

THE LAKEWOOD OBSERVER

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Volume 3, Issue 14, July 10, 2007

Senseless Shooting Shocks Lakewood

By Tim Kanak

On what was supposed to be the beginning of a beautiful life for many couples getting married on "lucky" Saturday 7-7-07, it was instead a tragic end to a young Lakewood man's life.

Robert Shawn Joslin, the victim, lost his life at the hand of shooting suspect Nathaniel Williams, Jr., a 22 year old Cleveland resident. The fatal shooting occurred inside the entrance to the Sloane Avenue McDonald's restaurant shortly after 11am on Saturday. The restaurant closed for the rest of the day.

Williams was already being sought by the Cleveland Police Department on a warrant issued last Tuesday on a domestic violence charge against his estranged wife. According to family members Shawn, as he was called by those who knew him, had been harassed continuously by Williams. "That devil had been calling my boy all the time, sending text messages and leaving e-mails on his My Space page. In his last text to Shawn Friday he said he had a surprise for him," stated Lisa Joslin, Shawn's mother. Williams had also been banned from the restaurant where the victim worked.

This tragic story apparently unfolded due to the nature of Shawn's relationship with the suspect's estranged wife, Shannon Anderson. Williams and Anderson had a child together, Rayne. After a recent domestic violence occurrence, Anderson and Rayne had been staying at the Joslin home. "All Shawn wanted to do was help people. That included his girlfriend of two months," said Jeni, one of the victim's sisters.

Williams had become increasingly angry over the situation, stated Jeni. Lisa Joslin had been warning the young couple to be careful; a warning not heeded enough. In one of the most dire and tragically violent public outbursts in recent memory in Lakewood, most were more than a bit unnerved.

The Mayor of Lakewood, Thomas



22-year-old Nathaniel Williams, Jr. of Cleveland, with a gun to his head while Lakewood police talk with him. It is moments like these, police really earn their money, Lakewood Police did a great job.

George, arrived at the scene shortly after the suspect was apprehended less than 100 yards from the restaurant. George shared a story on Joslin. "The situation is so very sad. I knew the victim; he mainly operated the drive through which I used on rare occasion. He would say 'Hi Mayor'. Several weeks ago he noticed my "City of Lakewood"

a brief standoff, which included Williams turning the gun on himself, the officers were able to surround him without further incident. He had been held in Lakewood City Jail until his arraignment Monday afternoon.

Most of the family and a few friends attended the hearing. Several media outlets were present as well.

**Donations can be made to the
Robert Shawn Joslin Memorial Fund at First Federal of Lakewood.
Any donations will be greatly appreciated.**

lapel pin and asked, 'what would it take to get one of those for myself...I love Lakewood'. Of course, I told him 'here take mine' and removed the pin from my sport coat and gave it to him with my change," George said. He continued, "Next time through the drive through, he was wearing the "City of Lakewood" pin with pride." This is but one of the many heartwarming and moving stories that have come from former classmates, teachers, friends, and family.

According to the Lakewood Police, officers arrived on site less than four minutes after the call of the shooting. The suspect had been cornered on the overpass over West Clifton Blvd. After

The air was thick with tension. The arraignment lasted only five minutes, but in that time Williams was charged with Aggravated Murder. The charge carries a life sentence with the possibility of parole after 20 years. Judge Patrick Carroll seemed to be surprised by Williams' waiving of a preliminary hearing. Bail was set at \$2,000,000. The case was immediately bound over to the grand jury. Williams will be moved to the Cuyahoga County Jail.

Outside the Lakewood Municipal Building, the family expressed anger and frustration at Williams being accorded bail. "Where's the justice? This stupid piece of crap gets bail?



Robert Shawn Joslin's family and friends wait for the police to lead Nathaniel Williams Jr. of Cleveland into the Lakewood courtroom where he was charged with the aggravated murder of "Shawn."

How? Terrence Hough, Jr., that firefighter who killed those kids, he didn't get no bail-where's the justice? Now this guy can get out on the streets and kill someone else. This is horrible. Who's he gonna come after next? His wife? His daughter? Is he gonna come after my family now that he's seen our faces? This is so horrible. Where's the justice? " complained Jeni Joslin. The pain in the family's eyes was unbearable.

Prior to returning inside to appeal the bond, another family member, Christina said "I'm his sister and I think its crap if anyone bails him out. That was my brother and he wouldn't do anything to hurt anybody ever. Why did he have the right to come up and shoot my brother in cold blood? How someone so...this is so disgusting. I don't know how anyone would bail him out...and if they do, there's gonna be hell to pay."

Shortly after speaking with the media that was present, the family and friends returned inside the courthouse to appeal the bond. They were informed that the bond was not a 10% bond but a full cash bond of two million dollars. The news seemed to appease them slightly.

Ken Warren, Director of the Lakewood Library, may have summed up this sad state of affairs best, "Shawn was the quintessential Lakewood lamb working his way up through his McDonald's job. He was a polite cordial neighbor that was slaughtered by a wolf."

Funeral information will be posted on the Observation Deck when known.

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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

Lakewood Woman Inducted Into The International Forest Of Friendship



Ms. Lynda Meeks of Lakewood was honored as a 2007 inductee into the International Forest of Friendship in Atchison, Kansas during ceremonies in June. The Forest is a living, growing memorial to the world history of aviation and aerospace.

Meeks has made many contributions to aviation as a military aviator, commercial pilot and educator. She is currently a Citation 560 pilot at Flight Options, LLC, a fractional airline. She is the president of Very Important Pilots, LLC and the founder of Girls With Wings™, a movement to encourage young girls to develop an interest in aviation (www.girlswithwings.com). Meeks has also founded Generate LIFT, Inc., a non-profit organization created to encourage youth to achieve their personal and academic aspirations by emphasizing STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) Education (www.generateLIFT.org).

The International Forest of Friendship was a gift to America on the Nation's 200th birthday from the

City of Atchison (Amelia Earhart's birthplace) and the Ninety-Nines. The public is invited to the induction ceremonies which are held during

the 3rd weekend of June (June 20-22, 2008). More information about the Forest, and points of contact are at www.ifof.org.



Save Your Spot For Starry Night

Join us as we kick off the 30th annual Lakewood Arts Festival and help create brighter futures.

Last Year's **Starry Night** event was a great success and more than 200 people enjoyed a memorable evening under the stars. You won't want to miss this great evening, so reserve your spot today!

Join us Friday, August 3rd from 7 to 10 p.m. for the second annual **Starry Night**, a patron benefit to raise funds for two worthwhile causes – Lakewood Hos-

pital diabetes services and the Lakewood Arts Festival Scholarship Fund. Spend the evening under the stars and enjoy delicious cuisine, which will represent the different generation's throughout the hospital's 100 year history. Tickets are \$100 and the evening includes live music, food and drinks, raffle and fine art.

A special VIP reception will start at 6 p.m. tickets are \$150.

To reserve your spot for Starry Night, call 216-529-7009, or go to lakewoodhospital.org/starrynight



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

The Lakewood Family YMCA Has Personal Trainers

Did you know the Lakewood Family YMCA has certified personal trainers to help you get what you want out of your workouts? Personal training is the key to achieving the results you desire with your workouts. Our experienced train-

ers will custom design a program that is individualized and keeps you interested and motivated about reaching your goals. Stop by the Y today to get your program started. For more information, contact Anne Mitchell, 216-521-8400

Letter To The Editor: The Clusters

I suppose everyone has heard about the "clusters." You know, the Catholic Church's answer to the 21st century. I don't know--I guess it is a good idea. We have to do something for sure.

My problem with the whole concept is that I love my little church, St. Hedwig's on Madison Avenue. It's quiet, a little old-fashioned and we have a wonderful pastor. I suppose all Catholics feel that way about their church.

When the dreaded "closings list" comes out, I'm sure there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth by the affected parishioners. There will be so

many questions: Will the masses be at the same times as they were in our church? Will they periodically have sales of heavenly Polish food? Will I see familiar faces in pretty much the same places in St. Whatever Church?

This whole thing won't go down for several years, and maybe by then we will have an influx of priests and nuns and won't have to go through this. But you know what? If it does come to pass we will survive and maybe, just maybe, we will be stronger.

Gerry Nelson

Through The Eyes Of The Observer



Notice the fine photography that the Lakewood Observer has in every issue? Would you like to see it on a gallery wall?

without all that pesky text around it? bela dubby is proud to host "Through The Eyes Of The Observer: The Lakewood Observer Photo Show", now through the month of July.

The show features artistic views of Lakewood's diverse culture and activity, from photographers Ivor Karabatovic, David Lay, Rhonda Loje, Dan Slife, Debra and Jim O'Bryan.

There will be a closing reception for all who wish to attend on July 31, 2007, 6-9 pm.

LUCKY FRIDAY THE 13TH at Mahall's Twenty Lanes

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Save The Date!

LCPI Cornhole Tournament, August 11, 2007

Lakewood Community Progress Inc. (LCPI) is sponsoring its 1st Annual Cornhole Tournament on Saturday, August 11. The event will be held at the parking lot located at the corner of Mathews and Detroit across from the entrance to the MetroParks.

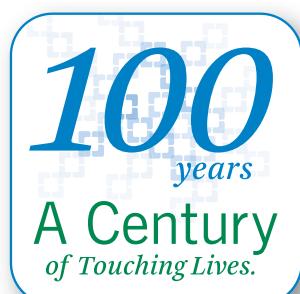
Participants need to pre-register by Wednesday, August 8 at either Geiger's - Lakewood or Around the Corner Saloon and Cafe. Details will be posted on the Observation Deck. All proceeds will be directed to LCPI, a nonprofit organization dedicated to facilitating economic revitalization in Lakewood.

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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).

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City Council

Pizzas, PODS, And D.A.R.E.

Council President Robert Seelie called the July 2, 2007 meeting to order at 7:40. Fewer than ten people were in the audience for this meeting as compared to the 80 who attended the last meeting.

Several items under old business topped the agenda.

The first was an ordinance to establish a land bank. This was addressed in a report from the finance committee. The purpose of a land bank according to Planning Director Thomas Jordan is to transform tax delinquent properties which might include unoccupied, dilapidated houses, vacant buildings and open, empty lots into tax generating properties. Under the proposed ordinance the City would be able to hold land donated from other governmental entities as well as private individuals for future development needs. Procedures for acquiring the land from sheriff's auction are outlined under the ordinance.

The committee, chaired by Seelie

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Stan Austin
City Council Reporter

(ward three) cites four advantages to this program. First, Lakewood can ensure that tax-foreclosed property is sold or developed with the long-term interest of the community and surrounding property owners in mind. Second, the City can provide a marketable title to properties previously impossible to develop due to complicated liens and confused ownership histories. Third, land bank programs are useful to safeguard healthy communities from deterioration. And, fourth, the land bank would allow Lakewood to overcome legal structures that restrain rather than foster the conversion of public land and private liens on private land into performing assets.

The ordinance was passed.

A second item of interest involves the use of portable storage containers. In recent years the introduction

of "PODS", "Relocubes", among other brands has gained in popularity. Sometimes, due to their size, the placement of these containers can be problematical. So, on a second reading, this ordinance prescribes the use of these containers to prevent disruption of pedestrian and vehicular traffic and keep them from being unsightly in appearance while they are in use.

Lakewood patrons and users of the Metroparks popularly known as the Valley, know that the Hogsback Lane entrance is the last of the three entrances to the park that needs to be rebuilt. The Planning Commission held hearings necessary to obtain funding from NOACCA (Northeast Areawide Coordinating Agency). Council approved that commission's report which advances the process for the reconstruction of that heavily used entrance.

An application for a liquor permit for Dewey's Pizza at the east end of Detroit Avenue was deferred. Issues of proposed improvements to the storefront have to be resolved first according to the Law Department. Council member Michael Dever (at large) mentioned that he has tried the Dewey's pizza and found it excellent and was looking forward to its opening. He quickly and deftly

added that all of the other pizza restaurants in Lakewood were excellent, too.

Under new business Ryan Demro (ward two) presented a resolution asking the Cuyahoga County Commissioners to reconsider a proposed tax to fund a convention center. After several moments of silence from fellow council colleagues and the administration president Seelie said the motion failed for lack of a second.

Finally, Police Chief Malley requested that council approve a grant application to continue state funding of the D.A.R.E. program. This is a nationally recognized drug prevention education program which has been an important city and school sponsored initiative in Lakewood since 1990. The D.A.R.E. program helps students avoid drugs and alcohol, increases their self-confidence and teaches them how to effectively deal with peer pressure. Over 10,000 students have participated in Lakewood.

The chief pointed out that the Lakewood program is one of the finest in the state. In addition to presenting the D.A.R.E. curriculum in the elementary and middle schools, Patrol Officers William Albrecht, George Rasch and Robert Adamich serve as Youth Resource Officers. They conduct several after school and summer programs in conjunction with the Division of Youth Services.

Council approved the Chief's request.

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Lakewood Public Library

"I'll Follow the Sun:"

Elements In Lakewood Public Library's Sustainable Design

by Kenneth Warren

Robert A.M. Stern Architects have applied principles of sustainable design to create for Lakewood Public Library an iconic building on Detroit Avenue, one that conveys through tradition, a clear sense of environmental stewardship and energy efficiency.

"A sustainable approach to the design and maintenance of library buildings does not involve a simple grand strategy, applicable to all places," according to Alexander P. Lamis, managing partner with Robert A.M. Stern Architects assigned to the Lakewood Public Library project and author of "Greening the Library: An Overview of Sustainable Design."

For Lamis, sustainable design "represents a commonsense approach to design that is a response to local environmental and economic conditions, one that seeks to create a built environment that is sympathetic and in tune with the natural world."

"We can learn a lot from the work of traditional builders who met their needs with fewer resources than we use today," adds Lamis who looks to Europe for sensible and functional approaches to buildings and energy consumption.

Lamis sees in libraries the concrete embodiment of a commonsense relation between tradition, stewardship and sustainable design. "People who go to an academic or public library want to feel that they are part of something important, a tradition."

Lamis has studied the floor plans of the great nineteenth-century libraries and compared them to modern designs. After studying the designs of Boston Public Library, completed in 1895, and the New York Public Library, completed in 1911, he views the use of natural light and rectangular floor-plates as fundamental elements in sustainable library design.

For Lakewood Public Library, then, the sun provides the original marker in sustainable design for the site's orientation and block-to-block shape along the east-west axis of Detroit Avenue.

"In a rectangular building, it is preferable for a long axis to run in an east-west direction. This is because it is more difficult to control east light in the morning and west light in the

GALA FIX



The man identified on the far left as Ron Lucien, was actually President and CEO of First Federal of Lakewood Gary R. Fix. That is still Michael Berichon, and the Shaws. This would be the second time in two years the LO has misidentified Gary!

photo by David Lay



Residents stream into the new library building.

afternoon than to control north and south light, which trace symmetrical arcs through the day," Lamis notes.

There are two skylights along the east-west corridor of Lakewood Public Library. These skylights, which span the atrium in the new building to the grand stairwell to be erected in the renovated building, bring natural light deep into the center of the library.

The new grand public stairway, skylit from above, will evoke a similar type of stair seen in old photographs of Lakewood's original Carnegie library.

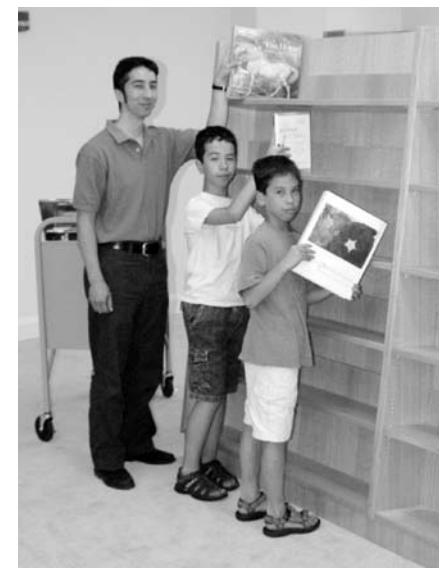
"We now have the opportunity to reconnect with the past while providing a great place to meet, and in the future, perhaps a place for art," says Lamis.

While skylights and sources of natural light will fill many spaces of Lakewood Public Library, an extensive, programmable Occupancy Sensor System will control lighting in many areas of the building, based on the occupancy frequencies of each area. When an area is not occupied for a pre-programmed period of time, lighting will turn off until the area becomes occupied again. This system has the potential to significantly reduce energy usage, when compared to a traditional lighting system where "on-off" control is minimal.

"Photo-sensors can tell us how much natural light is coming into a building and adjust the levels of artificial lighting accordingly," says Lamis.

The lighting systems throughout the building will use high-efficiency T-8 fluorescent lamps. These contain over 70% less mercury than standard fluorescent lamps. All lamp ballasts are of the electronic, high efficiency type, which results in additional energy savings on the order of 50%, when compared to standard ballasts.

The air conditioning system for the building will utilize "Demand Control Ventilation." This system will minimize energy usage by carefully controlling and limiting the quantity of outside air brought into the building during periods of low occupancy. This method of variable ventilation control follows more closely the actual usage of the building. More traditional engineering designs hold the ventilation rate as a constant, rather than as a variable oper-



The generous bidders to be the first people to put books on the new shelves were Hal Kahn, with his sons Tony and Curtis.

ating parameter, according to William V. Fredrick, engineer for the project.

"All motorized equipment, such as fans, pumps and air conditioning units are of the high-efficiency type in order to further conserve energy. All of these energy-saving, environmentally sound engineering design features contribute to a building interior environment that enhances the learning and research experiences of library patrons, while, at the same time, conserving and preserving our exterior environment and energy natural resources," says Fredrick.

Finally, building for the long term, which Lakewood Public Library is doing with Robert A.M. Stern Architects, is the essential goal in sustainable library design. "Nothing is more destructive than tearing down a building after twenty years because it was cheaply made, was not adaptable to change, or was merely ugly and unloved," Lamis asserts. "An institutional project like a library should be conceived to last 100 years with periodic renovation to mechanical systems and interior furnishing."

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Welcome
Sanjit Bindra,
M.D.
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We are pleased to welcome Sanjit Bindra, M.D., to the Lakewood Hospital medical staff. Dr. Bindra is a highly skilled endocrinologist board-certified in endocrinology, diabetes and metabolism. His special medical interests include diabetes mellitus, thyroid disorders and general endocrinology.

Dr. Bindra will play an integral role in better serving the needs of our patients with diabetes as Lakewood Hospital opens its new comprehensive Diabetes Center in August. The Lakewood Hospital Diabetes Center will feature full-time endocrinologists, certified diabetes educator and dietitians in one, convenient location.

Dr. Bindra is accepting new patients. His office is located at the Lakewood Hospital Professional Building, Suite 400. **For appointments, please call 216.529.5300.**

lakewoodhospital.org/diabetes

Your Life is Our Life's Work.

Lakewood Public Library

Harry Potter Hype

by Emmie Hutchison

July 21st 2007. This is a date of considerable significance, practically a holiday in the literary and publishing world and in the subculture of devotees to the stories of a boy wizard who would rise to the challenge of facing the Dark Lord. Yes, I'm referring to the hype, the mania, the phenomenon of Harry Potter. The release of the seventh book, Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows is scheduled for 12:01 a.m. on July 21st. Reportedly, the publisher, Scholastic, Inc. had book handlers sign contracts of secrecy and limited handling of pre-release copies, posted security guards at printing plants, and secured shipments with steel chains. Any library or bookseller releasing books or information in advance would breach the contract which could result in a terminated relationship with Scholastic Publishing. While this detail adds some mystique to the release of the new book, it is hardly necessary...there are already 12 million copies in print!

This is the final book in the seven-book series which makes it the end of a publishing dynasty. Collectively, the series so far has sold 325 million copies worldwide, published in 65 different languages. During a year when a Harry Potter book is published, Scholastic can expect it to account for eight percent of its revenue. These statistics are impressive but marginally important compared to the impact the final book will have on readers. J.K. Rowling's strengths as a writer are her vivid portrayal of her magical world, plot suspense and endearing characters who develop over the arc of the series. The stories are so dense with minor and major characters that readers wonder how loose ends can be tied and conflicts

resolved and how many secrets will be revealed in the final installment.

These are questions that have fueled debate and discussion among readers in various forums for discussion and in a number of spin-off books from the series. In fact, there are books distributed exclusively by Borders that discuss the existing books and speculate what the final installment will bring, thus rendering these books obsolete when Deathly Hallows is released. Two examples are *The Great Snape Debate* by Amy Berner, Orson Scott Card and Joyce Millman and *The Unauthorized Harry Potter* by Adam Troy Castro. Other offshoots will maintain their appeal to Potter fans and analyze the world of wizarding from very specific, sometimes esoteric perspectives. One self-published book explores Jewish perspectives and another organizes "keys" to understanding Harry Potter including literary use of alchemy symbols and themes. If reading the Harry Potter books and books about Harry Potter don't satiate your interest, many websites provide forums for information and discussion. One of the most popular is mugglenet.com, which is so widely used that it frequently receives updates from Scholastic and maintains a friendly relationship with J.K. Rowling as does the fansite, The Leaky Cauldron.

So you've got the hype...now what? Like libraries across the country, Lakewood Public Library is naturally anxious to fuel the reading frenzy and show off its new building at the same time. The week leading up the release of Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows will feature "Harry Potter Film Fest: A Movie Marathon for Muggles." The first movie, *The Sorcerer's Stone* will be shown on Tuesday, July 17, followed by *The Chamber of Secrets* on July 18,

The Prisoner of Azkaban on July 19 and *The Goblet of Fire* on July 20. All movies will be shown in Lakewood Public Library's Main Auditorium and will start at 5:30 p.m. Kids who attend all four movies will receive their O.W.L. (Ordinary Wizarding Level) award and can then pass their NEWT (Nastily Exhausting Wizarding Test) at the Harry Potter Birthday Bash. This family event, sponsored by the Library, will take place at Madison

Park Pavilion on Wednesday, July 25 from 5 to 8 p.m. Harry's birthday will be celebrated with costume contests, trivia, games and more.

Please join the library in ushering in the end of the Harry Potter series and the beginning of many special memories as the new expansion is opened. Hopefully within the walls of the new library we the fans will embrace life after Harry.

Library Events Calendar

FAMILY WEEKEND WONDERS

Make the library a part of your family weekend time with programs featuring stories, activities, music and crafts for children. Our staff will provide materials and ideas for families wishing to continue reading and storytelling at home. The programs are free and there is no need to register in advance. Choose the day and time most convenient for you.

Upcoming Themes:

July 13, 14, 15 Dinosaurs Galore!

July 20, 21, 22 Awesome Aussies

Day Time

Friday 10:30 a.m., 2:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m.

Saturday 10:30 a.m., 2:00 p.m., 4:00 p.m.

Sunday 2:00 p.m.

In the Madison Branch auditorium

ON YOUR MARK, GET SET, READ!

Crafts and activities for children kindergarten through eighth grade. Stop in for a variety of cool summer programs. There is no need to register; however for groups of ten or more, please call 216.228.7428 in advance. Six week summer season: Monday, June 11- Thursday, July 19

Day	Time	Activity
Monday	4:00 p.m.	Gold Medal Crafts
Tuesday	4:00 p.m.	Get into the Game
Wednesday	4:00 p.m.	Score with Books
Thursday	4:00 p.m.	Gold Medal Crafts
In the Madison Branch auditorium		

SUMMER FRIDAY PERFORMANCES

July 20 3:00 p.m. Jungle Terry

In the Madison Branch auditorium

MOVIE MARATHON FOR MUGGLES

See the famed boy wizard that defeated You-Know-Who in his first four adventures on the Library's new big screen in the days leading up to the release of book 7. Attend all four movies and receive your O.W.L. (Ordinary Wizarding Level) award.

Tuesday, July 17	5:30 p.m.	Book 1
Wednesday, July 18	5:30 p.m.	Book 2
Thursday, July 19	5:30 p.m.	Book 3
Friday, July 20	5:30 p.m.	Book 4

HARRY POTTER BASH

Wizards and muggles of all ages are invited to Madison Park to celebrate Harry's birthday with costume contests, trivia, games and much more. Bring the whole family! Wednesday, July 25 5:00 - 8:00 p.m. at the Madison Park Pavilion

WHAT NOVEL IDEAS!

Book discussions for students sixth through eighth grade

Need to read before school begins? Choose from the following books and participate in book discussions designed to help with your summer reading assignments. Books must be read before the program to participate. To register, please stop in or call 216.226.8275 ext. 140

Tuesday, July 24	Artemis Fowl by Eoin Colfer
Thursday, July 26	The Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan
Tuesday, July 3	The Tiger Rising by Kate DiCamillo
Thursday, August 2	Surviving the Applewhites by Stephanie S. Tolan
Tuesday, August 7	Son of the Mob by Gordon Korman
Thursday, August 9	Sammy Keyes and the Hotel Thief by Wendelin Van Draanen
Tuesday, August 14	When Zachary Beaver Came to Town by Kimberly Willis Holt
Thursday, August 16	Hole in My Life by Jack Gantos

7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. at the Madison Branch

Lakewood Schools

Scholarship Winners from the Lakewood Arts Festival



Katie Michalik won the Lakewood Arts Festival Scholarship of \$4000. She will be attending Loyola University in the Fall.



Crystal Gray received \$500. from the Scholarship Committee for excellence. She will be attending The Cleveland Institute of Art.

Lakewood ABLE Receives Exemplary Status And Graduates Over 100 GED Students

by Jessica Saunders

The Lakewood Adult Basic and Literacy Education (ABLE) Program recently celebrated the completion of the 2006-2007 school year by receiving Exemplary Status from the Ohio Department of Education for meeting key performance indicators. This year, over 300 students participated in the ESL and ABE Programs. More than 100 students obtained a GED diploma this year. A Recognition Ceremony was held on June 28, 2007 to honor those students.

ABLE is a publicly funded free instructional program providing educational opportunities to adults who need skills for effective citizenship, further education and productive employment. The Lakewood program focuses on English for Speakers of Other Language (ESOL), basic skill development in reading and writing and GED Test preparation. ABLE provides adult students with a standards based curriculum. Students take standardized assessments and receive individualized learning plans to help

them realize their goals.

Due to the exemplary status that the Lakewood ABLE Program received for the 2006-2007 school year, we have received additional funding for a summer ABLE Program. Registration is every Tuesday and is on going for the four weeks in July.

GED Preparation: This class is for students who are getting ready to take the Official Practice Test, or who need a little extra help in math, reading or writing. Practice testing to earn a fee waiver will be available. This class will be held Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, 9am-noon, from July 10-Aug 2 in Lakewood High School, room 255.

ESOL Reading and Writing: This class will focus on developing reading and writing skills for non-English speakers. This program will also be held Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, 9am-noon, from July 10-Aug 2, in Lakewood High School, room 257.

The ABLE program is administered through the Ohio Department of Education, Career-Technical and Adult Education office, and is

authorized by the Workforce Investment Act, Title II, Adult Education and Family Literacy Act, P.L. 105-220. The Lakewood ABLE program is coordinated under the Lakewood City Schools, Community Recreation

and Education Department. For more information regarding the ABLE program or to volunteer, please contact Terry Hamovitch, ABLE Coordinator, at (216) 529-4240 or terry.hamovitch@lakewood.k12.oh.us

Lakewood Student Is Named Young Scholar At Denison

Denison University junior Taylor Trimarchi, son of Marla Samko of Lakewood, has been selected as a Young Scholar. His project, titled "Cinema Meets Theater," will be advised by Associate Professor David Bussan. Trimarchi, a 2005 graduate of Lakewood High School, is a cinema major at Denison.

The Young Scholar program, now in its 13th year, is designed to give outstanding students in all disciplines the opportunity to conduct summer research on a one-to-one basis with a member of the faculty or independently with faculty supervision. Although stu-

dents in all disciplines are eligible, they must have a minimum of a 3.3 grade point average and the research must culminate in a written or artistic project as well as a public presentation.

"The Young Scholars Award research is free of the usual grading and credit associated with college work," notes Keith Boone, associate provost at Denison, who was instrumental in establishing the program. He explains that Young Scholars "have a unique forum in which to experiment with ideas, pursue an intellectual passion and focus intently on the resolution of a question over a sustained period of time."

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Lakewood Observer

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

by Kathy Martin

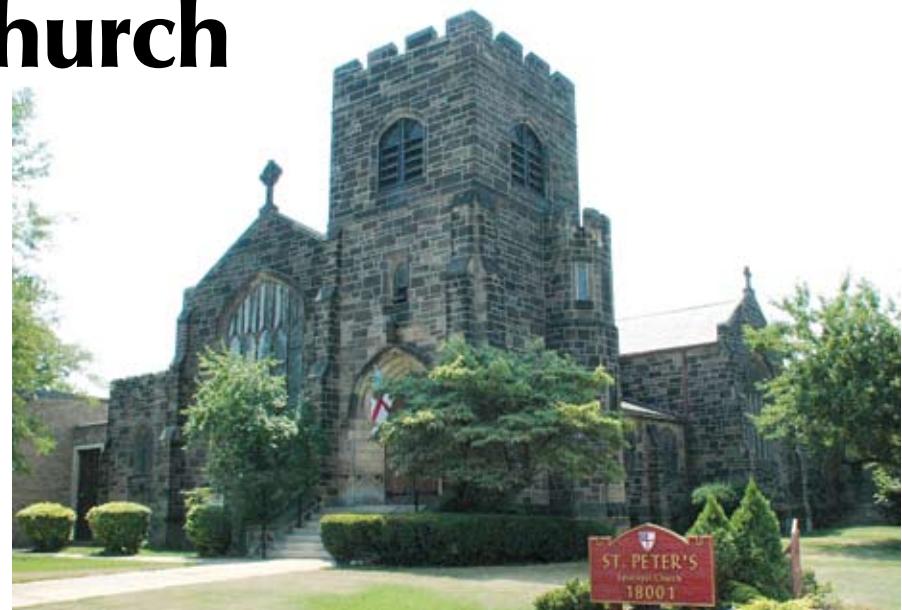
Worshipers entering St. Peter's Episcopal Church on a sunny Sunday morning immediately see the light - literally. The traditional rich purple, red and gold colors of the stained-glass windows circling the interior of the stone structure are a delight to body and soul. The windows tell the whole of salvation history, old and new testaments. The main window features a royal Jesus, flanked by Moses and St. Paul.

The Episcopal tradition is best known for the beauty of its music and liturgy. There are two choirs, an adult choir consisting of parishioners and choral scholars from local colleges and a children's choir. Sunday morning Eucharistic services are at 8 and 10.

The church, which celebrates its Centennial this year, offers a variety of programs to nurture the faith and fellowship of its members and to serve those outside the church community.

Educational opportunities for adults include several Bible studies, as well as informal topical discussions following Sunday services and seasonal programs. Programs for youngsters include Sunday school and Children's Word, which takes place during the sermon and gives a more child-oriented reflection on the scripture readings. Special programming last year included an Epiphany program.

The youth group, aimed at those 11 and older, has undertaken several service projects including Souper Bowl Sunday where youth collected dona-



tions to fight hunger in large soup pots on Super Bowl Sunday. They also held a sleep-out, where the teens slept outside in cardboard boxes to increase awareness, and generate donations, for the homeless. Fun activities have included skiing and a trip to a water park.

Coffee hour is just the beginning of fellowship programs at St. Pete's. Other highlights include the annual picnic, newcomer brunches and dinner groups that meet once a month.

St. Peter's has "adopted" Waterson-Lake Elementary School in Cleveland. Members' contributions include tutoring, teaching knitting classes and providing school clothes and supplies. The church hosts a community meal once a month and contributes to service organizations, such as Zelma

George Shelter. The church also houses a day-care center, which has served the community for 30 years.

St. Peter's was founded in 1906 and its first location was in a vacant church. In 1907 the parish acquired its present location at the southeast corner of West Clifton and Detroit Avenue. The present building was completed in 1928.

In the Episcopal tradition, contemporary issues are tested by the standards of scripture, tradition, reason and experience. The conscience of the individual is highly respected

The Rev. Keith Owen has been a priest for 18 years and rector (pastor) at St. Peters for three years. The Rev. Nancy Wittig, assisting priest, is semi-retired and is one of the first women to be ordained a priest in the Episcopal



Lakewood Hospital's director of SeniorCare Services, Marty Bakoss and director of the Division of Aging, Paulette McMonagle.

Lakewood Hospital Centennial Health Fair Was A Success

Congratulations to Lakewood Hospital's SeniorCare Services and the City of Lakewood, Department of Human Services: Division of Aging, on the overwhelming success of their Centennial Health Fair for senior citizens that was held at Lakewood Park's Women's Pavilion on June 26. More than 350 seniors attended the event.

The hospital had a staff pharmacist that was available for medication questions as well as staff to perform

screenings for glucose, cholesterol, pulse oximetry, and blood pressure.

Janelle Henning, M.D. from Lakewood Medical Associates, Rockport met with the seniors. The Cleveland Sight Center performed vision and glaucoma screenings and the Arthritis Foundation had guest speakers.

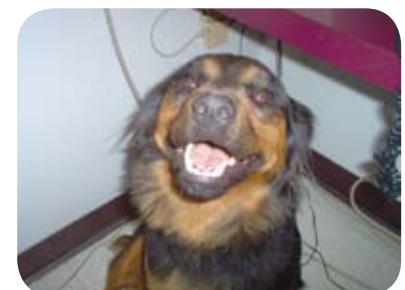
Refreshments were served on the back deck of the women's pavilion on the beautiful summer day.

Adopt A Pet

Call The Lakewood Animal Shelter
Tuesday & Thursday 12-6 , Wednesday,
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This is Oprah! She is a chubby calico tiger who is about 4 years old. She is spayed and is a very clean cat. She is very friendly while also relaxed which makes her a great lap cat. She gets along well with other cats too!



This is Libby! She is a year old rottweiler/collie mix who appears to be housebroken. She is very sweet and calm and already has basic obedience skills. Make her a part of your family!

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Lakewood Observer

Lakewood's Fourth Of July Parade

photos by Holly Cooper Whisman, Ivor Karabatkovic, Davis Lay & Bryan Schwegler. Continued on page 12.



Bands, Bands, Bands! Lakewood High School Marching Band and Cheerleaders.



Mayor Thomas J. George with Jane his wife.



Our men & women of uniform marching in this year's Independence Day parade.



Lakewood Hospital celebrating 100 years of touching lives.



Dennis and Elizabeth Kucinich, Dennis is Congressman of the 10th District, and candidate for President of the United States..



Lakewood Earth & Food Community marching along with the Lakewood Observer.

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Lakewood Business,

Pride Of Cleveland Scooters Finds The Perfect Home

There are defining moments in a city. Some good some bad. New Library by a top architect, Largest new school building program in the state, Tremont is over, Lakewood is the new spot. India Garden moving from Crocker Park to Lakewood, opening the second store India Food Emporium. Nancy Dyer, I am pleased to announce an



Every inch of the large showroom is filled with new and used scooters, gear, helmets, accessories, magazines, anything a rider needs.

There are defining moments in a city's development. Some are good; some are bad. Lakewood has been enjoying a pretty good summer in 2007. On the public side we have a new Library designed by a top architect, the largest new school building program in the state, the L.E.A.F. Community, residents developing ways to deliver farm fresh healthy foods to Lakewood tables, the Lakewood YMCA and Lakewood Hospital.

And there are private developments, too, that speak to Lakewood's opportunities and qualities.

Over the past year or so, more and more independent entrepreneurs see the city's potential and the loyalty that can be leveraged from the local customer base and built environment into the region.

When Matt Fish opened The Melt, he declared "Tremont is over, Lakewood is the new spot." India Garden moved from the Crocker Park area to Lakewood to be in a better location, and then opened a second store, India Food Emporium. The ex-President of Oberlin College, retiring to Lakewood, tells people, "I love Lakewood; engaged, walkable community, nice stores espe-

cially food stores like India Food Emporium."

Perhaps the most vital development in Lakewood's mix will be the arrival of Pride of Cleveland Scooters.

Phil Waters and his wife Merritt, have moved into the Wilderness Shop/Mattress Warehouse with the top Scooter store in Ohio. This is a transportation dealership moving into Lakewood. A successful dealership that has chosen Lakewood because it is the perfect spot for their business. A business with a large variety of good products that average 70 miles per gallon. Scooters are not just vehicles but part of an ever growing lifestyle to which many groups in Lakewood are claiming to reach out arts, green, with representatives across the board.

Today's scooters are not the scooter of Les Nesmann on WKRP Cincinnati. The Scooter has become "the vehicle" of the new millennium. Many of my friends with large motorcycles own at least one scooter. At a cost between \$1,800 and \$6,950, it is not only needed, but perfectly situated for the future and for Lakewood. At a time when gas prices are \$3.00 a gallon and soaring, Scooters and Lakewood



Article and photos by Jim O'Bryan

just make sense.

"Being in Lakewood on a beautiful shaded street with cobblestones under my feet is the perfect location for Pride of Cleveland Scooters, it is just what my wife and I had looked for. This is our piece de resistance!" said Phil. Pride of Cleveland Scooters is not corporate it is the quintessential mom and pop shop. They sell nothing they do not believe in, or would not sell to a friend.

Pride of Cleveland started as a scooter club, North Coast Scooters, in the early 90s. "There was Sam Locke, Tom Duchovich, and myself riding around on scooters. We ran into a guy named Robbie Pryor from the eastside who was a scooter celebrity. We all got together and thought, wow, we have a club! It was on a long run to a scooter rally in Georgia that we came up with the name "Pride of Cleveland." This is fitting as my family has ties with the old P.O.C. (Pilsner On Call). Then my hobby got wildly out of control, as people would come to me to

fix their scooters," Phil explained.

Fate intervened when Phil was laid off from work. Talking things over with his partner and wife Merritt they decided to open POC Scooters on Lorain and West 122nd. Under Gold's Gym, it was so small the joke was Pride

Another Reason To Ride

Highlights from the Vespanomics Fact Sheet

Vespanomics (Vés pá näm íks)*

n.* *Meaning*: the ecological, economic, and personal satisfaction one achieves after buying a Vespa scooter./ Usage (Ex.)/ Lillian could be seen stylishly scooting around town once she discovered Vespanomics.

Additional meanings: 1. A feeling of total exhilaration; consistent with riding a stylish, high performance Vespa. 2. The incomparable level of satisfaction that can only come from helping the environment while also saving a boatload of money on gas.

/Origin/: A u

Vespa and economy

Vespanomic, adj, v

If Americans

10% of their total

they would consu

gallons less fuel p

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by 324 million pou

(Source ICR surve

personal level, the

fuel consumption

58%, carbon dio

80%, and signific

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By living t



Merritt and Phil Waters owners of Pride Of Cleveland Scooters on the hottest scooter in the country the Vespa GTS 250.

of Cleveland Scooter. Phil, a scooter visionary, realized that the lifestyle was growing, and the closest scooter shop 60 miles away. Pride of Cleveland Scooters became the first scooter shop in Cleveland in over 25 years.

Lifestyle, Green, Fun

Scooters Come In Lakewood

Lakewood has been going through a pretty good summer. program in the state. Matt Fish opening The Melt, declaring from the Crocker Park area to Lakewood to be in a better location, e, past president of Oberlin College, retiring to Lakewood. another one - Pride Of Cleveland Scooters.



Old and new scooters lined up outside.

POC then moved to West 25th street in a larger shop on the between trendy Tremont and Ohio City, a block south of the West Side Market. In this location the legend grew, and it is easy to see why. "We are passionate about this. This is what we love to do. I would

will be the new home base and headquarters.

Not the only Vespa dealership in Ohio, it is certainly high on the list of favorites of the legendary Italian motor scooter company. In 2005 Pride of Cleveland was chosen to host the Vespa Club of America's Rally. Phil wondered if they were ready for such a large event but the Vespa Club America, assured them they were. The rally which was covered nationally and internationally in scooter magazines, offered two days of riding and fun. The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, the Flats, the Stadium and Lakewood were all on the list of things to do. Sunday was a 75 mile rally, from downtown, through Lakewood then into the Emerald Canyon

lifestyle, consumers can help curb America's addiction to oil and preserve the environment from carbon dioxide emissions. They can also turn disgruntled drivers into fun freedom drivers who can't get enough of scooting thru traffic on their way to work, the gym, the store, wherever.

Pride Of Cleveland Scooter Club is a loose knit group of riders that prefer to ride scooters over having serious meetings. "Who wants to read the minutes of a meeting when you can go ride?" asks Phil, "One hundred yards away is the entrance of the Metro Parks, let's go ride."

be doing it for free anyway if there was no store," said Phil, "If you can take your hobby and turn it into a successful business that is every American's dream." POC plans to keep the West 25th store going for now, but Lakewood

for a nice long ride through the Emerald Necklace.

Weeks earlier was a Vietnam Veterans Harley Davidson Rally, I had the pleasure of getting stopped at the light as the rally went by. I am a true motor-

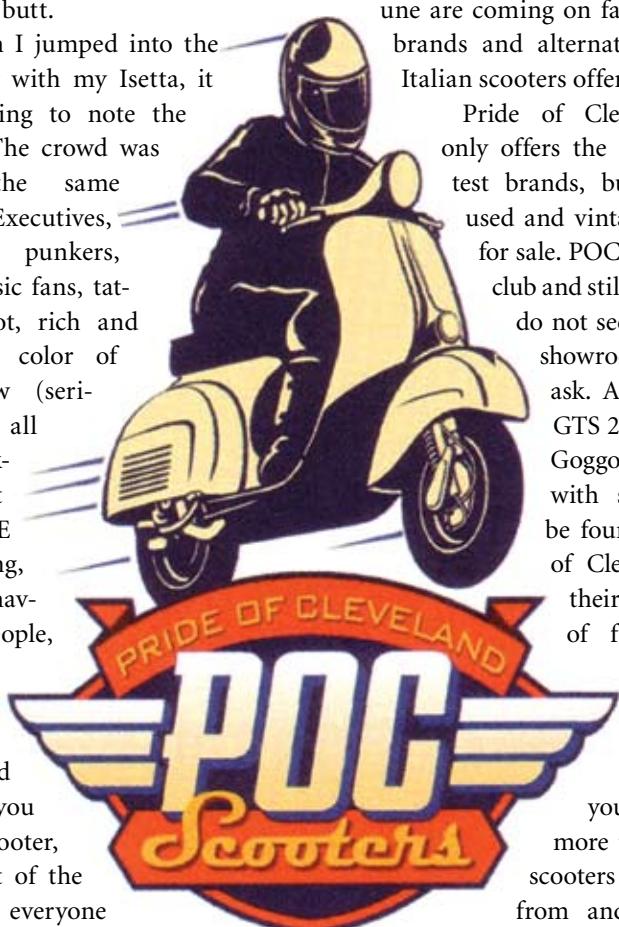


The first floor is filled and POC is planning on a scooter museum on the second floor. Now let's go ride the silver one!

ing freak I love the sound of engines, and as a scooter and motorcycle owner, I appreciate motorcycles, the sounds and how people make them unique. Watching the Harleys go past, it amazed me how mean everyone looked; ready to kick some butt.

So when I jumped into the scooter rally with my Isetta, it was interesting to note the difference. The crowd was probably the same make-up. Executives, mechanics, punkers, classical music fans, tattooed or not, rich and poor, every color of the rainbow (seriously), and all types of backgrounds. But EVERYONE was laughing, joking and having fun. "People, that is Scooterphiles, are very cliquey," said Phil. If you have a scooter, you are part of the group, and everyone will reach out. "Show at a guy's house in San Francisco, he'll say I can use his scooter, stay at his place; tell you to get rid of your hotel room. We take care of each other."

The scooter lifestyle is now an enlightened choice; an excellent choice for the alternative or even prime mode of transportation.



Pride of Cleveland is a large dealership, offering four brands; Vespa, Piaggio, Kymco, and Genuine. While it is the Vespa, Piaggio and to some extent the Lambretta that we all noticed first in foreign films. Kymco and Genuine are coming on fast as strong brands and alternatives to the Italian scooters offered at POC.

Pride of Cleveland not only offers the newest hottest brands, but also has used and vintage scooters for sale. POC started as a club and still is, so if you do not see it on their showroom floor, ask. A new Vespa GTS 250 to a 1953 Goggo Scooter with sidecar can be found by Pride of Cleveland and their network of friends and clubs. They can build any scooter you want with more than 60 old scooters to pull parts from and in stock.

If your wife wants Sophia Loren's scooter from "Boy on a Dolphin" duplicated, it is not a problem.

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Lakewood Observer

Lakewood's Fourth Of July Parade

photos by Holly Cooper Whisman, Ivor Karabatkovic, Davis Lay & Bryan Schwegler. Continued from page 9.



Steve Hoffard (left) and Jim & Deb O'Bryan of the Lakewood Motoring Society cruise in style, 'gearing up' for this summer's Kar Kulture Show, August 18th, 2007.



Kids flying everywhere as the parade makes its way down Lake Road!



The beautiful and breathtaking fireworks display lights up Edgewater park, amusing spectators young and old.



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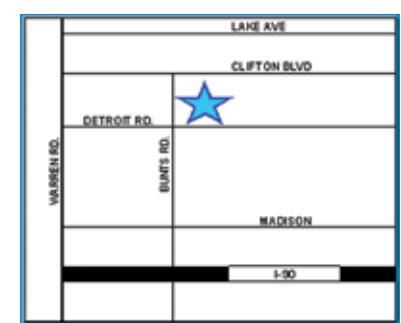
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Chef Geoff

Chef Geoff Buys The Farm

There is a clear and obvious relationship between summer gardens and the food that finds its way to our dinner table. The nexus, while clear, is many times overlooked and undervalued. Little, if any, attention is paid to the obvious dietary and financial benefits of food we produce ourselves. These products are fresher and, many times, avoid the chemical additives present in industrial farms. In addition, buying locally or growing your own eliminates the storage and transportation costs involved in buying fresh items from halfway around the world.

Support of local farmers and the concept of sustainable agriculture is indeed a noble and compelling goal, but what strikes me as ironic is the lack of thought that many give to their own importance in the equation, beyond selecting organic or locally grown produce when they go to the market.

I have always enjoyed vegetable gardening. In years past, when family responsibilities were not so abundant, the wealth of produce from my backyard plot could well provide spaghetti sauce, pickles, and other frozen and canned summer foods to last well into the winter. This profusion was above and beyond the vegetables handed out to friends, family, and neighbors and those consumed during the course of the summer.

In addition to the food itself, knowing that what was being eaten

Jeff Endress



had been grown by my own hand (and precisely what went into that process) gave me great satisfaction. Unfortunately, as I mentioned above, the joint hurdles of family responsibilities and the growth of a neighbor's tree shading my plot had caused me to drastically curtail my own personal produce-producing proclivities. But, this year, in an epiphany, I realized that the backyard of my office possessed both abundant sunlight and a lawn which could charitably have been classified as having a wealth of weeds.

With that in mind, I set about to do some creative landscaping. After

the replacement and relocation of a stone walk and a day of rototilling, a third of the backyard became a 20'x 50' garden plot. The addition of four cubic yards of mulch has, by and large, kept the weeds at bay.

And, now, I am just beginning to enjoy the vegetables of my labors. Corn, which is required to be knee-high by the Fourth of July, is on schedule to be on level with my ever-increasing waist. The first heads of broccoli have been harvested and consumed and, from the looks of it, tomatoes, eggplant, and peppers are not far behind.

My rekindled green thumb made

me start to wonder which is of more benefit: a 10'x 20' foot strip of grass, or a 10'x 20' garden of vegetables? The law requires mowing, fertilizing, and weed control. The garden, if done properly, once planted, requires watering and mulching. The grass yields, if properly maintained, a lovely green carpet, while the vegetable garden, pound after pound of pesticide-free produce. I dare say that, with the obvious downside of losing a quarter of your real estate, the advantage goes to the patch of vegetables over the carpet of Kentucky blue grass.

To me, it doesn't seem to be a difficult decision as I look out over a patch that has everything from red cabbage, broccoli, and Brussels sprouts to half a dozen varieties of peppers, tomatoes, squash, beets, and sweet corn. Would I rather be eating a sun-warmed, ripe tomato picked off the vine or cutting the grass?

Lakewood was once a community made up of homestead farms. Those farms are a mere remnant, now memorialized in various street names in a community of lush green lawns. Wouldn't it be a wonderful throwback to once again become a farming community with hundreds of patches producing thousands of pounds of fresh produce? Perhaps I am a bit unrealistic, but next spring instead of hearing the noise of lawn mowers, wouldn't it be a delightful change to hear the sound of rototillers churning away?



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- Rabbit Strudel
- Duck Crepe
- Seafood Crepe
- Tuna Tartare Martini

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- Seafood Cake Trio
- Wild Mushroom Strudel
- Stuffed Quail
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- Flatbread Pizza

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Grilled Organic King Salmon
Grilled Herbed Chicken Breast
Grilled 14oz. Strip Steak

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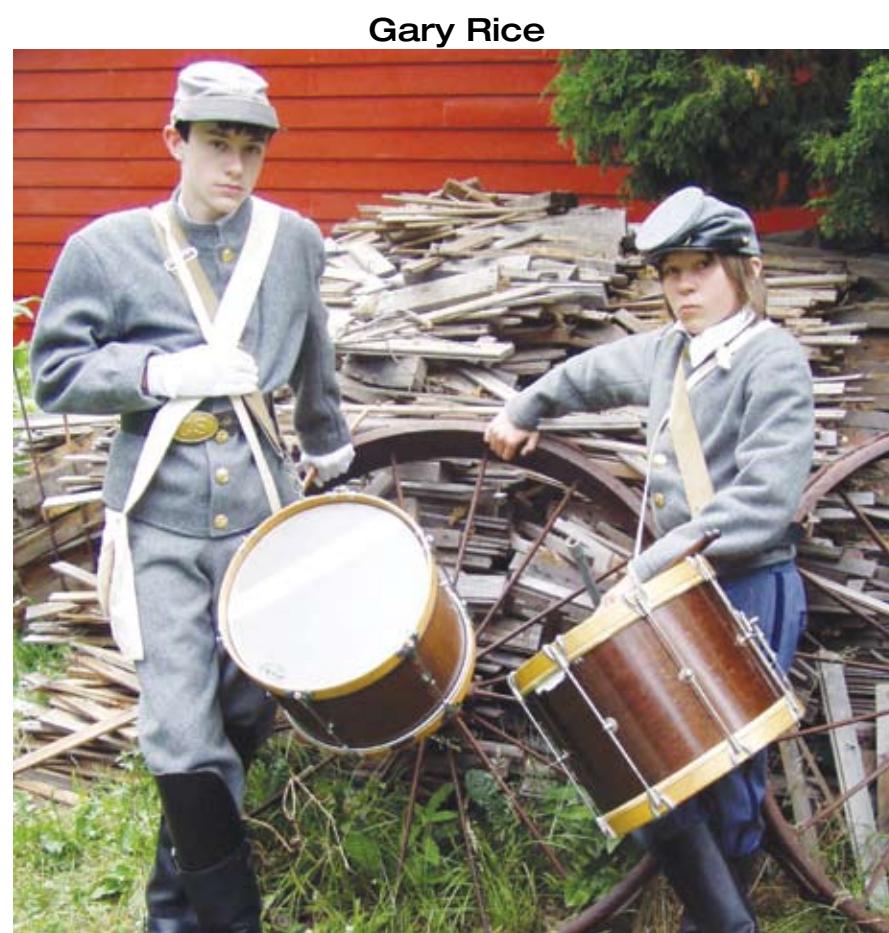
Pulse Of The City

The Gray Men of the Greenwood

As dawn's sunlight speared the high forest at Little Mountain, it caught the curling trails of smoke from numerous campfires in a surreal visage of earlier times. As the light began to spread through the forest, silhouettes of stained canvas and butternut pyramids began to emerge from the mist. From these open tent flaps, groggy men and boys emerged from their bivouacs to begin the business of the day... and the business of the day was war.

As the awakening men and boys tended to the coffee and rations, it wasn't long before the nightshirts were also exchanged for uniforms of combat gray. In a scene marred only by the acrid smells of burning greenwood and gunpowder, the soldiers of General Early's Confederate Legion prepared to engage the foe.

Never mind the story of Morgan's Raid into Ohio, or of Pickett's High Water Mark at Gettysburg--these soldiers were higher still in latitude than either of their aforementioned peers. In fact, this group was camped just a few miles from Lake Erie, and the time was now. Unlike their brethren from many years ago, however, these soldiers were not planning to battle with musket and saber, although both would be in evidence on this day. Rather, theirs was to be a somber and daunting mission: to try to capture the hearts and minds of Yankee passers-by as to the Honor, as well the Truth, about the Southern Sol-



Patrick and Jacob - Friends in the greenwood Photo by Gary Rice

dier and The Lost Cause. This was to be done at the Little Mountain Music Festival at Kirtland Hills.

Aside from the fact that their hearts-and-minds mission, in some eerie way, seemed to parallel one of America's objectives in Iraq, the commitment of these Confederates to the best

Gary Rice

I marched and dug out the Southern uniform (with the cool HIGH cavalry boots). Yup, that was me, as a Southern soldier on that Sunday out there at Little Mountain. Yes, even though those of you who know me might imagine that I would have LOVED to debate ol' Jefferson Davis about a few points of his platform, the fact remains that young Patrick had an experience akin to Christmas morning in receiving that drum from a Confederate cavalry corporal (Me!).

Not long after a second lesson, there we were: Patrick and I in Confederate Gray playing in the song circle for all we were worth. We played "Dixie" for his mom, grandpa, and family...and yes, I did do the "Star Spangled Banner" too, on my musical saw. We are now, after all, one country of heroes and patriots, are we not? Indeed, although I might not agree with every aspect of their Southern historical viewpoint, I know I had the special privilege that day of standing with soldiers with high ideals and higher honor in the Greenwood of Little Mountain.

That day got me thinking while I was in that hot, itchy Southern wool that so many of my mom's ancestors had worn before me. So often, lately, it seems that we get caught up in this Left-Wing, Right-Wing, Chicken Wing, Liberal-Conservative garbage, and for what, exactly? When the guitars and banjos and fiddles and harmonicas and dulcimers and DRUMS come out, all the differences that have come between us as human beings seem to fade away into the mists of the Greenwood morning. So many people seem to come at us with agendas that I think we all need to retreat into the tall forest and count our blessings. Who knows? Maybe that Song Circle could become a paradigm for the rest of the world. I hope so.

Thanks Dad, General Early, and yeah, Patrick. You were great. Play that drum and wear it out! Learn other styles of drumming as well--perhaps the drumset, or the bodhran of Ireland, or the tabla from India. And when you're older, pass your knowledge along to others too. Keep that music going! After all, it's up to you and your drum. May your drum, once a vital instrument of war, help the world towards a better understanding of peace.

That night, I had a brainstorm. Though tired, I went out to the shed and found an old field drum in a youth size. I also had some youth sticks and a sling. Even though we had made other plans for Sunday, Dad and I knew that we needed to return to Little Mountain.

Now Dad's folks were from the North, and Mom's were from the South. So although I loved the history of The War That No One Agrees About The Name (i.e. North-Civil War, South- War Between the States), I was not a take-sides kind of guy, as I knew that good, honorable folks fought for both causes. A number of years ago, I had purchased some great Northern and Southern re-enactors' outfits to use in my classes. Well, up to the attic

This column has been revised and reprinted from an earlier version from Folknet's Continuum publication. Two great local summer traditional music festivals are "Music In The Valley" at Hale Farm, sponsored by Folknet and the Western Reserve Historical Society on July 14-15; and "The Little Mountain Music Festival" in Kirtland Hills, sponsored by the Lake County Historical Society. That event will be held on July 28th and 29th this year.

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Lakewood Perspective

The “Dave” Challenge

I’m man enough to admit that I like a good, cheesy movie. If it’s wholesome, lighthearted, and has a happy ending, I’m pretty much hooked. Given that, it shouldn’t surprise you that I watch the movie “Dave” every time it is on television. If you’re unfamiliar with the film, it stars Kevin Kline as a happy-go-lucky temp agent who just happens to look exactly like the President of the United States. Through a twist of fate, the title character actually becomes president, if only as an unwitting accomplice to a much more diabolical plan.

Anyway, I’m not going to spoil the whole movie for those that have not seen it, but I do want to tell you about one particular scene. Dave (Kline) becomes disheartened when he learns that the federal budget is stretched too tight to allow continued funding for a homeless shelter he visits with the First Lady (played by Sigourney Weaver). Not one to just sit by when people are in need, Dave calls in his friend Murray (an accountant played by Charles Grodin). Over a plate of bratwurst in the Oval Office, Murray shows Dave how to make enough room in the budget for the program by cutting some of the more inane allocations.

In the end, common sense defeats political red tape and the shelter is saved. Granted, this victory is pure movie fantasy, however, I believe there could be a bit of truth to it as well. Regardless, I’d like to find out for sure.

Therefore, I issue the following challenge: given that one of the biggest grievances about Lakewood is its tax rate, I challenge the people of our city to find ways to save money. I’m not talking about anything big and I don’t expect you to come up with a million-dollar proposal. In fact, I don’t even want you to try. Instead of a single million-dollar idea, I want us, as citizens, to try and find hundreds of smaller ones. It should be something that the city can do without having to go through a council vote or having voter approval. It can’t require long man-hours, intensive surveys, or ongoing studies. Keep it simple.

For example: Grant Elementary is across the street from me. Every night as the sun goes down, we are treated to a truly awe-inspiring display of poor planning, improper maintenance, and wasteful apathy. The culprit is a lamp-post in the parking lot that is now surrounded by the full summer foliage of a rather large tree. The result is really quite fascinating. Since the unit is activated by a light-sensitive cell, the cycle goes something like this: the sun goes down, the lamp comes on, the light illuminates the leaves immediately surrounding the cell which makes

the lamp think it is daylight, and, in response, the lamp then turns itself off. Being that it is still dark, the lamp resets and, after a brief rest, turns itself back on. The whole process takes less than a few minutes, repeating itself a dozen of so times every hour throughout the night. Essentially, we have the world’s slowest strobe light.

Furthermore, because the tree completely surrounds the lamp, during the summer, no light reaches street level or the parking spaces directly below even when the light is on, thus completely defeating the purpose of the lamp in the first place.

Now, I know some of you might recommend that the light be moved or the tree trimmed back, but I suggest something much more radical. Let’s just turn the thing off in the summer. I’ve lived here a while now and I don’t recall anyone ever complaining about a lack of light in that particular area of the school. Moving poles costs money and I’d rather just go without the lamp than lose the tree which helps shade my house. Why can’t we just have someone

pull the circuit breaker for that particular lamp until the season changes and the leaves fall off the tree?

While it might not seem like a lot of money, how many of you have scolded your child for wantonly turning the light off and on in his or her room? Every little bit counts and I guarantee you that it would be worth the minimal effort. And, further, I’m guessing that there are at least another half-dozen lampposts in the city that have a similar problem.

Here’s another proposal: since we’re already turning off a couple lights, how about switching off the flashing lights for school crossings during summer break? I know I’m always confused when I know that school isn’t in session, yet I’m required to drive at a crawl through the entire city during certain hours of the day. If the lights are already programmed to go on at a certain time, why can’t they be programmed to go off for a couple of months when they’re not needed?

You might say that what I’m proposing doesn’t amount to much. But, how can it not be worth the effort

if there’s barely any effort required? It may sound like just a drop in the bucket, but the point is this: in the grander scheme of things, city officials might not think \$100, or even \$1,000, is much money, but how much does it mean to you? How much is so little that you wouldn’t mind throwing it away? If you see a penny on the street do you pick it up? How about a nickel? A dime? The savings can and will add up.

I think these opportunities are out there and I think that we, as average residents, know where they are. If you’d like to give it a try, simply jot down your idea on paper and send it to me at the Observer office:

Bret Callentine

c/o The Lakewood Observer
14900 Detroit Road, Suite 205
Lakewood, Ohio 44107

Please do not submit ideas anonymously. I promise I will not ridicule anyone for his or her efforts, but I do want to give credit where credit is due. Once we get enough ideas, I will present them to the city. We’ll see if we can’t just make a difference working together.

It’s your city. It’s your money. And, it’s your challenge.

“Vintages For Vintage Homes”: The Lakewood Historical Society’s New Preservation Fund

by Hillary Schickler (Lakewood Historical Society Trustee)

The Lakewood Historical Society announces a kick off for its new Preservation Fund, “**Vintages for Vintage Homes**”. This wine-tasting benefit is scheduled for Thursday, July 26, 2007 from 6:00 until 9:00 p.m. The event will be held at the Nicholson House at 13335 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood, OH. Tickets are \$20 for general admission and \$30 for Patron Admission (a bottle of our Preservation Reserve wine will be included). Call the Lakewood Historical Society for reservations at 216-221-7343.

The Preservation Fund was established to preserve and protect Lakewood’s historical structural assets and in response to the threatened fate of the historic Hall house on Detroit Avenue. The Hall house is one of the oldest, original structures left on Detroit Avenue. Originally built in 1870, its current owner wants to use the site for parking and has agreed to donate the building. A descendant of the Hall family is willing to place the structure on his property and rehabilitate it. This move would keep the house on Hall land and return the house to its original use as a private residence. The

Lakewood Historical Society is looking to raise funds necessary for the move.

In addition to saving the Hall house, the fund will be used to promote and protect Lakewood’s most valuable assets—its architecturally significant homes, historic commercial districts and idyllic parks—things vital to Lakewood’s distinctive character. By continuing to link our community’s past, present and future through the preservation of our built environment, we retain this sense of place as “Lakewood.” Preservation, combined with appropriate economic development, is key to maintaining the beauty of our neighborhoods, retaining our high quality of life and keeping our community as a whole vibrant. Lakewood is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places due to the way it was developed. The history of

our community and its structures makes our city unique and valuable. It is that value that needs to be protected and preserved.

For more information about the Fund and the event, please contact:

The Lakewood Historical Society
Mazie M. Adams, Executive Director
14710 Lake Avenue
Lakewood, OH 44107
lakewoodhistory@bge.net
216-221-7343

The Lakewood Historical Society is a non-profit organization dedicated to the study and preservation of Lakewood’s cultural heritage. In addition to operating the Oldest Stone House Museum in Lakewood Park, the Society maintains a photo-file collection, archives of Lakewood memorabilia, events for groups and schools and special historical programs.

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Bike Lakewood

Tour de Wings Recap:

Reflecting On Wings, Sprawl, And Lakewood's Great Potential

by Tim Liston

Bike Lakewood's "Tour de Wings" went off Saturday, June 21st under perfect conditions. Our tour of Lakewood's finer wing purveyors has become more than an excellent way to pedal around town with friends and sample some great food – the conversation this year was positively stimulating. But more on that later. First the "Tour de Wings", a group bike ride we organized in conjunction with the Jaycee's "Best Wings in Lakewood" event. It was, as noted, a beautiful day. Bright sunshine, low 80's – perfect for a ride. We convened at Crazy Rita's in the middle of town at 11:30 AM: Rob, Frank, Mattie, Ryan, Mike and I. After a couple very tasty wings, which we were told were based on "an old Rita's family recipe", we were off on the Tour!

Next stop: Merry Arts, on Detroit. Home of Patti's famous \$1 tacos. If you've never enjoyed one, stop in any Monday or Thursday evening and order a couple. After that, Majos and some interesting wings with a thick and spicy Jamaican jerk sauce. Good, but too hot for some. We didn't spend too much time there because, well, Majos is strictly carryout. No place to sit, so we pretty much ate and rode.

Then, the beer joints: McCarthy's, Johnny Malloy's and Pug Mahone's. Really nothing auspicious there. Last



above: In the patio at Around the Corner. By this time we were less into wings, though we thought their black pepper wings were particularly good.
right: En route to the next wing joint. Our bikes were the perfect vehicle for enjoying the Wing Crawl.



year's winner, the Thai peanut wings at McCarthy's, didn't impress. Like eating peanut butter wings. Not subtle at all. The guy who served them had a broken hand that he said he broke hitting a parking meter. Which he bragged about. Smart....

A short ride later: the Kenilworth Tavern, and then the Riverwood Cafe. By this time the wings were starting to lose their appeal, so we enjoyed a beer instead. I'm an ale guy and there are several from which to choose at the Riverwood. It was

Sierra Nevada on tap for me.

Believe it or not we rode the half-block from the Riverwood to Around the Corner. Cyclists like to keep their bikes close by, preferably where you can keep a half an eye on them. Bikes (and especially their contents) are easily stolen.

Around the Corner was my favorite stop. One, you can sit outside on their expansive patio. It was a great day for that. Second, the black pepper wings were outstanding, the favorite of most of us. And third, the setting was conducive to our best conversation of the day.

Frank is quite new to the area and he asked a lot of questions about local issues, including some questions about Dennis Kucinich. But the questions that provoked the liveliest discussion in our group: why did Cleveland proper experience such a dramatic decline over the course of the last few decades? And how can we prevent such decline here in Lakewood?

With wings and beverages in front of us, our conversation meandered over the many factors involved in population movements. We discussed the easy availability of "upscale" housing, the loss of jobs to other suburbs (or states, or countries), relatively cheap energy and land, and easy credit. And we discussed how a city like Lakewood can

be much more livable in today's world. In Lakewood, one can walk, pedal, or use public transit to get just about anywhere, and just about everything you could need is close by.

But the whole of that conversation is probably best left as fodder for another story. We were talking about the Tour de Wings, I believe.

Our next stop was Sullivan's, on Madison Avenue, about a three-mile ride from Around the Corner. We made a quick stop at Spin Bike Shop on the way just to say hi. Madison is that rare city street that is good for cyclists in that most motorists use the left lane, which is wider, and the right is easily used by cyclists. Sullivan's is a wonderful authentic-style Irish pub, with a lot of effort put into the décor. The wings weren't bad, either.

Our last stop was Buckeye Brewing Company's Beer Engine, also on Madison, where we had another round of beers. New in Lakewood, the Beer Engine is, in this author's opinion, arguably the best beer joint in the city. With our beers we also enjoyed some more wings. And we met Bob, one of the owners.

Unfortunately, due to time constraints, we had to skip Harry Buffalo, Lakewood Village, and Carlucci's. Our apologies to their proprietors; next year, we promise.

We have it good in Lakewood. With organizations like LEAF, the Observer, BikeLakewood, MAMA, the Jaycees, and so many others, we're nestled in a community that cares about and supports each other, without relying so much on the city or on tax dollars. And with some of the aforementioned characteristics of the city itself, we are better poised for scarce energy than some surrounding suburbs. We should all try to utilize alternative transportation and take advantage of the community resources we have.

At any rate those are my recollections of our Tour, plus my ramblings. Our thanks to Shawn, Flavia and the rest of the Jaycees for organizing this event. We hope it will be continued in years to come. I encourage you to bike, walk and ride the bus around town. It's good for the body, the soul, the environment and the pocketbook.

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Lakewood Music

Saturday Night Musical Madness On Detroit

Bob Ignizio

If you're a fan of live music and can't find anything to do in Lakewood on a weekend, you just aren't trying very hard. This past Saturday there was hip hop at The Symposium with Queens of the Iron Mic; blues at the Winchester with The Danny Adler Band; alternative rock at the Bela Dubby with Uva Ursi; and modern rock and metal at The Hi Fi Concert Club with Tilt 360, Mindscape, Drago, and Burden. And just over the Cleveland border on Detroit Avenue, you had punk rock and death metal with Brody's Militia, Midnight, and Nuslaughter. For someone with diverse tastes like me, the biggest problem is just deciding what to go see.

I ended up hitting two shows this past Saturday. First, I hit the Hi Fi Club. Drago started things out with a set that blended the classic metal sound of bands like Iron Maiden with some more modern death metal influences. The band sounded good, but lacked stage presence. Definitely not bad for an opening band on an all-local bill, though.

Tilt 360 was up next. Those of you who remember my review of this band's demo CD in the Observer a few issues back will know that I wasn't exactly a huge fan. While I still haven't been converted, I do have to say the band's live performance at least earned them some more respect in my book. This is a tight unit who know how to project themselves on stage, and while their brand of mainstream modern rock isn't my cup of tea, the newer songs not on the demo that they played showed more focused songwriting.

After Tilt 360, I headed down Detroit to Now That's Class. The flyer

I saw gave a 9 p.m. starting time for the show, but when I got there a little around 10:45, opening act Brody's Militia was only about halfway through their set. Oh well, that's rock n roll. Anyway, these guys were raw, dirty and mean. Even though it was predominantly a metal crowd, the band's intensity won everyone over. It probably didn't hurt

that they threw in a cover of Celtic Frost's "Morbid Tales," either.

Next up was one of my favorite local bands, Midnight. Midnight does their best to sound like mid-80's thrash/black metal bands like Venom, Celtic Frost, Sodom, and Bathory, and they do a damn-good job of it; wearing black hoods that completely obscured the band member's faces -- Midnight delivered an excellent set.

Unfortunately, I had to be up early Sunday, so I had to miss the set by Nuslaughter. My sincere apologies to the band, as I had really been looking forward to seeing them. Hopefully I'll catch them in another two years when they play Cleveland again. However, Charles from My Mind's Eye Records here in Lakewood did stay for the whole show. He said, "It was a career encompassing set. Very energetic. I was totally pumped up."

Concert Calendar

bela dubby (13321 Madison Ave.)

Saturday July 14 -- Columbus, Ohio's **The Electric Grandmother**, the inventor of "sitcom core." In other words, all his songs are about bad TV shows from the 80's. It's a lot of fun. Admission is free. This all-ages show starts at 9 p.m.

Friday July 20 -- **The Dad of Rock** and **The Balomai Brothers** providing the twisted music and **Fred Wright** and **Crazy Carl Robinson** providing the poetry. I'm not sure exactly what these guys have in store, but if it's anything like what went on at last year's Underground Literary Alliance event it won't be anything less than interesting. Show starts at 9 p.m. All ages.

The Hi Fi Concert Club (11729 Detroit Ave.)

Sunday July 15 -- Buffalo indie-rockers **Goodbye Houston**. Ages 18 and over. Show starts at 9 p.m.

Now That's Class (11213 Detroit Ave. - Cleveland)

Thursday July 12 -- **Annihilation Time**. I don't know who's opening this show or how much admission will be, but whatever the details it'll be worth it. If you're a fan of Black Flag and B'last! you'll love these guys if you don't already.

The venue's Myspace site says the show starts at 8 pm. Ages 21 and over.

Sunday July 15 -- Lakewood's own **Colorforms** and **Screen Vinyl Image** (who I think are from Virginia). Both bands blend electronic music and traditional rock instrumentation; each coming up with their own unique approach. Colorforms tend to be more on the ambient side of things, while SVI is more rock oriented. Show starts at 8pm. Ages 21 and over. Apparently there is a Pierogi-Eating contest at the venue this evening as well.

The Symposium (11794 Detroit Ave.)

Friday July 20 -- **Iguanadonho** with guests TBA. According to his Myspace page, Igundonho aka Marky Ray has at one time or another been a member of The Jim Rose Circus Sideshow, The Lyres, Death of Samantha, the terrible parade, The New Salem Witch Hunters, Death On A Stick and "many others." I honestly have no idea if that's true or not, but the guy plays some pretty cool and twisted music that he aptly describes as what would happen, "if you took the influences of the minutemen, Mission of Burma and Frank Zappa and threw them in a blender with Sun Ra, the Fugs, Gil Scott Heron,

Can and Love." Doors open at 8:30 p.m., show starts at 9:30 p.m. Admission is \$5 for 21 and over, \$8 for 18-20.

The Winchester Tavern (12112 Madison Ave.)

Friday July 13 -- The **Anne E. DeChant** CD release party. Anne has been a solo artist for so long now, is it really still necessary to mention she used to play in Odd Girl Out? What's the statute of limitations on that kind of thing, anyway? Since going solo she's won best female singer/songwriter in Scene magazine four times. She's also released four albums, and tonight she'll be releasing her fifth, Girls and Airplanes. **Chris Allen** (of Rosavelt) opens. This is an all-ages show and admission is \$10. Show starts at 9 p.m.

Friday July 20 -- **Brewer and Shipley**; this duo is best known for their 1971 top-ten hit single "One Toke Over the Line." They also scored two other top-100 hits with "Tarkio Road" and "Shake off the Demon," and released nine albums from 1968 until disbanding in 1979. They got back together in 1989, and have since recorded two more albums of new material. **Ken Metz** opens. This is an all-ages show and admission is \$15. Show starts at 8:30 p.m.



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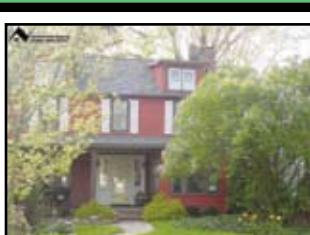
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Real Estate

Lakewood's Spring Market

by Sunny Updegrove

From the Plain Dealer to the New York Times, the headlines tell us the market is down, inventory is up and foreclosures are everywhere. From San Diego to Buffalo to Miami Beach, all markets are experiencing an adjustment. National headlines, state calculations, local speculation...just what does this mean to the Lakewood resident? How has this adjustment affected this local market? THAT seems to be the most-asked question lately.

To summarize the statistics of the first six months of 2007 and compare those to last year's activity will only begin to narrow the focus. A price-range breakdown will detail further how Lakewood's home sales have faired.

**Single Family Homes SOLD
Six months ending June 30
Price Range: 2006 - 2007
Under \$100,000: 18 - 40
\$100,000-\$150,000: 47 - 70
\$150,000-\$200,000: 17 - 34
\$200,000-\$300,000: 7 - 23
\$300,000 & over 14 8
Total Sales: 97 - 181**

Overall, home sales have DOUBLED over last year. The largest increase is the \$200,000-\$300,000 range which TRIPLED over last year. This is a Move-Up segment and not, generally, a first-time buyer price range. Better equity positions with bigger downpayments may have helped this segment of buyers remain a little more stable and more able to take advantage of the softer prices of this year's market. In the long run, these buyers will reap the most benefits from their purchases.

The Under \$100,000 range experienced the next highest level of increase. This market more (though not solely) reflects the foreclosure market in our community. First-time buyers, no-money-down mortgages, payback programs from the seller; these things all contribute to a changing economy. It's easy to become disheartened by the numbers of foreclosures seen in our market; however, important to remember that even at a 10% foreclosure rate, for every ONE foreclosure, NINE new homeowners are hanging curtains and proudly calling Lakewood home.

This year's activity certainly shows that Lakewood continues to be a strong housing market.

Realty Reality: Questions From The Readers

by Maggie Fraley

A commonly asked question is "Why have an inspection?"

An experienced inspector, preferably ASHI certified, can help put a potential homeowner's mind at ease. First, an inspection identifies major defects or safety concerns. Costly repairs could be needed that aren't

obvious except to a professional. An inspection also helps one become familiar with the mechanical systems that are the "bones" of the house. Additionally, an inspector will outline a maintenance schedule and make suggestions to improve minor defects that will safeguard the value of one's investment. Not having an inspection before you buy a house is like buying a car without a test drive!

Real Estate Marketing In Early Lakewood

by Val Mechenbier

The language used in 1920's real estate marketing was more colorful than it is today. Frick's Real Estate News of Cleveland describes a house on Manor Park this way: "So you expect to see something good! This model home

has many clever features that only a woman might think of." Another residence is "cleverly decorated" and has "all the conveniences a good housekeeper requires". Ads were eloquent, persuasive, and appealed to "every man's ambition" to create an estate through real estate investments.

Lakewood Real Estate Information (According to Multiple Listing Service)

by Andy Tabor

May	2006	2007
Residential Closed	44	24
Residential Pending (Under Contract)	Unavailable	31
Multi-family Closed	8	7
Multi-family Pending (Under Contract)	Unavailable	5

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13822 Clifton
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2227bunts.lucienrealty.com
for more information.
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1230 Lakeland
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1523 Lauderdale
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Must See! Light, bright and super clean with hardwood floors in living and dining room, ceramic tile in kitchen plus all appliances stay. Beautiful landscaped yard with large front porch for relaxing just move-in!

For more details visit 1263Brockley.lucienrealty.com.
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440-668-5328



1263 Brockley
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1239 Gladys Ave.
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Visit www.lucienrealty.com for photos and Real Estate Information

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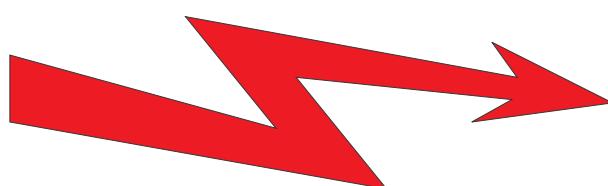
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