearly, the most obvious issue is a lack of attention to your needs as a diner - water glasses go unfilled, the order is wrong, excess time is expended waiting for a check - all of which can lead you to believe that your business is neither welcome nor needed.

On the other extreme, there is the serviceperson who seems to want to join in on your conversation and perhaps pull up a chair at your table. This can be as disconcerting and aggravating as the waitperson who you never see.

It is not always your waiter or waitress' fault. He or she is merely the person on the frontline - kitchen mistakes for orders properly placed and timed are not his or her fault, although he or she is the person expected to cover for the kitchen's errors. My complaint does not extend to ineptitude in the kitchen, but is targeted more towards those persons who are forgetting drinks that have been ordered and flinging plates on the table.

Of course, customers can be rude, overbearing, demanding, and demeaning of service personnel. I speak from my years of experience bussing tables and schlepping food. However, there is no excuse for inattentive service or service given with an attitude. Of course, the diner is expected to treat the server appropriately, but the server is also expected to uphold his or her end of the bargain. Server and patron form a symbiotic relationship with each doing their part so that the diner leaves with an enjoyable restaurant experience and the server feels gratified that the effort put forth resulted in appropriate financial remuneration.

I recently had the misfortune of dining with a group of ten or so for a casual meeting at a popular local restaurant. What we encountered was one of those experiences that would lead you to believe, if you did not know better, that the restaurant in question was newly opened, understaffed, and without an interest in serving their clientele.

As we waited literally hours for our simple dinner orders to be prepared and served, we were offered the excuse that the problems were a result of our having a table of ten. On the face of it, that may sound reasonable, but, upon further thought, why is a table of ten any differ-

ent than the two tables of four and one of two that came, were seated, ate, and left during the time in which we waited for that same waitress to bring our food? Upon that examination, the excuse rings hollow. Now, I understand that timing can sometimes be an issue with a kitchen. However, hot soup is supposed to be served with adequate time for its consumption followed by a cold salad - again, with adequate time for its consumption followed by the entrée and maybe dessert. The timing between the dishes must be long enough for them to be consumed, but not so long that there is an inordinate wait between your soup, salad, and main dish.

Beyond the difficulty of waiting for our food for a period of time which would have been sufficient to grow the salad lettuce and harvest the french fry potatoes was the service assistant who was in charge of transporting the meals from the kitchen to our table. If I had any doubts about whether or not it is possible for someone to serve a dish with disdain, they were squelched that night. In addition to this individual's lacking enthusiasm was the response of "Oh, I don't do that" to the request by one of our number for a drink refill. I was left unsure of whether the waitperson was incapable of the task of handling a water pitcher, unwilling to do so, or simply didn't care. The consensus was that there was a lack of concern which brings me to my point.

The restaurant business is a very difficult business. It is one which survives on reputation and consistency in meeting the expectations that come with that reputation. One poor review is capable of destroying a restaurant and, yet, even with glowing reviews, there is an ongoing need to maintain that standard. It is a difficult task and sometimes a thankless one, but regardless of whether we as the customers give proper thanks to those who wait upon us in restaurants through our gratuities, the level of the service provided should never be diminished. Had I been at this Lakewood eatery for the purposes of reviewing it, while I would have given the food a good review, the service which we experienced would have been such as to force me to recommend to my readers that they not frequent the establishment.

Perhaps it was an "off" night, perhaps it was the crowd of "speed-daters," but for whatever reason, even though I enjoy the restaurant and go there a number of times a year, I, frankly, was put off enough that any return trip will be significantly delayed. There are too many restaurants offering food in the same vein with service that excels for us to accept less.

I would love to hear from my readers as to their pet peeves, concerns, and issues with restaurants which they have visited and, depending on the response on the Observation Deck, there might be forthcoming columns addressing the issues you have raised.

Mama Mia's

Pizza & More

OPEN FOR LUNCH

216-226-4000

12906 Madison Ave. Lakewood, OH 44107



HEY LAKEWOOD! Sure, the warm weather is here, finally, but that doesn't mean you need to stop eating soup! Especially when we have an amazing variety of **CHILLED SOUPS!** Spicy gazpachos, and delicious fruit bisques. And don't forget, we have some of the coolest salads in town! **Stop in and join our rewards program. Buy soup, get FREE soup.** . . Can't beat that. Sport an official SouperMarket t-shirt for the summer. You'll be all the rage! Stay posted for our **soft shell crabs** . . . **COMING SOON!** See ya soon Lakewood!

www.thesoupermarket.com

216.712.7292 www.thesoupermarket.com

14809 Detroit Avenue, downtown Lakewood

SOUPER

MARKET®

Fine Soups and Broths



Come Join Us At

Lakewood's First Annual

Cornhole Tournament!

Proceeds Benefit Lakewood Community Progress Inc.

Saturday June 16, 2007

Lakewood Park

Flighted Event Starting at 9:00 am

Entry Fee is \$60.00 per team (2 players)

Register Early - Limit is 240 teams

1st Place \$400.00

2nd Place \$300.00

3rd Place \$ 200.00

4th Place \$100.00

Download Tournament Rules At www.americancornholeassociation.com

Must be 16 or over to enter

How To Register:

Mail-In or Drop Off Registration:

Please Make Checks Payable to:

Lakewood Community Progress Inc.

14701 Detroit Avenue

Lakewood, Ohio 44107

(Must be postmarked June 6, 2007)

In Person Registration:

Crazy Rita's

14810 Detroit Avenue

Lakewood, Ohio 44107

Wednesday, June 13th, 2007

6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Lakewood's 1st Annual Cornhole Tournament

Team Registration Form

Name 1 (please print): _____ DOB: _____

Name 2 (please print): _____ DOB: _____

Address 1: _____ Phone: _____

Address 2: _____ Phone: _____

Shirt 1: S M L XL XXL Shirt 2: S M L XL XXL

Tournament information pick-up will be on Friday, June 15th, from 4:00 pm to 9:00 pm at Crazy Rita's located on 14810 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio 44107

Any questions call LCPI and leave a message at (216) 521.0655

Join the Discussion at: www.lakewoodobserver.com

Pulse Of The City

Attack By Sea:

War Comes To Our Lake, And To Our Land

Gary Rice

As far as Lakewood and the Northern Ohio area go, we have known our share of warfare, although the stories are little-known and more than a little interesting.

The first instance of recorded warfare in these parts was between the Eriehronen and Iroquois Native Peoples. The Erie, as they are presently known, were defeated by the Iroquois by the late 1600's and were absorbed into the Iroquois federation. Some present-day Lakewood roads comprise part of the war trails that the Iroquois and other tribes followed.

The area today known as Cleveland was first surveyed in 1796 by Moses Cleaveland, a director with the Connecticut Land Company and a General in the Connecticut state militia. (The spelling of his name is slightly different from that of the future city.) When Cleaveland arrived at the east bank of the Cuyahoga River, he and his team quickly mapped out and constructed an orderly array of streets and cabins. The area in which we now live would become known as the Connecticut Western Reserve.

Now you might wonder where the Native Americans were when all this was going on, but the fact remains that Moses Cleaveland's group had stopped on June 21, 1796 at Buffalo Creek, New York, for a four-day meeting with the Iroquois leaders. To say that a good time was had by all would appear to be an understatement! Booze flowed like water. Before long, an agreement was reached, allowing that the land east of the Cuyahoga would unquestionably belong to Connecticut. In September, 1796, Moses Cleaveland rowed into the present-day flats and started to build the city that bears his name (albeit without the "a"). Later treaties with Native Americans would secure areas west of the Cuyahoga, some of which would be called the Firelands, where people could resettle whose homes were burned out by the British.

One of the little-known reasons for settling in this particular area was its proximity to the Continental Divide. This fairly low lying ridge, a few miles



Fake wooden Civil War era revolver, with sword letter opener, slave shackles, & buckles

south of the city, was the boundary line for our national water flow. Waters north of the Divide flowed into Lake Erie. Those south of it flowed towards the Gulf of Mexico. As water travel was a primary form of transporting heavy goods, the strategic importance of this area was immediately evident. Portage County is so named because many a canoe could be "portaged," that is, carried, about eight miles overland from the Cuyahoga to the Tuscarawas River and on to points south. A few years after Ohio became a state, planning and construction began on a series of locks and canals. Parts of the Ohio and Erie canal can still be seen today in the Cuyahoga Valley. The canal's restored towpath is popular with bikers and hikers.

In the the War of 1812, both the British and the Americans had fleets of ships on Lake Erie. Thanks to Cleveland's changeable weather, Cleveland's homes avoided a potentially nasty shelling one day. An American fort, Fort Huntington, had been hastily built just east of the present Cuyahoga County Courthouse on a hill overlooking the lake. On June 13, 1813, two British warships, the "Queen Charlotte" and the "Lady Prescott," appeared on the Cleveland horizon. Fortunately for both sides, a storm came up and the British ships departed without bloodshed. The "Queen Charlotte" later sank Oliver Hazard Perry's flagship, "Laurence," in the Battle of Lake Erie before being defeated after its mast tangled with another British ship's. At great danger, Perry transferred from the "Laurence" to the brig "Niagara" and won the day for the United States.

And then, there was the 1837 "Bat-

tle of the Bridge" between residents of Cleveland and Ohio City. It seems that a number of issues have arisen between residents of these two communities divided by the Cuyahoga River. For that matter, a natural rivalry has always existed between Cleveland-area communities. Newburgh and Brooklyn, villages to the south and west of Cleveland, respectively, have both been involved in conflicts with Cleveland. The "Battle of the Bridge" was more violent, in that it was an actual, though short-term, war. It more or less set the tone for East-West relations for years to come in our city.

The roots for the bridge battle could be found in the completion of the Ohio and Erie Canal. Hundreds of German and Irish laborers worked on the canal, and many of them moved to the Ohio City side of the Cuyahoga after finishing their work. Issues of economics, culture, politics, and religion were probably involved between the immigrants and the old-guard New Englanders of Cleveland. Two bridges—one at present-day Detroit Avenue, and a second, newer one at Columbus Street—provided passage across the river for purposes of commerce. Misunderstandings, however, soon developed, and in 1837, Cleveland City Council directed that their half of the Detroit bridge be taken up. In the dead of night, Clevelanders removed their half of the bridge. In the pre-dawn hours, a fish wagon from the Ohio City side fell into the river, fortunately without loss of life.

Politicians and land speculators probably had been fueling the dispute for some time, and hundreds of resi-

dents from both sides of town gathered at the Columbus bridge with weapons of all types, including firearms. Diverting all traffic down to the Columbus bridge was an act that could have seriously impacted the economy of Ohio City, and to its residents it became a fighting issue.

The Ohio City people soon unsuccessfully attempted to blow up the Columbus bridge, although they did disable it by digging trenches on both sides. Soon thereafter, the Cleveland and Ohio City groups met at the bridge. Despite attempts to cool the rhetoric, an exchange of gunfire transpired, fortunately causing no loss of life. The county Sheriff was able to enact a cease-fire, after which the dispute went through the courts, ending with an agreement that there would continue to be multiple bridge crossings over the Cuyahoga.

As America entered the Civil War (1861-65), Ohioans lined up to assist the war effort. Already legendary for their help with escaping slaves on the Underground Railroad, Ohioans answered the call to service by joining groups like the Ohio Volunteer Infantry and the Cleveland Grays. Although the Civil War is often referred to as the "Battle of the Blue and Gray," both sides originally had units having both of these uniform colors.

A little-known incident can also be related concerning an escape attempt at the large Confederate officers' prison at Johnson's Island in Sandusky Bay. Prisoners were to be freed by Confederates who had seized control of a ship named the "Philo Parsons." The freed prisoners might possibly have then attacked Cleveland. After first engaging and sinking a ship named the "Island Queen," the Confederate-commanded vessel decided instead to abort the attack and steam north to Canada when the plans of the conspirators seemed to fall apart. A Confederate cemetery still remains on Johnson's Island.

One other near-war transpired in nearby Holmes County, where a huge draft resisters' riot was quickly dispersed by Ohio infantrymen.

A local militia already mentioned, the Cleveland Grays, is still in existence as it has been since 1837. These days, the organization serves as a social and philanthropic group. It is located at the fascinating Gray's Armory on Boliver Avenue, close to Jacob's Field. The Grays served with distinction in a number of our nation's wars. Tours through the Armory are frequently scheduled. Incidentally, the Cleveland Grays escorted Abraham Lincoln's funeral train back to Illinois after his assassination. The train came through Cleveland, as well.

Since the Civil War, our area has fortunately not seen widespread warfare, although the Cleveland area has contributed with manufacturing and human resources to the conflicts of our nation, and to the pulse of this city.

AROUND THE CORNER

PATIO NOW OPEN

CATCH THE TRIBE ON OUR BIG SCREEN TV!

GREAT FOOD • WINGS & FISH FRIES

Mondays 2 for 1 Burgers!
Buy one • Get one Free

Breakfast Sat. 11:00-2:30 **Brunch Sun. 9:30-2:30**

18616-20 Detroit, Lakewood 216-521-4413

Changes Hair Salon

Dare To Be Different

10% OFF First Visit by mentioning this ad

15611 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood OH 44107 216.521.3220

hours: Tuesday - Thursday 10-6, Friday & Saturday 9-5 www.changeshairstalon.net

The Buck Stops Here

“Not Even My Newspaper...Is Eager To Print My Reports...”

On October 7, 2006, Russian journalist, Anna Politkovskaya was murdered in the elevator of her apartment building in Moscow. She was shot four times in the head and the assassin left his gun alongside her body in the elevator – standard practice for Russian hit men. She was 48.

Politkovskaya won numerous awards for her coverage of Chechnya, criticizing Vladimir Putin, the Kremlin, the Russian army, the security services, Chechen collaborators, Chechen terrorists, ideologues and apologists on both sides of the struggle while drawing attention to ordinary people, victims of a war they did not choose.

Her accounts are an endless repetition of horror, devastation and death – murder, torture, pillage, rape, greed, betrayal, injustice: families burned in their homes because real estate developers need their land; a teenage army conscript tortured to death and then hanged to create the appearance of suicide; families blackmailed to get information about what happened to parents and children and then having to pay additional money to get their corpses back for burial (Walter Benjamin’s comment about Fascism that “The only historian capable of fanning the spark of hope in the past is the one who is convinced that even the dead will not be safe from the enemy if he is victorious” has ominous overtones here).

“Not even my newspaper...is eager to print my reports from Chechnya,” Politkovskaya notes, “And if they do, they sometimes cut out the toughest parts, not wanting to shock the public....It is more difficult than ever for me to publish the whole truth.” Her paper, Novaya Gazeta, a small Moscow newspaper, is, nevertheless, one of the few in Moscow that consistently opposes the Kremlin, and reporters writing for it should receive combat pay. One reporter died in mysterious circumstances and another was badly beaten. Before Politkovskaya was murdered – executed – she was poisoned on a flight to Chechnya. When asked about her death, Putin dismissed it as “Extremely insignificant.” (In one column, Politkovskaya writes, “There is nothing I can say. Because the time of Putin is the time of silence about what’s most important in this country.”)

Robert Buckeye

Although her sympathy lies with ordinary people – wives of abducted men, grandfathers of sons betrayed by their leaders – she is also critical of them for their failure to strike back, protest, demonstrate. They “agreed to be treated like idiots,” she writes. Which, she also admits may be the only survival possible, “hereditary memory reminding people how to live if they want to survive.”

Why did Politkovskaya choose to

live this way? To write of things most people don’t want to hear? To ask for justice where none will result? To put herself at almost certain daily risk of her life? She saw it less than altruistic, just or noble. “I’m thankful for this war,” she writes. “I got here by chance, and got stuck by chance as well. But now I know how to rise above all this nonsense. The war is horrible, but it has purified me of everything that was

superfluous, unnecessary. How can I not be thankful?” To know what life is. We can ask nothing more.

Politkovskaya does give us something more. She is the witness we need to know who we are, even if not everyone wants to listen. Writing, the Native American saw as the advantage of Whites, “enables us to know what is done at a distance, to recall with the greatest accuracy, all that we or others have said, in past times.” Writing remembers what should not be forgotten.

First Federal Of Lakewood Partners With City Of Lakewood For An Innovative Home Conversion Project

by Christina Capadona

First Federal of Lakewood and the City of Lakewood have announced plans to convert a duplex into a single-family home at 2227 Bunts Road. The project is a combined effort between First Federal, the City and independent architect, Paul Beegan. Prudential Lucien Realty is handling the property sale. Construction is set to begin in mid-May, with completion forecast for late summer 2007.

The renovation is part of the City’s plan to increase home ownership. The City will be providing up to \$50,000 in assistance from its recently-approved Grow Lakewood Housing Fund. The assistance will be utilized to fund the improvements to the property. City money used for the

improvements will be repaid when the property is sold as a single-family home.


“We approached First Federal of Lakewood to take a leadership role in this type of project because of their strong roots in the City and surrounding area, and solid reputation for giving back to the community,” said Lakewood Mayor Thomas George. “We hope the success of this project will encourage more renovations to bring more owner-occupied homes to the City.”

“We have called Lakewood home since 1935 and we are dedicated to programs that support the community,” said Gary Fix, First Federal president, CEO and managing offi-

cer. “This is a model program to prove these conversions can be done profitably and serve as a catalyst to encourage development and home ownership in Lakewood.”

The home will be approximately 2,200 square feet upon completion. Exterior renovations include: new windows, siding and roof, removal of the top-floor porch to create a single-family home front, a back-yard deck, landscaping and garage construction. Interior renovations include: air conditioning, second-floor laundry room, master bedroom with a new bathroom and a walk-in closet.

For more information on this project, visit www.FFL.net forest, visit www.FFL.net.



GODDESS BLESSED

Celebrate the Summer Solstice with Goddess Blessed at The Winchester
June 15, 2007, 9 p.m.

- *tarot readings with paul & mai
- *solstice cocktails
- *reiki with rebecca
- *costume contest

Come decked out in your finest fairie wear!

(216)221-8755
15729 Madison Avenue
Lakewood, Ohio 44107
Tuesday - Saturday, 11a.m. to 7p.m.



Sunday Gourmet Brunch

Wednesdays
Minute Man Border Patrol
with complimentary tacos
Cervezas \$2.50 Margaritas \$2.75

18514 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood, OH 44107
phone: 216-521-7684 fax: 216-521-9518



Saturday Brunch
with our “Create Your Own” Bloody Mary Bar



Rozi's

WINE HOUSE

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

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

Rozi's Wine & Liquor House, Inc.
14900 Detroit Avenue • 216-221-1119

We Deliver • www.rozis.com

EAT AT

MELT

bar & grilled

gourmet grilled cheese

HUGE beer selection

14718 Detroit Ave
Lakewood, Oh
216-226-3699
meltbarandgrilled.com

NOW YOU CAN

Rent A Husband

HANDY SERVICE

- Painting
- Gutter Cleaning (most homes \$60-\$65)
- Drywall, Plastering & Repair
- Minor Electrical/Plumbing
- Carpentry/Lattice Work
- Chimney Caps/ Roof Repair
- Home Pressure Washing
- Tree Service/Pigeon Problems

- Driveway Sealed
- Deck Cleaning
- Broken Windows/Sash Cords
- Vinyl Replacement Windows
- Porch Repair / Steps / Hand Rails
- Bathroom / Kitchen Remodeling
- Tub Surrounds
- Vinyl Siding

And all those jobs and repairs that you never had the time or talent to do yourself!

(Building code violation correctons)

Call: **Rich Toth at 440-777-8353**

The Winchester

Tavern & Music Hall

5/16/07
Savoy Brown
down low rock blues over 40 years since being formed in England. \$20.00. No opener. 9pm.

5/18/07
Fairport Convention
\$20.00. 9pm. Local act Cuyuga opens.

5/19/07
Question Mark & The Mysterians,
Lords of the Highway, The Dad of Rock - ? & the Mysterians are known for their National Number One hit single "96 Tears." Tickets \$10.00. 9pm.

5/25/07
Joe Louis Walker
Big Name Bluesman, the original blues survivor. Joe Louis has been nominated and won many W.C. Handy blues awards. \$15.00. 9pm

216-226-5681
12112 Madison Ave., Lakewood
www.thewinchester.net

Minding The Issues

Notes from an Appreciative Agnostic

Gordon Brumm

The atheists are on the attack. The likes of Sam Harris, Christopher Hitchens and Richard Dawkins have recently written books aiming to eradicate belief in God and devotion to religion, Christianity in particular. This may be a backlash against the intrusion of certain religionists, especially those called fundamentalists, in our lives. (On this, more later).

To my mind, the attacks are rather silly, for reasons that at first glance seem contradictory. For one thing they are futile; there is little chance that atheistic arguments will convince firm adherents to Christianity or any other religion.

But secondly, the advocates of atheism are beating a dead horse. If evidence and reasoned argument are the criteria, who can believe in the existence of God? Perhaps a callous, capricious and often-cruel God is credible, but not the Christian God of love and justice. Philosophical arguments – aiming to prove the existence of God with absolute certainty, regardless of the facts we perceive around us – are weak at best. And the Problem of Evil (the problem of reconciling the existence of an all-powerful and all-good God with the fact of evil in the world) is insuperable. Many supreme intellects (e.g. Augustine) have totally failed in their attempts to prove otherwise.

Why is there such steadfast belief in God and loyalty to religion in the face of so much contrary evidence – or what seems to be contrary evidence?

Here we may gain some insight from one of the preeminent philosophers of the 20th century, Ludwig Wittgenstein, who spoke of “language games.” The phrase is a little deceiving, for Wittgenstein was not concerned merely with language; one of his ruling mottos was “forms of words, forms of life.” (As for the reference to “games,” Wittgenstein used the concept of games for his own philosophic purposes; he would never want to imply that science or religion is “just a game.”)

Wittgenstein, in short, was saying that each of the various practices undertaken by humans is governed by its own distinct rules.

Religion is one such practice; science is another. The two are governed by different sets of rules. The different sets of rules define the basic difference between the two practices.

Science produces propositions that are based on objective empirical evidence and meant to be objectively and absolutely true (for example, the law of gravity is put forth as being independent of the characteristics of those who think about it and as holding true in all times and places). Religion, at least for firm believers, also issues in propositions and principles that are meant to be objective and absolute; but the rules of religion, unlike those of science, allow for these propositions and principles to be based not on empirical evidence but on individual commitment.

If I am a firm believer in a cer-

tain religion, I believe that its tenets hold good regardless of particular circumstances and regardless of what individuals feel or think about them. However, I hold those beliefs not because I know there is objective evidence for them, but rather because of my commitment to the religion (in other words, my faith). For believers (from the “inside,” so to speak), religious propositions and principles might seem to have the objective certainty of science, but this feeling of objective certainty is unjustified.

Religion, then, is not a way of gaining knowledge of the world (as science is). Rather it is a framework for thinking about the world; it is a way of organizing and interpreting our experience of the world, a way of looking at the world through God-colored lenses, in which God is the source and symbol of all that is good -- and evil remains unexplained.

Religion is not built up from our perceptions of the world. Rather, what we perceive in the world is fit into – is given its significance by --the framework we have adopted in committing to our religion in the first place.

Thus “God exists,” for example, has entirely different meanings when asserted as a scientific statement and when asserted as a religious statement (as a statement of knowledge vs. an expression of faith). As a statement of scientific knowledge, it has virtually no standing. As a statement of religious faith, it is as valid as the conviction of the person who asserts it. These are the rules of the science-game and of the religion-game.

It follows that science and religion are to be evaluated in different ways. In evaluating science, we look at the evidence that confirms it (or disconfirms it).

Not so with religion, as we have seen. Religion is not an attempt to find objective truth, but rather a commitment to an overall interpretive framework. Seen in this way, it escapes atheistic attacks that point to its lack of objective evidence. Religion is to be judged more by its fruits than by its seeds.

We must distinguish between the personal and the social evaluation of religion. The personal significance and value of religious belief is for the believer alone to judge, except in rare extreme cases when the belief threatens to be destructive to the believer or to others. As for the social value of religion, it should be judged in much the same way as any other set of beliefs – by asking how well it expresses human nature and how much it benefits society at large.

As for my own evaluations, I count myself an Appreciative Agnostic. Intellectually, the principles of Christianity, or any other religion, seem to me dubious at best, and emotionally I

have never felt any inclination in the direction of faith. At the same time, I appreciate the contributions that religion makes to individual lives and to society – so long as it does not pretend to be what it is not and does not presume to intrude beyond its proper boundaries.

The Conflating of Science and Religion

As I have said, both science and religion lay claim to objectivity and absoluteness. Therefore, there is often a threat of conflating the two.

An example is the controversy over Intelligent Design. On this subject, I must first distinguish between the theory of evolution and the theory of natural selection. The former, in my view, is proved without doubt or qualification. But on the theory of natural selection – asserting natural selection as the means through which evolution is achieved – I’m not so sure. I see facts that the theory apparently leaves unexplained and I see natural-selection advocates urging us to adopt certain conclusions not so much on the basis of evidence as on the basis of faith (hello religion!) I have discussed this in a previous column.

Intelligent-Design proponents also mount attacks on natural selection (aiming to show, for example, that complexity must imply design). In these attacks, they are asserting scientific claims (and likewise for ordinary doubters like me).

But most if not all of the Intelligent-Design advocates are Christians. So – whether they realize it or not – it is not enough for them just to prove there is an Intelligent Designer; they must also prove that the Designer is the Christian God. And in proceeding from Intelligent Designer to Christian God – in simply assuming that the Designer is God -- they make a leap of religious faith. In short, they play the game of science but switch at half-time to the rules of religion.

And their opponents – advocates for natural selection -- let them get away with it. They (the natural-selection advocates) ignore the fact that Intelligence Design proponents must resort to religious faith in order to make their final case.

Here is where the Problem of Evil comes in. It seems to me that if natural-selection advocates realized all their opportunities, they would demand that their opponents play the game of science all down the line. While admitting that the issue of Intelligent Design taken by itself is still open to argument, they would demand that all the evidence be put on the table, including most notably all the multitudinous examples of unmerited pain and agony. Under that kind of scientific scrutiny, the case for a Christian version of Intelligent Design must collapse, and its proponents must admit that the most important part of their case is religious, not scientific.

Another significant example is the attempt to incorporate religious beliefs in the law (e.g. abortion, stem-cell research, gay relationships). If religious principles were scientific truth, there would be some reason for government enforcement of them (as there is reason for government to act against scientifically-proven dangers, for example). But of course religious principles are not science; instead, they are expressions of commitment on the part of a certain group of individuals, in essence a matter of personal preference – personal preference on the deepest level perhaps, but personal preference nonetheless.

As we know, religionists are prone to push policies, such as suppression of stem-cell research and abortion or denial of gay rights, that are pernicious to individuals and to society as a whole. (In fairness, there seems to be a trend among some religious groups toward laudable concerns such as the environment and issues of world poverty. This movement is certainly to be applauded, though it doesn’t seem now to be nearly as strong as concern with the pernicious issues just mentioned.)

To be sure, religionists may legitimately push these pernicious principles in the arena of democratic competition; let every citizen decide on the basis of his or her own values. But what is not legitimate is the attempt to falsely buttress these principles (e.g. that embryos are human persons, or that gays violate God’s law) by claiming a quasi-scientific objectivity for them, whereas in actuality they are merely a matter of personal preference. As such, the religious principles should be weighed against not only the preferences but also the interests and rights of all other citizens, such as the interests of all citizens in preventing disease and the right of gays to equal treatment.

Most Americans, as we know, are Christians. In this sense – and in no other – is the United States a Christian nation. But there are Christians and there are Christians. Some Christians appreciate the difference between religion and science, and some don’t. The former, while fully celebrating their faith, show a proper diffidence about imposing their views on others. The latter often show no such diffidence and do enormous damage in their bullying attempts to enforce a religion-based conformity – damage both to others in society and ultimately to their own religion, as exemplified by the atheistic backlash I mentioned at the beginning.

I suggest, therefore, that Christians who do understand the place of religion have reason – based both on obligation and self-interest – to speak out against their zealot co-religionists, to persuade them away from their mistaken views and to rein in their pernicious undertakings.

Lakewood Business News

Ten Things You Need to Know About Color

by Jeannie Votypka

Color is energy—energy made visible. As human beings, it's the only energy we can actually see. Choosing the right color for a room can be an intimidating experience. Most of us lean toward white and beige because we know it will match our furniture and décor. However, when you add color to your walls, it transforms your rooms into energizing spaces. Use these ten tips when choosing color for your home and you soon will feel inspired and energized by color!

1. Trust your Instinct. So many people choose a color, then second guess it, paint the room and go back to the original color. You know what you like and you need to trust your instinct when choosing colors for your home.
2. Get Emotional. We associate colors with the emotions they represent. Use these emotional cues to their greatest effect in a space by deciding on what emotional impact you want the room to have. See below for more info on color.
3. Test Run. When you think you have chosen the perfect color, buy a \$3 test pint to do a test patch. Benjamin Moore sells these at Ingersoll Hardware. This proves to be the best insurance in choosing paint colors, more so than a simple paint chip sample that only covers a small sample.

4. Pull from the pattern. Look at the colors in the largest pattern in the room. Then choose colors based on that piece. This is the easiest and most fool-proof way of unifying a room through color.
5. Lighten up! Lighter colors combined with direct sunlight make a room appear larger. Dark colors and less direct sunlight make a room appear smaller.
6. Accent! Accent walls are an excellent way to add interest to a room. Choose contrasting colors for a bold, formal look. Choose low contrasts for a more soothing and calming setting.
7. Let it Flow! To create a flow of color from one room to the next, simply choose a color you're using in one room and restate it in a different way in an adjoining room. Use this color in larger or smaller degrees throughout your entire home for the best flowing effect.
8. Emphasize or Minimize. Color will emphasize certain features and minimize others. A long narrow room will look wider if you use a slightly darker color on the shorter walls and a lighter color on the longer walls. You can make a ceiling appear higher by applying a lighter color, or lower with a darker color.
9. Let it Dry. Wet paint looks much different than dry paint. Don't panic when you first see the paint on the wall. Let it dry and then check it with furnish-

- ings in the room to see if it looks right.
10. Give it Time. Getting used to a new room color will take a few days. A new bold color may seem overwhelming at first but with time you'll see how well the color harmonizes with other room elements.

Explanation of Color

- RED: Vitality, energy, courage. Stimulates brain activity, increases heart rate. Gives self-confidence. Color of love and heat. Stimulates the appetite. Suggests physical strength. First color the eye sees when awakening. Paint your office, entryway or dining room red.
- ORANGE: Happiness, independence, confidence. Energizes, removes inhibitions, fosters sociability. Stimulates the appetite and digestive system. Energy color, associated with movement. Decreases hostility and irritability. Paint your kitchen or bathroom orange.
- YELLOW: Awareness, Wisdom, Clarity. Energizes, relieves depression. Improves memory with uplifting feelings of optimism.

Increases awareness, perception and understanding. Stimulates the appetite. Paint your office or kitchen yellow.

GREEN: Balance, Love, Peace. Soothing, relaxing mentally as well as physically. Helps alleviate depression, nervousness, and anxiety. Offers a sense of renewal, self-control and harmony. Represents health and prosperity. Easiest for the eye to see. Suggests moderation and concentration. Paint your living room or bedroom green.

BLUE: Knowledge, Relaxation, Health. Calming, lowers blood pressure. Ideal for sleep and over active children. Enhances communication and decision making. Symbol of trust and longevity. Refreshing. Associated with travel and leisure. Paint your bedroom or bathroom blue.

PURPLE: Creativity, Wisdom, Inspiration. Provides a peaceful environment. Relieves tension. Promotes inner strength. Contains elements of surprise and magic. Philosophical and represents loyalty. Suggests romance, imagination, passion. Paint your bedroom or bathroom purple.

Knowledgeable and friendly Sales & Service

PET'S GENERAL STORE

CALIFORNIA NATURAL INNOVA

WELLNESS

CANIDAE







MON - FRI 11-8 • SAT 10-6 • Closed Sundays

16821 MADISON AVE. (216)226-0886

(One Block East Of McKinley, Next To Convenient Store)

We Have Saltwater Fish

Mahall's Twenty Lanes

Open Evenings & Weekends ALL SUMMER!

\$2.00 per game

Call for Specials

13200 Madison Ave., Lakewood, Ohio (216) 521-3280



Mullen's "An Irish House"

Of Letterfrack

Cav's Game Special

22 oz Bud & Bud Light Bottles \$2

Bucket of 6 Miller Light \$9

Thirsty Dog Old Leg Thumper on Tap

17014 Madison • Lakewood • 216.226.5224





MILITARY APPRECIATION MONTH



\$1000 MILITARY REBATE FOR:

• ACTIVE

• RESERVE

• RETIRED PERSONNEL

\$4000 REBATE OR 0% FOR 60 MONTHS*

2007 RENDEVOUS



2008 ENCLAVE HERE NOW!



Steve Barry BUICK

"Over 50 Years Serving Lakewood!"

16000 Detroit Avenue Lakewood, Ohio 216.221.7000

www.stevebarrybuick.com

*REBATE REFLECTS AVAILABLE COUPONS & INCENTIVES ON 06/07 NEW BUICKS. 0% SUBJECT TO GMAC CREDIT APPROVAL



BUICK BEYOND PRECISION™

Lakewood Arts & Music

? and the Mysterians Rock the Winchester

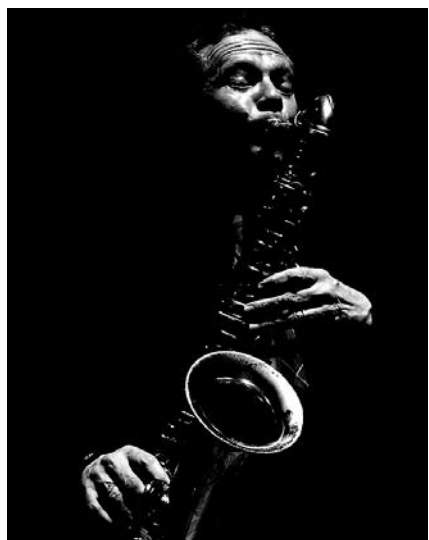
by Bob Ignizio

? and the Mysterians claim to be the world’s greatest garage rock band, and on Saturday May 19 at The Winchester here in Lakewood, the group made a pretty strong case for themselves. Dressed in a midriff-baring, leopard-print blouse, black leather pants, a cowboy hat, and his trademark wraparound sunglasses, lead vocalist ? (that’s his legal name) led the band through a rousing set of songs drawn primarily from their two late ‘60’s albums. Although the group is best known for its #1 hit single “96 Tears,” their set included plenty of other strong material including “Can’t Get Enough

of Your Love,” “I Need Somebody,” and “Don’t Tease Me.” The Mysterians may be in their fifties and sixties, but they played with as much energy as a band less than half their age, and looked like they were having a good time all night. Cleveland’s Lords of the Highway started the evening out with a short set of punk-injected rockabilly. They played a few old favorites, but much of the set was drawn from their forthcoming album ‘Die Monster Die.’ Also turning in a strong set was The Dad of Rock, who have added a keyboard player since last I saw them. The new addition suits their brand of quirky rock well, and the band delivered a fine opening set.



96 Tears... ? and The Mysterians



Ernie Krivda Performs With Lakewood Project

The Lakewood Project performed May 19 at Lakewood Civic Auditorium to an enthusiastic crowd. The performance featured music by the full ensemble and several small groups as well as a special appearance by Ernie Krivda. The show opened with a video tribute to the graduating senior members. Back by popular demand, the Lakewood Project will perform their next concert July 4th at the Lakewood Park bandstand prior to the fireworks. This concert is free and open to the pub-

lic. You won’t want to miss this show. Many of the musicians are involved in Rock On: An Alternative Approach to String Playing Experience. This summer program is offered for string players in grades 5 - 8, with at least one year string experience. Please see www.lakewoodrecreation.com for dates, times, costs and registration forms.

Concert Calendar

bela dubby (13321 Madison Avenue. Lakewood, OH)

Friday June 1st -- It’s Theodore Vril (experimental blues/folk from Cleveland), Sing Sing (twisted country music from Chicago), The Scarcity of Tanks (punk/jazz from Cleveland) and Mike Uva (Cleveland indie rock). This is an all-ages show and starts at 8:30pm.

Saturday June 2nd -- It’s Coltrane Motion (electronic beats, catchy hooks, and fuzzy guitar from Chicago, IL), Hot Tapes (experimental noise rock from Grand Rapids, MI), Clear Day Always (even more noise from Grand Rapids), and E.E. (yup, you guessed it, more noise rock; this time from Medina, OH). This is an all-ages show and starts at 9pm.

The Hi Fi Concert Club (11729 Detroit Avenue. Lakewood, OH)

Saturday April 21st -- The “North Coast Crew” takes over the Hi Fi with At No End, King, Hiroshima Suntan, Backward Seven, and lone Buffalo band Three Minutes of Hate laying down the angry metal. Admission is \$6 for 21 and over, \$9 for 18-20. Show starts at 8pm.

Saturday April 28th -- It’s modern rockers Audible Thread with special guests Test Pilots and Rosella. DJ Tim Long will also be spinning. This is an all-ages show and starts at 8pm. Admission is \$8 for 21 and over, \$10 for under 21.

The Winchester Tavern (12112 Madison Avenue. Lakewood, OH)

Friday June 1st and Saturday June 2nd -- It’s The School of Rock Showcase. Remember that Jack Black movie School of Rock? Well, it was based loosely on the real life School of Rock founded by Paul Green. There are Schools of Rock all over the country now, and recently Rocky River got one of its own. So come on out and see what these kids have learned. All Ages. Show starts at 7pm. Call the club at 216-226-5681 for ticket prices.

Thursday June 7th -- It’s Don Dixon and The Jump Rabbits. Although best known as a record producer (among his repeat clients are R.E.M. and The Smithereens), Dixon has also had a substantial music career of his own. Although he often plays solo or with his wife Marti Jones, Dixon will be backed-up by the rock band The Jump Rabbits. All ages. Show starts at 8:30 pm. Admission is \$12.



McCarthy's

ALE HOUSE
LAKEWOOD

Best Pub Food In Lakewood
NEW CHEF * NEW MENU
McCarthy's IS YOUR WIRELESS ZONE!



FREE PIZZA!
7 pm - ?
Monday, Tuesday & Wednesdays!

Bring In Your Indians Stub & Redeem It For 6 Free Wings 
One coupon per person. Only valid day of game on the ticket

Live Entertainment on Weekends

Mondays Karaoke Wednesdays Karaoke

 **BEER TO GO** 
 **BOOK YOUR PARTIES HERE!** 

16918 DETROIT ROAD • LAKEWOOD • 216.228.1340



CRONIES
17900 Detroit Rd. Lakewood
www.cronieslakewood.com
216.226.3310

Happy Hour
mon-sat 11-7

\$1.00 Drafts
25¢ Wings
5¢ Mussels

\$4.95 Lunch Menu
\$3 Bombs All Day

\$4 Pitchers
Everyday 10pm to close

Lakewood Real Estate

Noting our Neighborhood On-Line And Personal

by Maggie Fraley

A few Sundays ago on “60 Minutes” a sensationalized program presented a one-sided report that stated the Internet is taking over real estate and implied that Realtors are obsolete. The Internet is an undeniable force in most fields. But integrating the convenience of technology with the personal touch of a skilled Realtor is the best of both worlds, especially in northeast Ohio’s buyer’s market. The significant role of a Buyer’s Agent and the benefits they provide were overlooked. Buying real estate is like learning anything new; novices benefit from people with experience. Contemplating possibilities even helps seasoned Buyers understand what services and options exist.

Realtors can refer Buyers to ethical lenders who have a proven record of client satisfaction. A preapproval establishes a price range that one can afford, avoiding the disappointment of “falling in love” with a home that may ultimately be a financial burden. This personal exchange creates the oppor-

tunity to have questions answered. If there’s a home to sell first, professionals can offer individualized choices. A first time buyer in Lakewood may qualify for the Lakewood Home Program, OHFA bond money or a variety of other loans. Even a less than perfect credit score (and corresponding high interest rate) can be improved with competent advice.

A reputable realtor will consider personal preferences, needs, wants, plus price when they suggest properties. Viewing homes in person vs. on the computer may be like online dating-maybe “what you see is not what you get!” After many houses and discussions, a dedicated Realtor will research a favorite property and the street’s sales history, so that whether experienced or not, a Buyer can feel confident about market value before writing an offer.

These services will certainly include using the Internet, but more importantly they will include the personal touch of experience, knowledge and caring advice shared with others in the community.

Realty Reality: Questions From Our Observer Readers

by Maggie Fraley

There have been a number of questions about Title services. Our guest expert in this issue is Val Tocci from Premier Title Agency of Lakewood who will answer them for our readers:

WHAT IS TITLE INSURANCE?

Title Insurance is a policy that protects an owner from losses arising through defects in the title to real estate owned (see next question below for some examples) . Title insurance is unique in that it protects a homebuyer against losses arising in the future from what has happened in the past. It is part of one’s closing costs when purchasing real estate.

WHY BUY TITLE INSURANCE?

Before purchasing a property it is important to know the status of the title. Can it be transferred? A complete examination of the title will disclose such information and defects such as unpaid taxes, liens, easements, restrictions and more.

WHAT IS ESCROW?

Escrow is a transaction whereby a third party carries out the instructions of the Buyer and Seller according to the terms of a Purchase Agreement. That escrow agent works for the Title Company or Lender and often handles the signing of all documents during closing.

Bridge & Freeway Development Affects Lakewood Neighborhoods

by Val Mechenbier

As suburbs emerged to the west of Lakewood in the 1950s-1960s, traffic congestion increased on Lakewood’s two bridges over Rocky River. After years of court delays and appeals, the Clifton Road Bridge to Rocky River

opened in 1964, removing eight houses and parts of fifteen other properties in Clifton Park. When I-90 opened in the early 1970s, it divided the south part of Lakewood from the rest of the city and eliminated 130 houses. The only thing constant is change.

Lakewood Real Estate Information		
(According to Multiple Listing Service)		
by Andy Tabor		
APRIL	2006	2007
Condominium Closed	14	6
Condominium Pending (Under Contract)	Unavailable	6
Commercial Closed	0	0
Commercial Pending (Under Contract)	0	1





Maggie Fraley, REALTOR® ABR

“More than selling houses-
Helping people find homes”

MaggiesHomePage.info

Visit Our Website For Real Estate Information And Photos Of Homes For Sale



Sunny Updegrave, REALTOR®

“New beginnings are my specialty”

SunnySellsLakewood.com



Andy Tabor, REALTOR® GRI

“Helping people become homeowners
and profitable investors since 1977”

www.andytabor.com



Kathy Lewis, REALTOR®

“Want to talk about real estate?
Call me!”

www.kathylewis.info



Valerie Mechenbier, REALTOR® HHS

www.valsinfo.com

Serving Lakewood’s Housing Needs since 1976

with Honesty, Integrity, Stability

216.226.4673



13822 Clifton

\$229,900

Just Reduced! This 5 bedroom colonial has been reduced to move! Gleaming hardwood floors, newer furnace & central air, updated kitchen, 1st floor family room & large deck make it perfect for any family. 13822clifton.lucienrealty.com

Andy Tabor

216.235.5352

www.andytabor.com.



1487 Grace

\$196,500

Gracious Victorian home with fresh and sparkling décor. Elegant design with gleaming hardwood and vintage touches throughout. You’ll love what’s been done here and enjoy the extended possibilities.

Sunny Updegrave

(216) 401-3353

sunnyup1@cox.net

www.SunnySellsLakewood.com



1515 Parkwood Rd.

\$161,500.

New and Delightful! This charming Cape Cod home is updated inside and out. 3bd/1.5 baths, spacious and bright eat-in kitchen w/newer appliances. Hardwood floors and today’s colors! Won’t Last!!!

Sunny Updegrave

(216) 401-3353

www.SunnySellsLakewood.com



1516 Mars Ave.

\$159,500

Over 1800 sq. ft. Meticulously maintained. Furnace 2001, central air 2007. 2+ car garage is only 5 yrs. young. See photos at 1516mars.lucienrealty.com

Kathy Lewis

216-226-4673 ext.2060



2117 Carabel

\$144,900

Clean & charming 3 BR colonial with refinished floors, newer kitchen, lovely deck, fenced yard. Call to see!

Val Mechenbier

216-226-4673 x2023



1230 Lakeland

\$143,900

Incredible arts & crafts style woodwork rarely seen. Yard abundant with perennials. See photos at 1230lakeland.lucienrealty.com

Andy Tabor

216.235.5352

www.andytabor.com.



1239 Gladys Ave.

\$139,800

So charming—hardwood floors, natural woodwork, fireplace, bay window. New kitchen is bright & cheerful. See photos at 1239gladys.lucienrealty.com

Kathy Lewis

216-226-4673 ext.2060



15220 Hilliard

\$134,900

This 2 family is priced to sell Motivated out of town owner Wants this SOLD! All replacement windows Freshly painted 4 bedrooms and 2 full baths

Sunny Updegrave

(216) 401-3353

sunnyup1@cox.net

www.SunnySellsLakewood.com



1523 Lauderdale

\$133,000

REDUCED Come inside to a lovely Victorian Surprise. Stunning woodwork & beautiful hwd floors. HUGE eat-in kitchen w/stainless appliances. Don’t just drive by...you’ll miss the best home.

Sunny Updegrave

(216) 401-3353



1501 Cordova Ave.

\$120’s

NEW to the Market!! Wonderful Mission style finishes inside and out. Columns and carvings and hardwood floors. Spacious Living & Dining rooms and ceramic counters/floor in Kitchen.

Sunny Updegrave

(216) 401-3353

www.SunnySellsLakewood.com



1615-17 Lakeland

\$110,000

Income opportunity! At \$110,000 this 2 family is perfect for an owner occupant or an investor looking for cash flow. More details available at 1615lakeland.lucienrealty.com

Andy Tabor

216.235.5352

www.andytabor.com.



13316 Hazelwood

\$99,000

Why Rent? Priced to move, this 3 bedroom colonial w/newer furnace, hwtank, windows & electrical can be purchased for less than most rent payments .

For full details go to: 13316hazelwood.lucienrealty.com

Andy Tabor

216.235.5352

Visit www.lucienrealty.com for photos and Real Estate Information.

FIRST TIME BUYERS -Call for Information:

*Buyer representation & assistance

*Lakewood Home Program-Affordable Financing

*Referrals to respected local lenders

*Your questions answered!

Visit www.lucienrealty.com for photos and Real Estate Information

Join the Discussion at: www.lakewoodobserver.com

Classifieds/Advertisements

Classified ads can be placed online using your credit card at www.lakewoodobserver.com under classifieds or by stopping in to the Lakewood Observer office at 14900 Detroit Ave., suite #205.

FOR RENT

Spacious two/three bed-room, one bathroom upstairs apartment in western Lakewood. Includes finished 3rd floor which could be a huge master bedroom, office or both! Near park and has brand new carpet and remodeled kitchen. Also includes ceiling fans, dishwasher, microwave, large front porch, back deck & very large backyard. 1500 + square feet. Water and extra storage space included. Cats okay! Only \$695!

Please Call
216-226-6034



TREE & LANDSCAPE SERVICES

• LANDSCAPING • MAINTENANCE
• TREE PRUNING & REMOVAL
• PATIOS • DECKS • FENCES
• TOPSOIL • MULCH • STONE

WEEKEND & NIGHT DELIVERY AVAILABLE

1-216-526-3954

Back To Basics
Cleaning Service



"Basically, We Get the Dirt!"

Residential / Small Office
Clean Out / Organize Service

BONDED & INSURED

216.210.5093

basicclean@hotmail.com

HOME ALONE
PET SITTING, INC.



In Home Pet Care
While You Are Away

Experienced
Veterinarian Technician

Bonded & Insured
216-226-7337

d.hokin@sbcglobal.net

A RELIABLE CONSTRUCTION

SPRINGTIME PROPERTY REPAIRS
AND VIOLATIONS CORRECTED
FULL SERVICE REMODELING

YELLOW PAGES ADVERTISER

FULLY BONDED, REGISTERED & INSURED
FREE QUOTES / REFERENCES / WRITTEN GUARANTEE

SERVING LAKEWOOD & SURROUNDING
COMMUNITY FOR OVER 25 YEARS

ALL CARPENTRY PROJECTS
VINYL SIDING
CHIMNEY & STEP TUCKPOINTING

MEMBER BBB

216 221-0012

Anderson Transportations Services

Taxi * Limousines * Entertainment Needs
Airport * Weddings * Concerts * CASINO TRIPS!!!



Party Cab Starting \$35 *2 Hour Min Plus Tax And Tip!

All your entertainments
needs under one roof!

(216) 376.6018



Detroit Lakewood Automotive

Bring This Coupon in for a
FREE TIRE ROTATION
& BRAKE INSPECTION

With A Lube, Oil & Filter EXPIRES 6/12/07

12511 Detroit Ave., Lakewood (216)521-0343



DIAMOND CLEANING CO.

FLAWLESS JANITORIAL SERVICES

COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL
BONDED & INSURED

CLEVELAND, OHIO
216.213.2863

Visit www.rosewoodplace.com

Sales & Leasing Center 216.221.1759



ROSEWOOD PLACE

Nestled in the heart of Lakewood, Rosewood Place integrates the convenience of upscale living, commerce, recreation, parks and community. Rosewood Place offers new city living which provides the opportunity to entertain at home or head down the street to any local hotspot. With the world just outside you door, the possibilities are endless!

INTRODUCING LUXURY TOWNHOMES

2 bedrooms, 2.5 baths
Gourmet Kitchen
Open Floor Plan
Starting at \$229,000

Private Garage Parking
1400-1800 Sq. Ft. of Living Space
Terrace/Patio Treetop Views
5 Year Tax Abatement



GRAND OPENING

OPEN HOUSE
Saturday & Sunday
June 2 -3rd 1-4 pm

Rosewood Place Sales & Leasing Center 15713 Detroit Ave., Lakewood OH 44107

Join the Discussion at: www.lakewoodobserver.com