

THE  
LAKEWOOD  
OBSERVER

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

Volume 4, Issue 14, July 8, 2008

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Lakewood On Parade For A Fun-Filled Fourth



Michael Gill and Tim Liston from BikeLakewood pulling an SUV on bikes for the length of the parade.  
by Thealexa Becker

In a summer that feels more like spring, the nation’s birthday fell on a surprisingly warm and clear day that heralded a spectacle on the streets and in the parks of Lakewood. In the morning, Lakewoodites lined the streets from Kenneth to Belle on Lake Avenue to watch the annual 4th of July Parade. There were over 80 different entries in the approximately hour and a half long parade.

“It was longer this year,” said Heidi Paul, a Lakewood resident who worked for Music Boosters. “I loved the parade, I always love the parade.”

With the number of entrants, it seemed as though anyone who wasn’t excitedly grasping for candy was marching in the parade. In fact, there were so many candy enthusiasts that many entrants tossing candy ran out by the time they reached Belle Ave. One entrant, LEAF Community, was even throwing produce.

There was something for everyone, from floats to smiling faces to a parade of motorcycles and cars. Lakewood sports teams drew cheers and there was music provided by several groups including the LHS Ranger

continued on page 10...



Lakewood’s one-man Drum Machne, Mark Timieski

Band2gether: Youth Band Kick-off Is Friday, July 11

Band2gether, a free, outdoor summer youth concert series will present its inaugural show on Friday, July 11 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the municipal parking lot next to Sinagra Park in the heart of downtown Lakewood. Youth rock bands, Little Known Fact and Back for More, will be featured at

the Band2gether concert series debut.

The goal of the Band2gether 2008 concert series is to showcase the abilities of young musicians of middle school and high school age, while celebrating the diversity of talent in the Lakewood community.

“Enjoying Band2gether will be a

great way to start the weekend,” said Mary Anne Crampton, Executive Director of Main Street Lakewood and co-presenter along with Lakewood Is Art and Vance Music Studios. “It gives employees in the area an unique entertainment option after the work week, and provides families with yet another reason to come downtown Lakewood.”

“The talent of these kids is just amazing,” reports Chris Vance, owner of Vance Music Studios. “The audience will be truly impressed with the energy and passion these musicians bring to their craft.”

Band2Gether is made possible with the additional support of Lakewood Hospital, a Cleveland Clinic Hospital, the City of Lakewood, Cox Cable, Lakewood Observer, Dave’s Cosmic Subs in Lakewood and The Lakewood Foundation.

Main Street Lakewood is a program of Lakewood Community Progress Inc., a 501-c (3) tax-exempt organization dedicated to the revitalization of Lakewood’s historic downtown district.

Lakewood Is Art us a nonprofit, 501-(c)(3) organization dedicated to facilitating a dynamic local arts environment through partnerships, funding, advocacy and support services to the Lakewood arts community

In This Issue	
Events & Notices .....	2
Lakewood Public Library ....	6
Walk & Roll .....	7
Lakewood Business News ...	7
Lakewood Sports .....	9
4th of July Parade .....	10 -11
Pulse Of The City .....	14
Lakewood Perspective .....	15
Letters To The Editor .....	16
Arts & Entertainment .....	17
Conservation Corner .....	18
Classifieds .....	20

Come Out To 3rd Annual Starry Night, Friday August 1st

# 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](http://www.lakewoodobserver.com)

## Nature’s Bin Dog Wash Is July 12th



It’s that time of year again! Two of Lakewood’s favorite institutions are getting together to raise funds for our city’s homeless pets. This is a great opportunity to have fun, help a good cause, and clean your pooch!

The Citizens Committee for a Lakewood Animal Shelter (CCLAS) will hold its Annual Dog Wash on Saturday, July 12 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Dog Wash will be held at Nature’s Bin, located at 18120 Sloane Avenue, Lakewood. Proceeds from the Dog Wash will support programs for, and pay expenses of, the Lakewood Animal Shelter.

CCLAS is a non-profit organiza-

tion that helps support the Lakewood Animal Shelter. CCLAS covers expenses for adoption kits, spaying/neutering, and other miscellaneous goods and services provided by the Shelter.

Prices for the Dog Wash are \$10 for small dogs, \$15 for medium dogs, and \$20 for large dogs. CCLAS asks that patrons bring their own towels and combs.

If you’re interested in volunteering for the event or have any additional questions, please contact CCLAS volunteer, Lisa Ellis, at 216-221-3290 or [lisaellis@ameritech.net](mailto:lisaellis@ameritech.net). Also, visit CCLAS at [www.cclas.info](http://www.cclas.info).



## Homewood Block Party 2008

by Mary Breiner

Homewood Drive residents got together for a fun, relaxing evening on June 28. After a day of severe thunderstorms, the skies cleared and residents were able to enjoy a beautiful summer night of games, visiting and most of all eating great pot luck food.

## Joe Beno Appointed Public Works Director

Mayor Ed FitzGerald has appointed Lakewood resident Joseph J. Beno as the Director of Public Works for the City of Lakewood. The appointment became official during yesterday’s council meeting.

Joe is a Professional Engineer and a life-long resident of the City of Lakewood. Upon graduating from Lakewood High School, Joe attended Case Western Reserve University where he received his Civil Engineering degree. Prior to joining the City, Joe worked for Great Lakes Construction Company. He was a superintendent and engineer for bridge and highway construction.

“Joe Beno is an outstanding professional who brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to this important position,” stated Mayor FitzGerald. “As a lifelong Lakewood resident raising a

family here, he also has a personal stake in our city services.”

**All of the directors Mayor FitzGerald has appointed since he took office are Lakewood residents.**

**West End Tavern**  
**presents:**  
**Tuesdays**  
Burgers ‘n Beer  
our \$6.95 Gourmet Burger  
and fries @ **\$3.00**. Magic Hat #9  
and Dortmund Gold pints @ **\$2.00**.

**Wednesdays**  
**\$2.00**  
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**Sunday**  
Gourmet A La Carte Brunch  
10 am featuring Mega Mimosas

**Saturday Brunch**  
ala carte Breakfast & Lunch  
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**Bloody Mary Bar**

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

Design by: [www.jenniguladesign.com](http://www.jenniguladesign.com)

**WHAT:** A **FREE** outdoor summer youth concert series

**WHEN:** Friday nights, beginning July 11 and ending August 29 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

**WHERE:** Municipal parking lot next to Sinagra Park in the heart of downtown Lakewood (see back for schedule)

A concert series to celebrate our community’s rich talent and diversity by showcasing the talents of young musicians of middle school and high school age.

For more info: [www.vancemusicstudios.com](http://www.vancemusicstudios.com) • 216.227.2886

**VMS** VANCE MUSIC STUDIOS

**Lakewood Hospital** a Cleveland Clinic hospital

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**3:00 PM - 6:00 PM**

**LAKESIDE PARK KIWANIS PAVILION**  
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Your Independent Source for Lakewood News & Opinion

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**216.228.7223**

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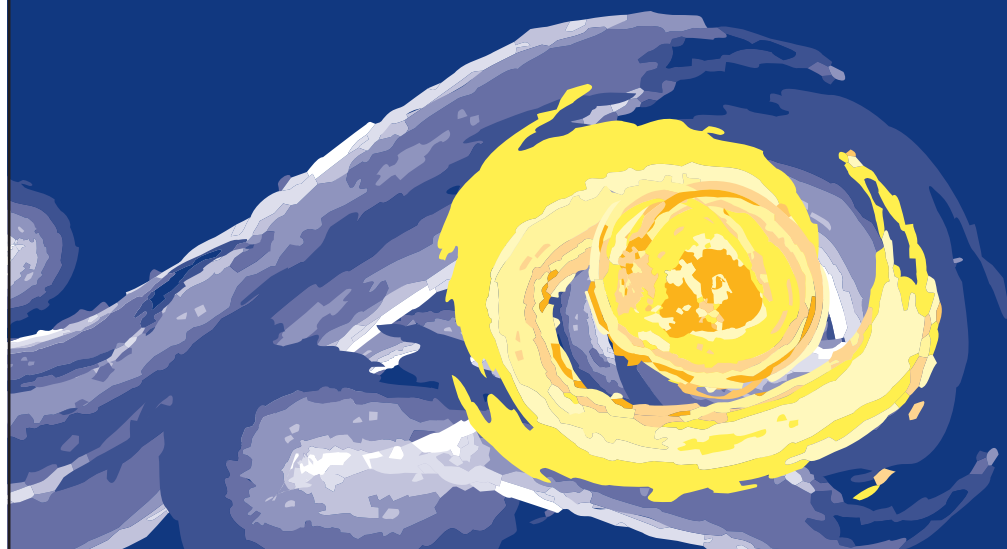
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# starry night

Third time's the  
most charming yet!

Join us as we help  
create brighter futures!

**Friday, August 1, 2008**

6 to 7 p.m. | VIP Reception

7 to 10 p.m. | Cocktails & Gourmet Food Stations

14519 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood

Enjoy a radiant evening under the stars at our third annual Starry Night as we raise money for the Lakewood Hospital Diabetes Center and Lakewood Arts Festival Scholarship Fund.

This year's event will include music from The Bottom Line with dancing under the stars, delicious cuisine and a live auction of local artists' interpretation of Van Gogh's *Starry Night*.



30 Year Anniversary

Visit [lakewoodhospital.org/starrynight](http://lakewoodhospital.org/starrynight) or call  
**216.529.7009. Personal check and/or credit  
card accepted.**

Ticket prices begin at \$100.

# Lakewood Observer

## Citizen Journalism And The Newseum

by Stan Austin

I have always been a news junkie. And now I am also a citizen journalist. Imagine my curiosity when I learned (from a newspaper article) that there was a new museum in Washington D.C. devoted to those two passions appropriately called the Newseum.

I travel to our capital several times a year and each time I try to focus on one museum or historical site. Most of the museums in D.C. are under the Smithsonian umbrella and admission is free. They range from the arts and history, to junk and technology. Many of the government departments have their own museums. History buffs would probably find the National Archives the most relevant of these museums.

I generally enter a museum with no preconceptions and let the curator's intentions and plan chart the path for my visit. I do enter a museum, however, with one expectation of my visit in mind: to have a better understanding of my world and my place in it.

Such was my mindset when I visited the Newseum a few weeks ago. I was slightly concerned from having read a few critical reviews after its opening. And the \$20 admission charge sent off some alarms. This wasn't some crass commercial thing like the Spy Museum, was it?

The building is located at 555



The Newseum was built on the last remaining open site on Pennsylvania Avenue.

Pennsylvania Avenue midway between the U.S. Capital and the White House. Many museums have a unique symbol, such as an XR 71 airplane for the Space and Aeronautics Museum. The Newseum has taken the words of the First Amendment to the Constitution as its raison d'être. An entire half of a five story wall is devoted to those words. It is that amendment which in fact sets

the ground rules for journalism and to a larger extent our role as citizens.

The sidewalk along Pennsylvania Avenue is lined with displays of front pages of major daily papers from the U.S. and abroad. Upon entering, visitors are directed to a short 3D film which highlights the role of journalism in the history of our country and gives a basic outline of the museum. From there you head to the sixth floor on a very high tech elevator. An outside terrace affords a dramatic view of the Capital and America's Main Street.

The other five levels display many of the components that are part of today's electronic and print journalism including original front page editions of newspapers. In predicting future trends in journalism, a modest nod is given to citizen journalists.

On a more local note, when the museum was collecting materials from media across the country, Lakewood Observer publisher Jim O'Bryan offered to send in a copy of our paper. The offer was declined. According to O'Bryan they were "not at this point prepared to take citizen newspapers on."

Many of the exhibits bring up instant memories of events in the recent past with a heavy emphasis on television

news. For those in the National Public Radio community (local station WCPN 90.3) the weekly broadcast of Face the Nation takes place in the Knight Studio on Wednesday afternoons. A live T.V. broadcast auditorium is used for demonstrations during the day.

At the end of my visit I had a very mixed feeling about the Newseum. I felt that in essence it was a self congratulatory exercise on the part of the large media giants who financed its construction. Although the press has been part of our country since its founding this seems to be an attempt to literally cement the place of the Fourth Estate into the nation's capital. And I felt that throughout the Newseum the media sponsors were not too subtly reminding our lawmakers of the place of journalism in the nation's affairs.

Where does that leave Observer readers and contributors here in Lakewood? My visit left me without an answer. We do help residents "learn about our city" (the Observer Mission Statement). I am reminded about that by readers on a daily basis. As far as your next visit to Washington D.C.? I think that there are many other museums that you can avail yourself of before visiting this one.



### LUNCH & LEARN

**Dr. Geho**  
**MetroHealth**  
**Medical Center**  
**presents**



#### "HEART ATTACK VS. STROKE"

**Do you know the difference between a heart attack and a stroke?**

**What about the symptoms of each?**

**Learn the differences, signs and symptoms of each, and actions to take if you think you are having one.**

**Thursday, July 17, 2008**  
**11:00 a.m.**

**1381 Bunts Road, Lakewood**  
(Campus is on NE Corner of Bunts & Detroit.)

**RSVP by July 15th to 216-226-4010.**  
Complimentary lunch buffet to follow program!



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## LAKEWOODnewlife

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**"Join us at Lakewood Park  
on Sunday July 27 at 11am for church in the park,  
free food, fun and give aways"**

**15300 Detroit Avenue  
Lakewood  
216-221-6174**

[www.lakewoodnewlifechurch.org](http://www.lakewoodnewlifechurch.org)

**Lakewood New Life is a non-denominational church**



Lakewood Observer

Lakewood Is The Best

by Peter Sackett

The challenge is before all of us: move east, move west, move south, or simply stay here in Lakewood. Speaking from personal experience, it sure seems like staying put is the best decision. The next step is to analyze the great things about this town and the other things that need a little push. So, here goes:

**1. Medical Care** – fantastic.

**2. Schools** – fantastic and getting even better. We need to pat ourselves on the back. We have passed the levies and the results are everywhere.

**3. Libraries** – the best. They’re open every night ‘til 9:00 pm, the staff is pleasant to say the least, and they have the crazy music and movies my boys want and everything else.

**4. YMCA** – awesome.

**5. Lakewood Park** – beyond awesome. Can’t watch the sunsets on the lake in Twinsburg.

**6. Diversity** – bring it on. We are all on this planet for a short period of time-- who cares what color skin we have or how we dress? Follow Generation Next and we will all get along.

**7. Shopping** – The Bin, Lion & Blue, that pet store on Madison; who needs box stores?

**8. Coffee, Bagels, and Pizza** – plenty of them, could use a second one, and, the more the better.

**9. Watering holes** – they keep young people in our community. A little respect for the neighbors is what is missing.

**10. Our Neighborhoods** – the reason we are all here. We are a city of neighbors. Our great asset. Go to Avon and try to find a sidewalk with neighbors talking.

**11. Our Government** – they continue to have our best interests in mind.

**12. Our Court** – Judge Carroll runs one hell of a court. Not easy being the guy everyone points to.

**13. Green** – we are doing pretty darn good. We need food compost centers in every neighborhood and we need to keep recycling on everyone’s mind.

**14. The Roads** – Well, Detroit is nice; Clifton is next. Boy, I wish Bill Gates would help take care of all the rest.

**15. July 4th** – our greatest day.

**16. Our Police** – the results are clear.

**17. Public Transit** – downtown in 20 minutes for two bucks.

**18. Clifton Beach** – what makes us different.

**19. Lakewood Observer** – what makes us different.

**20. Post Office** – perfect location and always open.

**21. Restaurants** – The Melt, India Garden, Players, Three Birds, John’s Diner, The Place To Be, and many more.

**22. Giant Eagle** – sure wish it wasn’t the only place to shop. A good reason to go to the West Side Market every Saturday morning. But, you can walk in wearing smelly clothes and un-kept hair. [Sure can’t do that at Heinens on Detroit in RR.]

**23. The People** – I have lived in many big and small cities. I have been here for a long time now. Look around and you will see that we all

have the same goals - get our kids through school, stay safe, stay green, stay healthy, stay happy, and walk our dogs.

Lakewood, for these and all the other reasons you can name, gets an A-plus.

Lakewood Historical Society Wins National Award

by Staff Writer

The Lakewood Historical Society is proud to announce that the Lakewood History Project, their collaborative educational program with the Discovery Class of Grant Elementary School, received an Award of Merit from the AASLH Leadership in History Award. The AASLH Leadership in History Award is the most prestigious recognition for achievement in the preservation and interpretation of state and local history.

The Lakewood History Project inspires children to learn about the history of their community and then to share it with others. The students study primary and secondary source material including maps, books, pamphlets and advertisements, internet searches and oral history interviews. Working individually, in small groups and as a class, students explore the appropriate area of Lakewood on foot and acquire and select historic photographs. Using all of this material, the students create a documentary movie. So far, the students created documentaries on The Heart of Lakewood, the Templar Automobile, the Birdtown neighborhood and Cowan Pottery.

The Lakewood History Project expanded their understanding of Lakewood, learning about everyday life in different neighborhoods,” explains Lakewood Historical Society Executive Director Mazie Adams. “They made lasting connections across generations, learning about history through the experiences and stories of their elders.”

The project was aided by the generosity of several community partners, including the Lakewood Public Library, the Cleveland State University Library Special Collections and WVIZ IdeaStream. Two of the movies are available for viewing through the society’s website: [www.lakewoodhistory.org](http://www.lakewoodhistory.org).

their stories.

“The Lakewood History Project provides a real service to the community by documenting local history and by introducing young children to the joy of history through exciting lessons they will remember as long as they live,” enthused Ms. Bluemel.

For more information on the ongoing preservation and education projects of the Lakewood Historical Society, visit [www.lakewoodhistory.org](http://www.lakewoodhistory.org).

Calling All Oenophiles!

by Paula Reed

The Lakewood Historical Society is putting the “fun” back in fundraiser with its Instant Wine Cellar. Society Trustee Heather Rudge brought the idea for this unique raffle to the Society’s Board, where it was enthusiastically received.

The Society is busily collecting donations of wine with the goal of amassing 100 bottles valued at over \$2,000. To make a tax-deductible donation, contact the society at 216-221-7343 or [lakewoodhistory@bge.net](mailto:lakewoodhistory@bge.net). You can also stop by Rozi’s Wine House to view the wine cellar wish list.

A Sample of the Cellar: Switchback Ridge Cabernet (California, \$140); Scholium Project Babylon Syrah (California, \$80); Diamond Mountain Cabernet (California, \$50); Frogs Leap Chardonnay (California, \$28); “27-29” Cabernet (California, \$45); Rock Syrah (California, \$40); Oakville Estate Cabernet (California, \$80); Cloudline Pinot Noir (Oregon, \$22); King Estate Pinot Gris (Oregon, \$28); Ponzi Tavola Pinot Noir (Oregon, \$34); Tamatrack Syrah (Washington, \$28); Villa Maria Pinot Noir (New Zealand, \$27); Pirramimma Shiraz (Australia, \$25); Samos (Greece, \$20); and Chianti Marchee (Italy, \$34).

Raffle tickets are \$5 each or three for \$10 and may be purchased online at [www.lakewoodhistorymuseumstore.com](http://www.lakewoodhistorymuseumstore.com), in person at the Oldest Stone House Museum (14710 Lake Avenue, Lakewood), or at Rozi’s Wine House (14900 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood). The winning ticket will be drawn on Saturday, September 6 at the Patron Party for the “Come Home to Lakewood” House Tour. **You need not be present to win.**

All proceeds from the Instant Wine Cellar benefit projects and programs of the Lakewood Historical Society.



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**Artists and Musicians**

The Lakewood Earth and Food community invites you to join us in creating a community festival on the front porch of the Lakewood library every Thursday night this summer.

**Art Tent**  
display your art in our on street art gallery

**Music Stage**  
Play solo or with friends on the front porch of the Lakewood Library. The library provides the sound system

Your services will be paid in kind with a plethora of fresh local produce!

contact Julie at [dancecafe@gmail.com](mailto:dancecafe@gmail.com) for more information or to sign up!

# Lakewood Public Library

## Why Don't You Come Up And See Christy Igo At Lakewood Public Library

by Martha Wood

On Sunday, July 20 at 2:00 p.m., actress Christy Igo will transform herself into Mae West for Lakewood Public Library's "Sunday with the Friends" series. She will entertain us with stories and jokes during her 40 minute program which will be followed by a short Q & A session. This program is geared to adults although Christy uses no crude jokes or language. Mae West was the master of innuendo and Christy's interpretation is a testament to this.

Christy's portrayal of Mae West has been awarded "best program of the year" by several local civic organizations. The

evening that she performed the program for the Cleveland ACLU, they had more new members join than in the known history of the organization!

Christy is a professional actress who has worked throughout the north-eastern U.S. for over ten years. She earned a B.F.A. from Ohio University's Professional Actor's training program and she also studied at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts in New York City. She has a two-year degree in History from Lorain County Community College. Igo combined her joint interest in theater and history and formed Herstory Productions in 1998. The company strives to educate as well

as entertain the public about women's history. Christy says, "Women have contributed vastly to the human condition, however their stories are often ignored or overlooked by society." Christy presents her programs at schools, museums and civic organizations throughout the United States. She portrayed Annie Oakley in a 2004 film produced by the Annie Oakley Foundation and she was invited by the curator of the Lizzie Borden Museum in Fall River, MA to present her Lizzie Borden program there. She also performed her program about Florence Nightingale for the Ohio Nursing Association in Columbus.



Christy Igo as Mae West

Christy became interested in Mae West because she views her as a pioneer among women actors. Christy says, "Mae handled all her finances and career moves and in 1934 she was the highest paid entertainer in the United States! Mae was a self-made woman who defied the stereotypes of women in her time by making fun of them."

It usually takes Christy between six and nine months to research a program and another two or three months of rehearsal. She generally visits the homes and memorable places connected to the women she portrays and she reads as much original source material as she can in order to speak using her subject's own words. Come up and see Christy Igo as Mae West on Sunday, July 20 at 2:00 p.m. in the Main Library auditorium at Lakewood Public Library.

## Becky Boyd Sings At The Lakewood Public Library July 13

by Amy Kloss

Join us for a different kind of summer fun at the Lakewood Public Library on Sunday, July 13 at 2:00 p.m. in the Main Library auditorium. Becky Boyd will offer an hour of outstanding vocals, singing everything from folk and country to blues and jazz. Guitarist Mike Dixon will accompany her.

With thirty years of experience playing the Cleveland clubs, Boyd combines great tone with tremendous

feel. Variety is key for Boyd's act. Blues was her major focus for many years, but she also sings folk, rock, country and jazz. She enjoys singing old standards, but also loves to kick out rock songs like *Let the Good Times Roll*. *Take the A Train* and *Summertime* are two of her favorite songs to perform because they offer an opportunity to scat and improvise.

Boyd has been performing in various musical groups for 30 years. She began singing in folk groups as a teenager and joined her first rock band as a

senior in high school. After she joined the band, The Delgados, in the late 1980s, Boyd began singing a lot of blues tunes, including Bonnie Raitt and Billie Holiday songs.

Her career has largely remained local, but Boyd did a small tour with Todd Rundgren and hopes to travel more in the future. For now, if you wish to hear Boyd's range of vocal talent, visit the Lakewood Public Library at 15425 Detroit Avenue on July 13 at 2:00 p.m. Programs are free and open to the public.

### Lakewood Public Library Event Calendar

**SUNDAY WITH THE FRIENDS:**  
**BECKY BOYD SINGS** (see article above)  
Sunday, July 13 at 2:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium  
**MAE WEST LIVE!** (see article above)  
Sunday, July 20 at 2:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium  
**SECOND SATURDAY FOLK MUSIC**  
Fritz Schaufele is back with an eclectic sampling of today's best folk musicians, drawn from a variety of traditions. His next program is a Fiddle Jam featuring old time country fiddle music. Performers are subject to change. Seating is limited. Doors open fifteen minutes prior to the performance. **Saturday, July 12 at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium**  
**LAKESWOOD HISTORICAL SOCIETY**  
**VINTAGE BASE BALL DOUBLE HEADER**  
Yes, it was two words originally. Ballists don period uniforms and recreate the game as it was meant to be played. Join the Lakewood Historical Society, the Forest City Base Ball Club and the Akron Blackstockings for an afternoon of learning, popcorn and fun! **Sunday, July 13 at 1:00 p.m. at the Oldest Stone House Field**  
**FIVE STAR FILMS:**  
**THE LIGHTHORSEMEN** (1987-Australia) Directed by Simon Wincer PG-13  
The true story of a World War I British commander in the field who receives an order to charge the desert town of Beersheba and capture its precious well before sundown. As the last, best hope, he deploys a detachment of Australian Light Horse to attempt the impossible by overrunning heavy enemy artillery. What follows is one of the most breathtaking scenes in cinematic history. **Saturday, July 19 at 6:00 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. 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. **Programs are held in the Activity Room at Main Library and the basement at the Madison Branch.**  
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.  
July 11, 12, 13: Slithering Surprises  
July 18, 19, 20: Camping Out  
**SPECIAL FRIDAY PERFORMANCES:**

**Creatures with Many Legs** (and some with none)  
presented by the Lake Erie Science and Nature Center  
Friday, July 11 at 3:00 p.m. 3:00 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room  
**Michael Roy's Origami Fun**  
Friday, July 25 at 3:00 p.m. at the Madison Branch  
All ages welcome. Seating is limited. Doors open 15 minutes before performance.  
**BUG OFF:** Crafts and activities for children kindergarten through eighth grade  
Stop in for a variety of cool summer programs. There is no need to register; however, to schedule groups, please call Main Library (216) 226-8275, ext. 140 or Madison Branch (216) 228-7428.  
**Six-Week Summer Season: Monday, June 16 – Thursday, July 24**  
Monday-Thurs at 11:30 a.m. at the Main Library and 3:00 p.m. at Madison Branch  
Monday-Creepy, Crawly Crafts  
Tuesday-Insect Games  
Wednesday-Buggy Book Adventures  
Thursday-Creepy, Crawly Crafts  
**SUPER SUMMER STORIES**  
Drop in for some summer fun with stories, songs and movements. There is no need to register; however, to schedule groups, please call (216) 226-8275, ext. 140.  
**Six-Week Summer Season: Monday, June 16 – Thursday, July 24/**  
Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. and Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m.  
In the Main Library Children's and Youth Services Department  
**SUMMER READING CLUB 2008:**  
**CATCH THE READING BUG!** For children age birth through fifth grade  
Monday, May 12 – Saturday, August 16  
Feeling sluggish, antsy, or somewhere in-between? Join the Summer Reading Club and choose to complete 30 books or 30 hours of reading. Visit the Reading Club table once a week to collect bug stamps and tickets toward prize drawings. Receive a certificate, a nameplate and a special reward when you finish the club. In the Children's and Youth Services Department at Main Library and Madison Branch  
**METAMORPHOSIS:** For students sixth through twelfth grade  
**Monday, May 12 – Saturday, August 16**  
Summer Reading Club has been transformed for teens and tweens. Choose to complete 30 books or 30 hours of reading and earn chances for prizes. Stop by the Reading Club table to sign up or for more information.  
In the Children's & Youth Services Dept. at Main Library and Madison Branch

# Lakewood Walk & Roll

## Walk & Roll, Lakewood!

by Kristen Verciglio

Lakewood is one of the most walker-friendly communities in the Cleveland area. Detroit Avenue is lined with shops, restaurants, bars and coffee shops- not to mention downtown also houses the award winning Lakewood Public Library, the post office and anything else a pedestrian could need within a radius of a few blocks. It is virtually a pedestrian's playground; the perfect solution for the environmentally conscious and the sticker-shocked, gas guzzling general public.

But this walkable city is not only easy on the environment and the wallet; it provides the perfect backdrop for a healthy and active lifestyle. On July 19, 2008 Lakewood residents and visitors will have a perfect opportunity to make great use of Lakewood's walkability and its finest assets, at Walk & Roll Lakewood. Families will have a chance to spend a full and fun evening enjoying our vibrant downtown, historic architecture and spectacular Lakewood Park.

From 4pm to 9pm, two-miles of

streets in the heart of our urban community (Detroit Avenue from Belle to the library, and Belle from Detroit to Lakewood Park) will be closed for walking, running, strolling, bicycling, blading and socializing. Programming includes tumbling, dancing, aerobics, yoga, a bike rodeo, skateboard demonstrations and more. All activities are free and will take place on the streets or in Lakewood Park. Visitors will have the opportunity to join "classes" on an impromptu basis. This is a progressive and unique event for health, environmental and community-minded Ohioans.

Getting to Walk & Roll will be just as fun. Rockport Square's "Lolly the Trolley" will be giving FREE rides to and from downtown Lakewood throughout the evening. Walk & Roller's can arrive at Rockport Square by vehicle (plenty of parking is available) and enjoy a breezy and fun trip to Walk & Roll Lakewood via one of northeast Ohio's most unique modes of transportation.

Secured bike parking will also be available at the municipal park next

to Lakewood Park, courtesy of Bike Lakewood, as well as vehicle parking near downtown at the designated areas on the Walk & Roll Lakewood map.

And speaking of bicycling, it may be a surprise to some Lakewood Residents that the City of Lakewood requires bikers to obtain a bicycle license. Not to worry, City of Lakewood employees will be on hand to register bicycles and provide licenses for those who have yet to sign up. This program has proven to be extremely helpful in locating lost or stolen bicycles, so residents should not miss this opportunity to register.

In keeping with the goal of promoting active and healthy lifestyles, food and refreshments will not be sold during this event, so come ready to stroll, roll and play- but don't forget to bring your water bottle! For more information and to view a full schedule, go to [www.walkroll.com](http://www.walkroll.com) and click on W+R Lakewood.



## Walk & Roll Lakewood Program Schedule

Check out the update at [www.walkroll.com](http://www.walkroll.com)  
\* Most Activities Include the Opportunity for Audience Participation - Come Join In!  
**LOCATION / SPONSOR AND PROGRAM**

**Rockport Square**  
Free Lolly the Trolley Rides to and from Rockport Square  
Park & Ride to Come join the Fun

**Lakewood Library Front Porch Beck Center for the Arts**  
4:15 p.m. - Improv Challenge  
5:00 p.m. - Pilates w/Emily Hudson - Join in - Mats provided  
6:00 p.m. - Musical Interlude w/Cody Hanzel

**Masonic Temple/YMCA of Lakewood**  
P.A.C.E. Tumblers  
Jazzercise  
Class demonstrations

**Sinagra Park / BikeLakewood**  
Free & Secure Bike Parking Provided

**Cook Avenue Area**  
**Cleveland Federation of Square Dance Club**  
Come watch or join the Square Dancing

**Jordan's Family Foundation**  
Heart Health Awareness

**INA Building / Cyrano's**  
Fencing demonstrations.

**Cox Cable (Stop in at Main Street office across from Geiger's)**  
Free soft frisbees to 1st 100 Families from Cox Cable

**Pacer's Plaza**  
**Lakewood Recreation Department**  
Program and Sports Demonstrations

**Einstein's Parking Lot**  
Bike Rodeo - Children's Bike Safety Fun

**Spin Bike Shop**  
Flatland Bicycle Trick Demos

**BikeLakewood - "Hummer" Bike Pull**

**City of Lakewood - Police Dept.**  
Bicycle Registration & Licensing

**Lakewood Hospital Green Lakewood Hospital**  
Bubble Machine  
Flower the Clown  
Spin the Wheel  
Free Jump Ropes and Beach Balls  
Blood Pressure Readings

**St. Charles Green Lakewood Soccer Association**  
Soccer demonstrations and Fall Soccer Registration Available

**Lakewood Park Bandshell**  
Dance Performances  
5:00 p.m. Troupe Benazir  
6:30 p.m. Silhouette Dance Studio Dancers  
7:00 p.m. Troupe Benazir  
7:30 p.m. Silhouette Dance Stuido Dancers  
8:30 p.m. Sirens

**Lakewood Skate Park**  
4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Skate Board Lessons  
FREE SKATEBOARD LESSONS (helmuts supplied)  
Lakewood Skaters Assoc. will provide FREE HANDBOOK  
6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Skateboard Demonstration  
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Lakewood Observer

# Old House Magazine Names Lakewood The Best!

by Paula Reed

Lakewood has received national recognition by This Old House Magazine, one of a select group of cities in the country to receive their endorsement. Lakewood appears as one of the Best Places To Buy An Old House in all the following categories: In The Midwest; For Families With Kids; For First-Time Buyers; For Art Lovers; and For Queen Annes. Lakewood’s profile can be found at: [http://www.thisoldhouse.com/toh/photos/0,,20208101\\_20473908,00.html](http://www.thisoldhouse.com/toh/photos/0,,20208101_20473908,00.html)

Lakewood was nominated by the Lakewood Historical Society in May 2007 when Executive Director Mazie Adams became aware that This Old House Magazine was looking for candidates. What a surprise when, more than a year later, she was notified that Lakewood was in the running. The judges looked at architectural diversity, the craftsmanship of the homes, and the preservation momentum in the area as well as features like walkability, services, and community. City Council’s approval in May of preservation legislation was a big plus in the judges decision.

The nomination that caught the attention of This Old House Magazine reminds us of the many aspects of Lakewood’s history, architecture and amenities that make it such a great place to live:

Lakewood, Ohio - The Best Place to Buy an Old House. The Lakewood Historical Society wishes to nominate Lakewood, Ohio as one of “The Best Places to Buy an Old House.” Lakewood is a predominately residential first-ring suburb situated immediately west of Cleveland along the southern shore of Lake Erie. At 5.6 square miles and with a 2000 population of 56,600, this



community is one of the most densely populated cities between New York and Chicago. It also is truly one of “The Best Places to Buy an Old House.” The city, originally part of Rockport Township, which was formed in 1818, became the hamlet of Lakewood in 1889, and was incorporated as a city in 1911. In spite of its early beginnings, the majority of Lakewood’s development occurred between 1890 and 1930. Today, the entire city of Lakewood is eligible as a National Register historic district because of the city’s development patterns as an early 20th century streetcar suburb and its extensive collection of over 13,000 eligible buildings. Lakewood’s building stock, which includes all sizes and price ranges, reflects the popular architectural styles of the period -Queen Anne, Colonial Revival, Shingle, Arts & Crafts, Four-square, Neoclassic Revival, Spanish Revival, Tudor, and French. These charming homes, located on tree-lined

streets, are brimming with natural woodwork, built-in cabinets, hardwood floors, stained and leaded-glass windows, and lots of curb appeal. The large number of single-family homes was augmented during the 1920’s with the construction of many two-family houses and apartment buildings. Other housing options include row houses and apartments above commercial storefronts.

Statistics provided by the Northern Ohio Multiple Listing Service show 507 single-family homes sold during the period 1/1/06-5/21/07. The average house sold was 1,777 sq. ft., and the average sale price was \$164,400. Over the same period, 165 multi-family homes (2-4 units) were sold, at an average price of \$141,000. Lakewood is a scenic, walkable, and bikeable community. Commercial activity is focused primarily along two original streetcar corridors. Locally-owned shops and restaurants, located in original and restored storefronts, predominate. The city is dotted with parks, including 31-acre Lakewood Park, which overlooks Lake Erie and is a gathering place for many community events, band concerts, and family activities. There is boating on the lake and on the Rocky River that serves as the city’s western boundary. At the southwest border is Rocky River Reservation, which is part of the Cleveland Metropark’s vast 21,000+ acre park system known as the “Emerald Necklace.” Lakewood boasts good schools; the country’s #1 ranked library for its size; its own hospital, which is a branch of the world-renowned Cleveland Clinic; professional local theatre, and instruction in the fine and performing arts at Beck Center for the Arts.

In addition, Lakewood’s proximity to Cleveland, with easy access by car or public transportation, lets residents take advantage of the many professional sporting events, visual and performing arts venues, museums, and other cultural amenities found in downtown Cleveland and its surrounding neighborhoods.

Lakewood is also proud of its strong core of dedicated citizens and active non-profit organizations. LakewoodAlive ([www.lakewoodalive.com](http://www.lakewoodalive.com)) is a citizens’ economic development advocacy group formed by and for the citizens of Lakewood. The Lakewood Historical Society ([www.lakewoodhistory.org](http://www.lakewoodhistory.org)) is active in preserving and promoting the rich cultural and architectural history of Lakewood. Among the activities of the Lakewood Heritage Advisory Board ([www.lkwdpl.org/homepres/](http://www.lkwdpl.org/homepres/)) are technical assistance to residential and commercial building owners and its annual Preservation Awards, presented to homeowners in categories such as sustained maintenance and sympathetic additions.

Significant reinvestment is occurring, with major rehabilitation/reconstruction projects underway by the YMCA, the Lakewood City School District, and the Lakewood Library; the creation of upscale condominiums; and numerous storefront renovations. Lakewood’s downtown area has had the honor of recently being designated as a Main Street Community by the Ohio Main Street Program ([www.mainstreetlakewood.com](http://www.mainstreetlakewood.com)), and is one of only 32 such designations statewide. The city of Lakewood works with local lenders to offer a variety of rehabilitation programs for homeowners and landlords, as well as a down payment assistance program targeted toward helping renters become homeowners. Cuyahoga County, in partnership with the Cleveland Restoration Society, offers low-interest loan programs for restoration of historic buildings. Comprehensive preservation legislation is currently under consideration by city government.

Lakewood strives to maintain its historic character and quality of life, while working to attract new residents, as well as commercial and industrial investment. For old house aficionados, Lakewood provides a cornucopia of homes filled with charm, history, and great workmanship; an abundance of recreational, educational, and cultural amenities; and a great quality of life at an affordable price.

Calling all Rockers!

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For information contact: The Academy for Rock Stars; 216.410.4827  
[www.theacademyforrockstars.com](http://www.theacademyforrockstars.com) or The Lakewood Recreation Dept at 216.529.4081

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Lakewood Sports

# Vintage Baseball In Lakewood

by Mazie Adams

Enjoy a fabulous summer afternoon in Lakewood Park by watching vintage base ball! Vintage Base Ball is base ball (yes, it was two words originally) played by the rules and customs of an earlier period. Ballists don period uniforms and recreate the game ‘as it was meant to be played.’ The Lakewood Historical Society is excited to host a vintage base ball double-header between the Akron Blackstockings and the Forest City Base Ball Club on Sunday July 13, 2008 at 1 p.m. at the Oldest Stone House field in Lakewood Park.

The mid-nineteenth century game was considerably different than today’s game. Ballists played with bare hands until the 1880s and balls caught on one bounce were outs until the mid-1860s. Balls are considered fair by where the ball first touches the ground. That is, a ball hit in front of home plate that then spins into foul territory is still a fair ball. There are numerous other differences, but modern spectators will still recognize our national pastime.

Both teams are lots of fun to

watch. They explain the rules of the game throughout, engage the spectators and even encourage kids to try out the old fashioned bat and ball. Don’t miss seeing “America’s Pastime” as it was meant to be played!

This event is free and open to the public. For more information on the events, contact [www.lakewoodhistory.org](http://www.lakewoodhistory.org) or 216 221-7343. For more information on vintage base ball, check out [www.vbba.org](http://www.vbba.org).

**A Brief History of the Game**

In 1845, Alexander Joy Cartwright, Doc Adams and others were early members of a group of young professionals who made up the Knickerbocker Base Ball Club. The Knickerbockers began the process of formalizing the rules (e.g. bases set at 30 paces or 90 feet apart, establishing foul territory, etc.) in the late 1840s and early 1850s. Establishing clear foul territory was a major improvement as it allows spectator to get up close enough to the action to become interested in the game.

By the mid to late 1850s, more than a dozen teams with names like the Eagles,

Empires, Excelsiors, Putnams, Unions and Atlantics had formed in New York City and Brooklyn to play the Knickerbocker or New York game of base ball. In 1858, the National Association of Base-Ball Players was formed. By 1860, the number of teams playing skyrocketed as teams formed in other cities like Philadelphia and Washington. Gradually other variants of the game, most notably the Massachusetts game, died out in favor of the New York game.

The Knickerbockers modeled their club after the gentlemen’s clubs that had been organized in cricket. The Knickerbockers seemingly had more team rules and regulations about gentlemanly behavior than the game itself. But the popularity of the game, and the prospect of charging admission (first done in 1858), lured some working-class clubs into the game like the powerful Brooklyn Atlantics, whose main interest was to win.

After a brief lull during the Civil War, interest in the game of base ball was rekindled in the post-war years. As the popularity (and prospects for getting



The Akron Blacksocks with the Umpire

paying spectators) grew, still more professionalism crept into the game. Eventually, Harry Wright’s Cincinnati Red Stockings field the first, openly all-professional team in 1869 and the rest is history.

Information gleaned from the Vintage Base Ball Association web page at [www.vbba.org](http://www.vbba.org)

LAKWOOD RECREATION

## Adult Lunchtime Basketball

Lakewood Recreation Department is offering Adult Lunchtime Basketball. Open gym will be held at Garfield Middle School Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm through August 8. Cost is \$2 per session. Basketball will be the primary activity. All sessions must maintain sufficient attendance. Sessions not meeting the minimum requirements may be cancelled without notice. Participants must carry a separate pair of gym shoes into the building and will be required to change their shoes before entering the gym. Street shoes will not be permitted. Men’s and women’s locker rooms with showers are available. For more information or to register call the Recreation Department at 216-529-4081. You can register in person at the Recreation Department, 1456 Warren Road.

## D.A.R.E. Open Gym

The Lakewood Police Department and Lakewood Recreation Department are offering “Open Gyms” during Summer Break for Lakewood kids under 18 years of age. Open gyms will be held Wednesdays through August 13 at Garfield Middle School from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Basketball will be the primary activity. All sessions must maintain sufficient attendance. Sessions not meeting the minimum requirements may be cancelled without notice. Students must carry a separate pair of gym shoes into the building and will be required to change their shoes before entering the gym. Street shoes will not be permitted. For more information call the Recreation Department at 216-529-4081.

## Youth and Adult Athletics Schedules:

Schedules for all youth and adult baseball and softball games can be found on-line at [www.lakewoodrecreation.com](http://www.lakewoodrecreation.com). Click on our website today and catch all of the action.

## Summer Camps Fundraiser

Lakewood Recreation teams up wit Chick-fil-A. The Lakewood Recreation Department and Chick-fil-A are teaming up for Spirit Night at their Rocky River Restaurant on Thursday, July 24th. Lakewood Recreation will receive a percentage of all sales between the hours of 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. All proceeds will benefit Lakewood Recreation’s Youth Athletic programs.

## Youth Open Gym

Lakewood Recreation Department is offering “Open Gym” during the Summer Break for kids under 18 years of age. Open gym will run from June 16 through august 8 (No open gym on July 4). Open gym will be held at Garfield Middle School on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm and Sundays from

1:00 pm to 5:00 pm and at Hayes Elementary School on Wednesdays and Fridays from 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm. Cost is \$2 per child/per session. Basketball will be the primary activity. All sessions must maintain sufficient attendance. Sessions not meeting the minimum requirements may be cancelled without notice. Students must carry a separate pair of gym shoes into the building and will be required to change their shoes before entering the gym. Street shoes will not be permitted. Event Staff will supervise all activities. Lakewood residents only. For more information or to register call the Recreation Department at 216-529-4081.

## Lakewood Rangers Coaches Camp

Lakewood Recreation coaches are welcome to attend the Lakewood Rangers Football Skills Camp and the Lakewood High School Football Camp. Both camps will be held at Lakewood High School July 21 through July 23. The youth skills camp will be held from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm and the high school camp will be held 5:00 pm to 8:30 pm. Interested coaches should contact Mike Callahan at the Recreation Department at 216-529-4081 or by e-mail at [mike.callahan@lakewood.k12.oh.us](mailto:mike.callahan@lakewood.k12.oh.us).

## Lakewood Rangers Football Skills Camp

Lakewood High School’s new varsity football coach, Ron Lewis, is hosting a camp for boys in grades 4th – 7th. Participants will be broken down into age appropriate groups and work on various exercises and drills with the varsity coaches and players. The camp will be held at Lakewood Stadium from Monday, July 21 through Wednesday, July 23 from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm. The camp is limited to the first 100 participants. Lakewood residents only. Cost is \$45 per participant. For more information or to register call the Recreation Department at 216-529-4081. You can register in person at the Recreation Department, 1456 Warren Road or on-line at [www.lakewoodrecreation.com](http://www.lakewoodrecreation.com).

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# Fourth Of July Parade

## 4th Of July C

continued from page 1...

Marching Band and the Red Hackle Pipes and Drums from Cleveland. Churches and political organizations also took the opportunity to share their message with the community during their long trip down the stretch of Lake.

After the parade, the crowd dispersed and Lakewood Park was crowded with onlookers and those eager to check out any remnants of the elaborate displays and floats from the parade. Booths were set up to sell refreshments like snow cones and “99.10 cent” water. Many of the groups that were present in the Parade took the opportunity to establish themselves in these booths. One of the booths was designed to continue spreading the word about the Lakewood Walk and Roll. Lois Moss, the previous owner of Century Cycles in Rocky River, was selling T-Shirts and handing out yard signs hoping for the same success that her organization had in Cleveland last year. “I love the little set up they have here,” she said of the unique green booths. “[The parade] was spectacular. It’s so hometowny.”

Other than the parade in the morning and the Lakewood Project concert and fireworks at night, residents spent their 4th of July in a variety of ways.

“I did a lot of cleaning,” said Roxana Bell. “I went to a really good barbeque and had hot dogs, baked beans, and deviled eggs. We’ll be eating s’mores later over a pit fire.”

“I spent [my 4th of July] here on a beautiful day,” said Trish Hendy who works year round with the Lakewood Project during one of the breaks in the Lakewood Project’s concert in the park.

Some people, like Michael Patterson, worked for a good portion of the holiday. “I went out and I worked for Congressman Kucinich at the parade,” said Patterson in short break from his evening rounds. “I went to a barbeque with some friends and I’m working tonight.” He and others also working on behalf of the Congressman were hopeful that he would make an appearance at that evening’s concert, which he eventually did.

Arguably the busiest people in the park were Congressman Dennis Kucinich and his wife Elizabeth who spent the day visiting the Greater Cleveland Area.



photo by Brian Simko



photo by Brian Simko

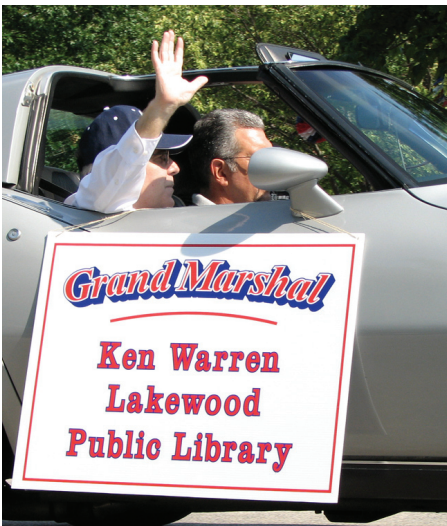


photo by Brian Simko



photo by Danielle Masters



photo by Brian Simko



photo by Bryan Schwieger



# le & Fireworks 2008

## celebration

They attended the Parma parade and caught the end of the one in Lakewood. Congressman Kucinich then spoke at an Olmstead Falls Community Park.

“We watched the HBO program on John Adams,” said Kucinich. “It was great to watch it on the 4th.”

They began and ended their day in Lakewood as they appeared and greeted residents during the Lakewood Project concert.

“They’re great,” said Kucinich. “We’re fans now and want to hear them play again.”

“I’m not impressed by much,” said Elizabeth Kucinich. “but I’m impressed by this.”

In fact, the Lakewood Project concert and subsequent fireworks drew at least as many people as the parade had in the morning.

“We truly enjoy playing with you,” said Beth Hankins to the crowd at the concert. “It’s so important to give students opportunities in music...it gives

them such a drive.”

The Lakewood Project played its traditional repertoire with the added bonus of the middle school members of the week long Rock-On Camp. The younger students joined the Lakewood Project for two songs. With a good size crowd, the Lakewood Project played for at least two hours, most of them sporting sunglasses to compensate for the sunlight in their eyes.

“They’re always the best part,” said Bell. “They’re really passionate about their music and it shows.”

Several of their selections solicited strong cheers as did soloists. “I love it and the price,” said Jeanne Gregg of the concert. “We come every year.”

Not long after the concert ended around dusk, the long awaited fireworks display began. This year’s fireworks were sponsored by Iceland/USA, the company that now leases Winterhurst Ice Rink. They lasted about 35 minutes, which was slightly longer than in previous years.

The end of the fireworks was more jubilant than usual as onlookers whooped and hollered at the grandiose finale. The only things missing were the car alarms.



photo by Bryan Schwieger



photo by Bryan Schwieger



photo by Danielle Masters



Lakewood Observer

Lakewood Chamber Of Commerce ‘s 2008 Business Person Of The Year:

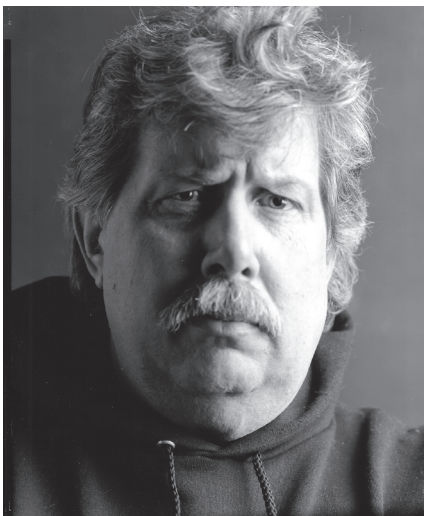
The Observer’s Own Jim O’Bryan

by Patty Ryan

2008 marks the 21st year that the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce has recognized a member of the community for their outstanding business leadership and civic involvement. Over those 21 years, a veritable Who’s Who of Lakewood business men and women have been honored for their contribution to the community. The Chamber of Commerce is proud to announce that the 2008 recipient of Lakewood’s Business Person of the Year is Mr. Jim O’Bryan.

Jim is best known as the publisher of The Lakewood Observer. However, he runs not one, but several growing businesses out of his office on Detroit Avenue. His photo/graphic businesses include A. Graphic Solutions, AGS Software, The Observer, as well as a T-shirt/silk screen company. He is also involved in several start-up companies producing community newspapers similar to The Observer.

Mr. O’Bryan was honored at a Chamber of Commerce luncheon of Friday, June 20 at the Women’s Pavilion in Lakewood Park. As Linda Beebe said in her introduction of Jim at the awards luncheon: “Jim O’Bryan is a lover of his home town, and his presence here is ubiquitous. When I knew him years ago as a student at LHS, he was everywhere and into everything. He was also friendly, caring and genuinely funny. Today he is STILL everywhere and into everything. He can be seen, camera in hand, at almost every public event in the City. The Lakewood Observer, both the hard copy and the web site - focuses totally on Lakewood, is written by unpaid, committed, non-professional members of the community , and is intended to provide a positive record of Lakewood events and personalities and issues and to help maintain the Lakewood Mystique in the new century. The Observer has made a big difference in the ability of Lakewood organizations and community groups to get the word out about activities and accomplishments. The Observation Deck provides a valuable forum for the exchange of information



and ideas. The Lakewood Observer is in its fifth year and thriving. Mr. O’Bryan has been involved in a number of other community efforts; he regularly encourages small business start-ups; he has been particularly involved in the Madison Avenue Merchants Association, the Lakewood Is

Art Walk, and the Madison Avenue Art Walk. He has donated ad space and revenues to benefit the Main Street program.”

Curt Brosky of the Westerly Apartments said in his nomination of Jim for this award, “Jim O’Bryan embodies the qualities and attributes of an outstanding

choice for Business Person of the Year. Jim and The Observer have done more to promote a positive image of the Lakewood community than any other individual, organization or event.” Ken Warren of Lakewood Public Library added, “Jim O’Bryan is unique. He is the wild horse blown by the winds of this city.”

The **EXCITEMENT** Returns...

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Lakewood Baptist Church

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Lakewood Observer

# Seeing How To Make A Difference

by Rebecca McKinsey

It's a common New Year's resolution: to help others in need. What's not so common is the people who do this every day through their jobs. Kathy McKinsey is one of these people. McKinsey is a Certified Vision Rehabilitation Therapist, or CVRT, at the Cleveland Sight Center, an agency that provides services for people that are blind or visually impaired and whose mission is "to empower people with vision loss to realize their full potential, and to shape the community's vision of that potential."

Her area of expertise is Personal Adjustment Training which teaches activities of daily living, communication skills, and orientation and mobility.

"I have a passion to help those who are blind and visually impaired to reach their full potential in their daily lives, both in self-care and in working toward a career goal," McKinsey explained.

Although there are many resources for blind and visually impaired people that will provide them with information if they don't know Braille, McKinsey believes that it is important for these people to be able to access written material themselves. Braille allows people with vision impairments to do activities such as playing cards with their friends and family, writing down a simple phone number, labeling objects in their home: food, cleaning supplies, medications, so that they can do those things themselves, and access that material themselves.

"It's literacy, it's dignity, it's important."

Another skill that McKinsey believes is important for visually impaired people to know is how to sign their name.

"I believe it is very important that blind people have a signature of some kind, and don't just sign an "X," which in the past, and even nowadays, sometimes occurs. That, I believe, is a mistake. That would lead the person reading the signature to believe that the blind person is uneducated, when in fact, this person might be quite educated. Therefore, I believe a signature is important."

McKinsey goes on to explain how much a seemingly simple activity can mean to the people to whom she teaches it.

"It shows that they have enough concern about their dignity to take the

time to learn that, to show that they are a competent person," she said.

In a world that is very computer-oriented, McKinsey also feels that it is important for blind people to know how to type.

"Touch-typing is the way people should learn to type, whether they're blind or not," she asserted. "Every couple of days, he'll say, 'I'm just so excited that I know how to type,'" McKinsey says of a particular client. "For years, he wanted to know [how to type], but he was so busy working so many hours a day that he was never able to learn to, and now he can type. And he says, 'I'm so excited. I'm so proud. I can type.' He says that over and over." Teaching these people the skills that will help them in their daily living is especially important to McKinsey because she understands their position more than most people could: she is blind as well. After college, she worked as a secretary in an office that worked with people with disabilities. "This was something I found that I enjoyed," McKinsey explained. "I thought, 'I would like to be able to be helpful to another person who is disabled in making steps in their life towards more independence.'"

There were people in McKinsey's life during this time that influenced her decision.

"I always remembered one lady, my rehab counselor back when I was in college, who really helped get me out on my own, and made me look for a job, and made me get out of my parents' house when I was scared to. I've always felt like she was a person that I wanted to be like," McKinsey said.

The work that she does every day goes further than the job requirements. McKinsey is truly invested in helping to improve the lives of the people she works with.

McKinsey says that the effects that she sees in the people she works with encourage her.

"It's good to see people become more confident, less frightened, less traumatized by having this disability, more sure of themselves, just realizing that this ... is not the end of the world. They can go on. They can still give to their families; they can still have jobs; they and still be competent, functioning people... Someone does realize then that they can have a dream, they can do something still, and they start to dream about getting a new job," McKinsey explained.

This is not to say that her job is always easy or rewarding.

"Sometimes, it's hard to find what a person is going to be able to do. They may not be able to support their family the way they used to. They may not be able to be as independent, driving themselves around. Their life is going to be harder than it used to be," she said.

Although many of the people who go through PAT appreciate and put to use the skills that they are taught, this is not always the case. Some people do not want to learn and are not willing to be taught.

"That's really hard," McKinsey said. "Just do what you can for them, do what they'll let you do, and move on to the next person who will let you help them."

One of the things that frustrate McKinsey is the misconceptions that the public has about people with visual impairments.

"They're still just people who are just parents and workers and have the same kind of thoughts and fears and desires that anybody does."

McKinsey believes that laughter and a "light-hearted atmosphere" is important in her field.

"Have a sense of humor, with yourself as well as other people," she said. "Be able to laugh with other people, and laugh if things go wrong, and help them to laugh. "We laugh a

lot; we laugh when we make mistakes. We realize it's not the biggest thing in the world to make a mistake, and you try again. I have a lot of memories of laughing with people."

McKinsey says that one of the reasons she loves her job is because it's fascinating.

"You meet really fascinating people. And it's fulfilling if you see that it really helps people."

The positive effect that McKinsey's work has on clients has been proven many times over.

A client once jokingly wrote a poem called "Ode to Kathy" during his Braille practice. He said, "You're a nice lady, and I never hear you yell at anybody, and I know you'll always be my friend."

One young man who went through PAT's summer program for high school students commented: "You have no idea how good, fulfilled, full of purpose, and happy I feel currently, and I attribute that solely to the fact that I met true friends at the Cleveland Sight Center ..." "[The clients] get in there, and they feel comfortable with all the other people around them who are blind too, and they feel like they're with people who understand them," McKinsey said.

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Pulse Of The City

Those Among Us- Dr. Richard Dutro  
Lakewood Educator, Dachau Liberator

by Gary Rice

Dr. Richard Dutro’s life is one that has been filled with the rich experiences of helping other people, particularly in Lakewood’s educational community.

Dr. Dutro served the Lakewood Public Schools as an elementary teacher, a remedial reading specialist, and a principal of two elementary buildings at the same time! He was also Lakewood City School District’s first Coordinator of Language Arts. Dr. Dutro completed his professional administrative career as Lakewood’s Director of Elementary Education before retiring in 1991. Additionally, he has served as President of the Ohio Reading Teachers’ Association and has worked at Baldwin Wallace College to help train future teachers.

In short, it’s no secret that this man has helped generations of Lakewood students and teachers to learn, grow, and make a better world for others.

In all this time, however, Richard has had a secret of his own...something in his past that he did not talk about for many years...something that he experienced as a young teen-aged replacement soldier in the American 7th army, in the closing days of the Second World War.

There was little doubt when Richard joined his unit (the famed 42nd “Rainbow Division”) in Europe in January of 1945 that the war was winding down. There would still be dangerous house-to-house fighting ahead in the streets of Germany, but just about everyone thought that victory in Europe was around the corner. As Dutro’s unit entered the outskirts of the German town of Dachau, however, something else was just around the corner waiting for them...something that would change the lives of Richard and his fellow soldiers forever.

When the Nazis came to power in Germany in 1933, they brought with them political ideologies that made enemies of just about anyone who was not a part of their system. Outside of the normal systems of government, the Nazis established concentration camps of their own, of which the Dachau camp was the first one built. Through a series of decrees and laws, the Nazis



Dr. Richard Dutro, with his memory book, and the jacket he wore while at Dachau

soon consolidated their power and virtually became one with the state. Civil liberties soon went out the window, and people could be taken in the dark of night, without warning. They could then end up in a concentration camp, and be put into the vast secret slave-labor operation serving the fast-growing and super-secret German war machine... that is, if they were fortunate enough to be kept alive. The Dachau concentration camp served as the model for what would become known as the Holocaust for millions of Europe’s Jews, and others as well.

It is no secret that many Germans were willing to trade their freedoms for the relative security and order of life under the Nazis. The concentration camps were no secret either. A German children’s prayer at the time went this way:

“Lieber Gott, mach mich stumm, dass ich nicht nach Dachau kumm”  
Dear Lord, make me dumb, so I

will not to Dachau come.

Another saying in Germany was: “Halt’s Maul, sonst kommst du nach Dachau!”

Shut your mouth, or you will go to Dachau!

Although Dachau was primarily intended as a punishment and work camp rather than one of the later extermination camps, near the end of the war, a great many prisoners from many countries flooded into Dachau from other camps, as the Nazis tried to hide the evidence of their atrocities from the advancing Allies. Many prisoners died enroute to Dachau, so that when the Americans came

upon the camp, there were railroad cars upon railroad cars filled with the remains of emaciated prisoners. Hundreds of stacked skeletal naked bodies greeted the liberating American soldiers. The stench was overwhelming. Disease and starvation were rampant within the camp as well.

This powerful scene is what greeted the first Americans to arrive at Dachau on 29 April, 1945. Richard arrived on the following day. What the American liberators experienced, they would never forget. Living skeletons in blue-gray striped rags lined the barbed wire as the Americans approached. Those heaps of stinking corpses, and their sightless eyes, paid bitter witness to what the Nazis had done. Mass burials had to quickly transpire. The Americans quickly brought food and medical care to the camp, but it would be some time before the former prisoners would be allowed to leave, due to the risk of infectious diseases being spread.

The expression on Dachau’s iron gate was “ARBEIT MACHT FREI”. That is, work makes one free.

Ironically, Nazi Germany would surrender on May 8th, only about a week later than the camp’s liberation. Richard Dutro would remain in service after the war in Europe, until mid-1946 serving in the Army of Occupation.

The Nazis developed an extensive means of prisoner identification within the concentration camp system. Many are familiar with the yellow star and its identification with the Jews, but there were other symbols as well. There was a pink triangle for the homosexual and a purple one for Bible inquirers. A green triangle signified a criminal, and a red one was worn by political prisoners. A black triangle identified the prostitutes. Prisoners also had their identification numbers tattooed on their left arms...

All this, and more, Richard Dutro witnessed. It was a lot for a young teenager to take in. A hell of a lot.

For many years, a shocked and traumatized Richard Dutro said nothing about his experiences. Instead, he resolved to do whatever he could to make a better world for the young people of his community, in any way that he was able to. As a remedial reading specialist, Richard was very mindful of how the Nazis treated people who in one way or another just could not fit in. Richard resolved that no child would ever be left behind, many years before that concept would become the law of our land.

A few years ago, Dr. Dutro decided to return to the Lakewood Schools for their Veterans’ Day observations, and to start to speak about his experiences with young people. He has spoken to classes at Garfield and Harding Middle Schools, and has spoken at the high school, as well as at other schools in other communities. He carries a memory book with him on those occasions, filled with photos and documents from those terrible days. He also carries the infinitely heavier weight of being an eyewitness to the Holocaust, deep in the recesses of his memory. For years, like so many of our WWII vets, Richard Dutro wanted to keep the terrible horrors of war far from his home, friends, and family. Dr. Dutro now feels that the battle for human rights, tolerance for others, and fundamental human dignity in the face of sublime tragedy is a battle that never ends.

The stories of the Nazi concentration camps are deeply sorrowful, and would be even more so, except for one fundamental fact: Due to genuine American heroes like Dr. Dutro, we stopped the Nazis in their tracks. The good guys won, and went on to build a better world for us all. Thanks, Dr. Dutro, and to all of you veterans, who have served our country with honor. The pulse of this city, and of our nation, owes each of you more than words could ever say...

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## Lakewood Perspective

# What I Did On My Summer Vacation: Nothing!

by Bret Callentine

Okay, I know, summer just started, but since I'm not suited for the really hot weather of July and August, I was more than happy to take a week off in late June for a little rest and relaxation. Admittedly, if we had the free time and a little more money in our savings account, we might have planned a little more than we did, but for now, I'd say we absolutely got our money's worth.

This year's summer vacation was actually a repeat of last year, as my family joined other families and youth from our church for several days of camping at Clay's Park Resort in Canal Fulton for the 21st Annual Alive Music Festival. It was a week that concluded with four days and four nights of food, fellowship, and a fantastic lineup of today's best Christian music.

But what made it the perfect respite for me was not necessarily getting to see my favorite bands live (Mile7, Red, and Casting Crowns, to name a few), or witnessing my friend Robert down 21 Slim Jims by the campfire. And it certainly wasn't the severe storms that hit Saturday night. No, what really made it heaven on earth for me was the inordinate amount of time I got to spend sitting in a camp chair doing absolutely nothing.

Anyone who knows me well can tell you that if staring blankly into space was an Olympic event, I'd have the gold medal locked down tight. But, rather than just a demonstration of my love of laziness, having time to just sit allows me the freedom to let my imagination go; it gives me time to focus my thoughts on any number of different problems or situations that might have caused me a moment of pause.

For instance...

What ever happened to the kids wearing the orange jump suits? When we first moved to Lakewood, I recall seeing kids doing community service on Saturdays. Looking around town I see that there is no shortage of garbage to be picked up, no small amount of graffiti that needs scrubbed off, and more than enough public lawns that could stand to be mowed. Did I miss the Supreme Court decision that put an end to community service hours?

And speaking of cleaning things up, would it be too difficult to write an ordinance that makes it mandatory that unrented billboards be filled with some sort of temporary display such that they aren't a continual eyesore? If I can't keep a political yard sign up after the election, why can I still see a sun-faded and torn ad for the soon to be renovated Lakewood YMCA?

Speaking of which, why don't I see more Bible studies and church events going on at the YMCA? I know I'm not the only one out there who remembers that the letters stand for the Young Men's Christian Association. I really hope they aren't just using the acronym to avoid association to the very reason for their initial foundation,

like Kentucky Fried Chicken going to "KFC" because the word "fried" fell out of vogue (or was it the word "Kentucky"?).

And when's the last time you went to KFC? Is it me, or does the franchise on Highland sometimes tend to ignore their own national sales campaigns? Don't get me wrong, I love the place, but all I'm saying is that if you're going to continually bombard a fat man with ads for popcorn chicken, and if that fat man drives all the way over to purchase that popcorn chicken, then you better darn well have my, I mean, the fat man's popcorn chicken. Case closed.

And speaking of closed, why does the Cleveland Zoo close the outdoor polar bear exhibit in the winter? Seems

to me that winter-time in Cleveland would be the closest that they would ever get to their natural habitat. Did our bears get spoiled? All of a sudden they're too good for cold water. Do the zookeepers still feed them raw salmon or do they hold out for a whole sushi platter?

Man I love sushi, but I worry that the guy who runs Sushi 86 downtown is on to me. Although I always ask for four sets of chopsticks, I think he knows that I eat almost the entire order by myself. Come to think of it, thank goodness my wife never looks at the receipt, otherwise she'd figure out that I'm eating half of it on the ride home. That's just another reason I like to take the bus, as it's hard to eat and drive at the same time.

And while we're on the topic, why

is it that the buses are packed, but the RTA still says it's losing money? Regardless of gas prices, if a huge spike in ridership can't bring you into the black financially, then perhaps it's time to re-evaluate your business plan. For starters, any time all the seats are full, have the driver stop and announce: "If everyone pays an extra dollar each, I'll throw off the smelly guy in the back." Give half the money to the smelly guy to call a cab, and the rest is pure profit. How hard is that?

See, there's quite a lot of random thought bouncing around up there in my head. Thank goodness for summer vacation. And although many of you might have more active plans for your summer, never underestimate the regenerative power of taking a day to just do nothing.

## First Female Embassy Attaché Dies

by Amanda Winters

A memorial mass was held at St. James Church on Saturday, June 21 for long-time Lakewood resident Elizabeth Carnegie. Ms. Carnegie, died on May 14 at age 84.

Ms. Carnegie graduated from the former Notre Dame Academy on Ansel Road in Cleveland and Ursuline College, and received a graduate degree from Catholic University in Washington, D.C.

In 1947, at age 23, Ms. Carnegie embarked on a bold career, beginning as a State Department employee in General Douglas MacArthur's office in Allied-occupied Japan. She went on to assignments in Turkey, Egypt, and the Philippines. Ms. Carnegie reached the rank of assistant embassy attaché, the first American woman to attain that diplomatic rank.

Returning to the U.S., Ms. Carnegie became an expert on Ohio's 88 counties and county seats. From 1974 to 1999, she was a freelance reporter, recommending travel destinations for Ohio Magazine.

After retiring from the medical department of Union Carbide in 1989, she devoted much time to travel and to the New Citizens' Salute, a program for new U.S. citizens.



Ms. Carnegie was an active Catholic, who attended Cleveland ordinations for 32 consecutive years. She embraced interfaith and visited churches, shrines, synagogues, temples, and mosques. She met Mother Teresa of Calcutta in December 1991, and had a rapport with other faith leaders, including Coptic Pope Shenouda. In 1999, the travel editor of the New York Times said he did not know anyone who had visited as many county seats and holy places as Elizabeth Carnegie.

An ardent Franciscan all her life, Ms. Carnegie organized Our Lady of Angels Franciscan Jubilee in 1997. True

to her Franciscan path, in 2002, after recovering from heart valve replacement and subsequent severe heart failure, Ms. Carnegie served nursing home seniors for 14 months. "The way of life for a Franciscan is to wait on others, and not just casually wait on others," she would say.


Ms. Carnegie is survived by her surrogate son, a brother, a niece, a nephew, three grandnieces, and two grandnephews.

Memorial donations may be made to Happy Days, a charity that celebrates the birthdays of chemotherapy patients.

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Letters To The Editor

The Pit Bull Ban: Where's The Evidence That Supports It?

To date, there has been no data or statistics provided to Lakewood residents that would support the need for a ban on "pit bulls" in our city. Councilman Powers has not provided any evidence that there is a problem of any specific breed of dog in our city.

Here is what the actual statistics from the City of Lakewood Department of Human Services demonstrate (2003 to 2008): Currently there are 50 dogs in the city of Lakewood that have been defined as "pit bull" like dogs. This designation is determined by 2 animal control officers who have 20 and 8 years, respectively, of animal control experience. No particular education or certification is required and there are no objective criteria on how to judge whether a dog actually is an American Staffordshire Terrier or American Pit Bull Terrier. The American Veterinary Medical Association says that veterinarians cannot determine the breed of a dog with certainty and the National Animal Control Association says that animal control officers cannot identify the breed of a dog with certainty.

We do not know how many of the 50 dogs identified by Lakewood animal control as 'pit bull mixes' are actually 'pit bull' mixes since there is no such breed as a pit bull and since the designation is only

based on subjective human judgment. In one city, a beagle puppy was identified as a "pit bull" and euthanized. Over the past 5 years, 1394 dogs have been impounded in the City of Lakewood. Only 77 (5%) of the total number of dogs impounded have been identified by animal control as 'pit bulls'. A dog is impounded because of aggressive behavior, biting, or injuring any person or domestic animal.

This means that banning 'pit bulls' in the City of Lakewood will not decrease the work of animal control officers, since 95% of animals causing harm to the community would still require the diligence and repeated home visits necessary to remove any dog from city limits. Banning "pit bulls" will actually increase the expense and work of impoundment by creating more work for animal control officers since they will be focusing on good, well-behaved dogs and responsible owners who are doing nothing wrong and will still be required to concentrate on the actual aggressive, biting dogs of other breeds.

We know that 94% of dog bites in the City of Lakewood are by dogs other than those designated as 'pit bull' type. It is clear that our City definitely would not be safer, or save money, by banning a specific breed. In a detailed analysis

of all dog bites occurring in Lakewood between March 2007 and April 2008 both German Shepherd mixes (12%) and Labrador mixes (12%) were responsible for more bites than dogs identified as 'pit bull' mixes (10%). Boxers and Chihuahuas are also high on the list causing 8% and 9% of bites respectively. One of the more serious unprovoked attacks was by a Golden Retriever, causing 12 puncture wounds.

There were 2 unprovoked attacks by Rottweiler mixes. Of the bites by 'pit bull' mixes, there was no evidence of the 'locking' jaw as Councilman Powers would have us believe, nor any evidence that these dogs bite more often or behave more aggressively. In the serious incident of a 'pit bull' bite, occurring in January (as mentioned by Councilman Powers in each meeting regarding this issue), the injured party had been drinking all night, went to an after hours party at the home of a person he did not know, at 3:30 AM was feeding pieces of meat to the dog he did not know, and may have been teasing the dog.

Thirty percent of all dog bites in Lakewood occurred in the home, by the family dog. Another 10% of bites in our city occurred due to children teasing or harming the dog. In fact, 80% of all dog bites reported in Lakewood over the past year could have been prevented with proper education and training... of humans!

We know that 93% of all complaints regarding dogs in the city of Lakewood pertain to other breeds of dogs, not 'pit bulls'. Again, will this ban save money

on the enforcement of dog safety in the city? Definitely not. Councilman Powers stated in the Lakewood Observer (May 27, 2008) that Parma and Garfield Heights reported great success with the pit bull ban in their communities. Yet, after the public hearing meeting of June 10, 2008, Councilman Powers admitted that, in fact, there is no hard evidence that these bans have been effective, either financially or in terms of the safety of the community. We know that there are bad people who harbor and breed dogs for the wrong reasons. They mistreat them, starve them, injure them, set them on fire, never socialize them, cage them, chain them, feed them gasoline, and fight them—all to make them meaner.

We know that there are even more people that rescue these dogs and find them to be loving, gentle animals even after suffering terrible abuse by humans. People purchase and rescue these dogs because they're kind to people, intelligent, gentle with children, and willing to serve their owners. We know that this proposed ban will not save the City money, and will not make the city safer. Read the facts.

Efforts to make the City safer from our canine companions must be aimed at public education, particularly in the schools, prevention of animal abuse, and enforcement of current dog regulations. We cannot afford to spend time and money searching out the many well-behaved dogs with responsible owners that are not causing any problems for our City.

Donna Myers

Letter To The Editor:  
4th Of July Parade Missing Something

The Lakewood 4th of July parade this year was wonderful ! It was so nice to see how many groups participated. The bands were entertaining, the crowd was excited and the weather was perfect.

Then we have our new mayor riding in the back seat of a car, chewing gum and talking to the people in the car. There was no crowd connection, no waving, no smiling... The person next to me asked, "Who is that?" With a little embarrassment I answered, "Why, that's Lakewood's mayor."

He could have walked beside the car and greeted folks along the way, as Judge Carroll did, as the county judges did, as

the Vets did, as Dennis Kucinich always does. This was his city's parade and he looked bored and uncomfortable.

Did he run for mayor for the prestige or as a stepping stone to future political positions? Does he really care about the city and the residents who love living here? His attitude at the celebration of our country's birthday (traveling down Lake Avenue with people-packed tree lawns, with music and smiles and cheers) left a lot to be desired.

Reach out to the people who voted you in, Mayor Fitzgerald or, at least, pretend you care.

A disappointed resident,  
Vernice Northrup

The Time Is Now

With the economy the way it is, and gas prices over \$4.00 per gallon, Lakewood is uniquely positioned to be the city of choice for anyone interested in improving his or her standard of living. Close to downtown Cleveland, blessed with two Rapid stations, on the bus line, on Lake Erie, a walking community with excellent schools -- need I go on?

If we, as Lakewoodites, were a business, we'd be marketing the heck out of ourselves. Marketing to all those people who moved to the outer 'burbs; all those people squeezed by increased costs of fuel and every day necessities; young professionals working in Cleveland and trying to make every dollar count; families needing a better cost of living and wishing to live in a community-based city. Who would have thought that an inner ring suburb

would become so attractive?

Now is the time for Lakewood's administrators to craft a marketing plan aimed at those people; a marketing plan that spells out the value of Lakewood -- value as those people will see it.

It is said that people buy because of pain -- pain they want to be rid of. I've touched only the surface of the solutions Lakewood presents to all those pains being felt by so many.

My wish for this city is that the various powers (City Council with the Mayor, Lakewood Chamber of Commerce, MAMA, DADA, Lakewood Cares, the Board of Education, Lakewood Alive, and others) band together and create a "Lakewood is THE Place To Be" movement that capitalizes on the current economic tides.

Diane Helbig



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# Lakewood Arts & Entertainment

## Create 1-of-a-kind Jewelry And Support Missions Too

by Luanne Bole-Becker

Take a “creative break” this summer! You can learn how to make a simple, yet unique crystal bracelet that also helps local mission teams return to Haiti in the fall. Team members and jewelry artists Lynn Scheerhorn and Shelley Gross will lead a two-hour workshop—open to all—on Wednesday, July 16, from 7-9 pm at Gethsemane Lutheran Church in Lakewood, 14560 Madison Avenue.

At the workshop, you will learn a simple bead weaving technique to create a bracelet known as a “flat spiral.” Various color combinations of sparkling Czech glass will be used. The workshop cost is \$30, and includes all supplies, instruction, and light refreshments. Kits for optional take-home use will be available for \$20 each. There is no cost to browse and shop...or feel free to place a custom order! The minimum age is to participate is 12, due to the detail involved in the work.

The bead-making workshop is one of many that mission trip participants have organized in the past eight years. They are well liked because workshop-goers come away with a great gift or personal item that they’ve made themselves, and mission teams are able to continue meeting the needs of the impoverished in Haiti.

Lynn Scheerhorn, who coordinates Haiti mission trips for churches throughout Northeast Ohio, began making and selling simple beaded

jewelry items as a way to help fund her church’s ongoing trips. She was encouraged by fellow mission participant Shelley Gross, who had already been beading for years. Both Scheerhorn and Gross are now accomplished bead artists, and have shown their work in galleries in Cleveland (Grand River Beads at Silverthorne Gallery, Lake Erie Artists) and Portland, Oregon. Along with other mission team members, they also launched a jewelry-making cooperative at the church in Les Cayes, Haiti, where they do mission work. Jewelry made by the Haitian women will also be available for sale at the workshops.

All proceeds from the jewelry workshops will help fund a mission trip to Haiti in late September. This trip is focused on providing hygiene training throughout the Les Cayes area. Some team members will also meet with Rev. Marky Kessa, president of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Haiti, to begin planning for future mission trips to other areas of Haiti beyond Les Cayes.

More jewelry workshops are planned for the late summer and fall.

For more information or to RSVP for the jewelry workshop, please contact Luanne Bole-Becker at Bbvideo@sbcglobal.net or 216.228.8355. RSVPs



Workshop participants will learn a simple bead-weaving technique to make this type of unique bracelet on July 16. Various colors and take-home kits will be available.

by July 13 are appreciated. (While reservations aren’t necessary, they help ensure sufficient bead supplies and that refreshments are available for all.)

## Smiley “Bald-izzare”

by Thealexa Becker

If, as their band name suggests, Smiley Baldazar was trying to be odd, then they certainly and undeniably succeeded in that endeavor on their album “Relax, It’s Out of Control”. That is not to say that bands that tout their oddness aren’t successful because in an age where originality in the music industry pays off, the weirder the better. However, there is such a thing as too strange for one’s own good. Smiley Baldazar might fit into this category. It is worth mentioning that many groups are lauded for their ability to transcend the genre barrier and create a sound that fans of different kinds of music would enjoy. It seems as though Smiley Baldazar is

trying to do this, and they do succeed because they managed to squeeze in at least six distinct styles of music into 16 songs. To that extent they are an innovative and clearly inventive group.

It is also worth noting that their instrumentation is excellent, especially on the jazz centered “Local on the 8’s”, which is one of the best and most well thought out tracks on the album, and on “Fustercluck”, which has a very memorable guitar rift. On the other hand, Smiley Baldazar is all over the place with their vocals and the placement of their tracks that it is more than a little difficult to understand the point of all of this. Their vocals are literally hit or miss. On tracks like “How ‘Bout That

Moon” the vocals are suitably trippy, but on others like the title tracks “Jewish Rye” and “Happy” they are downright strange to the point of aggravation.

Most often, the vocals do not match with the music and serve as a distraction from the track as a whole. In fact, it keeps the album from being taken seriously. Some tracks are laughter inducing like the bizarre “Potato Bug Guinea Pig Dog” which is all of 27 seconds long and has only those five words. Look for the very satisfying pseudo-barbershop-quartette on several of the tracks, as it’s the highlight of the album. “Relax, It’s Out of Control” might be a little too apt a title.

Rating: C

## ARTS Watch

by Ruth Koenigsmark

Just like the weather, the Lakewood Arts scene is sizzling. Featuring another month of art, music, theater and dance, July brings some of City’s most anticipated events to the forefront. Here is just a sampling of what’s in store in the upcoming weeks:

The Summer Youth Concert Series, Band2gether, starts Friday, July 11 at 6pm in Sinagra Park with Special Guests Tony and Lucy Sinagra kicking off the event. On July 11, Little Known Fact and Trancemitter will launch the event. A Fabulous Waste of Time and Back for More play on July 18th and Venus and Meridian play on July 25th. Additional bands will play on Friday nights in August as well.

Wobblefoot has snagged Lawrence Hohman as their featured artist for July. Hohman has combined his career as a commercial artist and his love of nature to create three lovely children’s ABC books. Each page of each book is so beautiful one might be tempted to pull pages to frame.

The Awarding winning musical comedy “Alter Boyz” plays at the Beck Center July 18-August 17. “Alter Boyz” is a spoof about a Christian boy band riding the wave of America’s latest fas-

cination with religion. Be prepared to chuckle as Matthew, Mark, Luke, Juan, and Abraham bring their soul-saving tour to the Big Apple.

If you like to soak up some culture while sipping your java, two of our most charming coffee houses have brewed something extra for you.

Phoenix Café will be featuring photographs taken in Sedona Arizona by a Lakewood High School graduate, Alison Meany (who attends Appalachian State University). Bela Dubby will be hosting Sean Burns for the month of July.

John Rehner Fine Art & Framing, our newest Lakewood gallery, had their first opening reception on Friday, June 27 to a packed house. Their featured artist is Bob Soltys. His “Art of Living” show contains a selection of images from the City of Light along with recent images of cowboys from Montana. This show runs through July 19th.

Let the diverse collection of arts and culture events put some relaxing (and inspiring!) chill in your sizzling July!

Art gallery news and event information should be forwarded to rkoenigsmark@yahoo.com. Every effort will be made to include it in our next column.



# Lakewood CAR CULTURE SHOW



**2008**

**Saturday August 16th, 10:00am till 6:00pm**  
**13321 Madison Ave. Lakewood OH**  
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Conservation Corner

# Safe Summer Sun Strategies

As sun doesn't often make an appearance in the Cleveland area, many of us may be tempted to spend as much time in it as possible when it's here. However, it is increasingly important to take precautions when out of doors to prevent skin damage from UV rays, and hopefully, not harm the environment in the process. Skin cancer is now the most common cancer in the US, with more than one million cases each year, some of them fatal. Though UVB rays are the cause of both sun burn and skin cancer, UVA rays are believed to exacerbate UVBs effects. Thus, it is important to use sunscreens that are effective against both, termed "broad spectrum" coverage.

There are two types of active ingredients in sunscreens: chemical UV absorbers and physical UV blockers. Many of the chemical absorbers

are known to act like estrogen in the body, or otherwise disrupt normal hormones. These sunscreens, often used because of their supposed imperviousness to water, end up in lakes, rivers, and oceans, where they can also disrupt the hormones of sea creatures and contribute to the bleaching of coral reefs. Fish exposed to these chemicals end up in many of our diets, increasing our exposure even more. Chemicals that are particularly dangerous are PABA, benzophenone, and parabens, but parabens are especially difficult to avoid. Blocks, on the other hand, employ zinc or titanium oxides to block UV rays without absorbing into the skin or bloodstream. Look out for oxybenzone, however, which can be

absorbed by your body.

If you can, avoid the sun when it is at its strongest - 10am - 4pm. This is especially true on days with a UV Advisory, resulting from a high UV Index. The UV Index measures the intensity of solar radiation in an area and ranges from 1 to 11, with 11 representing extreme intensity. UV Alerts are issued when intensity is higher than the statistical norm and is greater than 6. When staying indoors isn't plausible, which, with cookouts, picnics, pool parties, and graduation parties aplenty this time of year, probably will be often, keep these tips in mind:

Apply sunscreen (of at least SPF 15) 30 minutes before going into the sun. Don't be deceived by a partly over-

cast day; the sun's rays can still cause damage even when it's cloudy out.

Don't forget sensitive areas like ears, feet, the backs of knees, and hands.

Re-apply every two hours and after contact with water (or after you've been sweating). Claims that sunscreens are waterproof are not regulated or proven, so they are often inaccurate. Remember also that water and sand are reflective surfaces that may further intensify sun exposure.

Don't use on children under 6 months of age. Keep these kids in the shade or indoors, or dress them in protective clothing. Clothes are often better than sunscreen, when dry, especially less stretchy, heavy ones with a tight weave and dark colors (though, admittedly, all four of these characteristics taken together don't make for a very cool summer wardrobe).

Remember sunglasses, preferably with UV protection.

If you get a spray tan or use sunless tanning lotion, remember that you still need sunscreen when spending time outdoors. And though these tanning methods spare your body the UVA and UVB rays, they may contain harmful dyes, so be mindful.

When buying sunscreen/sunblock, consider an organic or all-natural brand, like Burt's Bees, Juice Organics, Bare Essentials, or Aveda. The Environmental Working Group tested over 800 sunscreens for effectiveness, and found many to be lacking. Their shopper's guide (available here [http://www.cosmeticsdatabase.com/special/sun-screens/ewg\\_sunscreen.pdf](http://www.cosmeticsdatabase.com/special/sun-screens/ewg_sunscreen.pdf)) lists their Top 10, along with general advice on sunscreen use.

And, lastly, don't take these warnings as a sign to stay inside 24/7 - spending time in the sun means absorption of vitamin D, and is healthy for about 10-15 minutes, 3 times a week. Enjoy your time in the sun, just do it safely, for yourself and the environment.

## Our 100 Mile Diet (Part 1)

by Geoff Wopershall

"We have SALT!"

It was a text message I had sent to my fiancé about our upcoming, month-long diet in July. Nowadays, most people wouldn't get so excited about such a basic ingredient, but having such an important staple during the next month would be valuable.

As some people know, most food reaches our plate after undergoing heavy fertilization, massive processing and a road trip that can extend thousands of miles. I had just recently finished a book titled "Plenty" by Alisa Smith and James MacKinnon, a Vancouver couple who set out to challenge the modern food supply model by simplifying their diet. Specifically, they were simplifying it to a range of foods that originated within 100 miles of their home. By doing so, they were able to reduce their dependency on oil

and support local farmers. After very little coaxing, I had convinced Samantha and before you knew it, we were on the lookout for any food that was local. Our July diet would be more about awareness than waistlines.

We wrote a list of ingredients we'd be avoiding and a second list for essential items. The first list was discouraging: No cocoa (or chocolate) from Ghana, no bananas from Ecuador, no coffee beans from Columbia, and no sugar from any tropical canes. However, the second list was promising and with each passing day, our excitement grew when we uncovered locally produced gems that taste better than anything we could find at the supermarket. In addition to our most fundamental foodstuffs provided by our backyard garden and City Fresh Share Bag (thanks LEAF!), over the past few weeks we have found fruits from Rosby's, apples and vinegar from Mapleside

Farms, honey from Walnut Creek, local milk from Hartzler Farms, delicious Amish butter and cheese, locally produced chicken, pork and beef, herbal teas grown here in Cuyahoga county, locally produced salt from Rittman, Ohio and our biggest discovery: flour from local wheat ground the old fashioned way at Lanterman's Mill near my hometown of Youngstown.

Getting prepared for our July has garnered plenty of strange looks and puzzled responses to our unavoidable followup question to food purveyors, "Is this grown in Ohio?" It has been a wonderful experience getting to know the Ohioans who have nurtured the mouth-watering food that will go on my plate next month.

Next time you step out to eat, consider how far your food has travelled for you. Find out more at [www.100milediet.org](http://www.100milediet.org) and [www.localharvest.org](http://www.localharvest.org)

## 1st LEAF Pick-up At The Lakewood Public Library



LEAF launched it's Thursday Night events at the Lakewood Library, a pickup for its CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) Program.



Dan Slife enjoys a laugh a this young man loves tasting honey. Chris Trapp looks before buying. Chris and Dan helped to start L.E.A.F.

Real Estate

Woof Woof!!!

by Sunny Updegrave  
Prudential Lucien Realtor

Hi! This is Fido here and my pal Tabby! Wow, since the “folks” decided to sell our home, things sure have been crazy around here. They’re running around like chickens with their heads cut off... and lots of LOUD discussions. There’s furniture moving (my favorite snoozing chair is in the basement) and big boxes stacked high (full of stuff I used to play with.) Our food and water dishes are in a new places (that we can hardly reach.... when we can FIND them!) Sheesh, I even saw her stuff my bed into a kitchen cupboard yesterday. (Fortunately, she pulled it back out when we got home.)

The good news is that I’ve been going on lots more walks lately (Tabby stays home) and a lot more rides in the car (I like that part). Although we’ve been to the dog park and made some new friends, sometimes it seems we walk around our own block a hundred times. When we finally get back home, the house is full of smells of new peo-

ple EVERYWHERE...the kitchen and bedrooms and even the basement.

Sometimes I have to go to my cage for the day. It’s pretty boring in there all day, believe me. I hear and smell new people come into my house. I’m a pretty friendly dog, but I am in charge when the folks are away at work and it’s my job to protect our home. I bark really, really loud and don’t stop until the strangers leave. When I make lots of noise, the strangers leave quickly. They might stop to look at me in my cage and may even poke in their fingers. Look out! I wouldn’t hurt a flea but they are invaders and I may bite those fingers. It’s my job!! That darn Tabby is no help. She just runs to hide under the bed until I stop barking. It’s a very scary experience and we can hardly wait until the folks come home and we can feel safe again. Thanks for letting me share my thoughts on this home selling thing (Tabby says she just wants it over with). Wags and Whiskers!

Fido & Tabby

Coutant Avenue Named For Early Rockport Settler

by Val Mechenbier  
Prudential Lucien Realtor

Benjamin Coutant came to Rockport from Pennsylvania in 1819. A marble finisher and pattern maker by trade, he was locally recognized for his mechanical skills. Mr. Coutant created a cover for his well (unheard of!) and built an original mechanism for rais-

ing, lowering, and filling the buckets. A schoolhouse on W. 117th Street would send children each day to fill the school water bucket from his well. Children came to know him as “Uncle Ben”, and he delighted in playing checkers and chess with them, and he would regale them with Bible stories every Sunday morning.

Realty Reality: Questions From Our Readers

by Maggie Fraley  
Prudential Lucien Realtor

**“What is crown molding?”**

Molding is typically woodwork that’s used in a decorative way to create shadow and definition on a surface. It can be used to hide seams or flaws, to provide architectural interest, or to do both! Crown molding is at the highest point of a wall (like a crown on top of a head). Other uses for molding include casings around windows, baseboards (where the floor and wall meet), and even on built-in furniture elements such as china cabinets and bookshelves.

Modern styles with their open minimalistic approach to décor don’t use molding to the same extent, if at all, as other styles. A good example of this is the contemporary construction at Rockport Square or Rosewood Place. In contrast, the many homes built in the teens or twenties throughout Lakewood are known for their “character”, which includes the traditional use of molding as a decorative architectural feature. You just have to love Lakewood -- our eclectic city has something for everyone!

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Lakewood Real Estate Information		
(According to Multiple Listing Service)		
by Andy Tabor,,Realtor, GRI-Prudential Lucien		
June	2007	2008
Single Family Closed	60	39
Single Family Pending (Under Contract)	60	
Interesting Real Estate Information		
Lakewood Single Family Homes		
Currently for Active in Multiple Listing		381
Currently under Contingency:		15

Join the Discussion at: [www.lakewoodobserver.com](http://www.lakewoodobserver.com)



# Flavors of Health



## Healthy Nutrition Meets Fine Dining

Thursday,  
July 24 at 6 p.m.  
11822 Detroit Avenue  
Lakewood  
\$10 per person | Cash Bar

Lakewood Hospital and Maria’s Roman Room in Lakewood are coming together to bring healthy food choices to the community.

Janelle Henning, MD, Lakewood Medical Associates, Rockport; and Amy Jamieson-Petonic, MEd, RD, LD, Cleveland Clinic Registered Dietitian, are joining Maria’s Roman Room to offer a delicious three-course meal comprised entirely from natural, organic and healthy food products.

Dr. Henning will begin the dining experience by giving guests important tips on how to naturally lower their blood pressure, cholesterol and blood sugar and potentially avoid medications. Jamieson-Petonic will then describe the nutritional benefits of a Mediterranean diet as well as the importance of portion control. Maria’s Executive Chef Lou Kocsis, and new owner Gwen Dillingham-Hoertz, will give diners some great recipes to take home and prepare themselves.

Reservations are required, seating is limited.  
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to reserve your seat at the table today!

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