

THE LAKEWOOD OBSERVER

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

Volume 3, Issue 21, October 16, 2007

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Lakewood's First ArtWalk Gives Madison Ave. A Booster Shot

Artists and art lovers filled the sidewalks and businesses of Madison Avenue on Friday, October 5th, for the inaugural MAMA LIA Artwalk. The comment "This is the best art show I've ever been to in Cleveland" was heard repeatedly throughout the evening. More than 500 people took pleasure in experiencing various art mediums, including visual art, dancing and a variety of live musical entertainment.

The MAMA LIA Artwalk was designed to increase positive exposure for participating local artists, organizations and area businesses, as well as further establish Madison Avenue as a vibrant and evolving neighborhood with a meaningful connection to arts and culture.

The Art Walk was produced in collaboration with MAMA (Madi-



Nice art inside Vance Music Studio, accompanied by great live jazz.

son Avenue Merchants Association) and LIA (Lakewood is Art). Committee Members from these organizations worked together to give the community an opportunity to gain exposure to the various art that is abundant in our area.

"Artwalk attendees got to see beautiful local art in some non-traditional



At bela dubby, Sam Brady and other future artists swirl flavored milk and gather round one of the arts tables.

places like Fuzion Martial Arts Studio who hosted art from Harding Middle School Student and the Coffee Pot Restaurant had live jazz and blues wafting from their restaurant onto the street, for example," Ruth Koenigsmark, LIA Chair, said. "It's an alternative way for



Birdtown artist Sean Burns in front of his amazing work at the Pop Shop.

people to see art." "Business owners were also attracted to the idea of finding another way of connecting with the Community" says Justine Cooper,

continued on page 10...

Geiger Sees Community Engagement, Civility & Safety Keys To Lakewood's Successful Learning Environment

by Kenneth Warren

With a service commitment to the Lakewood Board of Education that began in 1986, W. Charles Geiger, III exemplifies for many in Lakewood the quintessential servant of civic engagement and public stewardship. He is seeking another four year term on the Lakewood School Board.

Geiger's Lakewood Public School roots run deep.

"I am a Lakewood graduate, my three children went through the Lakewood Schools, and I am a Lakewood business owner. I love this community and I believe our schools are an integral part of its strength, its vitality and its warmth," Geiger notes.

"Under my service and leadership on the Board of Education, we have achieved progress in many areas including student performance, educational opportunities, district facilities, safety and discipline, fiscal accountability and communication..... but we can and must do more. I have high expectations for our schools. Additionally, the state and federal governments are holding us accountable and the stakes are high. I will continue to work on meeting these standards while advocating for change in the state's ranking system that negatively impacts our community."

The cognitive, financial and social complexities of public education in a community of multicultural mixed economy are daunting. Yet

Geiger clearly understands the success of the Lakewood Public Schools and the rewards from the community's generous investment in facilities and educational programs will ultimately hinge on the successful integration of economically and socially disadvantaged students into the good order of learning.

"We do have challenges with a more diverse population, says Geiger. "We're working hard and will never

lower our expectations. I believe our new facilities will put us ahead of the game. The children appreciate what new buildings could mean to their education."

During this intensive period of economic and social restructuring, it is fair to say that the character, commitment and expertise Geiger has brought to the Board of Education have

continued on page 7...



W. Charles Geiger

Lakewood Hospital Unveils Newly Renovated Neuro Integrated Care Unit



Left to right: Fred DeGrandis, CEO and president of the Cleveland Clinic Regional Hospitals; Jack Gustin, president of Lakewood Hospital; Michael Mervart, Cleveland Clinic Neurosurgeon; Arthur Dick, MD, medical director of the Neuro Integrated Care Unit; Peter Rasmussen, MD, Director of the Cerebrovascular Center at the Cleveland Clinic Neurological Institute; and Mousab Tabbaa, MD, chairman, Lakewood Hospital Board of Trustees

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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 Hospital Medical Staff Names Dr. Cipriano Beredo Physician Of The Year

October 1, 2007 – The Lakewood Hospital medical staff has named its 2007 Physician of the Year. This honor was awarded to Cipriano Beredo, M.D., a resident of North Olmsted.

Based on exceptional criteria, members of the Lakewood Hospital medical staff nominated their peers for this award. The honor is awarded to a physician who has exhibited high professional standards; is a physician role model who is respected by both peers and colleagues; who believes that the welfare of patients is of the utmost importance; and one who has dedicated his practice to the Lakewood Hospital community.

“It’s an honor to be recognized by my colleagues and I’m humbled

and overwhelmed by this award,” said Dr. Beredo. “I have spent the majority of my medical profession at Lakewood Hospital and it’s been my privilege to work with many talented individuals in this caring community environment.”

Dr. Beredo is certified as a Diplomat in internal medicine and critical care medicine by the American Board of Internal Medicine. He completed his residency training in internal medicine at Lakewood Hospital in 1972 and has served as a critical care medicine house officer at Lakewood Hospital since that time.

“Dr. Beredo is an exceptional physician and very deserving of this recognition. He has clearly devoted his professional life to Lakewood Hospital and he exemplifies compassion, com-

mitment and integrity to his patients and to the medical profession,” said William Riebel, M.D., president of the medical staff at Lakewood Hospital.

More than 100 people attended a celebration honoring Dr. Beredo at The RainForest at the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo on September 29. German Neri, M.D., a longtime friend and colleague of Dr. Beredo, praised him for his “tireless devotion to Lakewood Hospital and his exemplary service to his patients as well as the admitting physicians.” Throughout the tribute, Dr. Beredo was recognized for his medical competency, making a difference in many patients’ lives and being a dedicated and loving family man.

Lastly, because of Dr. Beredo’s

ongoing dedication and loyalty to Lakewood Hospital, Dr. Neri affectionately referred to him as “Dr. Lakewood” and a “Physician of all Times.”

2007 serves as the inaugural year for the Lakewood Hospital Physician of the Year Award.

Lakewood Hospital is a 400-bed acute care hospital that has served the diverse health care needs of the City of Lakewood and Cleveland’s Westshore communities since 1907. Offering a wide range of health services and education programs for women, men and children, each year Lakewood Hospital provides high-quality and innovative patient care for more than 130,000 patients. In 1997, Lakewood Hospital became part of the Cleveland Clinic health system, a partnership between the Cleveland Clinic and nine community hospitals.

<http://www.lakewoodhospital.org>
www.lakewoodhospital.org

LEAF Community Fall Harvest Festival 2007 October 18th

by Rob Burgoyne

Join the Lakewood Earth and Food Community for the inaugural LEAF Harvest Festival this Thursday, October 18th from 5-8:30 pm at the Lakewood Public Library on Detroit.

Come celebrate the harvest season with seasonal food and drink. We are planning events to entertain the young and young at heart. Live music will fill the air as children enjoy bobbing for apples, making popcorn balls, decorating pumpkins, and competing in a coloring contest and other games. Everyone is encouraged to bake and bring your favorite pie to be entered in the pie baking contest (bring at least two pies for each submitted variety).

There will be a canning demonstration and a local celebrity pumpkin pie-eating contest is also on the agenda. We hope to see you there!

For more information, you can contact us via email: info@leafcommunity.org or visit us on the web: www.leafcommunity.org

Mission: The Lakewood Earth And Food Community is dedicated to the development of a more sustainable, healthful and economically viable community through actions producing broad access to the purchasing, growing and trading of fresh, local foods and culture.

JWCL Calls For Runners, Walkers And Lakewood Supporters

by Chrissy Pursifull

Don’t be a ‘fraidy cat! Join in the community fun Saturday, October 27 when the Junior Women’s Club of Lakewood hosts it’s annual Great Pumpkin Fun Run & 5K Race at Lakewood Park.

The gun goes off at 8:30 a.m. for serious walkers and runners taking the 5K (3.1-mile) course through Lakewood’s beautiful tree-lined streets. At 9:15 a.m., a one-mile “Fun Run” – a perfect event for families with little ones on the move – begins along the paved course at Lakewood Park.

In addition to awards for the fastest runners in their age categories, JWCL will reward those with the most creative costumes on the course. What could be better? Burn some ghoulish calories while warming up your Halloween costume for the big night.

And you’ll be breaking a sweat to benefit four worthy Lakewood charities: Lakewood Christian Service Center, Matthew’s Lending Library, Project Help to Others (H2O) and the North Coast Health Ministry.

The fee for the 5K is \$20 but there are team and family discounts available. Family teams of three or more pay \$12 as do school teams of five or more participants. The 1-mile Fun Run is \$12 per participant.

Participants are encouraged to register by mail early to receive a T-shirt, which are very limited. Those interested can visit www.hermescleveland.com or call 216-623-9933. The library and businesses all around town also have registration forms available.

Lakewood Family YMCA Halloween HullabaBOO Party

On Friday, October 26 from 6:00pm - 8:00pm, the Lakewood Family YMCA is hosting a Halloween HullabaBOO Party! This event is open to the public and will be fun for the whole family. Activities include games, refreshments, costume contests and much more!!

Cost: A donation of 2 bags of

candy or \$5.00 per family. Many spots still available. Please join us for some ghoulish games, freaky fun and frightening food!

For additional information, please contact Paul Rogerson at 216-521-8400 or progerson@clevelandymca.org. The Lakewood Family YMCA is located at 16915 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood.

premium channel (HBO, Showtime, Starz or Cinemax). Cox is proud of its commitment to the local communities it serves. For nearly 30 years, Cox has supported charitable organizations as another extension of its dedication to the communities and its members. LCAC is a non profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of life of under privileged Lakewood residents. This is accomplished by raising funds, providing volunteer services, making donations, and working with other organizations towards this common goal.

Cox Collects Food For Lakewood Charity

by Stacie Schafer

Cox Communications is offering customers who donate at least three cans of food to the Lakewood Charitable Assistance Corporation (LCAC) a FREE premium channel for one month. Cox is collecting food for LCAC between October 15 and November 9. Customers can drop food off at Cox Communications or give canned goods to a Cox technician when they are at their home. Customers who donate at least three cans of food during the food drive receive a free month of a



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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). Must be 18 or older to receive the First Aid Kit.



Your Life is Our Life's Work.

Lakewood City Council

Lakewood Christian Service Center Celebrates 25th

The October 1, 2007 council meeting was called to order at 7:34 by president Robert Seelie.

Mayor Thomas George and Nickie Antonio (at large) joined in a resolution honoring the Lakewood Christian Service Center on its 25th Anniversary. The resolution points out that it is a network comprised of faith based institutions, businesses and civic organizations that work with a dedicated staff and volunteers. Individuals from these groups have worked diligently to serve the needs of Lakewood citizens in crisis providing basic assistance and personalized referral services strengthening those that they serve and the greater community as well.

The Housing Committee of council chaired by Antonio met quite a few times to consider proposals originally brought up by Mary Louise Madigan (ward four). These involved outdoor grilling in crowded areas and defining allowable window coverings or treatments. The committee indicated that it needed more time to review the proper language as it pertains to window treatments. The committee did recommend an ordinance that defines safe distances for grilling food to be 15 feet from a public right of ways. It also goes into more detail than previous ordinances about the storage of fuels for grills and their use on balconies of multi-family residences.

The committee also reviewed a

report from Planning Director Thomas Jordan on the HOME Program which provides down payment assistance towards the purchase of homes. Since 1995 over 300 buyers have become home owners with the help of this program. Last year the City assisted 24 borrowers and expects to help 30 this year. An increase was requested to meet the expected demand. Also, an additional \$25,000 was requested for a special category which is assistance in the purchase of single houses which have been converted from doubles. This is a program that has begun with a house on Bunts nearing completion. A detailed article on the conversion and the program is expected in the next issue of the Observer.

For those who are aficionados of inter-governmental relationships a particularly esoteric ordinance was passed at the meeting. Previously, the Lakewood Civil Service Commission operating under the City of Lakewood government administered all the civil service proceedings—testing and hiring, for instance, for not only the City but also for the Lakewood Board of Education classified employees. The Board of Education felt that this arrangement unnecessarily slowed down its hiring process and wanted to be “included out” of that arrangement.

Stan Austin
City Council Reporter

So, in a third reading council passed the necessary ordinance that dropped the Board of Education from the City’s Civil Service program.

Michael Dever (at large) who chairs the Public Works Committee asked that council refer to that committee the ordinance which covers all of the “No Turn on Red” traffic signs. He has promised a comprehensive review in order to eliminate any outdated signs and the possibility of new locations due to new traffic and pedestrian patterns.

Finally, even though cement is still drying on this year’s construction projects plans are already underway for the 2008 road rebuilding program. One of next year’s biggest projects in dollar terms will be the rebuilding of Bunts Road including sewers and water mains. Cuyahoga County is participating in the project which is estimated to cost \$6 million. Public Works Director Tony Beno requested approval for seeking financial assistance of \$2.2 million from the Ohio Public Works Commission for this project. Council approved and Beno will file the request.

Regular business was over at 8:29.

The Lakewood Chapter of the League of Women Voters Hosts Candidate’s Night October 25

by Mary Osburn

The Lakewood Chapter of the League of Women Voters-Cuyahoga Area will host a Candidate’s Night, Thursday, October 25 at 7:00PM in the Auditorium at Lakewood City Hall. At that time the community will have the opportunity to hear presentations from the candidates for mayor, city council, and the school board and ask questions. An informed electorate is the best way to ensure good government. Lakewood needs strong, creative leadership now more than ever. The League encourages participation in this important event in the life of this community. In addition, see the League’s Voters Guide in this issue of the Lakewood Observer.

The Lakewood Historical Society Presents Our 2008 Calendar Celebrating Lakewood Schools



front of calendar

The 2008 calendar commemorates the heritage of Lakewood City Schools. The calendar features over 35 historic photographs of historic school buildings, activities and students.

This calendar makes a unique gift for current students, parents, graduates and fans of the Lakewood City School and the City of Lakewood.

Celebrate the rich history of our city and help benefit the programs and projects of the Lakewood Historical Society.



back of calendar

The calendar can be purchased at these locations: Liberty Books, Silverthorne Gallery and Grand River Beads and Geiger’s in Rocky River, Geiger’s and Rozi’s Wine House, Lakewood Hardware, Nature’s Bin and the Oldest Stone House.

You can also purchase the calendar on line at our website: www.lakewood-historymuseumstore.com.

The cost is only \$8.00. All proceeds benefit the Lakewood Historical Society.

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Lakewood City News

Letter To The Editor:

2008 Budget, You Can't Squeeze Blood From A Turnip

by William George

It's that time of year again when city administrators will be holding meetings on the budget process. Many of you may not know that the city is facing a financial crisis. Based on information in the City of Lakewood 2007 Comprehensive Budget, the General Fund balance is at an all-time low. The projected General Fund balance at the end of 2007 is only \$91,167. This dwarfs end-of-year balances of \$971,745, \$615,718 and \$901,360 for the previous three years, respectively. Projections in this document show that if nothing is done to curb increased expenditures or to generate more revenue, the city will be operating in the RED for 2008.

City administrators are facing some tough realities and have only three options: increase revenues, decrease expenditures or use a combination of both. Decreasing expenditures can come from several areas, including cutting jobs, cutting services and cutting benefits to city employees. None of these options are very attractive to elected city officials for obvious reasons. But without a solid plan to increase revenues, other than raising your taxes again, city officials will have to face this harsh reality. I, for one, would prefer our taxes not be increased. And without any other promising revenue generating ideas, cuts will have to be made. I would like to present some interesting observations that I hope city officials will take into consideration during the budget meetings.

During the period between 2000 and 2005, the cities population decreased approximately 8%, based on U.S. Census information. During that same time, the number of city employees increased 2.3% and city expenditures increased a whopping 29%. In other words, we needed to spend more money and hire more people to service a decreasing population. Doesn't make too much sense to me! Cutting jobs would be a viable alternative to resolve this issue. In the past, city officials have cut such areas as park maintenance staff. But it appears as though the management

positions have remained in tact and that cuts came amongst the "worker bees." When there are too many bosses and not enough workers, services suffer. Glancing through the budget, it appears as though much efficiency can be obtained by cutting management positions through department mergers. In fact, so much could be saved that city officials could actually afford to properly staff departments with more workers in the areas of greatest need. Better city services make our city more attractive and serve as an indirect method of increasing income and property tax revenue.

Fringe Benefits for city employees, such as health care, retirement programs and whatever else was negotiated with their contracts averaged 35% of salaries paid to these employees.

Some departments are over 40% and the highest is 44%. This is far greater a percentage than most people get in the private sector. For example, the company that I work for has an average of 17%. And it's not uncommon that companies cut benefits instead of, or along with, cutting jobs. I have experienced a substantial increase in my health care and parking costs over the last two years as a result of my employer needing to "tighten up" due to poor economic times. These increased costs have far exceeded the meager "merit raise" limits established by our senior management. Our company also eliminated (health care) retirement benefits. I bring home less money today than I did two years ago; and that includes two annual merit

raises. Fringe Benefits have also been cut at companies most of my friends work at; we are ALL suffering a bit.

Someone is going to have to make a tough decision. And it needs to start with the mayor, who has been very reluctant to take anything away from his employees. But isn't that what a mayor is supposed to do; make tough decisions that have to be made for the betterment of the community? I wouldn't want to be in the mayor's shoes these days, because it will be a challenge for him. But if I was, I would do the right thing and make the necessary cuts in order to avoid raising taxes. It would be different if we didn't already pay more taxes than just about every other city in Cuyahoga County. And you can't squeeze blood from a turnip!

Lakewood Chooses Bullock's New Leadership in Ward 2 Primary: Bullock Beats Expectations with Focus on Neighborhood Safety, Problem-Solving, and Hands-On Leadership

by Brendan Kelley

Tom Bullock beat expectations by winning Lakewood's primary election for City Council in Ward 2, edging establishment candidate Dan Shields to become the top vote-winner in the three-way non-partisan race. Bullock and Shields will face off in Lakewood's General Election on Nov. 6.

"Lakewood voters have spoken, and they have chosen a new direction and new leadership. I thank Ward 2 residents for their support," said Bullock. "I'll work tirelessly to make our neighborhoods safe, clean, and family-friendly."

Bullock credits the strong showing to an energetic grassroots campaign featuring public forums on neighborhood safety and thousands of front-porch conversations with voters.

Bullock said he is running to bring new leadership to Lakewood, which faces rising safety challenges, home foreclosures, and budget deficits. Bullock is organizing neighbors to pull together to face these challenges.

"Working together as neighbors is

a first step to dealing with crime, noise, trash, and absentee landlords. I'm putting together Block Watches and Good Neighbor Groups on any street where residents are interested," said Bullock.

Bullock held an organizers' meeting to start new Block Watches in Ward 2 on Wed., Oct. 10. Residents interested in becoming "Block Captains" were received instructions for starting their own Block Watches and coaching from experienced Block Watch leaders.



Lakewood chose Bullock's new leadership and hands-on approach to neighborhood safety in the Ward 2 City Council primary election, making him the top vote-winner.

Town Hall Meetings

Join

Mayor Thomas J. George

To discuss your questions and concerns on public safety, economic development and the general state of the city

Wednesday, October 17 at 8 PM

Cove Church

12501 Lake Ave. - corner of Lake and Cove

Monday, October 22 at 8 PM

Lakewood Congregational Church,

1375 West Clifton - corner of West Clifton and Detroit Ave.

Tuesday, October 30 at 8 PM

Harrison School

2080 Quail Ave., south of Madison

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Saturday, October 20th, 2007
Anne E. DeChant full band show
Anne E. may be the best singer/songwriter in Cleveland. She is cutting way down on her local performances and this is a rare full band show. \$7.00. 9pm. Watch for an opener.

Tuesday, October 23rd, 2007
Erin McKeown
Erin McKeown has packed a ton of music into her young Tickets are \$12.00. 9pm.

Friday, October 26th, 2007
Jason Ricci Band, Michael Jantz Band - Jason is a massive blues harmonica giant. Tickets are \$12.00.

Saturday, October 27th, 2007
"XYZ" with Sweet F.A. - This is a nice '80's hair metal double bill. More info will follow. Tickets are \$12.00.

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Lakewood City News

Shields Advances In Primary, Wins Key Endorsements

by Kathleen Samoriski

Dan Shields, candidate for the Ward 2 council seat being vacated by Ryan Demro, was chosen by Lakewood voters to advance to the General Election to be held November 6, 2007. "I want to thank all of the people who voted for me in the Primary Election, and look forward to sharing our message of positive change for the city as we head toward November," said Shields.

Shields believes that he is gaining momentum in this campaign because voters have responded to his proven leadership in the community and his vision for creative development in the city. "I'm a longtime neighbor and community volunteer, and I am proud that the voters have recognized my years of service to the city of Lakewood," Shields said.

"Over the last twelve years that I have resided in Lakewood, I have worked with a number of organizations, and that gives me a deeper understanding of the concerns of Ward 2 residents. As a homeowner and as a parent with children in the Lakewood City schools, I share the concerns of my neighbors," he added.

"Whether it has been as parent volunteer in the schools, a coach, sitting on local Boards of Trustees, or as an attorney advocating on behalf of children

and seniors, I have taken an active role in the life of the city, and that has given me the experience and the connections to be an effective legislator."

The Republican candidate in this race was eliminated, leaving two Democrats to vie for the seat that will become open in January. Shields is asking for the support of all residents, irrespective of whether they are Democrat, Republican, or Independent. "I am hoping that residents choose a longtime, proven leader in the community who has the knowledge and ability to get the job done," Shields stated.

With the end of Councilman Ryan Demro's term, Ward 2 residents will be choosing new leadership. "I congratulate Ryan on his service to the community, and believe that I am the best candidate to bring passion and vision to deal with the challenges facing Lakewood," Shields said.

That sentiment is shared by the Fraternal Order of Police Lode #25 (Lakewood Police), the Sun Newspapers, the Lakewood Democratic Club, the North Shore AFL-CIO Federation of Labor, and community leaders such as State Rep. Michael J. Skindell, County Commissioner Tim Hagan, and Council members Robert Seelie, Nickie J. Antonio, and Mary Louise Madigan. All endorse Shields. In fact, just before the

Primary, he received the endorsement of the Cuyahoga County Democratic Party, making me the ONLY endorsed candidate in this race."

Shields was the first candidate to meet with police and court officials in order to craft a plan for improved safety forces. The Police endorsed Dan because he took the time to meet with them and listen to their concerns. I learned that they are most in need of updated facilities.

His Lakewood neighbors endorse him because they know that as an attorney and community advocate he has the best plan to attack the foreclosure problem in Lakewood, to bring economic development to fill the empty storefronts on Madison and Detroit, and to create a positive atmosphere where children can enjoy recreation. Over the summer, it was Shields who

lead the fight to obtain information on the plans surrounding the proposed development of the Drug Mart plaza near Kauffman Park.

Shields will continue his old-fashioned door-to-door campaign right up to the November general election. Dan said proudly, "I have visited over three thousand homes since July 4th, and I hope to return to those I might have missed. I believe there is a reason that those who know Lakewood and know me have chosen me to go forward in this election. I will continue to promote my vision for new businesses, new housing, economic development, and park preservation for families."

"I respectfully request that you please join with us, your neighbors and vote for Dan Shields for Ward 2 council this November 6th."

Markling Only FOP Endorsed Lakewood School Board Candidate

by Richard Wair

Matthew John Markling is the only Lakewood School Board candidate to be endorsed by the Fraternal Order of Police, Western Cuyahoga Lodge #25.

On October 8, 2007, the Fraternal Order of Police, Western Cuyahoga Lodge #25, endorsed one candidate, Matthew John Markling, for the Lakewood School Board. Markling is running on a platform of academic excellence, school safety, and leadership.

In a letter thanking the organization for its endorsement, Markling said, "It is truly an honor and a privilege to receive your endorsement. The FOP is a key stakeholder in the Lakewood City Schools. Your members serve as essential role models and resources for our children."

Markling goes on to promise that, "As a school board member, I will ensure that the Lakewood City Schools continue to educate students on the

importance of student civility and respect for authority."

Markling states, "I believe that a positive relationship between students and police officers serves as a deterrent to underage drinking, as well as other criminal activities. Therefore, as a school board member, I will ensure that the Lakewood City Schools continue to support DARE and School Resource Officer programming."

Markling finally promises that, "As a school board member, I will ensure that the Lakewood City Schools work cooperatively with the Lakewood Police Department to protect the safety of staff and students."

The FOP 25 does not offer or advertise its endorsement. Candidates must seek it by formal request and then complete a lengthy questionnaire and interview process.

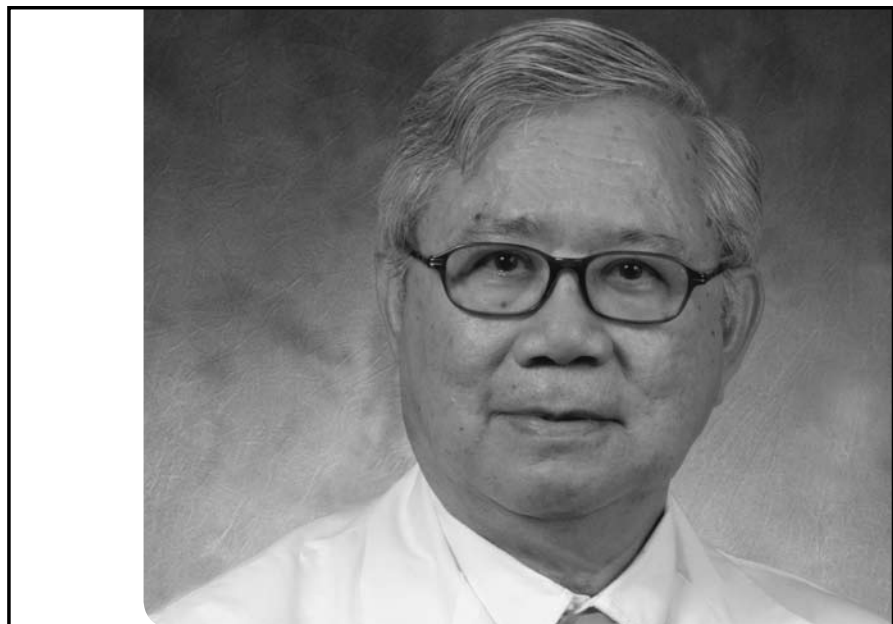
For more information about Matthew John Markling and his campaign for the Lakewood School Board, please visit www.marklingforlakewood.com.

Lakewood Teachers Association Endorses Beebe, Geiger And Lowell For Lakewood City Schools Board Of Education

by Daniel Smth

After very careful consideration, the Lakewood Teachers Association (LTA) would like to announce its endorsement of Linda G. Beebe, W. Charles Geiger III and Martin Lowell for the three open seats on the Board of Education for the Lakewood City Schools. The LTA reached this decision only after reflecting upon the significant strengths brought by each of the five candidates, including Dawn DeFreeze and Matthew John Markling. The LTA believes Beebe, Geiger and Lowell dem-

onstrate a particularly strong awareness regarding the perspectives of Lakewood parents, students and teachers. Moreover, Beebe and Geiger have already served the Lakewood City Schools well, not only in meeting challenges occasioned by education reform and fiscal constraints, but also through their leadership during the current "Improving School Facilities" initiative. The LTA thus believe they deserve the opportunity to continue their service for another term. The LTA would like to thank all five candidates for their gracious participation in this endorsement process.



Lakewood Hospital Congratulates Cipriano Beredo, M.D.

Dr. Beredo was named the 2007 Physician of the Year by the Lakewood Hospital Medical Staff.

This honor was awarded to Dr. Beredo because he exhibits high professional standards; he is a physician role model who is respected by peers and colleagues; he believes that the welfare of patients is of the utmost importance and he has dedicated his practice to the Lakewood Hospital community.



Lakewood City News

Why I Am Voting Markling For School Board – Leadership

by Paula Reed

On November 6, 2007, I'll be voting Matthew John Markling for the Lakewood City Schools Board of Education. In other articles published by the Lakewood Observer, Richard A. Wair and Teresa Coyne Andreani shared with you that they are voting Markling for the Lakewood School Board in part because Markling is dedicated to improving academic excellence and school safety. I would like to share with you Markling's dedication to leadership.

I first met Matt Markling when the Lakewood Heritage Advisory Board gave a preservation award to Matt and his wife Katie for the exemplary work they did rebuilding the front porch of their Belle Avenue home. The house exhibits the charm and character that people come to Lakewood for, and is such a wonderful example of a meticulously maintained, appropriately updated early 20th century colonial that the Lakewood Historical Society featured it on the 2004 "Come Home to Lakewood" house tour.

Merely weeks after the house tour I was surprised to again encounter Markling — this time as a fellow member of both the Lakewood High School Student Conduct and School Climate Committee and the Heritage Committee. There I learned of Markling's commitment to the Lakewood City Schools even though he didn't yet have children attending school. Markling provided valuable insight to both committees.

Markling's professional background and expertise in school law gave the Lakewood High School Student Conduct and Climate Committee guidance in our quest to organize community and committee input into a realistic set of suggestions to present to the superintendent for implementation. The following year, Markling went on to share his knowledge when the same planning process was extended to the middle school level. The Heritage Committee was delighted when, after discussion about the origin and meaning of the "Madison names" (those that were cut into the stone frieze of Madison School and now grace the south side of Harding), Markling came to the next meeting with copies of the research he had done to solve the mystery.

Markling and I continued to meet periodically after our committee involvement ended to discuss our views of the schools and of Lakewood in general. I found that I always came away from those meetings with new ideas to think about. Our conversations demonstrated that Markling feels strongly

about open and honest communication among the School Board, administration, teachers, staff, parents, students and all the taxpayers who support the Lakewood City Schools. I also feel that open and honest communication is crucial in maintaining the trust of the stakeholders — and an essential characteristic Lakewood looks for in a leader.

I encouraged Markling to run for Lakewood School Board to share his ideas and leadership on a larger scale. Because of his commitment to open and honest communication, as a school board member Markling has pledged to:

- Assure that the mission and educational goals of the school district or school reflect the educational needs identified by a broad representation of stakeholders;

- Assure that board policies and the district's educational goals are available to stakeholders;

- Listen to and appropriately respond to stakeholder concerns about current and future school operations in a timely manner; and

- Model and promote ethical behavior among all stakeholders.

In preparing for his run for the Lakewood School Board, Markling made sure to surround himself with a team of diverse individuals dedicated to Lakewood and our school system. I am proud to be part of Team Markling. Markling is running on a platform of improving academic excellence, school safety and leadership, with leadership forming the foundation for academic excellence and school safety. As a

school board member, Markling has promised to help build public support and understanding of public education, and lead the public in demanding quality education for all our children.

The futures of the Lakewood City Schools and the City of Lakewood are inexorably entwined. Even residents without children are concerned about education, as they understand the effect school quality has on their property values. I'm voting Markling for the Lakewood School Board because I believe his leadership will help maintain the rich history of excellence the schools have long enjoyed. To learn more about Markling, please visit www.marklingforlakewood.com.

Vote Markling for School Board on November 6, 2007!

Geiger Sees Community... continued from page 1...

helped the city to defy the odds of disinvestment and secession from public education platforms. Having served as Board president in 1990, 1995, 1999 and 2004, Geiger commands a responsible and wise presence that generates continuing confidence in the leadership of the community's most critically essential public asset.

Should Geiger be elected to another four year term, the following initiatives and goals set forth by the board will be the primary focus of his work:

- Improving student achievement through effectively integrating the use of data and technology on a district wide basis. We must work to achieve an "Excellent" state designation.

- Providing quality educational opportunities for all students.

- Maintaining a fiscally responsible operation, staying off the ballot during the 2007-08 school year, thus, extending the operating levy cycle one more year, for a total of six years, doubling the three years promised.

- Completing the Phase II renovations of Emerson Elementary School, Horace Mann Elementary School and the west wing of Lakewood High School in a timely manner and on budget.

- Continuing the district's emphasis on implementation of the recommendations of The Student Conduct, School Climate and School Safety Committee.

"Communication is a significant part of the work," says Geiger. "With the building program and student conduct/school climate initiatives, schools have found great success in strong communication and community engagement."

"During my time on the Board of Education, we have accomplished many things. We have met the challenges of funding, of changes in education and of our facilities. Together, with our community, we have found solutions."

When asked why a person with financial means should send a child to Lakewood Public School rather than a private school, Geiger makes a case on the basis of the opportunities provided in the district for those with high IQs or special needs. From advance placement programs to special group instruction, Geiger believes Lakewood City Schools are superior to the private environments. He is firmly convinced of the value music and arts programming delivers to students and the total community. He believes the schools managed to get slightly ahead of the curve with the building and conduct initiatives.

"We do have an orderly school environment. But we can't do it alone. We work very well with the city and the police chief. Safety and security are always parts of that conversation," he contends. He is pleased with the significant security measures that include cameras galore with live feeds to the police station.

As president of Geiger's Clothing and Sports, the finest looking business on Lakewood's Main Street, Geiger is, to no one's surprise, always an impeccable gentleman in his appearance and manner. While Geiger is especially proud of his work on funding and building four brand new school buildings in Lakewood, on time and on budget, he remains especially attentive to the safety and discipline interests of the community expects to students to honor at all times.

"A safe, civil climate of teaching and learning - that's the choice people are making," says Geiger. "Our whole community has to wake up to a code of civility."

When Geiger states firmly in reference to student conduct in the schools and on the streets, "We never want to excuse uncivil behavior," he evokes moral gravity. When he declares, "We can never let up on the safety issue - bullying, lack of respect for life and property. We're going to be all over that," he speaks with a compelling determination and sincerity that can come only when the whole man knows and manifests the values of civility and good order in his very being.

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Lakewood Perspective

It's Time To Cut Our Losses

Here is the Presidential Standings Index for October 16, 2007.

by Bret Callentine

I've taken a lot of flack since I started writing for this paper. I've had people tell me that I'm wrong. I've had people tell me that I'm misinformed. I've had people tell me that I don't have a clue what I'm talking about. Perhaps it's fate that this article marks my first full year of putting myself and my thoughts out there for everyone to judge, because for the first time, I think it may finally be time to start anew and admit that I might have been wrong, or at the very least, that I've had a change of heart.

I realize that a lot of my critics don't believe that I actually do quite a bit of research on the topics I write about, but it's the truth. In this specific case, if not for my own personal ongoing investigation, I might not have come to the following conclusion. I've seen the facts and figures, and even I have to admit, regardless of my previous feelings, it's time for an immediate and complete withdrawal.

Disregard the reasons and rationale for ever going there in the first place, I'm now convinced that the only reason the United States has a continued presence in the region is monetary. But even the benefits of their wealth of natural resources can not make up for

the simple facts that the government is a complete failure, the region is hopelessly unstable, and it's time to cut our losses.

How many years do we have to wait to see progress? Even the most trusting person would have a hard time denying that the leadership, legislators, and even the judicial branch of government have done nothing but mock us in their total disregard for the will of the people and country as a whole, often pressing their own local legal agendas over the rights of the nation.

Adding to the total lack of control is the daily flow of illegal insurgents over the border, a flood that even conservative estimates determine to be well over one million people in the past year alone. This is a situation that neither the government, nor the majority of citizens, seem to consider problematic, let alone feel the need to do anything about.

Despite all of this, the biggest argument for a pullout comes from the constant threat of violence, whether it be the mounting number of deaths to our brave men in uniform, or the staggeringly high number of victims of

sectarian aggression, or even the shockingly high probability of incident a citizen risks by simply driving to and from their local village. In 2006, there were more than 190,000 recorded incidents of violent crime, with close to 2,500 recorded reports of murder, over 9,000 reported cases of rape, and hundreds of thousands of counts of theft. Not the kind of statistics you'd expect to see from a society that claims to be dedicated to peace.

I've heard all of the different reasons given for how we as a country got involved in the region in the first place. And while I still don't subscribe to any theories of a secret presidential agenda, and certainly don't follow the crowd that says that the action was illegal or immoral, I cannot refute the overwhelming evidence that suggests it had less to do with any moral imperative than certain monetary gain.

Last year alone, the United States government took in revenue the equivalent of \$1.00 for every 79 cents spent in the region. That's a better return on investment than we get from the Federal Income tax for several U.S. states.

That alone should demonstrate that they are fully capable of funding their own endeavors. What infrastructure they need can easily be acquired from cheaper sources than what the U.S. government can provide. And, it's not like we're closing our doors altogether. We can still help train their personnel; we can offer special visas to allow advanced study in our colleges and universities. And our military will always be available if they are threatened directly by any of their neighbors.

How much more do you need to know? In most areas, our military is an unwanted presence, our religious beliefs will never be accepted by their cities or schools, and the gap in our moral differences seems to be widening further and further every day.

Yup, I've had enough. I don't care if it leaves a short term void, and I don't mind if this subjects me to public ridicule. I don't subscribe to the strategists' suggestions that it might leave our country weaker or more vulnerable. The time has come for us to focus on the issues closer to home.

And that is why I say it is time to withdraw all military personnel, cut off all financial support, and close the books on continued presence. It's time to admit our mistakes and abandon the State of California.

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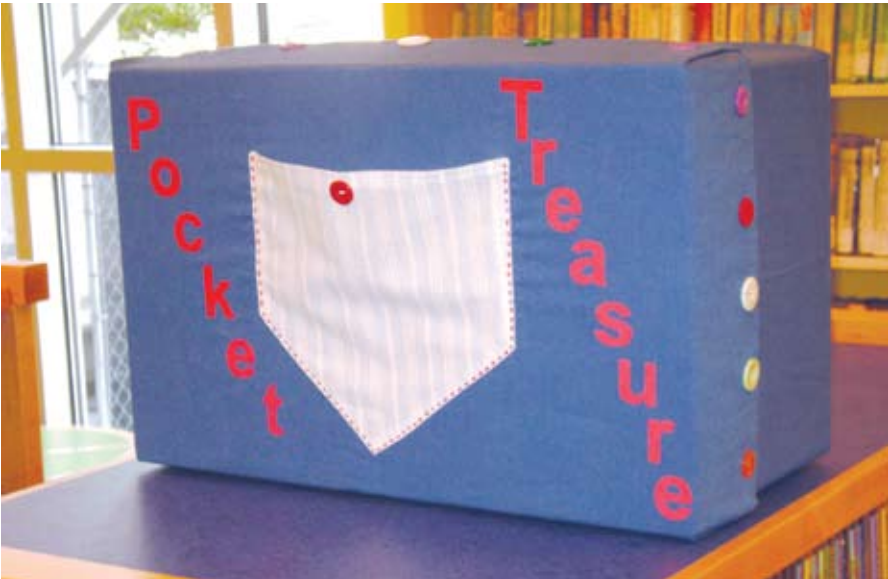
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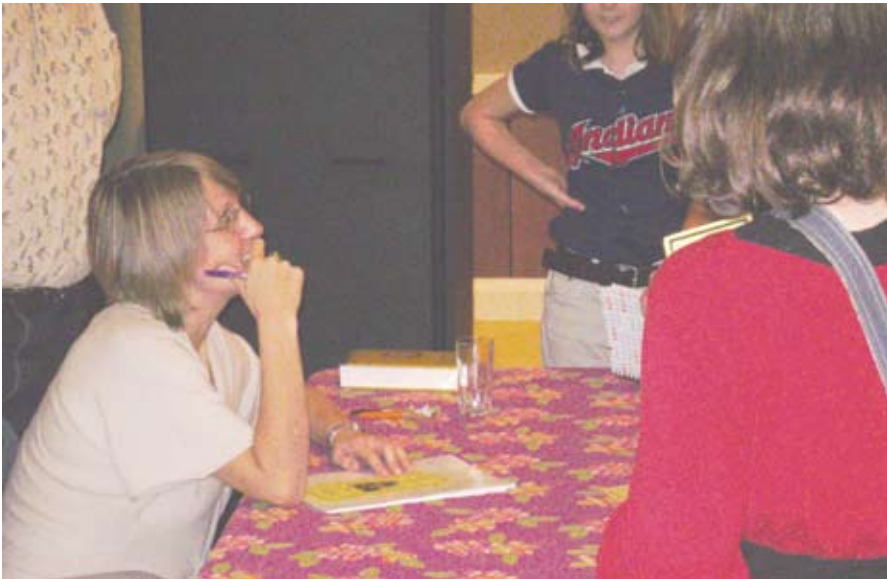
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Lakewood Public Library



Now through October 31, Lakewood Public Library’s Children’s and Youth Services Department is collecting pocket treasures from Lakewood’s kids, age birth through 14. Pocket treasures are cool, interesting, neat or special items that children pick up and put in their pockets. These items will become part of our new Early Literacy Area, designed by the Burgeon Group, that will open when the library’s construction project is complete in early 2008.



Erin Hunter, author of the best-selling series Warriors, visited Lakewood Public Library on Thursday, October 4. She spoke to over 70 students in grades five through eight about her series of books, about being a writer, and about the universal and humanistic themes in her stories, which are about clans of wild cats struggling to survive in their forest homes. Erin also read from one of her books and signed many autographs.

A Snapshot Of Michael Jantz

by Martha Wood

“I guess I’ll always be grateful for my experience as a street performer,” says singer/songwriter Michael Jantz. “It wasn’t an aspiration, but that’s how I learned how to communicate as a musician. I’ve been completely reborn and liberated from everything I thought I knew about making music by playing on the street.”

Jantz earned his skills the hard way, working open mics in Cleveland and wandering through Europe playing on street corners. “I went to Europe completely frustrated with being in bands with people who didn’t have a good work ethic or didn’t share the same vision,” he says of his artistic development. “It was only then that I figured out how I could

say what I wanted through music - by myself. From there, I pretty much played wherever I could - the subways of New York, the streets of Toronto, cafes and streets in Portugal, Spain, Italy, France - anywhere anyone would listen.”

His tenacity and contentment with making music for music’s sake paid off. In the space of just over a year, Jantz went from busking for pocket change on the sidewalks of Europe to warming up audiences on the Paul Simon/Brian Wilson 2001 summer tour in giant amphitheaters on the east coast. He was voted “Best Male Singer/Songwriter” in the 2004 Cleveland Free Times Reader’s Poll. Almost immediately afterward, Michael left our city for Washington, D.C. to follow his girlfriend.

Working his way up from playing

in subways and city parks for pocket change was hard enough the first time around but doing it a second time taught him more than he can describe. “It’s kind of like starting from square one,” Jantz says. “You have to prove yourself all over again; build relationships with bar owners, critics, the people who come see you perform. I went from being a top draw in my hometown to being a complete unknown.”

Michael Jantz returns to his hometown on Sunday, October 28 to perform for Lakewood Public Library’s “Sunday with the Friends” series. He will talk about his songwriting, his musical career and he will perform songs from his latest CD, Snapshots of the Universe. The program begins at 2 p.m. and is free and open to the public.

Snapshots of the Universe reveals an older, wiser, and more polished musician than on his self-titled 2002 debut. The music ranges from rollicking acoustic-based rock to mellow storyteller blues. “For the past year, I put every single moment of joy, grief, anger, and love into this album,” says Jantz. Since there is no single style of music, the album shifts directions throughout the 11 tracks, which includes Michael’s version of the old Leadbelly classic, Goodnight Irene. These are the songs that have won him a large DC following in a short time. Michael earned the title of “Artist to Watch In 2006” from radio station Z104 in Washington, D.C. He has also appeared in “Entertainment DC” magazine’s ‘Best of Local Music’ in 2005.

Lakewood Public Library Events Calendar

Sunday With the Friends New Main Library Auditorium 2:00 p.m. October 21 Three Lakewood Poets Lakewood’s Poet Laureate, a creative writing instructor and a semi-retired nuclear physicist invite you to an afternoon of poetry. Jack McGuane, Susan Grimm and Terry Provost (respectively) will recite from their own work.

October 28 Michael Jantz Singer-songwriter Michael Jantz played his way up from the street corners –twice. He’ll regale the audience with selected adventures from his journey, in-between performances of acoustic rock and storyteller blues from his latest album, “Snapshots of the Universe.”

Lakewood Public Cinema Night of the Living Dead (1968) Directed by George A. Romero (13+)The dead have risen from their graves and they seek the flesh of the living...but you already knew that. This black-and-white horror original may, however, surprise you with its emphasis on pitch-perfect suspense over gratuitous gore-even though it’s still pretty gross.

Saturday, October 20 at 7:00 p.m. in the new Main Library Auditorium 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.

We transform part of the library into the Homework ER with helpers and a cart full of resources. Homework ER will be closed for school holidays and vacations. No need to register. Monday-Thursday, 3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. at the Madison Branch Four O’clock Club: for students in kindergarten through eighth gradeTuesday, September 4, 2007 – Friday, May 23, 2008 Join the Club! Come for a different activity each weekday. No need to register.

DAY	TIME	ACTIVITY
Monday	4:00 p.m.	Make-It-Take-It (craft day)
Tuesday	4:00 p.m.	Marvelous Mysteries (surprise day)
Wednesday	4:00 p.m.	Twist, Shout, Act It Out (movement, music and drama
Thursday	4:00 p.m.	Games Galore (game to play or make)
Friday	4:00 p.m.	Make-It-Take-It (craft day)

At the Madison Branch Reading Rumble 2007: a book discussion program for students in fifth through eighth grade Enter the ultimate book-based team competition. Competitors will use problem–solving skills, teamwork and the knowledge of what they have read to complete a variety of challenges. Which team will rise to the top? To register, please stop in the library or call 216.226.7428.

Thursday, October 18: Sammy Keyes and the Skeleton Man by Wendelin Van Draanen & The Westing Game by Ellen Raskin

Thursday, November, 1: Uncle John’s Did You Know--? Bathroom Reader for Kids Only!

Thursday, November 15 Bud, Not Buddy by Christopher Paul Curtis & The Watson’s Go to Birmingham-1963 by Christopher Paul Curtis

Thursday, November 29 Stormbreaker by Anthony Horowitz & Airborne by Kenneth Oppel

Thursday, December 6 Summary of the seven books 7:45 p.m.-8:45 p.m. at the Madison Branch

Upcoming Themes: October 19, 20, 21 October 26, 27, 28		Horse Hoe-Down Who Wears a Mask?
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	
Homework ER: for students in kindergarten through eighth grade		
Tuesday, September 4, 2007 – Thursday, May 22, 2008		
Need a little extra help with your homework or just want a cool place to work?		

Lakewood Public Library

Saturday Night Of The Living Dead

by Ben Burdick

On October 1, 1968, one month before the MPAA instituted film ratings to protect impressionable viewers from objectionable material, *Night of the Living Dead* premiered before a matinée audience filled with small, screaming children. Critics were appalled. Parents were furious. And the film went on to become one of the most profitable independent productions of the 20th Century.

Though Director George Romero got his start making short subjects for *Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood*, few parents today would allow their younger children to watch his flesh-eating films alone. When one considers the toothless state of the horror genre in the late 60s, however, the moms and dads of forty years ago can be excused for underestimating the shocking nature of the new classic in their midst. Horror was then widely regarded as perfectly acceptable kiddie fare, more spooky than scary. No one was ever truly frightened by the atomic camp of the 50s and the classic Universal creature features of the 30s and 40s had been heavily edited for television. Truth be told, children were far more likely to have nightmares about Abbott & Costello than they were the watered-down monsters appearing in the duo's films.

Night of the Living Dead changed all that, making horror movies scary again and adding disturbing layers of subtext that hit close to home. It was Elliot Stein, one of Romero's earliest defenders, who first noted in the *Village Voice* that the movie "was not set in Transylvania, but Pennsylvania." For the first time in horror history, America's demons were on display—manifestations of our own fears used to probe the dark, unexamined corners of American life. Stein saw in the zombies Middle America's anxiety over the carnage of Vietnam, while others saw allegories for racism, conformity and even consumerism. Whatever one chooses to read into the film, these living dead are clearly not the safe-from-a-distance boogeymen of foreign nations eating brains and dragging feet solely for our amusement. They're our monsters whether we like it or not.

Since *Night of the Living Dead* fell into the public domain almost immediately (due to a poorly handled last-minute name change), there have been numerous re-releases of the film taken from a single, muddy-looking 16mm print. Unfortunately, that's the version most people have seen. The version to be shown at the Library on

October 20 is taken from a pristine 35mm print, cleaned up and remastered with THX sound for a DVD approved by Romero himself. The DVD will be projected digitally on the Library's new state-of-the-art equipment. Come early for a cartoon before the show. Call 226-8275 ext. 130 for details. This film is rated for audiences ages thirteen years and older.



Night Of The Living Dead film still.


Lakewood's First Artwalk continued from page 1...

MAMA Chair. Traditional galleries like Wobblefoot Gallery hosted additional artists' live music and a reception. The Pop Shop had an opening reception for their new art show and an after party, next door at Mullens of Letterfrack. Bela dubby finished off a culturally fulfilling evening with live, original music being performed late into the evening.


Dancers from Tango and Hip Hop at Silhouette Dance Studio, to belly dancers in the window of the Mission offered points of artistic light throughout the show. Omega Cuts business owner, Christina Ermidis, said she was "pleased with the turnout and the support from the community" "It was great to see people out and about on the East side of town for an event." Christina's shop is located on the East side of Lakewood.

There were some amazing musical performances for the evening including Vance Music, Pet's General Store, Salon Bravissimo and Wobblefoot Gallery which hosted anything from jazz to blues to rock.

The self-guided tour, with Art-Walk map in hand, included more than 30 events and exhibitions with fine artist, gallery and neighborhood retail participation. It featured paintings, sculpture, watercolor, photography, digital media, pottery, jewelry and textiles, dance and live music by both established and emerging artists from the area. "Building on the success of the MAMA LIA Artwalk 2007, the next event will include additional music, dance, public artworks, and new venues" states PR/Marketing Committee Chair for LIA, Barbara Michel.

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Lakewood Schools

2007 Pumpkin Palooza

by Celia Dorsch

Get ready for a day full of excitement, Pumpkin Palooza is just around the corner! Come celebrate Lakewood's 8th annual Pumpkin Palooza on Sunday, October 29th from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. at Lakewood High School. Pumpkin Palooza has been a success since 1999, when it all began by the City of Lakewood's youth volunteer program, H2O "Help to Others". The event kicks off at 1:00 p.m. in the East Gym with The McKinley Elementary Choir providing a special Halloween performance. Admission is free. Donations of canned goods will be gratefully accepted at the door.

With the success in the past years, we anticipate over 4,000 people to be in attendance. This year's events include: indoor carnival games, kids' crafts, a costume parade, a "haunted hallway" and storytelling in a delightfully spooky setting. The fun does not end there! Check out the Palooza's Great Pumpkin Patch for free, filled with over 100 spectacular, decorated pumpkins. For 25¢, you can buy a raffle ticket for your favorite pumpkin. Winners will be announced at 2:30 p.m.

Enjoy delicious baked goods at the bake sale or a tasty piece of pizza generously contributed by Roman Fountain or Domino's. Coffee and other beverages will also be available. Remember, 100 percent of the proceeds from Pumpkin Palooza will be donated to Lakewood Christian Service Center and Lakewood Charitable Assistance Corp., two local charities that help residents and families in need.

Pumpkin decorators wanted! Express your creativity by decorating a real pumpkin from a patch or foam pumpkin from a craft store. Your



pumpkin will be entered into the raffle with the proceeds going to the charities. One creative restriction applies...no carved pumpkins please – excited buyers want to be able to display their pumpkins as long as possible.

Decorating a pumpkin is a great way to promote a business, church or an organization. Bring all decorated pumpkins to the East Cafeteria of Lakewood High School. Please use the entrance under the North Gym overhang at the



front of the building. Pumpkin drop off dates and times are as follows: Friday, Oct. 27th 3-5pm and Sunday, Oct. 29th 10am-12:30pm. Contact H2O at 529-4173 or 529-6045 if you have any questions. See you there!

Lakewood Early Childhood PTA Hosts Lakewood Preschool Night

by Jill Carson

The Lakewood Early Childhood PTA will host Lakewood Preschool Night, Monday, October 22, at Taft Elementary School's gymnasium. The forum will begin at 7:45 p.m. and last one hour.

Representatives from Lakewood preschools will make presentations about each of their schools and be available to talk with parents one on one. Toni Gelsomino, program manager of the City of Lakewood's Division of Early Childhood, will also be on hand to share the resources they provide to help parents in the process of selecting a preschool.

Many area preschools begin

accepting applications early next year. Parents who plan to send their children to preschool in the fall of 2008 are encouraged to attend.


The Lakewood Early Childhood PTA is part of the local, state and national PTA. It is not affiliated with

any one school; but instead, strives to promote the welfare of children and families community-wide.

All Lakewood preschools have been invited to participate. This program is open to the public.

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Lakewood Sports

Cross Country Running Strong

by Joseph Ott

Saturday September 29, 2007 the LHS Cross Country Teams competed at the 43rd McQuaid Invitational, held near Rochester New York. Last year the McQuaid meet drew over 5000 runners from 215 schools in 5 states and Canada. At least that many teams were represented this year. This course was 3, opposed to the normal 3.1 miles, and was run primarily on trails that are mostly grass covered over a rolling terrain. Race day saw temperatures in the mid 60's with some clouds.

Lakewood's Boys Varsity placed First overall out of 14 teams in the Boys Seeded Varsity AAA (Large Schools). The Boys JV team placed 17th with 27 teams competing.

The Girls Varsity team competed in the Unseeded Varsity AA-2 (medium and large schools) race and placed a strong 6th overall with 33 teams competing.

Saturday October 6, 2007 the LHS Cross Country teams competed at the Legends Cross Country meet held at the Trumbull County Fairgrounds. The course started in the infield of the horse racing track and continued up a slight incline into and through the horse stables.



left to right: Tim Kelly, Matt Miller, Pat Joyce sprinting to the finish line of the 2007 Legends Cross Country meet held at the Trumbull County Fairgrounds



The course continued to loop around the fairgrounds twice and ended in front of the grandstands of the horse racing track. This course consisted mostly of grass or dirt covered trails and was flat.

It was a very hot morning with temperatures in the upper 80's. At the same time as the Legends Meet was being contested, Medina was hosting

cross country meets and canceled their late afternoon meets.

Despite the heat (and the absence of the team's #1 runner) the Varsity Team was able to earn a strong 5th place overall with 20 teams competing. Gus Dudek of Green finished first with a time of 16.06. Lakewood Senior Nick Meeson finished a strong second a mere

9 seconds behind Dudek. Meeson was followed by Varsity teammates Seniors Casey Meeson (15th), Tim Kelly (25th), Juniors Pat Joyce (49th), Matt Miller (57th), Jay Toole (65th), and Senior Mike Andreani (79th). Over 160 athletes competed in this race.

The Girls Varsity team placed 17th out of 20 teams.

Mustangs Roll On Rangers, 38 - 10

by Todd Shapiro

For three quarters Lakewood looked ready to pull off an upset of the Strongsville Mustangs. Unfortunately, football games are four quarters.

The Mustangs scored 21 fourth quarter points to pull away for a 38-10 Northeast Ohio Conference Valley Division victory on Oct. 5 at Pat Catan Stadium. Eric Stoyanoff, one of the area's leading running backs, ran for 223 yards on 23 carries and drove a dagger in the

Rangers upset hopes with second-half touchdown runs of 54 and 25 yards.

The Rangers turned the ball over on their first two possessions but Strongsville failed to capitalize, missing on field goal attempts of 38 and 51 yards. The Mustang's first score came with 11:09 remaining in the first half when running back Jovon Anderson caught a Tim Kamczyc screen pass and ran untouched into the end zone from 14 yards out. Nate Freese's extra point made the score 7-0. Kamczyc finished

the night 14 of 23 passing for 149 yards and two touchdowns.

Lakewood answered right back with an impressive 14-play, 77-yard drive that used over eight minutes of the second-quarter clock and resulted in a 20-yard Ardjan Bako field goal to make the score 7-3. Strongsville's Freese added a 25-yard field goal of his own to as the half expired to make the score 10-3.

"We played hard again tonight," Lakewood coach Jim Slagle said. "Our guys are playing well but at this time of year you have a lot of guys nicked up and injured."

Those nagging injuries forced Lakewood to go with a three-pronged running attack against the Mustangs. Robert Trivett was limited to just 25 yards on 12 carries. Junior Devin Ross scampered for 76 yards on just five carries but fumbled twice. Fullback Joe

Young had 8 carries for 52 yards replacing an injured Mike Harrington.

The Rangers closed the score to 17-10 late in the third quarter when Ross ran a reverse for a 17-yard touchdown to cap off an 11-play, 77-yard that was aided when the Mustangs jumped off-sides on a fourth down play, giving Lakewood a first down.

"These kids have done everything we have asked of them all season but we have to keep working hard and keep getting better," said Slagle.

That hard work will be tested Friday when the Brunswick Blue Devils make their first NOC appearance at Lakewood Stadium. As of this writing the Blue Devils are the top-ranked team in both the Plain Dealer and Fox-8 News polls.

With the win Strongsville improved to 5-2 (2-0 in NOC) while the Rangers fell to 3-4 (0-2 in NOC).

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Lakewood Sports & Fitness

Rangers Cap-Off Most Successful Regular Season In LHS History

by Todd Shapiro

The Lakewood Rangers soccer team capped off their most successful regular season in school history last Wednesday with an 8-0 victory over Elyria to clinch the Northern Ohio Conference Lake Division Championship. The Rangers improved their record to 3-0-1 in NOC and finished the regular season with a 6-7-3 record. Goalkeeper Carrie Moran recorded her fifth shutout of the season. According to the Ohio Scholastic Soccer Coaches Association web page, Moran finished the regular season seventh in the state in saves with 137.

"[Carrie] is a leader," Rangers first-year head coach Joshua Thornsberry said. "The other girls look up to her. She has kept us in a lot of games this season." Thornsberry returned home to Ohio this season to take over a Rangers program that has struggled in recent seasons. He played his high school soccer at Lorain's Southview High School and did his student teaching at Lakewood before beginning his coaching career in North Carolina. "I came in knowing the team had not achieved in the past so I sat down with my seniors and we figured out how to make positive changes," Thornsberry said.

Those six seniors; Nadia Derezic, Jamie Meggas, Hilary Vigh, Morgan Schroeder, Rachel Niemi and Danielle Pusateri became leaders both on and off the field. Meggas and Niemi tied for the team lead in goals with four each. Schroeder led Lakewood with five assists. The Rangers expected Pusateri to be one of the area top goal scorers but her season came to a crashing halt when she broke her leg in an early season game at Twinsburg. Lakewood, with a record of 1-3 going into that game, used Pusateri's injury as a rallying point and defeated the Tigers' on a goal by freshman Missy Richardson and went on to go 3-1-1 in the next five games.

By playing team oriented soccer and winning the first divisional championship in school history the Rangers achieved two of their pre-season goals. To achieve their final goal of winning at least one tournament game, Lakewood will have to beat Twinsburg again. Despite beating out the Tigers for the Lake division championship and defeating them earlier in the season, Lakewood was seeded 11th in the Division I University Heights Sectional and must now travel to Twinsburg to take on the eighth seeded Tigers in a sectional game tomorrow night at 7:00pm. The winner of that game will take second-seeded Padua Bruins Saturday, October 20 at 3pm.

Thornsberry said there are advantages and disadvantages to playing a league foe in the sectionals. "It's nice to know their players and know you won't get beat on something you haven't seen yet. However, it is tough to beat a team twice in one season." The true measure of the Rangers' success this season won't

be measured on this years' tournament brackets but in the future successes of the program. The season started with 30 girls on the roster but injuries have

forced Lakewood to play without substitutes in some games this season.

"Winning the division was important," Thornsberry said. "It will make

the program stronger in years to come. This year's seniors have helped me to build the framework of what should become a successful program."

It's Wrestling Time Again!

by Todd Shapiro

It's wrestling time again! Area athletes should note two upcoming events at Lakewood High School; the Fall Ranger Open Wrestling Tournament and sign-ups for the Little Ranger wrestling program. The Ranger Open will take place on Saturday October 27 at 10 am. Wrestlers ages 5 and up will wrestle in seven divisions with the top

three wrestlers in each division taking home awards.

There is a \$20 entry fee at the door and weigh-in will be conducted both on Friday night October 26 and Saturday before the competition. Lakewood's Little Ranger wrestling program is hosting an informational meeting and registration for children in grades 1-6 and their parents on Tuesday, November 6 at 6:30pm in the Lakewood High

School wrestling room. Practices for the Little Rangers are conducted on Tuesdays and Thursdays with matches scheduled on Sundays at Midpark High School beginning on December 2.

For more information about either program contact Lakewood High School wrestling coach Vince Curiale at 216-509-7322. To follow the Little Rangers, and all Lakewood wrestlers all season long visit www.rangerwrestling.com

The Lakewood Diet... Check Out The New Curves!

by Ruth A. Koenigsmark

"We are thrilled about our move to Rosewood Place," said owner Joe Pianeck. "Curves offers a comfortable, welcoming place where women can work out. The facility is designed so women can encourage one another while moving around the circuit. We look forward to helping women in this community reach amazing results, both physical and emotional, through our Curves Workout program."

Thanks to the laws of nature, many women in their 30s and older begin to struggle with weight management issues while juggling a hectic lifestyle. An exercise regimen may not be a top priority, relative to balancing career and family responsibilities, a reasonable workout regime that can fit into today's busy lifestyle of work and family is critical to help combat health risks that women can face. Such risks include heart disease, osteoporosis, and breast cancer. A steady workout regime can also help combat the less than glamorous effects of menopause. The Curves Workout program, designed by Gary Heavin and his wife and co-founder Diane, is utilized at all Curves locations. This time tested method allows women of all ages and fitness levels to combine strength and cardiovascular training through hydraulic resistance. The experienced instructors, Karen (Center Manager), Debbie, Kathy, Ruthie and Tara at Curves in Lakewood offer one-on-one training, while members talk and encourage one another during the workout. Also, the comfortable, welcoming atmosphere helps women of all fitness levels commit to an ongoing fitness program and achieve results.

"Helping to say goodbye to unhealthy lifestyles, unattainable diet resolutions and unreasonable fitness regimens gives women a new outlook on exercise and feeding their body properly. We look forward to providing women in this community a complete



Instructor, Debbie and Manager, Kathy at Curves New Location at Rosewood Place.

workout in only thirty minutes that will ensure they can stick to the program and sustain a healthy weight," said Joe Pianeck.

For more information about Curves at Rosewood Place at their Re-Grand Opening specials, call or visit them at their new location at 15713 Detroit Avenue.

The Lakewood Diet is commu-

nity based—basically our community can and will help you get into shape—whether physically or mentally...if you follow this diet and my journey to lose this lingering 20 pounds, you will come to find that we have a mariad of experts in the field of health and fitness living and working right here in Lakewood. You just have to get out and get moving(after you read my articles, of course)

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Pulse Of The City

Those Among Us-
Maynard “Doc” Unger: Barbed Wire Buckeye

by Gary Rice

Forget Johnny Appleseed.
Or, anyway, let’s concede that even though that colorful fellow planting those seeds over the Lakewood High Auditorium’s main doors was designed to be that character (by his creator Victor Schreckengost when he was commissioned by architects Hays and Ruth to decorate the front of the auditorium), old Johnny ended up being turned into someone else!

The Lakewood Board of Education felt that a better name for the effigy would be “The Early Settler” and would therefore honor Dr. Jared Porter Kirtland, the famous naturalist upon whose former land the high school stood. At least that’s what ended up happening with that statue in 1954.

Well, I’d like to think of another personality representation for that great terra cotta artwork: “Doc” Unger.

Who? Well, in the first place, this year alone Doc has given away about 140 Buckeye trees. Since I don’t know too many other Lakewoodites who have given away trees (and I don’t think old Dr. Kirtland did either), Doc Unger would seem to have an eminent qualification to represent that effigy.

He’s certainly slim enough to



Maynard “Doc” Unger . Doc holds his American, and German (POW issued) WWII dog-tags.

look the part, only he didn’t start off that way. The formerly self-described “husky boy” lost one third of his weight on a diet of watery potato soup as a prisoner-of-war in Stalags 7a and 17b for nearly 22 months as an unwelcome guest of the German Luftwaffe... and all this happened when he was only 21 years of age.

Doc’s a member of the “Barbed-Wire Buckeyes,” a group of Ohio ex-prisoners of war. He serves as Commander for the Department of Ohio American Ex-Prisoners of War. Doc lives with his wife and son here in Lakewood. He also has two daughters.

His war story began when he volunteered for the Army before WWII. After basic training and advanced schooling in gunnery and radio, Doc flew in twin-engined B-34 aircraft on coastal patrol looking for German U-Boats. Before long, he was a radio operator on a big four-engined B-17, tail number 229978, named “Hell’s Angel.” On his 13th mission, his aircraft lost an engine due to FLAK (anti-aircraft fire). When a bomber above them broke formation, his aircraft was also forced to leave the formation to avoid the other plane. Peppered by enemy fighter gunfire, the aircrew was forced to bail out over Bad Schwalbach, Germany on August 17th, 1943.

That day, the group’s objectives were the ball-bearing plants at Schweinfurt. Of 20 planes of Doc’s 381st Bomb Group, only 11 returned to the field. Altogether, 60 bomber aircraft were lost that day on this long-range attempt to cripple the German war effort, with many more damaged severely. Fortunately, all 10 of the aircrew in Doc’s plane survived the war. For a while, Doc was listed as “missing-in-action” after parachuting into someone’s backyard. Over 600 airmen were lost to the war effort on that day on a “battlefield” five miles above the ground.

After the war, Doc returned home and got his college degree. While in the reserves, he was again called to active duty during the Korean conflict, and

remained in the Service until 1969, retiring as a United States Air Force Chief Master Sergeant (during WWII, the land-based air service was a part of the Army Air Corps).

After leaving the Service, Doc worked as a 5th grade teacher in the Lakewood City Schools at the former Garfield Elementary, or “Great Garfield” as Doc refers to it. Doc continues to be involved with teaching kindergarten-age children at Taft School once weekly, as part of the “Growing Healthy Together” program. He has done this for 17 years since the program’s inception.

He has served as a Scout leader at Lakewood Christian Church and elsewhere. He’s been a director with the “Keep America Beautiful” program, and has served two terms as a Trustee with the Lakewood Historical Board. He is a long-time volunteer with the Lakewood Office on Aging, having served two terms on their Advisory Board as well. He has co-authored the book One Life in the Greatest Generation, and is a member of the Lakewood Schools Staff Hall of Fame.

Doc loves the new Garfield School, but was concerned that the trees (and particularly, a Buckeye!) had to be removed when the building was under construction. After voicing his concerns, two beautiful Buckeyes are now in place, shading the grounds of Garfield.

Doc knows that planting seeds as well as his little seedlings is a metaphor for planting other seeds. These represent seeds of patriotism, love for each other as human beings, and hope--as well as vision for the future and a real faith in God having a purpose for all of us.

Doc feels a great gratitude to God for surviving WWII. He also feels that he’s here for a purpose still. As Doc said to me: “The Lord has kept me around to do something, and I tell him to nudge me, if I’m not doing something right.”

Doc, I don’t think the Lord needs to nudge you one bit. You’re doing just fine. You ARE the Pulse of this City!

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Chef Geoff

Destination Dining

by Jeff Endress

To whatever degree these food columns have talked about restaurants, they generally have focused on reviewing local restaurants. There is no doubt about it - Lakewood has some very good restaurants, which run the gamut from bar burger joints and family friendly kids' menus to carriage trade white table cloths. As much as I love Lakewood and as much as I love the dining possibilities in Lakewood, sometimes, there is a requirement or a desire to travel. When wanderlust hits, it's time for a culinary field trip.

There are a number of wonderful restaurants, an hour's drive or so from our home court, in which getting there can be literally half the fun, but upon arrival the food makes it clear that the trip was with a purpose. I'm not abandoning my Lakewood-centric focus, but as a realist, I must admit that a world exists beyond our boundaries. A restaurant which merits a trip for the dining experience is frequently referred to in terms of "destination dining". These are places where the meal is the centerpiece rather than an afterthought and an activity is sought that fits within the travel parameters of enjoying that restaurant. We all have favorite restaurants which might be a trek, but there is something about them which draws us back and makes the trip worthwhile.

During this time of year, a drive can be a wonderful diversion, as we enjoy all the colors of fall. There's nothing like a trip out to the country in search of Halloween Jack-o-lanterns, late fall apples, or the harvest of fall root vegetables and squash. So get in that Izetta, and head out to enjoy some fall festival, football or other frivolity. While you're out, plan on including a destination restaurant as part of the experience.

Heading west on Route Two, before getting to the Cedar Point exits, we find Chez Francois in Vermillion (<http://www.chezfrancois.com>; 440-967- 0630). Chez Francois is a superb continental French restaurant housed in an old brick sail loft on the banks of the Vermillion river. Its wide veranda offers wonderful views of the boats, river and lagoons and on an Indian Summer evening, an excellent chance for some al fresco dinning. The century building, with its huge rough-hewn timbers and warm brick, adds a wonderful atmosphere to those who dine inside. And the food is exquisite, coupled with impeccable service. Reservations are a must, especially on weekends. One can expect classic French cuisine that incorporates the seasonal offerings from local producers. Not surprisingly, many times a diner will find country French ingredients, such as rabbit or game, a part of the offerings. Chef John D'Amico puts together some wonderful wine and food pairing events, my favorite being the Nouveau Beaujolais release dinner in mid-November,

though other special wine events are offered throughout the year. Chez Francoise has recently expanded into the second floor of its century building and now provides private event space. The restaurant typically is closed from New Year's Day until March.

Once you get past the big box retail outlets that have sprung up like toadstools on Route 83 a few miles from I-71 outside of Wooster, you enter a quiet college town (College of Wooster) which is home to the South Market Bistro (<http://www.southmarketbistro.com>; 330-264-3663). The Bistro makes a wonderful ending for a day of driving through Amish Country, antiquing, or just taking in the dazzling fall colors. Being located in a college town, there is also ample opportunity to enjoy what the College of Wooster has to

offer, perhaps a football game, a soccer match, or a concert by one of the many groups that use the College's facilities. The Bistro menu demonstrates a commitment to sustainable agriculture, echoing the training that Chefs Michael Mariola and Michael Ollier received while working with Parker Bosley in his New American Bistro in Ohio City. The menu changes as the availability of produce goes through its seasonal cycles. Local farmers provide much of the produce served in the restored century-old building that the restaurant shares with a pottery studio that, by coincidence, makes the hand-crafted tableware used at South Market. The ingredients used in the kitchen's inventive and excellent preparations are frequently from neighboring producers, such as the Killbuck Mushroom

Farm. Organic and natural ingredients are the order of the day, with freshness being the key. The restaurant offers very attentive service, coupled with an American Bistro menu, in a casual setting.

Neither Chez Francoise nor South Market Bistro are inexpensive. Chez Francoise's appetizers generally are generally in the \$7-12 range, with entrees ranging from the mid 20's to 30's. The Bistro is somewhat less expensive, with appetizers under \$10.00 and entrees under \$30.00. They are both what should be considered "special occasion" restaurants, but that is the case with most destination dining establishments. Both are more than worth the drive from our normal boundaries and when coupled with a fall field trip, make for a very delightful culinary excursion.

Secret Shopper

Omega Cuts-the Royal Treatment

Justine Cooper

When I began interviewing small businesses I never thought that I would also get a history lesson, but I indeed learned some interesting facts while getting to know Christina Ermidis from Omega Cuts on Franklin Boulevard. I came to know Christina through interactions at MAMA meetings and noticed that she was present at every meeting with a smile and a willingness to be part of a team working to make Lakewood better. There are those who have an attitude of "what can you do for me?" and those that have an attitude of "what can I do for you?" Christina is in the latter category and the more I learned about her the more I learned where that attitude came from.

Christina's family comes from a part of Turkey populated by Greeks that became part of Stalin's 1940's plan to force families out into isolated areas in order to populate these other areas. Before Christina was born, her family was forced onto a prison train on a 12 day trek to Kazakhstan, near Siberia. They lost their youngest child on this trip and were forced to live a very difficult life when Christina was born. Fast forward 10 years and Christina's family was allowed into Athens, Greece but continued moving until they were brought to the United States. Their arrival in the United States was made possible by her father's sister, who had never given up hope of finding them again.

Christina's mother, Diana, worked 14 hour days cooking, nursing and painting houses. As a child, Christina helped her mom in between school. "Life was hard, simple, and good" she says, thinking back. "We used to sing and dance and share food. We made the best of what we had, which was our family, at the end of the day." Christina grew up knowing what family, love and

hard work meant and spent years working as a hair dresser, including 5 years in Europe as Mrs. Papandreou's (the president's wife) right hand girl, doing hair exclusively in the embassy. Eventually Christina opened a hair salon here in Lakewood 14 years ago, in historic Bird Town. When you drive by her shop, it looks humble yet somehow authentic. When I asked what brought her to Lakewood, she answers with a melancholy look "Lakewood was homey and I loved the diversity". She does acknowledge the changes in Lakewood from 14 years ago, but she stays firmly planted in her humble, authentic shop which is filled with an array of beauty products, jewelry and nick knacks.

The first time I stopped in to chat with her she insisted on cutting my daughter's hair and did a beautiful job. The second time I stopped in she did the same for me. Her generosity of spirit is heartwarming. As I attempt to do a story to feature her, she cannot allow that without giving something back. That is who she is and why we are blessed to have her in Lakewood. No matter how time changes, she understands the energy of barter, the give and the take, the gift of knowing your neighbors. The little girl who had little in terms of material things as a child, worked along side her mother cleaning, singing, dancing, and letting her spirit capture what real life is about. I love being in her presence because her energy is warm, calm and joyful. The night of the art walk on Madison, Christina glowed as she danced along with her belly dancers. She opened her doors with trays and bottles of refreshments and welcomed everyone.

If this business was not enough for



Outside Omega Hair Studio, Belly Dancers for the MAMA LIA Artwalk.!

one lady, Christina and her husband opened a second business on the East side of Cleveland! League Park Foods was opened three months ago on E.67th and Superior as a window service restaurant serving the best chili dogs a dollar can buy! Christina beamed as she filled me in on more history, telling me about League Park in Cleveland, the oldest beloved ball yard on E. 66th and Lexington from 1916-1926. I never knew that this was where the first Cleveland baseball team played, leading the Tribe in 1920 to the World Series. The history of this place persuaded her to open this little stand, in honor of the 1920 World Series Victory.

If you are on the East side, go grab a chili dog and soak up the history. If you are in Lakewood, stop in and try a new look, or bring your family members for a cut.

Omega Cuts
11833 Franklin Blvd.
(corner of Newman)
216-221-9008 Hours by appt

Lakewood Opinion

Outrage!

by Mark Moran

Ten years ago when President Clinton’s behavior in the White House was making headlines, William Bennet wrote a book, “The Death of Outrage,” asserting that Americans had lost the capacity to be morally furious.

Some people thought outrage deserved a better cause than Bill Clinton’s sex life, but there is today an outrage which, if it does not provoke a public outcry, will prove that Bennet was right.

On October 4, the lead story in the New York Times was headlined, “Secret U.S. Endorsement of Severe Interrogations.” (<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/10/04/washington/>

[04interrogate.html](#)). The article, authored by three reporters, detailed secret Justice Department legal opinions that gave expansive approval to the Central Intelligence Agency for use of the harshest interrogation techniques when questioning detainees in the war on terror. These techniques, which include waterboarding (the practice of simulated drowning), are torture by any reasonable definition. The secret opinions circumvent and contradict prior opinions issued for public consumption and fly in the face of expressed Congressional opinion. And the use of these techniques is, as the Times articles states, unprecedented in American history.

This furtive, dishonest and cowardly legal maneuver, exercised under the President’s former quisling, Alberto Gonzalez, was vehemently opposed by some brave and principled lawyers within the Justice Department who, as one can imagine, have had to find work elsewhere. One of these was quoted in the Times as having told his superiors that they would “all be ashamed” of themselves when these opinions came to light.

They should be. To argue, as some will and the White House has, that Al Queda is not a sovereign state or a signatory to the Geneva Conventions and therefore exempt from protections is to miss the point: outrage about this matter is not, primarily, a matter of

humanitarian concern for detainees. Moreover, there are knowledgeable people who say torture produces only unreliable or bad information. And the oft-cited justification - that, hypothetically, using these techniques on some detainees could produce information about an imminent nuclear explosion or a dirty bomb - is just that: hypothetical. In an instance in which there is specific and credible evidence of such a plot, certainly extraordinary means would be justified.

But note that the secret Justice Department opinions were not issued in response to specific and credible evidence of any particular threat, but as a blanket policy. The real issue at stake is the rule of law, a principle the United States used to stand for, and the best guarantor of the safety of our own people. As one military lawyer quoted in the Times story said, “The problem is, once you’ve got a legal opinion that says such a technique is OK, what happens when one of our people is captured and they do it to him. How can we protest then?”

And the furtive, guilt-ridden way in which the Justice Department’s secret opinions were issued ought to be an embarrassment: if the President believes the harshest interrogation tactics are necessary, let him make a case to the public and to Congress and persuade us, as leaders do. The moral calculus of interrogating bad guys in a nuclear age—how much force to use and when, under what conditions, to get what kind of information—is complicated; so, what’s required is the formulation of rules and policies and protocols informed by knowledgeable debate, not government edicts issued, as it were, in the dead of night.

The challenge of religiously inspired fascism is a real one. (I take my lead on this from Christopher Hitchens, which ought to tell you everything you need to know about how important I think this is.) But I also think the blanket authorization of torture, in secret, is an enormous retreat in the war on terror, because it abdicates our most valuable strategic asset, which is the higher moral ground.

By colluding with our leaders in this, we as a public are trading our integrity for a “security” purchased by the covert use of interrogation techniques that flatly contravene professed American values. I hope everyone in Lakewood writes or calls Sherrod Brown and George Voinovich and Dennis Kucinich to demand that Congress put a leash on this administration and reassert the rule of law. Tell them you are outraged.

Clean And Safe

by Steve Hoffert

Post primary hangover has left the people of Lakewood looking for a glass of tomato juice with a shot of sensibility. The field of three mayoral candidates has been narrowed to two. The easy decision is over and the difficult one now begins.

The dismal voter turnout is proof the general population either doesn’t care about its future or is so burned out on broken promises and rhetoric that

didates hold very different views of Lakewood. One believes we are on the right track, the other believes we have derailed. Both candidates have evident strengths and weaknesses and, one must hope, the good of the community always in mind. They diverge, however, in their plan for the future and the funding of such a plan.

The fundamental concern of those who live in any city boils down to “clean and safe”. Now I have not coined that term, people far wiser than me

damentaltoanystructuredcommunity. We should badger our politicians so that this remains a reality. The truth is that “clean and safe” costs money.

After having lived many years in a community that faced similar challenges to those of Lakewood, I know that “clean and safe” must now become our mantra. Not tomorrow and especially not after a series of dust covered studies lie on a shelf while bureaucrats bicker over their implementation.

“Clean and safe” in 6 to 12 months is unacceptable. By Police Chief Malley’s own admission, getting new officers on the street will take months once hired. The hiring should happen now.

Lakewood is a safe community feeling the pressure of deteriorating economicconditionsandshiftingdemographics. As a community we must not tolerate the decline in acceptable public behavior. Through community involvement, better management and increased resources, the police department can better do its job.

Both candidates are currently in a position to initiate or demand the execution of such a plan. They are in a position to ask the people if they are willing to fund the initiative to raise the capital and operating income to expand on the “clean and safe” charge. They are in a position to assert the people’s desire to live in a community where there is zero tolerance for violence.


Why wait to implement a plan? Act now on the words so eloquently stated prior to your success in the primary election. Ask the people if “clean and safe” is worth a half a penny on the dollar or if another study will suffice in place of immediate action.

Just maybe by taking this initiative prior to the election, voters will see that a candidate’s promises can be more than just the bait to attract their vote.

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Join the Discussion at: www.lakewoodobserver.com

Lakewood Arts & Entertainment

Gallery Watch

Ruth A. Koenigsmark

On Saturday, October 6, 2007, Lakewood had the chance to meet Columbus artist Rebecca Jadway up close and personal as she presented her show *Three Bodies*. Ask Rebecca what’s her area of specialty and she simply says she “deals with the female figure.” It’s an answer that begs description. See her works and no elaboration is necessary. Jadway paints women. So lifelike are some of her paintings that the textures and tones of the subjects’ hair and skin invite close inspection. When asked where she receives inspiration she simply states that the figures in her work are repeating characters that have become more simplified with time, figures from the very detailed to free-flowing. According to Rebecca, there came a time when the background of her paintings with their intricate textures became more interesting to her than the figures she was painting and she made the journey to explore those background textures. What emerged was a profound interest in studying the textures she found on her walks and then putting those impressions to canvas.

Rebecca is a graduate of Columbus College of Art and Design, holding a Fine Arts major with an emphasis in painting. She has supported herself entirely by her art, doing freelance work and selling her art at festivals, including The Ohio Renaissance Festival, Comfest, and Yellow Springs Street Fair, among others.

She has several distinct styles of work; Women in acrylic, Women on paper, Street Heiroglyphics, boxes in mixed media along with her very own music CD. You can find out more about Rebecca’s art by going to her my space page <http://myspace.com/rebeccajadway>

Don’t Forget to visit your neighborhood galleries

UPCOMING EVENTS

Beck Center for the Arts1

7801 Detroit Avenue216.521.2540

bela dubby

13221 Madison Avenue

216.221.4479

Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 10 am – 10 pm, Friday and Saturday 10am-midnight.

Local Girl Gallery

16106 Detroit Avenue-Call for Artists The Friends of the Lakewood Commission on Aging Presents.....Sip into the Holidays an Auction to benefit the Lakewood Division on Aging Saturday, December 1, 2007 7:00pm to 10:00pmLocal artists are invited to create/paint/decorate glasses, which will be auctioned at the Sip into the Holidays charity event. The auction, featuring one-of-a-kind glasses created locally, is an opportunity for painters, decorators, and other creative people to use wine, champagne or any other glass as their palette. Glasses can be painted and or decorated in any style, from traditional to outrageous, color-

ful, sculptural, decorative, whimsical or avant-garde. We ask that you design at least two(sets) for the auction. Local Girl Gallery will provide glasses (while supplies last) or the artist may provide their own. The individual artists will provide all paint, and any other materials. There is no entry fee and glasses must be completed and dropped off to Local Girl Gallery by Saturday, November 24, 2007. A brief description of each glass set, its title, and an artist/designer bio will be printed for guests at the auction. The event is limited to the first forty-five artists who register. Questions can be forwarded to Ruth

Koenigsmark(216)521-2894 or rkoenigsmark@yahoo.com. Artists can send their bio and glass descriptions to this email address as well.

Local Girl and the Benjamin Rose Institute invite you to “A Community of Caregiving” A benefit auction to support program activities of the Adult Day Care Program. Saturday, October 20th 2007 7-10pm. “Guardian Angel” inspired artwork by local artisans, hors d’oeuvres, cocktails and door prizes throughout the evening. A \$5.00 donation is suggested at the door benefiting the program activities of the BRI Adult Day Program. 216.228.1802

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

Pop Shop Gallery and Studio

17020MadisonAvenue216.227.8440H

alloween Themed Art Opening, Saturday, October 15th, starting at 6pm ! SIMPLE! all the art work will be halloween, candy, or fall related. With interactive works. Also an after party at Mullens, located next to the gallery. Costumes suggested but not required. Hours: Monday-Friday 4pm-8pm, Saturday 2pm-6pm.

Wobblefoot Gallery &

Frame Studio 1662 Mars Ave-

nue216.226.2971 Hours: Tuesday – Friday 10am-6pm, Saturday 10am-4pm. Art gallery news and event information should be forwarded to gallerwatchgals@yahoo.com. Every effort will be made to include it in our next column.

Holy Ghosts Appearing At Beck Center

by Fran Storch

Beck Center for the Arts presents *Holy Ghosts*, a dark comedy by award-winning playwright, Romulus Linney, in the Studio Theater September 28 – October 21, 2007. Directed by Matthew Wright, *Holy Ghosts* tells the story of an abusive husband, a runaway wife and a Southern Pentecostal sect whose members speak in tongues and practice snake handling as the ultimate test of their faith. A young woman struggles to escape her mistake-of-a-marriage to a broken and thoughtless man. She runs away seeking refuge amongst the members of a fundamentalist religious group in the rural South.

The play questions the true meaning of faith as the husband, looking to retrieve his runaway wife by force, is – much to his own amazement – converted to a true believer. “*Holy Ghosts* examines universal questions that arise out of the human condition,” said director Matthew Wright “...and, like the human condition, the play is extraordinarily funny, heartbreaking, ugly, beautiful, tragic, joyous, and always changing.” *Holy Ghosts* features talented area actors Nicholas Koesters* as the hard-drinking husband, Coleman Shedman and Neil Thackaberry* as the newly ordained “husband,” the Reverend Obediah Buckhorn, Sr.

The cast includes a mix of colorful characters including a former Sunday school teacher who has been “fired” by her Methodist employer after 37 years, a penniless couple with an unwanted new baby and a “cancer man” who tries to deny his physical illness. “This play is a great and joyous challenge for the actors, the director and the audience.” Wright further commented, “In these difficult times when faith is hard to sustain, this play reminds us what it means to be fully alive; it’s a true celebration of the human spirit.”

Holy Ghosts is sponsored by COX Communications, FreeTimes and WCPN 90.3 ideastream. Show times are 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 3 p.m. Sundays. Admission is \$28 for adults, \$25 for seniors, and \$17 for stu-

dents (22 and under). Special group rates are available for groups of 13 or more. Rush tickets for students (22 and under with I.D.) are offered for \$10 each on Sundays only, 30 minutes prior to curtain, based on availability. To reserve tickets call the Beck Center box office at 216-521-2540 or online at www.beckcenter.org. Convenient on-site parking is free.

Beck Center is located just ten minutes west of downtown Cleveland at 17801 Detroit Avenue in

Lakewood. Programming at Beck Center for the Arts is made possible through the generous support of The Cleveland Foundation, the George Gund Foundation, the John P. Murphy Foundation, the Kulas Foundation, the Eva L. & Joseph M. Bruening Foundation, the Abington Foundation, the Thomas H. White Foundation, and the Ohio Arts Council. *Actor appears courtesy of the Actors Equity Association, the union of actors and stage managers.

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League Of Women Voters

More Information From LOWV

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS CUYAHOGA AREA NONPARTISAN VOTERS GUIDE TO LAKEWOOD

Mayoral Election

Occupation / Education	Qualifications for Office	Question: What in your opinion is the most important issue currently in Lakewood?	Question: If elected, how would you address this problem?
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Ed FitzGerald

City Councilman Attorney J.D. Cleveland Marshall; B.A. Ohio State	9 years City Council; 3 years FBI Agent; 5 years, County Prosecutor; Chair, Zoning Board; Vice Chair, Charter Review; Board Member, Children's Trust Fund; Volunteer Tutor, Madison Elementary; Volunteer, Office on Aging	Lakewood must adapt to new challenges in the areas of housing, public safety and fiscal responsibility. The challenge for the next mayor is to preserve housing quality and safety while maintaining fiscal discipline.	We must implement consistent and aggressive code enforcement on absentee landlords and nuisance properties. We must increase our police personnel and implement a neighborhood-based policing strategy. We must reform every department in City Hall, promote efficiency, and restore a healthy fiscal balance before even considering tax increases
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Thomas J. George

Mayor of Lakewood Franklin Elementary; Horace Mann Jr. High; Lakewood High School (1969); Ohio State University, B.A> in Journalism, 1973	Full time mayor; only candidate with management experience; only candidate with collective bargaining experience; only candidate to have made Moody's Investor Service bond rating presentation. As a long time resident of the city, aware of issues facing the city.	Safety. The building boom and quality of life Lakewood's enjoyed during my administration will be compromised if we become unsafe. We have had several tragic incidents over the summer but our safety forces responded quickly and the public at large was never at risk.	We are implementing a citywide security plan including security cameras at public locations and making our personnel more visible. I recently hired three police officers. The Grow Lakewood report I commissioned also stressed the importance of housing as a key safety and quality of life issue.
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Council Ward 1

Kevin M. Butler

Attorney, Joseph B. Jerome and Associates, Councilman, Ward 1, Lakewood Miami University, B.A. Journalism, 1997 Cleveland-Marshall College of Law (CSU), J.D., 2001	Current elected Councilman, 2005 – present Attorney dealing in real estate, construction and general business litigation and counseling Chair, Rules & Ordinances Committee; Member, Finance Committee, Youth & Recreation Committee Trustee, Lakewood Hospital Association	Lakewood residents have witnessed both high-profile and increased property crime of late. Combined with the perception that our rental properties serve only to detract from an overall high-quality inventory of homes, the perception of increased crime stands to push upstanding citizens from Lakewood in dramatic numbers if unimpeded.	We must follow through with a complete examination and overhaul of our budgetary priorities in order that we address these concerns. The status quo is unacceptable. Lakewood residents must be made to understand we are meeting any increase in crime, misbehaving tenants and housing concerns aggressively and thoughtfully.
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Paul Conroy

Listing Agent, Auction 323, Inc. St. Edwards and Berea High School Cuyahoga Community College	Chair, Libertarian Party of Cuyahoga County; Committee Member, Conduct and Ethics Committee, Libertarian Party of Ohio. I am a hard working man who thinks outside the box when solving problems.	The most challenging issue facing Lakewood is returning the city to growth and prosperity. Crime, declining home values and empty storefronts are symptoms of the larger problem; a lack of real growth and true prosperity. We can correct our course and bring these things into our lives. .	I would address t his issue, on a city level, by turning our liabilities into assets to lessen the tax burden. Then I would let people keep more of what they earn to spend as they see fit. I would also foster an environment that will entice businesses to Lakewood
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CANDIDATE FORUM, Thursday, October 25, 2007 7:00 PM,
Lakewood City Hall, Council Chambers, 12650 Detroit Ave.

GENERAL ELECTION, NOVEMBER 6, 2007, Polls Open 6:30am - 7:30 pm

Candidates for Municipal elected offices and School Board have been invited. There will be an opportunity to hear and meet the candidates and to submit written questions.

ABOUT LEAGUE

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political membership organization that encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

ABOUT THIS GUIDE

Candidate information is supplied by the candidates themselves and by the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections. The League of Women Voters takes no responsibility for the accuracy of the candidates' statements. Candidates were informed that each response to Education and Occupation,Qualifications for Office and the LWV Questions would be printed exactly as received - except that spelling may be corrected and punctuation added for clarity, as when information is srpesnted as a list - and that each candidate would be solely responsible for the content of the reply. Each candidate was given word limitations. Replies that exceeded that limit were cut at the word limit. Funding for this Voters Guide was provided by members and friends of the League of Women Voters Cuyahoga Area Education Fund. Expanded Voters Guide available online at www.lwvCuyahogaArea.org

League Of Women Voters

Council Ward 2

Thomas R. Bullock

<i>Ohio Representative, National Environmental Trust</i> <i>BA. Political Science, American University; M.A. Classics, University of London</i>	<i>15 years experience in community leadership and making government work for people. Worked in U.S. Congress to secure federal budget dollars for local communities. I will use these skills to help Lakewood.</i>	<i>Neighborhood Safety: Lakewood is at a crossroads and must directly address crime, noise, trash, zooming traffic, and absentee landlords. We must take these issues more seriously.</i>	<i>First, strengthen our police to prevent crime. Second, I'm organizing Block Watches to partner with police and help keep neighborhoods safe, clean, and family-friendly</i>
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Dan Shields

<i>Attorney</i> <i>Case Western Reserve Law School Bowling Green St. Ignatius</i>	<i>I am the only candidate who is a homeowner and parent of children in our city schools. I've been an active community volunteer and coach and the endorsed democrat and labor candidate and served on the 2005 charter review commission.</i>	<i>The need to address the changing economic and demographic composition of the city. This issue has a direct impact on the crime rates, empty/foreclosed on properties and vacant storefronts.</i>	<i>The city of Lakewood needs an experienced community activist to address resident concerns. I will work with the police department to ensure proper staffing levels, updated equipment and modern facilities. In addition, I will institute foreclosure protection legislation and promote small business economic development to all empty storefronts.</i>
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Council Ward 3

Joseph P. Dangelo

<i>Assistant Prosecutor, Medina County Prosecutor's Office</i> <i>B.A. Political Science, Kent State University, 2002 J.D. Cleveland Marshall College of Law, 2005</i>	<i>As an attorney, I hope to bring some sound reasoning skills to Lakewood City Council. Also, my experiences as a prosecutor will assist me in tackling some of the issues facing Ward 3.</i>	<i>I feel that absentee landlords along with an aging housing stock have contributed to an increased crime problem in our city.</i>	<i>I would work with the Mayor and the law department to point out and hammer absentee landlords. I will also work with the newly formed block watch programs throughout Ward 3 to ensure communication is constant between the police and my constituents.</i>
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Michael Summers

<i>President, Summers Rubber Company</i> <i>McKinley, Horace Mann, Lakewood High (1972), Wittenberg University, B.A., Northwestern University, MBA</i>	<i>Board of Directors, First Federal of Lakewood; Lakewood School Board (2 terms); Chair, Ohio Workforce Policy Board (4 years); Chair, Grow Lakewood Strategic Planning Task Force; Planning Commission.</i>	<i>Housing Quality Improve sense of security Creating capacity for investment in streets, parking, safety</i>	<i>Aggressive action towards abandoned and substandard houses Focus on jail bottleneck to free up police for patrol Focus on core services and trim selective non-core expenditures to free up money for investment in our future</i>
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League Of Women Voters

School Board

Linda Beebe

<i>Attorney and former teacher</i> <i>BS in Education, Kent State</i> <i>J.D. Marshall College of Law</i>	<i>14 years teaching in Scotland and Lakewood</i> <i>23 years as an attorney</i> <i>Involvement in community: Lakewood Commission on Aging; Chamber of Commerce; Lakewood Senior Citizens, Inc.; League of Women Voters, Member Lakewood board of Education, 23 years</i>	<i>The mandate to teach all children to a higher level.</i>	<i>To accomplish this, educators must be better trained to address different learning styles, maturation issues, effective use of assessment and data; and yet retain arts education, teach deductive learning, honor cultural differences, make learning fun and challenging.</i>
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Dawn L. DeFreeze

<i>Founder Ruth 2:12 Ministries/ Lakewood Youth & Family Renaissance</i> <i>Speaker</i> <i>Cleveland Heights High School Graduate</i> <i>Community College/Major- Early Child</i> <i>Springs of Life Bible College</i>	<i>Background in education</i> <i>20 years experience teaching/ mentoring youth</i> <i>Co-chair Climate-Conduct committee (2005-06)</i> <i>Youth Master Plan (2006-07)</i> <i>Citizens for Lakewood’s Children (2006-07)</i> <i>Young women’s Achievement Group (Current)</i>	<i>The most challenging issue facing the school system is the breakdown of the family, and it is being displayed academically, socially and emotionally in our students.</i>	<i>I would seek to put in place specific programming to address crisis areas, bridging community resources and programs.</i> <i>And would also increase practical parent/teacher supports.</i>
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W. Charles Geiger

<i>President, Geiger’s Clothing and Sports</i> <i>B.A. Business</i> <i>Economics, Wittenberg University</i>	<i>Current member Lakewood Board of Education serving 21 years. Lifelong resident, graduate Lakewood High. Lakewood businessman. Current civic activities include Lakewood Hospital Foundation Trustee; LCPI/ Mainstreet Trustee; Kiwanis’ Director First Federal Lakewood; Chamber of Commerce Economic Development Committee</i>	<i>Maintaining and strengthening the community’s confidence in our public schools. Our community is changing and the needs of our student population are more demanding. Our mission is to provide the highest quality educational opportunities for ALL students, while balancing our fiscal resources with our community’s expectations.</i>	<i>Raise our expectations for student achievement. Improvement initiatives include: Mandating an “Excellent” state report card designation. Providing a safe school climate where student conduct is civil. Communicating with and involving our parents and community in the active life of our schools. Completing our building projects on time and on budget.</i>
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Martin Lowell

<i>Owner and operator of custom painting plus a contractor doing business in the city of Lakewood</i> <i>Graduate of Lakewood High School, attended Cleveland State University</i>	<i>Served as vice president and president of Franklin PTA</i> <i>Business owner for 17 years</i> <i>Served on St. Mark’s Church Council</i>	<i>The completion of the building and renovation of our school buildings and the eventual need for an operating levy</i>	<i>By showing that providing dependable, sustainable and sufficient funding and buildings, and that these additional resources are necessary to meet the rising expectations of state and federal standards and accountability, this would allow us to retain and retrain teachers, broaden access to technology and use proven strategies to improve learning.</i>
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Matthew John Markling

<i>School Attorney and University Professor</i>	<i>B.A. political science, summa cum laude with Honors in Liberal Arts, 1994;</i> <i>B.A. economics, summa cum laude with Distinction in Economics, 1994</i> <i>J.D., Public Service Fellow, 1997</i> <i>M.A. educational administration, John A. Ramseyer Fellow, 1998</i>	<i>I’m dedicated to improving academic excellence, school safety and leadership</i> <i>The most challenging issue facing the Lakewood City Schools is maintaining and developing leadership dedicated to improving academic excellence and school safety through open and honest communication with all key stakeholders. The Lakewood City Schools has a rich history of civic participation that can never be taken for granted.</i>	<i>Leadership must expect academic excellence and works to ensure that appropriate resources are provided to ensure that success. Leadership must expect school safety through total compliance with the student code of conduct including the dress code and ID requirements – “every period, every day.”</i>
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Real Estate

Colors Of Autumn

by Sunny Updegrave,
Realtor-Prudential Lucien

Are you selling your home now or thinking ahead to spring? In this difficult selling period, some homes have languished on the market for months, while others have sold quickly at top prices. The most effective and least expensive “remodeling” is a \$25 gallon of paint and a good brush and roller. A good Realtor or Home Stager will be helpful in choosing colors that will appeal to the broad, varied and valuable buyers that come knocking at your freshly painted front door.

The Golden Rules from today’s buyers:
Take down the wallpaper (Yes, EVERY bit of it, including borders). Unless the home is a genuine in-period, museum-quality restoration, wallpaper is a no-no. If the surface was properly prepared prior to papering, this won’t be too difficult, although time consuming and messy.

Get rid of the faux painting (I know, I know...rags, sponges, rakes...it was fun to experiment with, BUT, it’s a goner). Watch out for the additional texture created by the unevenness of the paint. Professional painters remind us that latex paint is rubber-based and won’t sand easily. A light skim coat of plaster may be necessary to return to smooth walls.

Do not whitewash every room (It’s cheap looking and BORING!). In days

gone by, Realtors and builders always used “Relocation Beige” as a solution to Everybuyer’s taste. This is no longer true. Today’s neutrals are more varied and desirable than ever before.

When it comes to refreshing wall surfaces, choosing paint color can really be a challenge. While you may feel that there are so many choices you’re bound to find the right one, you may end up feeling that there are so many choices that you don’t know where to start! The color wheel of decorating for the main living areas should concentrate on warmer neutrals. The browns include tan, khaki, cocoa and greens, from sage to celery. While the darker jewel tones may perk up your imagination, for broader appeal, stick to the light to medium range. When changing from a deep color to a lighter one, be sure to give careful consideration to finding the appropriate primer to use (using two coats of the new color will NOT provide the trueness of shade). Check with professionals to determine if the deep tone-based or gray primers will be necessary for proper coverage and a more accurate final product.

Fine Wine, Hearts of Palm, White Beet, Butternut, Rice Grain, Sundried Tomato, Lemon Chiffon and Cherries Jubilee...think this is a menu plan for a holiday cocktail party? Think again and check the color palette from Sherwin Williams (best advice from this writer - Don’t go paint shopping when hungry)!

Two Lakewood Homes Designed By Notable Architectural Team

by Val Mechenbier
Realtor-Prudential Lucien

The architectural team of Benjamin S. Hubbell (1867-1953) and W. Dominick Benes (1857-1935) became one of Cleveland’s leading architectural firms of the early 1900s. After breaking away from a larger firm to establish their partnership in 1897, their first major project was Wade Memorial Chapel in Lake View Cemetery (1901). They went on to design many other important public structures in Cleveland, most notably the West Side Market (1912), the YMCA (1912), and the Cleveland Museum of Art (1916). Hubbell & Benes also

designed the Ohio Bell Telephone Co. building, one of Cleveland’s early skyscrapers and a notable example of Art Deco architecture.

Hubbell & Benes also designed two residences in Lakewood. The home at 17831 Lake Road, built in 1906, was built for Harry Gesham, private secretary to Jephtha Wade (Lakewood village trustee and Lakewood City councilman). And 17856 Lake Road was built in 1908 for Stephen L. Pierce, president of the S.L. Pierce Company, makers of ladies & children’s shoes. Lakewood is fortunate to have homes designed by Hubbell & Benes as part of the architectural diversity that makes Lakewood an attractive place to live.

Lakewood Real Estate Information
(According to Multiple Listing Service)
by Kathy Lewis

August	2006	2007
Multi-Family Closed	14	11
Multi-Family Pending (Under Contract)	13	16

Interesting Real Estate Information
Lakewood Multi-Family Homes
Currently for Sale in Multiple Listing: 184

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Lakewood Real Estate

Free Seminar For Lakewood Rental Property Owners

by Emma Petrie Barcelona

Do you own a double or multi-family property in Lakewood? Are you considering buying investment property? Are you an owner-occupier of a double or multi-family property? Are you considering turning your single-family home into a rental? Do you work as a real estate professional in Lakewood? If so, you may want to attend a free program on rental property laws and issues. On Saturday October 27, 2007 the City of Lakewood, along with the Housing Research and Advocacy Center, is offering a free seminar for landlords, real estate professionals, and anyone interested in

the laws and regulations surrounding rental property. This program is designed to educate landlords and real estate professionals about fair housing and landlord tenant laws, the new City of Lakewood Nuisance Ordinance, the Good Neighbor Guide, prevention of lead-based paint hazards, and home improvement loans and rebates available to rental property owners. The seminar will be interactive, allowing participants to ask questions during the presentations. One CEU credit is available for licensed real estate agents. Presenters include Jeffrey D. Dillman, Executive Director with the Housing Research and Advocacy Center; Mike Piepsny, Executive Director of

the Cleveland Tenants Organization; Sergeant Ed Favre, Lakewood Police Department; Sue Becker, RN, Division of Health; and Jim Blocksidge, Project Specialist with the Division of Community Development.. These are all experts in their respective fields of Fair Housing, landlord-tenant, and local laws, along with lead paint and improvement issues. Overall, the goal of the seminar is to help inform those involved with rental properties to be informed of the laws and responsibilities with regard to these federal, state, and local laws. This seminar will be informative and useful for those who already own rental property as well as those considering such ownership. Ultimately, the better informed property owners are about these laws and regulations, the better the investment returns may be for residential property, and all to the betterment of the entire community.

As an entitlement city that receives the Community Development Block Grants from the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the City of Lakewood must engage in fair housing activities. This is one of the ways in which the City promotes fair housing. This seminar is offered twice a year. Registration opens at 8:30 am in the Auditorium at Lakewood City Hall, 12650 Detroit Ave. The seminar begins at 9:00 am and will conclude at noon. A light breakfast will be served. Since space is limited, please pre-register for the seminar by contacting Hope Farmby, Fair Housing Specialist with the Housing Research and Advocacy Center at (216)361-9240 or hfarmby@thehousingcenter.org Please contact Emma Petrie Barcelona, Grants Administrator, for the City of Lakewood at 216-529-7680 or Emma.Barcelona@lakewoodoh.net

Realty Reality Your Questions Answered...

by Maggie Fraley

Realtor-Prudential Lucien

“What is a tray ceiling?”

There are many types of ceilings from basic flat to dropped ceiling tiles. But some provide a bit more than just function because of their striking architectural interest such as Cathedral, Coffered, Beamed, Tin, and another popular option, the Tray ceil-

ing. With its flat raised panel in the middle and sloping planes that angle down to meet the walls, it actually looks like an inverted tray. This type of ceiling is often seen in older homes with traditional architecture that we frequently see in Lakewood; it has also been revived as a design choice in some new construction. This raised tray ceiling adds style and height to a room.

A large real estate lender called FIRST National Bank took out a billboard, giving the wrong message, “Loans make life easier, at FIRST.”

Warning for rental properties From InmanWiki, the online Real Estate encyclopedia:

There’s a scam involving people who are trying to lease properties. The prospective tenant writes a check greater than the amount of the rent, says it’s an oversight, and then asks you to immediately wire back the difference – before your bank realizes the check is rubber. The contributor got to experience this firsthand with a lead that came off of Craig’s List... please recognize it, in case someone tries it on you. It works particularly well if the landlord is in a hurry to rent the property.

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or owner occupancy*Newer windows*Dual-
sided driveway for extra parking options.
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1455 Northland Ave * Lakewood
The Charm Of Yesterday*Lots of natural woodwork*
Solid concrete exterior*This home is on a great
street and is a fabulous rehab opportunity.
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1609 St. Charles Ave * Lakewood
Gorgeous Renovation (2007)*Refinished floors*
Two new baths*Fantastic kitchen*Stainless
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1378 Hall Ave * Lakewood
Pretty Front Porch Colonial*Gorgeous hardwood
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12987 Lake Ave * Lakewood
Elegant Brick Center Hall Colonial*Five bedrooms*
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17815 Lakewood Hts Blvd * Lakewood
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St. John West Shore Hospital Medical Milestones

A Leisurely Day of Golf Becomes a Lifesaving Day Thanks To St. John West Shore Hospital's New 12-Lead EKG Equipment

Sixty-eight-year-old Dave Preston was enjoying the day golfing, but after playing a few holes he started feeling slight chest discomfort. Initially he dismissed it as indigestion. It wasn't. Dave was having a heart attack.

North Ridgeville EMS and paramedics immediately connected him to specially designed advanced 12-Lead EKG monitoring equipment that began transmitting critical data back to St. John West Shore Hospital's new LIFENET Receiving Station. As part of its ongoing commitment to healthcare excellence, the Hospital recently became the first on Cleveland's west side to acquire and implement the innovative 12-Lead EKG system.

With the real-time 12-Lead EKG data received from the ambulance, Roy Seitz, MD, Medical Director of St. John West Shore Hospital's Emergency Department, was able to diagnose Dave before he even arrived. Dave virtually bypassed the Emergency Department.

Dave credits Dr. Seitz, North Ridgeville EMS and the 12-Lead EKG equipment used that day with helping save his life, a life he's back to living fully. In fact, in his spare time Dave enjoys teeing off at the golf course as often as he can.

For a physician referral, please call 1-866-733-9112.

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Roy Seitz, MD, Medical Director, Emergency Department with
Dave Preston (right) and North Ridgeville EMS



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