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# THE LAKEWOOD OBSERVER

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Volume 5, Issue 7, April 7, 2009

## Community Chimes In On Schools Phase III Facilities Plan

by Christine Gordillo

Lakewood City Schools' present and future came together at the Phase III Community Forum April 2 as 200 Lakewood residents and school district staff gathered at Lakewood High's East Cafeteria to help determine the course of the last and final phase of the districtwide facilities construction plan.

With Superintendent David C. Estrop and his successor, Dr. P. Joseph Madak on hand to lend support, Board President Edward Favre told the participants that the Board "values the community members coming together to discuss this very important issue" and he reiterated that the Board is counting on the community process to guide the members in their final decision, which it hopes to announce by the end of the year.

Following an overview of the accomplishments of Phases I and II and a recap of construction costs and funding formulas, the small group tables filled out surveys designed to gauge whether the community believes the district should have six or seven elementary schools (the State of Ohio will only pay for two of the remaining three to be rebuilt or renovated) and what criteria is most important in

continued from page 8

deciding which school to close if that is the choice.

The goal was for each table to come to consensus on the questions asked and then join

### While One Mother Says Location, Location, Location

by Meg Ostrowski

My husband and I landed in Lakewood more than a decade ago but we didn't expect to stay more than a few years. Then the kids were born. Our house became a home and roots began to take hold. I spent time getting to know Lakewood, its history and culture, its people and places. We became part of a community.

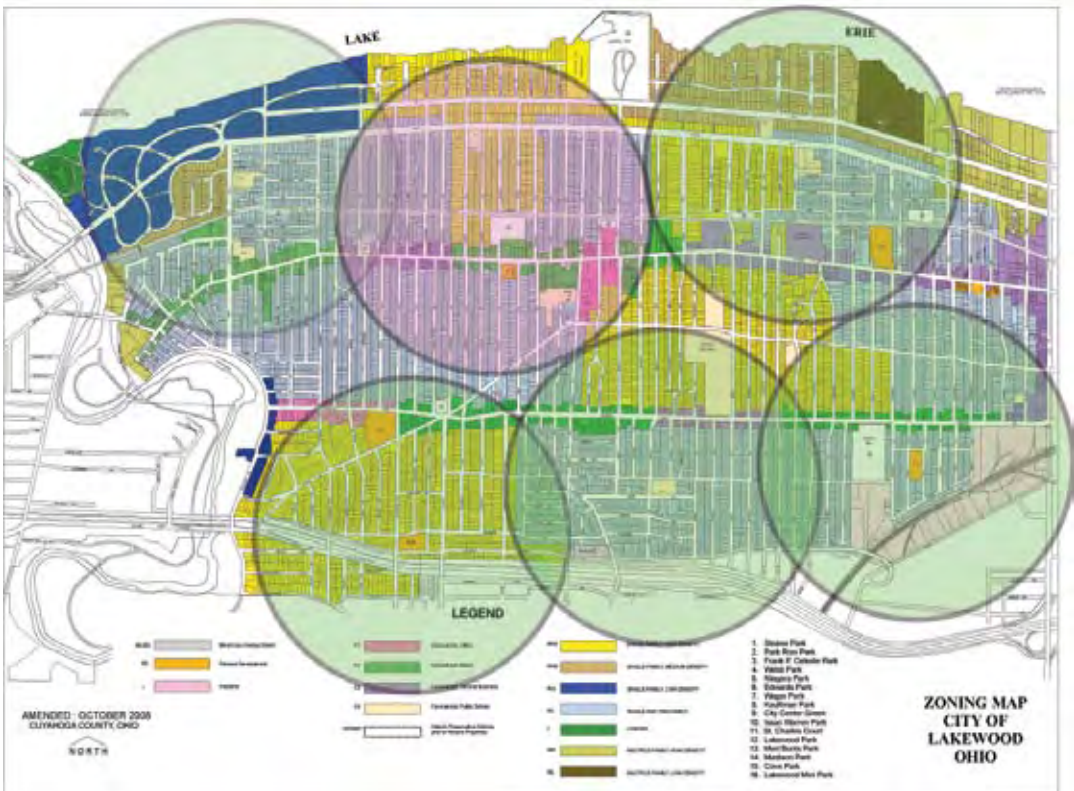
Before I knew it, it was time for kindergarten registration. I had heard varying opinions about Lakewood City Schools but I like to make up my own mind and kindergarten seemed like a harmless time for an experiment. I registered our children for enrollment at Grant Elementary, our neighborhood school. Now, years later, I can say that I am very happy with the results. The school board, administration and staff in partnership with families, parent organizations and government programs, get kids off to a great start.

Recently, in an effort to do my fair share and with genuine curiosity and commitment,

those with the results from the other tables in order to get a sense of where the community stands on its willingness to fund a seventh elementary

school and the completion of Lakewood High as well as the criteria to determine whether an elementary school must be closed and which one.

Although the results have not been officially tallied, some trends emerged as to the participants' leading priorities in determining our district's con-



Like the map images presented at the Community Forum, this Lakewood City zoning map has been modified to illustrate a ½ mile distance from the center of each school. In this case, Grant and Lincoln have been removed and replaced by a centrally located elementary facility at Kaufman Park. Note population density in residential areas by housing type as indicated on key (yellow, light blue).

I joined the Lakewood City Schools Phase III Steering Committee. The goal of the

committee is to work towards a recommendation to the School Board regarding the unfinished

renovation of the high school and the future of the remain- continued on page 9

## Demro-Nici Engagement

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Nici of Lake Avenue are



pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Miss Elizabeth Lynn Nici, to Lt. Ryan Patrick Demro, son of Mr. Patrick Demro of Lakewood and Mrs. Linda Alvarez of Lodi, Ohio. A fall wedding is planned. Miss Nici is a 2001 graduate of Mercyhurst College and is a graphic designer and owner of Gusto Designs LLC in Lakewood. Lt. Demro is a 2001 graduate of Capital University and a 2005 graduate of Ursuline College. The former Lakewood councilman is a teacher and an officer in the United States Army Reserve.

photo by Joe Ott



Lakewood's Boy Scouts of America Troop 115 continues its 48 years of providing leadership to our community and youth by releasing three new Eagle Scouts. Mike Andreani, Mark Accetta, and Andrew (AJ) Jorgensen were recently honored for earning their rank of Eagle Scout



# Lakewood Events

## Junk2Funk to Benefit North Coast Health Ministry

by Jeanine Gerge

Local Girl Gallery, 16106 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood, will be a fashion diva’s mecca on Saturday, April 25, 2009, from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., for another of the city’s Green smART projects when designers will be auctioning off “new” chic sustainable fashions.

The JUNK2FUNK Auction put on by Local Girl Gallery, GreenSmart Gifts, EcoLakewood, business and artists advocates, and Lakewood is Art, will benefit North Coast Health Ministry while touting the four R’s of life: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Respect during the city’s month-long Earth Day celebration in April.

For the Auction, Northeast Ohio fashion designers are asked to design one-of-a-kind fashions, anything from clothes to jewelry all made by recycled materials for the Auction. “We have all heard that green is the new black,” says Mary Evans, owner of Green Smart Gifts, in Lakewood, a gift shop offering only earth-friendly products. “Lakewood has long been at the forefront of eco-friendly initiatives and in prompting the community to think seriously about sustainability and take accountability for its actions.”

“Not only is our community leading the green movement but also it is incredibly rich in design talent and creative thinking. This exciting event sheds light on some serious topics in a very fun way,” says Linda Goik owner of Local Girl Gallery.

Respect and support for those without health insurance will be sewn into each design, as every designer will choose their supplies from discarded materials. These gorgeous pieces will have their beginnings as discarded materials, but will be transformed into elegant gowns, fun cocktail dresses, unique evening wraps and funky jewelry that anyone would be thrilled to

own and wear.

Ruthie Koenigsmark, President of Lakewood is Art (presenting sponsor of JUNK2FUNK) adds, “Fashion is how we express our individual style and values every day – contributing artists are in a unique position to promote the message of sustainability and help to others by participating in this event.”

The April 25th Gala Evening features a “green” cocktail reception with wine provided by French Rabbit in eco-friendly packaging (for every four wines sold, one tree is planted), hors d’oeuvres from local green restaurants, compostable plates and cutlery; and organic, fair trade coffee from Family Haven—a local non-profit offering support for people with disabilities.

Tickets for the event can be purchased in advance ONLY as ticket sales will be limited for this event. Tickets are \$10 a piece. Tickets can be purchased online via the North Coast Health Ministry Web site at [www.nchealth-ministry.org](http://www.nchealth-ministry.org) (click on “Events” from the home page). Or, tickets can be purchased by mail. Send a check to made out to Lakewood is Art to Lakewood is Art, 1458 Mars Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio no later than April 15, 2009.

Since 1986, North Coast Health Ministry has been providing health care to low-income individuals and families without medical insurance in western Cuyahoga and eastern Lorain counties. A faith-based free clinic located in Lakewood, Ohio, NCHM is a bridge to better health for more than 2,200 patients who have no other route to care. With the support of approximately 150 volunteer physicians, nurses and other caregivers, NCHM is able to provide primary health care, specialty referrals, prescription assistance, and health education to the medically underserved.



photo by Kim Yanoshik

*I met Muffin and his lovely human the other day while strolling along Detroit Avenue. I always enjoy meeting my fellow Lakewoodites and their animals. And from what I’ve observed Lakewoodites love their animals - and afterall, Lakewood even has its own dog park! Researchers and experts agree that unless someone has allergies or is terrified of animals, pets are good for our health - both physically and psychologically. A pet can help prevent loneliness by providing unconditional love and companionship. Walking the dog helps people with dogs get regular exercise - and all of us can benefit from more exercise! Furthermore, research has demonstrated that pets can reduce stress and blood pressure in owners, increase longevity in people who have had heart attacks, and even help people with Alzheimer’s disease relax and eat better! Not only does an apple a day help keep the doctor away; it appears that our furry or feathered friends can also help! Kim Yanoshik is a Lakewood resident who often wanders around town with a camera slung around her neck snapping photographs lakewooddailysnap.blogspot.com.*

## LECPTA Presents: Benefits and Tips for Buying Locally Grown Food

by Jill Carson

Lakewood Early Childhood PTA will host a free presentation given by Ann Stahlheber on “Benefits and Tips for Buying Food Locally for your Family.” She will discuss the Community Supported Agriculture programs that the LEAF (Lakewood Earth and Food) Community will be offering for 2009 and offer tips on how to incorporate more local foods into your family’s diet. These programs offered by LEAF

bring fresh local produce to over 300 families in Lakewood during the growing season! Ann is a Public Health Dietitian for the Cuyahoga County Board of Health. She has organized the Community Supported Agriculture programs offered by the LEAF Community since 2007. The presentation will take place on Monday, April 27th at 7:45pm in the Harding Middle School Cafetorium (16601 Madison Avenue). As with all LECPTA programs, this presentation is free and open to the public.




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visit [lakewoodhospital.org/diabetes](http://lakewoodhospital.org/diabetes)

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# Lakewood Healthcare

## Undiagnosed Diabetes: Could This Be You?

By Gina Gavlak RN, BSN  
Diabetes Program Development  
Coordinator  
Lakewood Hospital Diabetes and  
Endocrine Center

Diabetes doesn't discriminate. It doesn't care if you're black or white, rich or poor, young or old. Diabetes needs attention, everyone's attention.

Nearly 24 million Americans have diabetes and approximately 5.7 million of these people have not been diagnosed. In addition, another 57 million people have pre-diabetes. Closer to home, more than 300,000 people in Northeast Ohio live with diabetes.

Diabetes is a disease in which the body doesn't make insulin (insulin deficiency) or properly use insulin (insulin resistance). When you eat, certain foods

(carbohydrates) are broken down into glucose (sugar). Insulin is a hormone, produced by the pancreas, which moves glucose from the blood into the cells where it is used for energy. When the body doesn't make insulin and/or properly use insulin, blood sugars rise and diabetes is diagnosed.

Pre-diabetes is a condition where blood sugar levels are higher than normal, but not quite high enough to be diagnosed with diabetes. Higher than normal blood sugar levels damage blood vessels and nerves. This is what causes diabetes complications including heart disease and heart attacks, blindness, amputations, kidney disease and dialysis. Early diagnosis is important to prevent these conditions from developing.

especially at night

- Increased hunger
- Constantly feeling tired
- Losing weight without trying
- Infections and cuts that heal slowly
- Blurred vision
- Numbness or tingling in hands or feet

Making small changes in your daily routine will bring big rewards in your health and happiness. Your energy level will increase and you will notice improvements in blood sugar levels, blood pressure, cholesterol and weight.

## Lakewood Hospital Opens Women's Preventive Heart Clinic

by Aimee Smith

According to the American Heart Association, heart disease is the No. 1 killer of women in America. More than 41 million women are living with one or more types of cardiovascular diseases. With one out of three women dying from heart disease, Lakewood Hospital believes there is a vital need to promote heart health to women, therefore have opened a Women's Preventive Heart Clinic.

The Heart Clinic will provide a comprehensive screening for women to help them understand the risks of heart disease and how best to minimize those risks. A cardiac nurse will

perform a thorough history and physical, which includes:

- Complete lipid profile and blood sugar
- Blood pressure and heart rate
- EKG
- Body Mass Index (BMI)
- Stress assessment

At the end of the visit the cardiac nurse will give the woman a personalized cardiac health plan and also provide a referral to any appropriate provider they may need. The cost for the screening is \$35. Reservations are required. Please call 216.529.8500 to make your reservation today.

Everyone is at risk of developing diabetes, but those with increased risk include:

- People with a mother, father, sister or brother with diabetes
- People with pre-diabetes
- Being overweight. As little as 10 pounds overweight increases your risk
- Little or no exercise or activity
- African American, Hispanic/Latino, Native Americans and Asian Americans are at a much higher risk of developing diabetes
- Women who had diabetes during pregnancy or had a child weighing more than 9 pounds at birth
- Age. As you age your chance of developing diabetes increases

Signs of diabetes include:

- Constant thirst
- Frequent trips to the bathroom;

Surround yourself with people and things that will help you accomplish your goals. Try these simple things to get started. Get up and get moving, literally! Do some type of physical activity that increases your heart rate and causes you to break a sweat. Pay closer attention to what you are eating, how much you are eating and why you are eating. Begin eating smaller portions, use a smaller plate, decrease the amount of pop and fast foods that you eat and drink. These changes need to be made to prevent pre-diabetes, diabetes and other conditions.

Bring your family along with you on the journey. Make time for yourself. Make it fun. Make the changes fit your lifestyle and your needs.

Remember, it all starts with that first step; all you have to do is take it. I hope you will take a moment for your health. You are worth it! For more information, call the Center at 216.529.5300, or visit [lakewoodhospital.org/diabetes](http://lakewoodhospital.org/diabetes).

## New Midwife Joins Lakewood Hospital Midwifery Associates

by Aimee Smith

Lakewood Hospital is pleased to announce the appointment of Sharon Johnson, MS, CNM, to Lakewood Hospital Midwifery Associates. Ms. Johnson has extensive experience in providing comprehensive nurse midwifery services as well as obstetrical nursing.

Ms. Johnson comes to Lakewood Hospital from WomenCare Connection, LLC in Amherst, Ohio where she provided obstetrical and gynecological care to a diverse population in an office, clinic and hospital setting. Ms. Johnson served as a clinical instructor for pediatrics, obstetrics and medical surgical nursing at Cuyahoga Community College from September 2002 – June 2003 and has also worked at Metro Health Medical Center providing care to low risk and high-risk obstetrical patients.

"We are thrilled to bring another midwife to this outstanding practice," said Michele Thoman, chief nurse officer at Lakewood Hospital. "We have found that the relationship women experience with their midwife is one of the main reasons

why they choose to receive care at Lakewood Hospital. We are pleased to offer this personalized service to women."

Lakewood Hospital Midwifery Associates opened its doors in September 2008. Six certified nurse midwives (CNMs), Susan Dornan, CNM, MS; Sharon Johnson, MS, CNM; Susan Klein, CNM, MSN; Jeanne Knudtsen, CNM, MSN; Joy Sedlock Naughton, CNM, MSN; and Maureen Stein-Vavro, CNM, MSN, are located in one convenient location. The midwives collectively bring more than 70 years of experience and expertise to the practice. Lakewood Hospital has had CNMs on staff since 1991, when the hospital first re-opened its Birthing Center.

To make an appointment with Ms. Johnson or any of the other midwives, contact Lakewood Hospital Midwifery Associates at 216.227.2500. The practice is located in the Lakewood Hospital Community Health Center, 1450 Belle Avenue, Suite #310, Lakewood, Ohio, 44107.



### LUNCH & LEARN

**Christine Nelson, RN, APN,  
Geriatric Nurse Clinician**  
**Lakewood Hospital SeniorCare Assessment**

presents

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# Lakewood Library

## Meet The Beatlemania Author

by Joan Rubenking

It may be a well accepted fact that the Beatles, more than any other musical band in history, changed the direction of music in a profound way. Baby Boomers may lay a generational claim on the Fab Four, but their legacy belongs to the present and to the future as well, if continuing CD sales are any indication. And if you think you know the Beatles, please treat yourself to the program at the Lakewood Public Library on Tuesday, April 21, at 7 p.m. in the Main Auditorium, when author Dave Schwensen will talk about his recent and very successful book, *The Beatles in Cleveland: Memories, Facts & Photos about the Notorious 1964 & 1966 Concerts*. Schwensen has researched the two

events exhaustively and gathered testimony from those who were there when the Beatles made their historic and somewhat hysterical visits to the North Coast. To cap his presentation off, Schwensen will be showing a rare film of the 1966 performance.

In *The Beatles in Cleveland*, Schwensen has pulled together an accessible, fast paced read. We hear the first hand memories of the people who were there as organizers, announcers, and fans when the Beatles took the stage. Their voices are evocative of the time and will pull a reader directly into the full force of Beatlemania. Schwensen is behind the scenes, letting the big names in Cleveland radio and entertainment news recount the interviews the Beatles held here. He also lets

us into the trailer on the field of the Cleveland Stadium in 1966, where the group prepared for the show and then fled to when overzealous fans trampled the flimsy snow fence barrier and stormed the stage. The book's immediacy brings the era fully to life and recaptures musical history being made in our town.

Dave Schwensen has enjoyed a career path that has taken him into various areas of the entertainment business. He is the author of *Comedy FAQs and Answers: How the Stand-Up Biz Really Works* and *An Insider's Guide to a Career in Stand-Up Comedy*. He has worked as a talent coordinator for television and the Improv Comedy Clubs on both coasts, and has been a comedy consultant for



many television and film productions. Schwensen's seminars and workshops on comedy are usually sold out, and have garnered him notice in local and national newspapers and magazines, and landed him guest spots on radio and television shows. A Bowling Green State University graduate, Schwensen now lives in the Cleveland area and is an instructor at Cleveland State University. As a business instructor, Schwensen emphasizes the benefits of creativity and humor in the business and education arenas.

Since 1993, Schwensen has been an entertainment journalist, with articles published in the U.S., Canada, and Japan. He authors the syndicated humor column, *Something to Laugh About*, which was awarded "Best Original Column" by the Ohio Newspaper Association in 2005. He has reviewed and interviewed many high profile acts, including Bill Cosby and former Beatle Paul McCartney.

For Beatles fans, this program is a must-see. Join Dave Schwensen as he takes us on stage with the Beatles, through stories, memorabilia, and never before published photos. Mark your calendar now for April 21 at 7 p.m. in the Main Auditorium, since this presentation will surely draw a crowd. Copies of *The Beatles in Cleveland* will be available for purchase and signing. If you cannot wait for the date, the Lakewood Public Library also has two circulating copies of the book - check one out before another Beatles fan beats you to it! This Meet the Author program is free and open to the public.

## World Renowned String Quartet To Play At Library

by Leana Donofrio

The Cavani String Quartet, Cleveland's own internationally renowned, award winning chamber music ensemble, brings the music of Ludwig van Beethoven to Lakewood Public Library at 2 p.m. on Sunday April 19 in the Main Library Auditorium.

The concerts are designed to impact the residents of socio-economically diverse neighborhoods throughout greater Cleveland to promote brotherhood.

This free concert is one of 16 the Cavani String Quartet will play at neighborhood libraries to celebrate the music and message of Beethoven, part of the "Beethoven and Brotherhood Project" to celebrate their 25th anniversary. The Quartet states that Beethoven's music was chosen because it carries a message of hope for all and transcends bound-

aries of class, race, gender, religion and age. The group's website describes Beethoven's 16 complete string quartets as a biographical view into the evolution of Beethoven's creative life. They provide the listener with a glimpse into the mind of this musical genius. The concert at Lakewood Library will consist of one entire string quartet (Opus 18 No. 6) surrounded by commentary from Quartet members. This format was established to foster and encourage audience participation and interaction.

The Quartet has received praise for their performances at other area libraries. "Having hosted this internationally renowned chamber music ensemble, I am personally familiar not only with the high caliber of their artistry, but with the tremendous impact they have on their audience when performing in the intimate setting of the library," said

Gregory Reese, director of East Cleveland Public Library.

The Quartet is described by the Washington Post as "completely engrossing, powerful and elegant."

The Cavani String Quartet has played in major series and festivals throughout North America and Europe, including Carnegie Hall and the Festival de L'Epau in France. This concert is a chance to hear this renowned quartet in a small, intimate setting.

The Cavani String Quartet is the Quartet-in-Residence at the Cleveland Institute of Music and is the winner of the prestigious Naumburg Chamber Music Award. To learn more go to [www.cavani.org](http://www.cavani.org). This event is funded by Cuyahoga County residents through Cuyahoga Arts and Culture and the Friends of Lakewood Public Library.

## Lakewood Public Library Parent Pages Are Online And All New

by Amy Kloss and Kristine Williams

Are you a new parent or a seasoned veteran? Looking to find local resources and information that will help inspire, enrich, and encourage your kids to be their well-rounded, healthy, best selves? Look no further — the Lakewood Public Library Parent Pages are here! Check them out at [www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.com/parentpages](http://www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.com/parentpages). This incredible web reference is the online version of the "word-of-mouth" gems that highlight what's great about being a kid — and a parent — in Lakewood, Ohio.

Lakewood Public Library employees have undertaken a massive reworking of their Parent Pages, created back when the internet was in its infancy. Now that the internet has broadened to include overwhelming amounts of information, sites that gather and organize that information are more important than ever.

The Parent Pages offer a comprehensive look at the most useful information a Lakewood parent might need. They're clear, easy to use and full of the great

resources this area has to offer parents and their kids. For example:

- We all know our kids should spend less time in front of the T.V., video game and computer. But it can be challenging to suggest a realistic alternative. Believe it or not, time with you is what they really want and need. Check out our huge list of things to do, regardless of the weather or season, under "Get Out & Get Active."
- Maybe you've got a kid who's crazy about trains. Or dogs? Or maybe

dinosaurs? Whatever the passion, discover and nurture it by exploring all the great places and events we've compiled under "Find & Feed a Passion." We bet we found some you didn't know about!

- You've had a late day at work and lack the ingredients or energy to fix a healthy meal for your family. Don't do the drive-through! Instead, check out "Eat Healthy" for a list of stores and restaurants around town where you can quickly pick up a nutritious,

### Beginning May 1st At Lakewood Public Library Patron Cards Will Be Non-Transferable

by Eve Klodnick

Starting on May 1st a new policy will be in effect at Lakewood Library that states each patron can only use his or her own library card. Patrons will no longer be allowed you use the card of a friend, spouse or family member to enter the AV room, use library computers or check out library materials.

The Library Board has approved this policy to be fair to all library

patrons and to offer equal access to computer time and library materials to everyone.

So please remember when coming into the library to bring your own card or a picture I.D. in order to make full use of all the library has to offer. Library cards are free and available to all Ohio residents. We encourage anyone who has been using another patron's card to come into the library and sign up for one of their own.

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# Lakewood Public Library Events

All Programs Are Free And Open To The Public  
Sunday, April 12 Lakewood Public Library is closed.

## MEET THE AUTHOR:

### The Search for Lost Habitats by Perry Peskin

**Tuesday, April 7 at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium**  
Explore Northeast Ohio locales near and dear to the author’s heart in the search for the natural beauty of the rarest wildflowers. From the expansive wetlands and mature forests of Ashtabula County to the unusual clay banks of the Cuyahoga and Chagrin rivers, witness fragile habitats clinging to life—and even some orchids! Nature photographer and amateur botanist, Perry Peskin, illustrates the wealth of local diversity with photographs from his personal collection. Books will be available for sale and signing after the show.

### BOOKED FOR MURDER: The Big Over Easy by Jasper Fforde

**Thursday, April 9 at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Meeting Room**  
Humpty Dumpty’s great fall sets off a murder investigation in this clever parody featuring cameos from a boisterous gang of nursery rhyme criminals. Sorting through Dumpty’s tumultuous love life and shady dealings, Detective Jack Spratt and Sergeant Mary Mary must crack the case before the body count climbs any higher.

## LAKEWOOD PUBLIC CINEMA:

### Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs (1937) Directed by David Hand Rated G

**Saturday, April 11 at 6:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium**  
A dream child with skin as white as snow, lips as red as blood and hair as black as ebony is cast off into the forest by her vain stepmother, only to be delivered into the protection of seven kindhearted little men. This lush animated masterpiece, painstakingly crafted with old world draftsmanship, is required viewing for anyone who uses the name Disney as a byword for things shallow and tacky.

## MULTIMEDIA LITERACY

### Session 2: Culture

**Wednesday, April 15 at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium**  
Through a series of presentations and group discussions, students will explore the history, methods and effects of media in mass society. Presentations will include samples from various films, commercials, books, newspapers and electronic texts as well as television, radio and Internet programs. Students will be led through exercises in critical analysis and evaluation, unearthing and exploring the psychological foundations of marketing and public relations in order to develop a more robust understanding of life in an electronically mass mediated culture. Ask your teacher if LPL’s Multimedia Literacy counts towards extra credit. While students are encouraged to participate in all three sessions, they are welcome to attend any sessions which interest them.

## BUSINESS BOOK TALK WITH TIM ZAUN AND FRIENDS

**Thursday, April 16 at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Meeting Room**  
Let’s talk business. Keep up to date with the latest ideas and meet like-minded Lakewoodites with host Tim Zaun. Refreshments provided. Visit <http://www.timzaun.com/http://www.timzaun.com/www.timzaun.com> or go to [www.lkwdpl.org/bookclubs](http://www.lkwdpl.org/bookclubs) to learn more.  
The Green Collar Economy: How One Solution Can Fix Our Two Biggest Problems by Van Jones  
Yale Law graduate Van Jones presents his substantive and viable plan for solving the two biggest issues facing the country—the failing economy and our devastated environment.

## FIVE STAR FILMS:

### The Disappearance of Garcia Lorca (1997) Directed by Marcos Zurinaga Rated R

**Saturday, April 18 at 6:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium**  
Stars: Andy Garcia, Esai Morales, Edward James Olmos, Miguel Ferrer  
A young expatriate journalist returns home to Granada for the purpose of uncovering the truth about what happened in 1936 to his boyhood hero, famed Spanish poet and political activist Federico Garcia Lorca. At that time in history, Spain was in turmoil and under the rule of General Franco. The deeper the reporter probes into the mystery, the more determined to stop him become those who know what really happened.

## SUNDAY WITH THE FRIENDS: The Cavani String Quartet

**Sunday, April 19 at 2:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium**  
Cleveland’s own internationally-renowned chamber music ensemble will be stopping by for an intimate neighborhood performance of Beethoven’s Opus 18 No. 6. It’s not every day you get a chance to sit so close and feel this music, celebrated for transcending all barriers and synonymous with the virtues of brotherhood and humanity.

## LOCAL FILMMAKERS

### Supernatural and Other Realities

**Monday, April 20 at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium**  
Are you tired of watching empty assembly-line Hollywood blockbusters? Burnt out on inscrutable foreign cinema? Join us for four nights of short films from the most available local filmmakers as we search for the next great Ohio auteur. Many of the directors will be available for a question and answer session at each show. Do you have a finished film that you’re burning to share with Lakewood? Comedy, tragedy, documentary, animation, linear or non—it doesn’t matter. Call the Technology Center at (216) 226-8275, ext. 127 to see if there’s still room for your masterpiece.

## MEET THE AUTHOR:

### The Beatles in Cleveland by Dave Schwensen

**Tuesday, April 21 at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium**  
Relive the excitement of Beatlemania as John, Paul, George and Ringo visit Cleveland for two of the most out of control concerts in history. Devoted fan Dave Schwensen will take you behind the scenes and on stage with stories, memorabilia and never before published photos. The grand finale of the evening will be the screening of a rare film of the riotous 1966 concert. Books will be available for sale at the show.

## KNIT & LIT BOOK CLUB

**Tuesday April 21 at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Meeting Room**  
Don’t let the name fool you. All knitters, crocheters, cross-stitchers, and needlepointers are invited to keep their hands and minds busy with us. Nimble-fingered moderator Lynda Tuennerman encourages you to bring in your own suggestions for reading and needlework projects. This evening’s book is Death Comes for the Archbishop by Willa Cather.

## LEARNING LAB CLASSES:

### WORD PROCESSING BASICS

**Saturday, April 11 at 11:00 a.m. in the Main Library Learning Lab**

### JOB HUNTING WORKSHOP

**Tuesday, April 14 at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Learning Lab**

### WEB SEARCHING BASICS

**Saturday, April 18 at 3:00 p.m. in the Main Library Learning Lab**  
Reservations for computer instruction classes begin the first of each month. To register, please stop in or call (216) 226-8275, ext. 127. We ask that all students come to class with a working knowledge of the mouse. If you need help, visit the Technology Center and ask the staff to set you up on our Mouse Training Program. It’s fun, easy and essential to becoming computer literate.

## CHILDRENS & YOUTH SERVICES

### THE ZONE: For students in kindergarten through fifth grade

**Egg-Stravaganza**  
**April 6-9**  
Get in the Zone and sign up for a week of themed activities! Visit [www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.com/youth](http://www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.com/youth) for the list of fun and exciting programs just for kids. To register, please stop in; call Main Library at (216) 226-8275, ext. 140 or Madison Branch (216) 228-7428.  
Note: There is no Zone program the week of April 13th because of Spring Break.

### HOMEWORK ER: For students in kindergarten through eighth grade

**Tuesday, September 2, 2008 - Thursday, May 21, 2009**  
**Children’s and Youth Services Department at Main Library**  
Need a little help with your homework or just want a cool place to work? Come to the new Homework Room in the Children’s and Youth Services Department at Main Library for help and resources.

### CREATION STATION: For students in kindergarten through fifth grade

**Fridays, September 5 – May 22 at 4:00 p.m.**  
**Children’s and Youth Services Department at Main Library and Madison Branch**  
Join us for crafts each and every Friday after school. 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.

### CLUB LIFE: For students sixth through eighth grade

**Thursdays, September 11 – May 21 at 4:00 p.m.**  
**Main Library Multipurpose Room**  
Make a difference and join the club. Learn new skills or hone those you already have as you participate in projects designed to help your community. For more information, visit [www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.com/youth](http://www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.com/youth). To register, please stop in or call (216) 226-8275, ext. 140.

## FAMILY WEEKEND WONDERS

**Main Library: Friday: 10:30 a.m., 2:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m.**  
**Saturday: 10:30 a.m., 2:00 p.m., 4:00p.m.**  
**Sunday: 2:00 p.m.**  
**Madison Branch: Friday 10:30 a.m., Saturday 11:30 a.m., and Sunday 3:00 p.m.**  
**April 10, 11: Goofs and Giggles**  
**April 17, 18, 19: Bouncing Bunnies**  
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.

### LET’S TALK TWILIGHT: For youth in sixth through ninth grade and parents

**Thursday, April 9 Eclipse by Stephenie Meyer**  
**Thursday, April 23 Breaking Dawn by Stephenie Meyer**  
Whether you’ve been bitten by Stephenie Meyer’s Twilight series or are just starting to sink your teeth into the books, these lively discussions about the undead will leave you thirsty for more. Teens must bring a parent, and parents must bring a teen. To register, please stop in or call (216) 226-8275, ext. 140.



# Lakewood Schools

## Learning Doesn't Stop, Even On Weekends

by Gordillo, Christine

With a student body of nearly 6,000 housed in 11 different buildings and a wealth of talented young people and dedicated teachers and parents, rarely a weekend goes by when Lakewood students and staff aren't involved in some enriching activity. From sports to music to science, Lakewood students are building rich life experiences broadening their education with the guidance of mentors who may be coaches, teachers or parents of fellow students. Here's a sampling of some of the kind of events that Lakewood's students partook in over the last month:

Northeast Ohio Science and Engineering Fair: Three Harding students and nine from the high school showcased their scientific minds at the regional science fair held at John Carroll University in early March. Awards were given for 1st, 2nd, 3rd and Honorable Mention as well as Special Awards given by nonprofits and corporations that found an exhibit of particular interest to the group's field. LHS freshmen Katie Reading and Hannah Gallovic earned first-place honors for their projects. Reading's project, "Measuring Sugar Content of Liquids with a Laser Pointer," and Gallovic's "Mold Growth Under Various Conditions," earned the girls \$100 each. Second-place awards went to LHS students Grace Corridoni, Clarissa Kos, Jimmy Matthiesen and Nina Pizzo. Eighth-grader Lindsay Furtado of Harding also earned second-place recognition. Third-place honors went to Kate LaBar, Adam Morris and Enea Pavliqoti of LHS and eighth-grader Caroline Speice of Harding. Three students also won Special Awards. Furtado was recognized for her worm composting project, Kos for her project on the safest water purification methods and Reading for her sugar content presentation. Approximately 500 students from more than 90 schools participated in the competition.

Destination Imagination: Seven Horace Mann fourth and fifth graders competed as a team in this team building, problem solving and creative thinking competition held March 14 at Beachwood High School. The team, with the guidance of many parent volunteers and a school coordinator, started preparing in December for their tournament challenge. The Horace Mann's team's chosen challenge was dubbed "Private DI" and entailed learning about film genres, superstitions and improvisation. At the competition, the team had 30 minutes to create a skit, including props and costumes, focused on the origin of a superstition. The team was given a list of 45 items it could bring to the tournament to help in its challenge – as long as they fit in a 2x2x2 box! If it all sounds a bit complicated, it is, and that's what the PTA wanted when it looked for an event for which to sponsor a team. "I've seen leaders emerge," said team manager and parent Amy Chodzin. "The challenge is complicated but that's wonderful because the kids can find their own strengths," she said. The team was composed of fourth graders Henry Bish, Hanna Chodzin, Sophia Nanni, Hannah Posedel and Emma Yonkers and fifth graders Grace Lavelle and Alex Tubbs.

Team America Rocketry Challenge (TARC): Members from Harding's TARC team spent their Saturdays in March on a field in Amherst trying to qualify one of the model rocket's they built in their after-school club for the TARC nationals held in Virginia in May. The top 100 teams across the nation that come closest to the contest's objective of launching a rocket that reaches an altitude of 750 feet, stays aloft for 45 seconds and returns to the ground safe and undamaged are invited to nationals. Oh yeah, the rocket must also be carrying an egg placed in the

rocket perpendicular to the flight direction that must return undamaged as well! The contest is the largest rocket contest in the world and is designed to get students interested in aerospace careers as the teams must use all the basic skills of aerospace engineering to have a successful

rocket launch. "It's really fun to actually see something you made fly nearly 1,000 feet in the sky," said team member Hugh Campbell. Joining Campbell on the team are Andrew Gordon, George Harkenrider, Max Mulready, Cooper Strachan and Danny Toner.



### WeDoDi: Horace Mann Teams Compete in Problem-Solving Tournament

by Christine Gordillo

Seven students from Horace Mann Elementary recently competed in the local Destination Imagination challenge held March 14th at Beachwood High School. "DI" is a community based, non-profit, volunteer-driven, educational organization that teaches young people from kindergarten through university level the critical and creative thinking skills needed for success in the 21st century. More than 250,000 children and young adults in all 50 states and 40 countries compete each season, offering students a real-world experience in creativity, teamwork and problem solving.

Led by coach Amy Chodzin, team DI Dynamite spent three months meeting twice a week to prepare for both the team challenge and an instant challenge which make up the competition. DI guidelines require that all creative input come from the kids, with the

coach acting only as a facilitator supplying a structured environment and all the materials necessary for the team to create and problem solve.

Showing their support, Horace Mann principal Dr. Kathleen McGorray and several teachers were in attendance as they watched team Dynamite compete against other area elementary schools over the course of the day. In what turned out to be a very close competition, team Dynamite placed third in this their first year at the DI Challenge. Parents, teachers and of course the kids, had much to be proud of.

DI Dynamite '09 team members were Henry Bish, Hanna Chodzin, Grace Lavelle, Sophia Nanni, Hannah Posedel, Alex Tubbs and Emma Yonkers.

For more information on Destination Imagination visit their website at [www.idodi.org](http://www.idodi.org).



The Lakewood High School varsity cheerleaders captured first place in their division at the Spirit Athletics Spring Classic competition at the University of Akron recently. The winning squad is: front row (l-r) Bo Jenkins, Aubrey Barto, Lauren Tabor and Coach Suzy Dominak; middle row (l-r): Haley McGinty, Alaina Williams, Katie Beckwith; and back row (l-r): Morgan Kevesdy, Ezrae Macri, Sara Luehring and Kate Wingle.

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## Lakewood Schools

# Lakewood Times Staff Among Tops In State

The staff members of Lakewood High's newspaper, Lakewood Times, who according to their adviser "put in long hours each month writing, editing and designing (the paper) ... for very little glory," finally had the spotlight shine on them at the Ohio Scholastic Media Association Convention at Kent State University April 3. The student journalists brought home a First Place rating from the competition, which gathered more than 1,000 students from 50 high school newspapers from around the state and drew more than 2,000 entries.

The students won First Place in the Newsmagazine Division and were further honored with 32 individual and two team awards.

### Winning Superior Ratings in Individual Categories:

Jordan Congeni for Editorial Cartoon  
Thealexa Becker for Photo Story  
Jacob Ott for Photo Story, and Sports Photo  
Sarah Jawhari for Editorial Cartoon

### Winning an Excellent Rating in Individual Categories:

Rebecca McKinsey, In-depth Reporting/Individual, Personality Profile, and Column  
Rachel Kowalski, News Feature  
Shaina Switzer, Review  
Jacob Ott, Sports Feature, and Sports Photo  
Sarah Jawhari, Computer Assisted Art Work  
Alberto Rodriquez, News Writing  
Thealexa Becker, In-Depth Reporting/Individual  
Alex Mezin, Photo Illustration  
Bo Jenkins, Review  
Fiza Shah, General Feature  
Isabella Zettler, General Feature

### Winning Honorable Mentions:

Rebecca McKinsey, Day-of Convention News Magazine Layout  
Ryan Wood, Artwork  
Jacob Ott, Sports Page Layout and for two different Sports Opinions  
Amanda Perez, Personality Profile

Nesreen Jawhari, Artwork  
Wilson Sackett, Sports Coverage/News  
Seth Baker, Sports Coverage/News  
Thealexa Becker, News Photo  
Isabella Zettler, for two different Feature Page Layouts

### Team Awards

The Editorial Board for Staff Editorial on Hoodies

The team of Alex Mezin, Thealexa Becker, Shaina Switzer, Jessica Paoli, Josh Watkins, Ryan Wood, Jordan Congeni, Rebecca McKinsey, Sarah Jawhari and Miranda Mave for News Magazine Package for the Recycling

issue.

Adviser Karen Ballash on Saturday was honored to present a seminar on editorial writing for students who stayed for the convention's workshop sessions on the second day. Ballash's presentation focused on editorial writing and offered the students a proven formula for persuasive communications, which Ballash said is a "real struggle" for many young writers.

The student journalists' winning entries should soon be available to view online at the sponsoring association's web at <http://new.jmc.kent.edu/cs/osma/contests/2009/>.

## Schools Phase III Facilities Plan

continued from page 1

figuration of elementary schools. At the top of the lists of a majority of participants for criteria to consider if closing a school were geographic placement, equitable class sizes, walking distance and safe pickup/dropoff areas.

Regarding criteria to determine whether one would support any Phase III plan, the top factors were whether or not the district received the State's \$47 million contribution to the plan, making sure that all students attend school in a renovated or rebuilt school and the financial impact on families and the community.

Future Superintendent P. Joseph Madak wrapped up the evening by pledging his commitment to the process, one he called "powerful" and one that will affect all of Lakewood's students, regardless of which school they attend. He thanked Dr. Estrop for his openness and willingness to work together to make the transition from one administration to the next a smooth one.

The Phase III Steering Committee will meet April 21 to review the results of the survey and begin to shape its recommendation to the Board. Meetings will



Lakewood City Schools' present and future: Incoming Superintendent P. Joseph Madak (left) and current Superintendent David C. Estrop at the Community Forum April 2.

continue through May and then resume again in September in preparation for the next Community Forum on Sept. 15, where the committee will seek community input on its recommendations.

For more information and to view the documents presented at the Community Forum, please visit [www.lakewoodcityschools.org](http://www.lakewoodcityschools.org) and click on the Phase III button on the home page. You may also leave comments about the process on the Phase III hotline: 227-5315.

## Elementary Students Participate In Service Camp

by Katie Murray

*"We've been working on the railroad, all the live long day. . ."*

Thirty-five second and third graders from Lincoln and Emerson elementary schools gathered together for service camp from March 24-27, 2009. Dubbed "Camp Engineers of Hope", the theme of the camp encouraged students to meet President Barack Obama's challenge that "we must pick ourselves up, dust ourselves off and begin the work of" bringing hope to our communities. Teachers Maureen Marshall and Chris Karabinus wanted their students to learn that they could reach out and make a difference in their little part of America.

The students, outfitted in railroad engineer's caps, spent hours working on a variety of service projects to benefit local organizations. The Sanctuary for Senior Dogs received homemade dog biscuits. Speakers from the N.E. Ohio Coalition for the Homeless educated the children with personal stories of homelessness. The students sorted and packed over 700

pounds of food during a field trip to the Cleveland Foodbank.

*"Making gifts of cheer and hope, giving love away. . ."*

Armed with markers and paint, the students decorated pillows and placemats and stuffed puppies with messages of love. Lakewood Senior Services and MetroHealth Senior Health Center were the happy recipients of the students' handiwork. The week concluded on Friday afternoon with a field trip to visit the residents of the MetroHealth Senior Health Center. As the children happily sang the songs they had been practicing all week, they walked the halls of the center giving the pillows and puppies as gifts to the residents. While listening to a rousing chorus of "You Are My Sunshine", one resident remarked that "my heart is bursting with love right now!"

The "engineers of hope" are back in the classroom, learning their traditional school subjects this week. But the lessons learned in service camp left a lasting mark on the students and all the people with whom they shared their message of hope and love.

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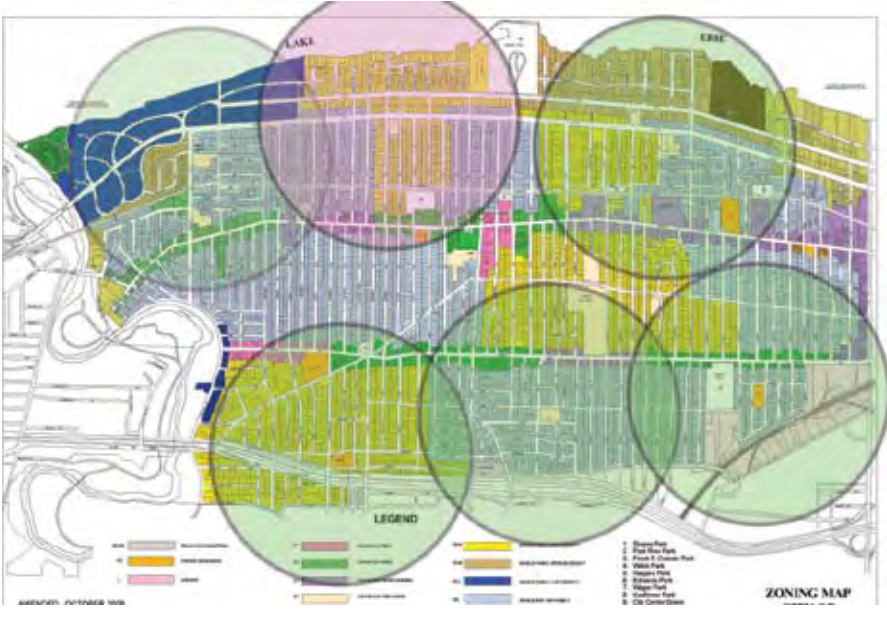
## Coffee • Tea • Art • Music • Community





Lakewood Observer

Location, Location, Location



continued from page 1

ing elementary schools, Grant, Lincoln & Roosevelt. Unfortunately the schedule of meetings did not coincide with my own. I determined it best that I downgrade my role in this process to an active member of the community. Activity in my case usually means that of the imagination. In this case, with The Observer as my mouthpiece, please consider this.

Earlier this month I attended the first of two scheduled Phase III Community Forums. After opening remarks, data was presented and distributed for reference. Each individual was given a survey to complete. Then the same survey was completed in small groups by consensus. The purpose of this exercise was to gather community input and determine which issues should be weighted most heavily when developing options for consideration at the next Community Forum scheduled for September 15th. It must be decided if the district will operate six or seven elementary schools once the plan is complete. I think it is fair to say that regardless of the state of the economy, no taxpayer wants to pay for the renovation or rebuilding and operation of seven elementary schools if only six are needed. I was reassured by School Board President Ed Favre's remarks that "no decisions have been made" and "this process will guide our decisions." Even more so, I was encouraged by Treasurer Rick Berdine's comment during the Q & A that "anything is possible."

After reviewing the data provided and studying a zoning map of Lakewood, it seems to me that the elementary school solution comes down to location.

If the location is right, reasonable walking distances can be maintained. Reasonable for a kindergartner up against the elements in February is about half a mile, a little further if hot cocoa is promised in exchange for not having to carry them the rest of the way. Add to this scenario a younger sibling or two who are already being carried because pushing a stroller on ice and snow covered Lakewood sidewalks is an exercise in futility. I speak from experience.

If the location is right, there will be

minimal disruption and transition for students. I have heard it said that parents often struggle more than students with this one. As a child I transitioned six times during elementary school due to family moves, school renovations and district integration efforts. Not only did these events impact my academic performance, they left me feeling anxious and insecure with no sense of community.

If the location is right, room for future expansion can be included in the plan. I doubt we are in store for another baby boom but enrollment could soar. With a struggling economy and the district's improving performance and new facilities, many new families may be drawn to the system.

If the location is right, there can be a re-balancing of resources to ensure economic parity.

If the location is right, six can get the job done without compromising on essential criteria.

All personal impact aside, it seems obvious to me that Roosevelt should be rebuilt at its current location. Harrison and Hayes to the east and west are near capacity. Roosevelt bridges the gap and is located in a densely populated residential neighborhood.

If we are going to get this done right with six elementary schools, it seems Grant and Lincoln should both be decommissioned. Choosing between them could divide us. Choosing between them would create problems for the many families that do not have the option of driving children to school. Their numbers are on the rise. Elementary kids who don't get to school regularly are more likely to fall behind, negatively impact school performance and cause bigger problems for the city later on. The best part of letting go of Grant and Lincoln is that it creates an opportunity to come together and build from scratch a new school community; one that addresses the current and future challenges of educating Lakewood's kids in changing and uncertain times; one that utilizes our most effective resources.

Imagine a new elementary school located at Kaufman Park made possible via a land swap with the city. This central location is ideal for supporting one of the most diverse, densely popu-

The maps above reveal the gaps created when either Grant or Lincoln is removed. In both cases high density neighborhoods are disadvantaged.

lated and mobile segments of our city. I suspect that the land on which the Board of Education now resides and the adjacent Grant site are as desirable for developers as that of Kaufman Park and vast enough to include green space. Relocating district offices to the Lincoln building could serve as a means of honoring its history in the community and provide a campus for the recreation department.

While there may be issues and obstacles that I am unaware of, I am hopeful that others will see value in this approach and consider alternatives to the limited "either/or" options

being discussed around town.

We know that strong schools build strong communities. If we get this wrong we put our community and our future at risk. If we get this right, we all benefit.

When I landed here, Lakewood was just a place to hang my hat. What I didn't anticipate was that it might be the location where the essence of community manifests itself through the birth of a new idea for its children; an idea that serves the interests of the entire community for generations to come.

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# The Best of The Lakewood Times

## Run Wild to Cure Debilitating Disease

By Julia Houska

Many people know about life-threatening diseases like cancer. But not many people are aware of a disease called Mitochondrial Disease. Mitochondrial Disease (Mito) has no cure. Every 15 minutes, a child is born with a type of Mito. Many develop the disease before the age of ten.

Half of the people who develop this disease are under the age of five, and many won't live past their teenage years. Mitochondrial Disease is characterized by the body's inability to process food into energy. The parts of the body that need the most energy – the heart, brain, muscles, and lungs – are affected the most.

This disease affects my sister. She is four and a half, and the cutest thing you've ever seen. She has been having a lot of good days, but the situation could get worse without warning. Because of this disease, she misses more school

than she attends. She can't go outside if it's too hot or cold. And she can't play too much, because she gets tired really quickly.

My sister needs all the help she can get, and that is why my brother Steve and I are asking you to go online and register for the United Mitochondrial Disease Foundation's upcoming event under "Team Abby."

Every year, the Foundation holds a "Run Wild for a Cure" day at the zoo. Participants are provided with breakfast, music and games. You can join in a scenic one-mile walk through the zoo for families and children or a challenging 5K course for runners chip-timed by Hermes.

There is pre-registration, so you don't have to wait in long lines. You can pre-register online at [www.runwildforacure.org](http://www.runwildforacure.org). Adults pay \$20 for the run, and \$15 if they're walking. Children

ages two to 17 pay \$10, and babies are free. This year's race is at Cleveland Metroparks Zoo on Saturday, May 9. Registration for the all-day event begins at 7 a.m.

All the proceeds from this event will go to help find a cure for Mitochondrial Disease. Donations are accepted and much appreciated. Participants will receive a free continental breakfast, free admission to the zoo and rain forest, free T-shirts (while supplies last), free children's entertainment, free parking, and a huge raffle with great prizes for the whole family. Please mark your place in a child's life and register now.

"Mito" can affect children under the age of five, such as Julia Houska's younger sister, Abby. Photo courtesy of the Houska family.



## LHS Students Travel to International Film Fest

By Thealexa Becker

With the successful Cleveland International Film Festival right next door, LHS French and German classes took the opportunity to watch recent foreign films.

The film festival, which also sponsors Film Slam, a mini-festival for educational purposes, featured sets of foreign shorts in French, Spanish and German. The French 4/5 and German 4 classes attended the respective sets of shorts along with several other Cleveland area schools.

"I was impressed by how incredibly worldly the average LHS students are," said German teacher Gregory Sent.

Each showing consisted of approximately 20-minute short films. The German shorts included the recent Oscar winning Live Action Short Film "Spielzeugland (Toyland)," which tells the story of a single mother in WWII Nazi Germany who tells her son that the Jewish family next door is going away to "toyland." Following the film, there was a short discussion about its impact and importance.

"[Spielzeugland] showed us the Holocaust through the eyes of a child during that time period," Sent said. "It showed us an alternate ending to an altogether tragic event. But it also showed how many Germans during the Holocaust acted against the Nazi party and are too often forgotten in our history books and in the media."

The French students also took part in a discussion after their set of shorts. It was initially conducted in French, but had to be changed to English because many of the students in the audience

did not understand the French.

"The kids got an interesting perspective on French culture," said French teacher Katie Braquet about the Film Festival experience. "American movies always have a resolution, usually a happy one. French movies don't have one, and you need to figure [the ending] out for yourself."

At the conclusion of the shorts and discussion, the students were allowed to explore Tower City for lunch and some light shopping.

"It was a day full of firsts," said junior Emily Barker, who traveled with fellow

junior Arielle Giczkowski and seniors Emily Ott and Jacque Hood. "We got matching two-dollar sunglasses."

They added that it was the first time that they had used the rapid and the bus to get to Tower City, as well as the first time that they made "funny faces at weird people on the rapid."

Most of the students seemed amused by the public transportation aspect of the trip. Senior Jenny Shank even called it her favorite part of the trip.

"I met my prom date on the rapid," senior Bailey Mueller said jokingly.

Many of the students were impressed

by how much they gained from the experience.

"We actually got to feel like we learned something," senior Grace Elliott said. "You're hearing [the film] in another language and understanding it and thinking about it, too. It really paid off to be at a higher [language] level."

"It was a great experience for the foreign language classes to hear and learn about their languages outside of the classroom," senior Eva Nemethy said.



The foreign language students posed on the Tower City steps. Top from left to right: Grace Elliott, Hannah Eaton, Jenny Shank, Eva Nemethy, Chris Murrett, Bailey Mueller, John Kearney, Jacque Hood, Emily Ott. Front row from left to right: Thealexa Becker, Heather Zappala, David Beargie, Joanna Gobeille, Arielle Giczkowski, Mary Porter, Emily Barker, Liz Newell, Tyler Kadow, and Jesse Geyer. Photo by Gregory Sent.



The Best of

The Lakewood Times

# Author Speaks on Migrant Odyssey

By Greg Culley

Some describe it as the “Odyssey” of the twenty-first century. The protagonist? No, it’s not the famed Odysseus, but rather a 17-year-old Honduran boy named Enrique.

Instead of battling the Cyclops and dodging Sirens, he faces brutal gangs and a mechanical beast in the form of a freight train. He is returning not from the Trojan War, but from a war against the odds – and against the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

Enrique is an illegal immigrant, and behind his captivating and representative story stands Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and author Sonia Nazario.

Nazario visited Lakewood High School’s Tryout Theater on March 26 to share the experiences and inspirations that helped develop her book, “Enrique’s Journey,” which sheds light on an issue that continues to dominate news headlines and local conversations. In addition to informing, her presentation inspired empathy and added humanity to the immigration debate.

Facing History and Ourselves, an organization that sponsors activities that cultivate civic responsibility in hopes of protecting human dignity and preventing human rights violations, brought Nazario to Lakewood with the help of Social Studies teacher Joe Lobo.

In addition to LHS students, attendees from Garfield Middle School, Lincoln West High School, St. Martin de Porres, and Carl W. Shuler High School were present.

Inspired by a conversation with her maid Carmen, Nazario soon began exploring the possibility of taking her own journey. “Some things I just didn’t really get until I rode on the trains,” she recalled.

Nazario made sure, though, that her safety remained a priority, taking several precautions to ensure an experience she would be able to share. One of these was a letter written by the personal assistant to the Mexican presi-

dent identifying her as a reporter and explaining her objective. “I called it my *carta de oro*, or golden letter,” Nazario said, adding that the letter kept her out of jail three times.

Although the letter was valuable in protecting her from dangerous situations with people, nature’s fury remained unstoppable, Nazario said. During her journey, she was required to contend with tree trunks that wiped passengers off trains, unsteady rails, burning heat, and freezing cold.

Nazario’s experiences served as the basis for several articles in the Los Angeles Times. These articles developed into the book that gained national attention.

“You have to remember that even though it’s ‘Enrique’s Story,’ that it’s a story common to thousands,” Nazario reminded the audience as she described the horrors of the train ride.



Pulitzer Prize-winning author Sonia Nazario speaks to students at the LHS Tryout Theater about her book, “Enrique’s Journey.” Students from four different area schools attended and were able to ask questions following her speech. Photo by Amanda Perez.

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As shocking as these stories were, the stories of happiness and humanity also inspired Nazario’s audience.

“An old woman in Veracruz that I met would make tortillas and beans to put in bags to be thrown up to the train,” Nazario explained. “It amazed me that there were people who barely had enough to feed themselves, giving food away to complete strangers.”

Nazario emphasized that her website contained several links to help create business in South American countries or send prosthetics to a home for victims who had lost limbs to the trains. “It’s amazing how people live their faith there,” Nazario said.

As the theater cleared, the audience was left with a story of faithful individuals, one faithful boy, and a faithful reporter.

## Mood Is Mediocre in the LHS Mods

Times Staff Editorial

If our temporary fix for a fully functioning school belongs in a trailer park, we might as well make it attractive.

The mods are our solution to the construction taking place during the next few years. Walking into a plain, bare, maze of doors and abandoned-looking walls does not promote a united, spirited high school.

A step into the main building across the street gives you a taste of Lakewood High’s rich, authentic culture. Why not bring a little flavor to the mods?

Taping monochromatic signs to the walls of the modular units doesn’t exactly show the creativity of the students or of the school itself. Putting signs up as a quick fix for the unclad walls is, quite frankly, a waste of space.

What happened to the artwork created by the students, or the numer-

ous awards Lakewood High School claims? Where are the Ranger colors, the visual acknowledgements of student academics and athletics? Where has all the school spirit gone?

The American Youth Foundation (AYF), has already attempted to rectify this problem. Students involved in the school’s community-based and leadership-building club decided to confront the school administration about the issue.

Apparently, handling certain memorabilia is a problem.

And space in the mods is already tight. If physically bringing trophy cases or LHS mementos across the street is not acceptable, then using the wall area is our only answer. We agree that the units are constantly crowded, but that’s no excuse to dismiss the idea all together. LHS principal Dr. Bill Wagner stated that a mural-like structure

or other forms of artwork and pictures could be displayed in the units.

AYF students discussed their ideas to deck the halls, and are anticipating the fundraising activity. They hope to finalize details to ensure that faculty members and students from any grade level can join in the project to enrich the modular hallways. Giving the school a sense of unification and accomplishment will benefit us greatly.

If it’s the security guards scanning the halls for tardy adolescents, faculty members rushing from room to room, or the students themselves, we all deserve a little something to look at every now and then. Something exciting, something different than beige paint -- that’s all we’re asking for.

Different classes like foreign languages, Art, Pop Culture, English, or History could also benefit from the exposure by creating projects to elabo-

rate the halls.

Adding a little spice is the only solution to unify Lakewood High School and its small duplicate across the street.

The school should embrace this opportunity to make the mods something we will all remember – or else they should just hurry up with the construction.

The Lakewood Times is now reprinting some of its best articles in the Lakewood Observer. We hope you enjoy the “Best of the Times” and would like to invite you to comment on any of our stories. Comments can be directed to the Observation Deck or e-mailed to lakewoodhigh-times@gmail.com.



# Lakewood Cares

## A Missing Child’s Family Speaks Out

by Linda Summers

When a child runs away or is taken away, the impact spreads beyond the immediate family. People outside the family think of the mother and father first. These strangers have a word of sympathy for the parents and for a brief fleeting moment thoughts such as, “I wonder how I would feel.” They may even go home and hug their child or children for no apparent reason. The forgotten ones are the missing child’s siblings, grandparents, aunt, uncles and even cousins. The child’s disappearance has a wide-reaching effect, not only on the family, but extending to the community as well.

I am the step-grandmother of a missing child. I am going to share with you our family’s story and just some of the impact her disappearance has had on our family. I can only share bits and pieces because it would be impossible to share everything, not only would it take a lot more space, but as yet, the impact isn’t completely known. As a typical response to grief, not everyone in the family has shared or shown the effects of this life event with others.

My granddaughter is considered an “Endangered Missing Child” and her name is Ashley Nicole Summers. I’d like to know how old she is here... She disappeared July 9, 2007 from the near west side of Cleveland, Ohio. Ashley actually ran away from her Great Uncle’s house on Holmden Avenue. She was staying there after a huge fight with her mother. None of us know why she packed all her belongings and left that day. My story will briefly touch on events from that day to the present, almost two years later.

Ashley’s mom, Jen, although still angry with Ashley, spent her whole summer in 2007 driving the streets of Cleveland looking for her daughter. Sometimes she followed Ashley’s boyfriend to see if she was with him. Jen and other family members hung posters up and down the streets of the neighborhood they lived in near West 98th and Madison. The posters were ripped down as fast as they went up. One of the posters made it into a local drug store, which led to our first lead. Someone reported to the police that Ashley was staying in the same building where they lived and they didn’t realize she was a run away. When the police arrived, Ashley was gone.

In one of my searches, I talked to some people on Lawn Avenue near West 65th Street. They knew where she was staying but were afraid to speak up. Although they didn’t say they knew where she was, I could tell by their facial expressions and hushed whispers. I gave them a flyer with our phone number on it and asked them to have Ashley call her PaPa, my husband, as he was very worried about her. We never heard from her. I got a lecture from my husband that day.

“You shouldn’t go back to that area, you could have been shot.” He told me that area is known for drugs

and prostitution and he didn’t want to lose me like he lost Ashley.

Jen’s reaction appears to be indifferent, but indifference is a form of denial, which is a normal reaction to grief: the grief and sadness that any mother would feel in her position.

Ashley’s extended family, consisting of her aunts, uncle, and grandparents, have reacted with anger, guilt and sadness.

A lot of questions and conversations have taken place among the extended family. Conversations such as: “Why didn’t she call me?” “I would have helped her.” “Where do you think she is?” On and on the questions go.

Personally, my husband John, Ashley’s grandpa, or papa, as he is affectionately called, is full of grief. I am careful as to how much I discuss my search for her when I talk with him. I have begun searching online for her, trying to get as many people as possible, all over the country, to see her picture. Unfortunately, Ashley didn’t receive any media coverage in the beginning because she was a runaway.

I posted on the Lakewood Observer’s Observation Deck, a discussion page, but wasn’t able to keep it going. In November 2008 Ashley’s case was converted from a status of Endangered Runaway to Endangered Missing at the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children and the FBI got involved in the case.

Every once in a while, I’ll search the Internet with Ashley’s name to see if any new items pop up on a search engine. On February 13th, 2009 I was doing just that and found a blog at <http://jamesrenner.wordpress.com/> with Ashley’s picture. The blog belongs to James Renner, a staff writer for the alternative weekly newspaper Cleveland Scene. He is also the author of The Serial Killer’s Apprentice, a book about 13 of Northeast Ohio’s most intriguing unsolved crimes and Amy: My Search for Her Killer. The latter book follows his investigation into the unsolved murder of Amy Mihaljevic, a high profile missing child, eventually found dead, in 1989. I met with Mr. Renner and helped him with some questions he had about Ashley.

Shortly thereafter, out of the blue, WJW Fox 8 interviewed Jen and her mom as well as the FBI. It aired March 9, 2009. Not to be outdone by the competition, Channel 19 WOIO showed up

at her doorstep and did another interview with Jen and the FBI the next day. In both interviews the FBI spokesman stated teenage prostitution was one of the theories they were looking into. Both

newscasts mentioned two other girls that disappeared from the same west-side neighborhood Ashley lived in: Amanda Berry, missing since April 21, 2003; and Georgina DeJesus, missing since April 2, 2004. Jen doesn’t believe Ashley had been kidnapped and forced into teenage prostitution. She’s convinced someone harmed her or is hiding her out-of-state.

Since then, I’ve posted updates on the Lakewood Observer’s discussion pages. The Observer’s forum post has gained momentum: David Lay, one of the community members, submitted an article to the Lakewood Observer about Ashley. He also broadcast the link on Twitter and the article has had over 10,000 views. This recent activity gives us hope for now.

I wonder how long we will keep pushing to have her story told. How many years go by before we give up and move on? Ashley has a new baby sister and another sibling on the way. Will she ever get to see them? Will they ever get to know her or even understand she once was, and still is, a part of our family? These are questions I ask myself as I continue to pray, hope and believe that one day, good or bad, we’ll know what happened to her.

**If you happen to read this Ashley: we love you! Please come home!**

### Additional Information

National Runaway Switchboard 1-800-RUNAWAY

Operated 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Started 1971. More than 100,000 phone calls annually.

### Statistics:

•1.6 to 2.8 million runaway and homeless youth live on the streets of America. (OJJDP, 2002, Research Triangle Institute, 1995)

•Youth aged 12-17 are at higher risk for homelessness than adults. (American Journal of Public Health, 1994, 1998)

47% of runaway/homeless youth indicated that conflict between them and their parent or guardian was a major problem. (Westat, 1997)

### National Center for Missing & Exploited Children

Since 1983, our nation has observed May 25th as National Missing Children’s Day. Statistics from the U.S. Department of Justice help shed light on the problem:

#### Missing children overview

•In one year, an estimated 797,500 children were reported missing.1

•According to the U.S. Department of Justice, more than 2,000 children are reported missing every day, and thankfully the vast majority of them are recovered quickly.

#### Nonfamily abductions

•An estimated 58,200 children were taken in one year by someone outside the family2 – typically for a short time, in connection with another crime.

•An estimated 115 children experienced a stereotypical kidnapping, the rarest type of abduction potentially posing great risk of serious harm.3

#### Family abductions

•An estimated 203,900 children were victims of family abduction, where the child was taken by a noncustodial parent.4

•24 percent of these abductions lasted one week to less than one month.5

If your child is ever missing, call your local police department right away. Police are required by law to immediately take a missing child report and then promptly enter that report into the FBI’s National Crime Information Center. After you have contacted local authorities, contact NCMEC at 1.800.THE.LOST(1.800.843.5678) or online at [www.missingkids.com](http://www.missingkids.com).

### FBI’s Innocence Lost Initiative Marks its 5th Anniversary

In June 2003, the Federal Bureau of Investigation in conjunction with the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children and the U.S. Department of Justice, Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section launched the Innocence Lost National Initiative (ILNI). Their combined efforts were aimed at addressing the growing problem of domestic child sex slavery in the form of child prostitution in the United States.

•Over 400 children have been rescued.

•The CyberTipline has received 5,127 tips of child exploitation through prostitution.

•The number of CyberTipline reports of known missing children involved in prostitution is 944.

•During that same time period, NCMEC has intaked 41,978 endangered runaway cases.

•Case data shows that many of these children can be at great risk of being lured or forced into child prostitution.



# The Lakewood Observer

## Pilot Security Program in Downtown Lakewood

by Mary Anne Crampton

Seven Downtown Lakewood establishments have pooled resources to fund a pilot program for enhanced security in Lakewood’s downtown commercial district. Administered by LakewoodAlive, the program will provide for increased police presence in the area for nine weeks, starting in early April.

Participants in the newly formed Downtown Lakewood Business Alliance security initiative are:

- Detroit-Warren Building
- The Coral Company
- Lakewood Public Library
- Phoenix Coffee
- Rozi’s Wine House
- Geiger’s Clothing & Sports
- INA & Lakewood Center Build.

As activity in the district grows, we believe that periodic additional police coverage will help reinforce to all visi-

tors that downtown is a secure place. LakewoodAlive is pleased to be able to facilitate the interests of these property owners to assure that Downtown Lakewood is an inviting destination for people to shop, work and play.”

An outgrowth of the City’s neighborhood patrol efforts, the off-duty Lakewood Police officers will work strategically scheduled times with a focus on after-school hours and business closing hours. Officers will be uniformed, patrol by foot, marked car and bicycle. Other initiatives of the committee include working with City officials to improve lighting in public spaces including Downtown Lakewood parks and parking areas.

Downtown Lakewood is a LakewoodAlive program to revitalize Lakewood’s primary commercial district using the National Main Street Four-Point Approach™.

## The Unknown RCA Inventor Charles Clio Shumard

by Charlotte Shumard Mcquilkin Robertson

When I received a postcard from the Beck Center about their latest production, The Farnsworth Invention, I took notice. It is a dramatic play about two scientists, Philo Farnsworth and David Sarnoff, competing for the patent rights for the greatest invention of the 20th century – the television.

I am not a staff member of Beck Center, although I was a volunteer there for many years and my children attended classes at Lakewood Little Theatre. I took note because my father, Charles Clio Shumard, was intimately involved with the development of television during the early years. Dad worked for RCA with David Sarnoff in Camden, New Jersey after the invention of television. My father co-invented the two-way radio walkie-talkie with Alfred J. Gross (who coincidentally grew up in Cleveland and attended Case School of Applied Sciences, now part of Case Western Reserve University).

Dad was hired by RCA after General Electric and Westinghouse were combined to become RCA (Radio Corporation of America). That was 1929. Then came the stock market crash. Daddy lost his job only briefly, being hired by RCA to work at the tube division in Harrison, New Jersey. He worked for RCA until 1963. By 1936 we had a television set in our home, as primitive as it would seem today: the set was lodged in a large console with a five-inch cathode ray tube lay flat with a two-inch magnifier on top of it; behind that, on the angled lid, was a mirror which reflected the picture out for us to see. We lived high enough to receive signals so we could watch Charlie Chaplin movies, sports events, parades, and auditions. We were the hit of the neighborhood. Having an inventor as a father was a lot of fun, to say the least.

Television was not the only area of my father’s expertise. In addition to the walkie-talkie, he also received 13 other patents during his years at RCA. As was common back then, RCA owned the patents but Dad didn’t seem to care. He said it was the challenge of the projects which excited him. Because he was an authority on heat conduction, my father was selected as one of the project directors on the first weather satellite, TIROS (after Sputnik was launched). He was listed in “American Men of Science” and “Who’s Who in Engineering” for many years.

My father was born in 1898 and lived to be 99 years old. His life spanned from the horse and buggy days through to space exploration and high technology, of which he was a part. Dad was always the optimist, even after dealing with his own personal tragedies. He really changed my world and, I think, he certainly changed it for millions of others. I hope when you see this play you will think of him and thank him



Charlotte Robertson with her father, Charles Clio Shumard - co-inventor of the walkie-talkie circa October 1981

and all the other innovative thinkers of his time.

### About The Farnsworth Invention

Who will win the race to invent the greatest innovation of the 20th century? The idealistic scientist or the ruthless media mogul? It’s the classic David and Goliath tale. The powerful president of RCA, David Sarnoff, competes with a self-taught potato farmer’s son, Philo Farnsworth, to invent a device Farnsworth calls “electronic television.” Although they are very different men, their vision is the same: to use this technology as a vehicle for social change. As Sarnoff tells his wife, “It’s gonna change everything, it’s gonna end ignorance and misunderstanding, it’s gonna end illiteracy. It’s going to end war.” Don’t miss the closing weekend of The Farnsworth Invention at the Beck Center. Final performances are this Friday and Saturday, April 10 and 11 at 8 p.m. on the Mackey Main Stage. Tickets are \$28 for adults, \$25 for seniors (65 and older), and \$17 for students (22 and under with ID). An additional \$3 service fee per ticket is applied at the time of purchase. Group discounts are available for parties of 13 or more. To reserve tickets, call the Beck Center box office at 216.521.2540 ext. 10, or request seats at [www.beckcenter.org](http://www.beckcenter.org). For group sales, contact Linda Hefner at ext. 29. Beck Center is located at 17801 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood, just 10 minutes west of downtown Cleveland. Free onsite parking is available.



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## Lakewood Public Library Parent Pages

continued from page 5

affordable meal.

The Parent Pages cover the arts, both creating and appreciating; family activities; volunteer opportunities; schools and childcare resources; budget-minded shopping; and many ways to help your children have fun and achieve their greatest potential. Wherever possible, web links for places and events are included so that you can check out current schedules and offer-

ings. The main page of the site offers information on upcoming events at the Library, in Lakewood and in the Cleveland area. Researchers at the Library are always searching for good quality websites that challenge, educate, or entertain children and parents. We’ll be continually expanding our suggestions and collection of online resources.

To access this treasure trove of information, go to [www.lakewood-publiclibrary.com/parentpages](http://www.lakewood-publiclibrary.com/parentpages).

*Celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord!*

## Join Us For Easter Service

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---

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

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

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# Speed Queen Now Offers Home Washers and Dryers

by Bill Davis

Speed Queen washers and dryers have long been a fixture of commercial laundromats. The washers and dryers are built for top performance in the commercial industry, but now they are available for your home from Bob's Appliance Service of Lakewood. These are new consumer washers and dryers which have the same commercial design and long-lasting components.

Another plus is that the washers and dryers are made in the USA by a company that dates back to 1908.

The washers feature the largest tub made for a top-loader, so those looking for a large capacity washer would want to consider a Speed Queen.

Speed Queen brings you one of the industry's best warranties on laundry equipment:

- 3-year warranty on parts and labor
- 5-year limited warranty on bearing, seal assembly, motor and cabinet
- Lifetime warranty on all stainless steel washtubs and outer drain tubs
- Energy Star qualified

Bob's Appliance Service is one of the few authorized Speed Queen dealers in Ohio. Top-loading washers and front-loading washers can be viewed, as well as matching dryers. Prices are comparable to current major models, according to Bob Salem, owner of Bob's Appliance.

Call Bob at 521-9353 for an appointment.

# Saturday May 2nd 2009



# Rutabaga Nights

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\$50.00 Event & T-Shirt

\$25.00 Event

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# Winchester Radio Takes Flight On WHK

by James Mileti

The Winchester Music Hall in Lakewood is hosting a new talk show on WHK 1420 AM every Sunday afternoon from 3 to 5 p.m. The show is called "Winchester Music Talk" and is a live talk show that features guests in the studio each week as well as phone-in guests and some music. The show focuses strictly on music talk and has a historical Cleveland focus. It also includes previews of some of the up-

coming shows at the Winchester from both local and National acts.

Guests during this first month of the Winchester Music Talk radio show so far have included... Commander Cody, Mark Kay from Morticias Chair, Jim Bacha from BMZ, Kelly Richey, Steve Barbuto (drummer in Commander Cody's band), Jeff Sherman, Tony Pulizzi, Doug Johns, Dale Fortune (owner of Fortune Drums) and even local scribe "Peanuts" has phoned in.

Phone calls are encouraged from listeners as well, and they can call in to the show each Sunday night between 8 -10pm by calling the WHK studio at 216-901-0945. Winchester Music Talk can also be heard across the country and throughout the world streaming live online at [www.whkradio.com](http://www.whkradio.com). WHK has as rich a radio history as

you can find. It is the 14 oldest radio station in America, starting broadcast operations in 1921. The show's host, Jim Mileti, has plenty of prior radio history as well, working at the old M105 (WWWM) 105.7 FM and 3WE (WWWE) 1100 AM in Cleveland and at K-Life (KLFF 1360 AM Phoenix) and KOOL AM - FM (Phoenix).



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## Green City

# You Can Compost

by Mary Harley

Fifty-six thousand Lakewood residents. Almost 25 thousand households. Presumably, every household has at least one trash can. Next month, these cans will all become obsolete as our town moves to curbside trash collection and switches to automated-truck-friendly roll-out receptacles instead. What in the world can we do with all those trash cans? It would be a shame to deposit all these still-useful, yet seemingly useless, containers in a landfill, as seems likely to be the case. What a perfect opportunity for the City of Lakewood to encourage its residents to begin composting as a way of sustaining the environment. Large scale backyard composting in the city of Lakewood could result in a significant reduction of solid waste and the resources necessary to manage it; less



stress to landfills; and even reduced use of chemical fertilizers which find their way into our city's soil, groundwater, and even food.

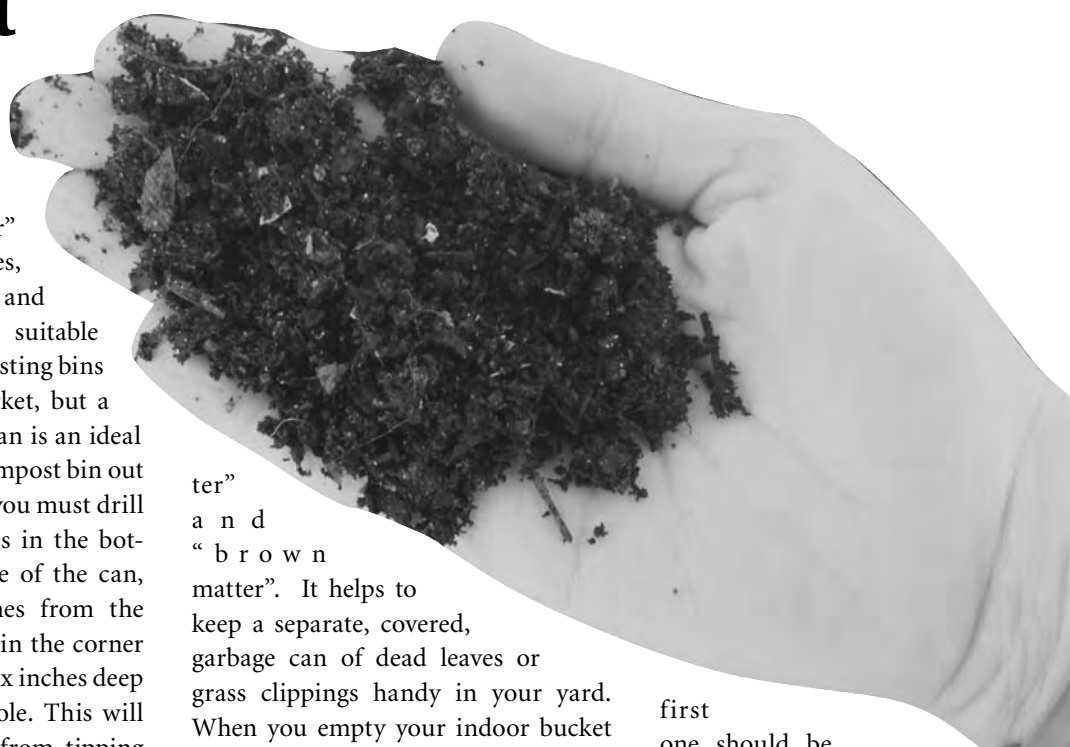
But why would anyone want to compost? Likely, many of us are already recycling paper, plastic, glass and metal rather than sending them to the landfill. These things, we know, take decades or centuries to degrade, if not longer. But food scraps? Those are biodegradable and don't stress our landfills... or do they? Actually, food scraps constitute an amazing 23% of the solid waste Americans generate. All vegetation does eventually decompose, but requires oxygen to decompose in a sustainable manner. In a landfill, food scraps are buried along with other solid waste and allowed to decompose anaerobically, creating bi-products of methane gas (a major contributor to global warming) and causing acidic leaching into groundwater. However, in a compost bin with ample oxygen, the same vegetation will decompose aerobically and avoid these harmful side effects, keep the waste out of the landfill in the first place, and provide the composter with a bin of organic fertilizer for their vegetable or flower garden.

Beginning to compost at home is a relatively simple endeavor, and the

necessary supplies are most likely already on hand. All you need are "green matter" (kitchen scraps); "brown matter" (material like dead leaves, sawdust, planar shavings and grass clippings); and a suitable container. Fancier composting bins are available on the market, but a standard outdoor trash can is an ideal composter. To create a compost bin out of a discarded trash can, you must drill several 1/2" drainage holes in the bottom and around the side of the can, approximately four inches from the bottom. Next, dig a hole in the corner of a yard approximately six inches deep and set the bin in the hole. This will keep your compost bin from tipping over and allow decomposers from the soil access to the compost. Now, all you have to do is add vegetation!

Many compostable kitchen scraps can be tossed into a smaller container indoors (an ice cream bucket works well) and added to the outdoor bin at the end of the day. Remember "once a plant, always a plant" and you won't go wrong. Apple cores, carrot peels, salad scraps, orange rinds, pepper insides, even coffee grounds (with filters!) and tea bags can go into your compost. Even egg shells (rinsed) can be used. Certain kitchen scraps, such as bread, cheese, meat, sauce, and oil, should be avoided in small-scale backyard compost to ward off pests and odors. It is also not recommended to add things such as pet droppings, coal, charcoal, or diseased plants. Finally, weeds from your garden should be thrown into the regular "yard waste" rather than the compost; the bin might not reach a high enough temperature to completely kill the weeds and prevent them from germinating where you spread your compost.

You can assure your friends and neighbors that you will not attract pests or varmints by having compost in your yard; your container will go unbothered. You can even leave the top uncovered and open to rain and sun as long as you always top your compost with a layer of brown matter. Your compost should not "stink" either, as long as you stick to a 50/50 ratio of "green mat-



ter"

and

"brown

matter". It helps to

keep a separate, covered, garbage can of dead leaves or grass clippings handy in your yard. When you empty your indoor bucket into the compost bin, simply fill the small container up again with brown matter and toss that in on top. If you notice any odors, simply add more brown matter (yard waste) and the odor will go away quickly.

Your compost should be turned/stirred once a week. A large garden shovel does the job nicely. As you turn the compost, you will notice the warmth coming from it as it decomposes – you might even notice it steaming if you turn it on a cool morning! Turning compost is really the only "hard" work involved in backyard composting-keep in mind though that if your compost goes untouched, it will still decompose, just at a slower pace. So keeping up with the compost does not need to get in the way of your other weekly tasks.

Generally it takes about 4-6 months to make superior compost, depending on the season you start. The warmer weather will generate quicker results. Remember that smaller pieces of scraps will break down more quickly. Cutting up larger scraps, such as watermelon rind, before adding to your compost will significantly help the process. A full garbage can will reduce by about half by the time the compost is ready to use. The finished product will be dark in color, "crumbly" (you should be able to crush between your fingertips), and should smell sweet and earthy. A good rule of thumb is to fill one garbage can, then start a second while the first one rests. When your second can is full, the

first one should be ready to use.

What will composting provide? Finished compost can be spread into your garden, flowerbeds, and lawns. It will improve the health of the soil, improve the drainage of the soil, and improve the growth of your plants. Compost naturally adds nutrients and beneficial microorganisms to soil, as well as encouraging larger natural soil builders, like earthworms, to take up residence. Finally, as mentioned before, by composting in your yard, you are doing your part to reduce the amount of waste sent to landfills.

As our community takes on this very large scale change in our refuse collection system, many questions and concerns have been raised by the public in regards to the decision. The change is happening, though, and we are all going to be a part of this new system. So let us look at this as more than just a change, but an opportunity. An opportunity to be a part of a community that cares about caring for our planet. You have the garbage can (if not, check for them on tree lawns in May!), you have the scraps, you CAN compost! At least give it a try before sending your garbage can to the landfill. Household by household, we can enrich our soil, enrich ourselves, enrich our community, and enrich our planet.

For more information to get you started, type "garbage can composting" into your favorite search engine... many helpful websites are available.



03/15/2009

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Pulse Of The City

Did They Hate Me?  
Confessions Of A Former Rocker...

by Gary Rice

It's not easy getting into the world of music when you are young. First, your parents have to decide to let you HAVE an instrument, as well as deciding to give you lessons. (Hopefully!) If you are really lucky, you get to have the instrument of YOUR choice, and you find an encouraging teacher to work with. Even then, the start up process is often slow and time consuming. The lure of the slumber party, or the baseball game, will often conspire to turn you away from the practice of scales and songs. Additionally and eventually, you find, (often to your horror) that you must demonstrate your newly found musical skills in front of PEOPLE! This can induce severe emotional trauma, but, like a good laxative, is supposed to be good for you at some point in your life.

Just when you are starting to feel comfortable with your newly found skills, you may discover that Aunt Emma's sewing circle might not be wowed by your blazing 10 minute interpretation of heavy metal distorted power chords.

I'll never forget the night- about 1969, when my "hard rock" band booked a job at a local parochial high school's Friday night dance. We were told that the kids were looking for a "real" rock band, and boy, did we feel that we had what it took to fill the bill!

There was just one problem:  
When we started  
our set, the stu-



A musician may choose to become an amateur, or a professional. Amateurs can play whatever they please in the privacy of their own room, where professionals must play for whatever paying public might be sitting in front of them. A professional might be called to play a polka, a rhumba, a foxtrot, or the newest rock number. Professionals, of course, necessarily do it for the bucks, while amateurs do not.

People who first hear me play are often amazed that I can whip out a dazzling bluegrass tune, a sincere blues number, a polka, or some rock song dating from the 1950's up to the music of today. When asked about my favorite style of music though, folks are often surprised to learn that my response is "none". In fact, I tend to like particular songs moreso than I do styles. Although you probably know by now that I was once rather active in the world of rock and roll, you might be surprised to know that I do not consider it to be a favorite music style of mine at all. As a former teacher, in fact, I have been quite concerned about the impact of rock's occasional stylistic excesses on our children. While I also like the vocabulary exercise inherent with students developing rap lyrics, I also regret the profanity and inuendo in many rap songs.

If you want to become a musical professional, I feel that you need to learn a variety of styles. Only when one reaches the level of "star" can one have the financial ability to call one's own shots in the musical world. Even then, stars often are forced by their obligations to adhere to a particular style. I could tell you many stories of rockers typecast into unyielding roles that, to this day, continue to limit their creativity and stifle their talents.

I hope that you never have the experience of feeling that your audience hates you. The best way not to have that happen, is to know a variety of tunes and be able to better play to your crowd. At least at the local level, it can amount to money in your pocket.

Whether you decide to play for yourself, or for others, if you want to be an appreciated musician, please continue to develop and refine your skills. Even the cockroaches in the bedroom wall deserve good music!

Finally, please know that it's never too late to learn a musical instrument. I've known so many people who have started playing in their 30's, 40's and later. With the internet, there is so much information available online that was not around when I started out. Locally, places in Lakewood like Vance Music Studios and Educators Music offer private lessons for those choosing to get truly serious with refining their musical skills. The Pulse of this City needs all of the "beats" it can get!

Grab that instrument and let's get started!

dents  
looked askance at our outfits,  
as if we were from Venus, and held  
their ears as we

into gear. We too, noticed that their own outfits looked as if they had stepped out of a 1950's time-warp with their neatly pleated skirts, and buttoned down collars. Oops.

The exceedingly conservative nature of that school, as well as our own flamboyance, had made for a very poor match-up indeed! Fortunately, the engagement was only for a very short time, although to me, I felt that the night would never end!

Music is a deeply personal form of self expression, and is interpreted differently by different people in different ways. Not long after that horrible night, I took my dad's advice and got connected with all-occasion bands. At least these bands could better handle a variety of shows with greater ease, although many of my rockin' out friends thought that I was was selling out. (Good guess!)

I still have friends from that era that will play their music, and ONLY their music (mostly in their own basements). Very few of these people play professionally, if in fact, they ever did. The thing is, any one style of music will only appeal to a limited segment of the public.



kicked  
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Photo by Gary Rice



# Lakewood Cares

## Industry And Art In Lakewood: The Story of Cowan Pottery

by Amy Kloss

Almost 100 years ago in Lakewood, R. Guy Cowan founded what would become one of the premier art pottery companies in the United States. Nearly a century later, students at Grant Elementary School researched the story of Cowan Pottery and created art of their own. A class of second and third graders created a documentary film for which they researched historical documents, did interviews and site visits, made maps and timelines and wrote the script and musical score.

If you'd like to learn some fascinating local history and see what eight and nine-year-olds can achieve with the right inspiration and guidance, come to the Lakewood Public Library's Auditorium to see "Cowan Pottery" on Thursday, April 23. If you're skeptical about how good a movie made by kids in elementary school could be, rest assured -- this is not the movie equivalent of a hand-drawn construction paper turkey.

"Cowan Pottery" is the fourth movie made in Dina Bluemel's classroom at Grant through the Lakewood History Project, a collaboration between Bluemel's students and Mazie Adams of the Lakewood Historical Society. The project grew out of Bluemel's desire to make learning more authentic and less abstract for her students. "Reading about history is abstract," she says. "It becomes real when you use primary sources."

In order to make the story of Cowan Pottery real, students studied the journals of Cowan in his own handwriting and the notebooks where he recorded chemical recipes for glazes, as well as photographs, letters and articles. They made maps of Lakewood and Rocky River to pinpoint historical sites associated with Cowan Pottery and constructed timelines to determine the sequence of events. They also visited the site of the Rocky River studio and dug up shards of pottery from the yard; interviewed Bill Cowan, Guy's grandson; and visited the Western Reserve Historical Society and the Cowan Pottery Museum in Rocky River. Along the way, they learned to treat historical documents with care and properly handle examples of Cowan pottery. Many became collectors themselves.

The history of Cowan Pottery reflects the story of local industry, which flourished in the 1920's and failed during the Great Depression. Cowan Pottery was founded in Lakewood in 1913 by Guy Cowan, who began designing and producing a variety of pottery and ceramic tiles. In 1917, he closed the studio to serve in the war, and in 1920, he re-opened in Rocky River. The studio prospered, producing unique art works as well as commercial items such as vases, bowls, bookends, candlesticks and lamps. Cowan Pottery's ceramic sculptures



were widely acclaimed and won local and national awards. The staff grew to 35 employees, producing 175,000 pieces a year by 1928. Economic difficulties beginning in 1929 affected the pottery business as fewer people were able to afford quality pottery. The studio closed in 1931.

The Library program on April 23 will begin at 7 p.m. with the story of Cowan's studio, narrated by Cowan Pottery Museum Curator Carol Jacobs. Examples of the pottery will be on display. The museum at Rocky River Public Library holds the largest publicly owned collection of Cowan Pottery in the world with hundreds of items displayed throughout the entrance lobby, first floor and lower level. Many pieces reflect the Jazz Age and Art Deco style of the 1920's. The centerpiece of the collection is the "Jazz Bowl" by Viktor Schreckengost, whose "Early Settler" sculpture graces the entrance to the Lakewood Civic Auditorium.

In fact, it was Schreckengost's annual visits to her class for several years before his death in 2008 that stirred Bluemel's interest in making Cowan Pottery a research subject. Having an artist of his caliber interacting with her students made her realize that they were capable of doing their own research and digging deeper into the history right here in Lakewood. "One of the lessons I want them to learn is that history books are not always accurate," says Bluemel. "When they find conflicting information, how do they determine which is correct?" The Lakewood History Project has not only allowed her students to investigate history and separate opinion from fact, it's also made connections across many areas of study; science, social studies, art, reading, writing, music and technology came together during the making of the documentary.

In 2008, the Lakewood History Project won both state and national awards. It has allowed students to expand their understanding of the community in which they live and sparked renewed interest in local history among the participating adults and the general public. Through this innovative program, the Lakewood Historical Society furthered its mission to preserve and interpret the history of our community and inspired a new generation of history learners.

The Cowan Pottery program will begin at 7 p.m. on April 23 in the Lakewood Public Library's Auditorium, 15425 Detroit Avenue.

## Ministerial Musings: The Prophetic Voice

by John Tamilio, III

When people hear the phrase "the prophetic voice" they often think of "prophecy": predicting the future, soothsaying, Ouija boards, runes, Tarot cards, palm reading, and the like. From a biblical perspective, prophecy has to do with far more than this.

The concept of the prophetic voice has to do with calling institutions — be they secular or sacred — "to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God," in the words of the prophet Micah (6:8b). That all sounds well-and-good, but, more often than not, when people of faith call governments or big businesses into question they are inundated with castigations such as, "Don't mix religion with politics. This has nothing to do with theology. Mind your business." Although I believe in a strict separation of Church and State, speaking the prophetic voice is a fundamental part of the nature and mission of the Church. Consider this: what would have been the state of slavery in the United States if the abolitionist church remained silent? What would have been the result of the Civil Rights Movement if the Church skulked on the sidelines and remained inert? Look around the globe as well. Where would the Confessing Church be if Karl Barth and Dietrich Bonhoeffer did not pen the Barmen Declaration and levy an emphatic "No!" against the Nazi regime who sacrilegiously tried to make Adolf Hitler the head of the Church? Where would South Africa be if modern day prophets like Bishop Desmond Tutu did not call the 46 year reign of Apartheid into question? There are watershed moments when the Church needs to bellow the cry of JUSTICE as a siren so that the world can hear (and head) it. Remember Jesus driving the money changers out of the Temple? That was a prophetic act. No, we are not called to be violent, but we are called to stand on the side of that which is just no matter what the consequences.

The present global climate is not exempt from the prophet's admoni-

tions. Look at the genocide unfolding in Darfur, Sudan. Look at the global sex-slave trade that sends women and children into forced prostitution — even here, in the land of the free! Look at the plethora of countries that systematically detain, torture, and execute the innocent...or the guilty for that matter.

Are we, who live in relative comfort and worship God in our nicely maintained sanctuaries, called to do more? Ask yourself that old adage, "What would Jesus do?" I think the answer is self-evident.

This is a time when the Church is called to act — to embody the ethic of Jesus. It is not enough to pray, although prayer is essential. We must stand on the side of the poor and the oppressed; we must advocate for all people who are marginalized by those who walk the corridors of power — those who are charged with the welfare of "the least of these."

And so, my readers, here is my advice: pray as if the fate of the world rested in God's hands, but act as if it rests in yours. Only then will the Church truly be the Church.





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- Exhibitor Door Prizes & Booth Raffle Sampling:
- \$1,000 Lennox Healthy Climate® humidifier, whole-home filtration system, & germicidal lights with install from Slife Heating & Cooling;
  - \$500 Rigid® 8-Piece Cordless Drill Set from Lakewood Hardware;
  - \$500 Gift Certificate for Imperial Home Center bath & kitchen products;
  - Intel Dual Core 2.0GHz desktop computer with LCD monitor by BGE Technologies;
  - \$150 Interior design/home staging consultation from Metropolitan Homestaging;
  - Many more valued at \$100 or less.

Additional sample of participating home-related businesses:

LW3 Carpentry LLC	William E. Donnelly Heating & Cooling
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Squires Roofing	Gorski Garage Doors & Openers
Wright Renovations & Kitchens	Miracle Method
McGuire Painting	Rowe Roofing
Sherwin-Williams	John Rehner Fine Art & Framing
	50 exhibitors total!

Booth space still available. Pick up Exhibitor Information & Registration Form at Lakewood Hardware, 16608 Madison Ave. Booths start at just \$25.

- Special Giveaways:
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  - The Lakewood Library doggie bones! Wipe out your outstanding library fines just by handing over one of these. Doggie bone donated to the Lakewood Animal Shelter.

- Demonstrations & Presentations:
- In our Green Corner, LEAF will be demonstrating vermi-composting and a seed planting activity for the kids. GreenSmart Gifts and EcoLakewood will be showcasing some green products for your home.
  - Residents will be sharing their own rain barrels and reel lawn mowers.
  - Cleveland Restoration Society will give advice on how to troubleshoot exterior paint problems.

- Participating Lakewood Organizations:
- Lakewood Historical Society
  - Cleveland Restoration Society
  - Lakewood City Heritage Advisory Board
  - Lakewood City Community Development
  - Keep Lakewood Beautiful
  - Lakewood Earth and Food Community (LEAF)
  - The Lakewood Library
  - The Lakewood Observer
  - Madison Avenue Merchant Association (MAMA)
  - EcoLakewood

Make it a Lakewood Day! More events going on:  
Keep Lakewood Beautiful annual clean up  
Spring Public Book Sale and recycle bin art project at the Main Lakewood Library  
Junk2Funk Fundraiser for North Coast Health Ministry at Local Girl Gallery  
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Remodel Your Kitchen And Bath Without Breaking The Bank

by Maggie Fraley

It's not surprising that two of the most popular rooms for home makeovers are the kitchen and bathroom. When potential homebuyers are searching for homes, they generally are more attracted to homes with updated kitchens and baths. These same rooms rank high in return on remodeling investment at resale, according to Remodeling Magazine's Cost-vs-Value 2008-09 Study.

However, both can be pricey ventures. According to the same study, the national average for minor kitchen remodel was \$21,246. A sample remodel at this cost includes replacing cabinet fronts, flooring, laminate countertops and oven and cooktop; installing mid-priced sink and faucet, adding wall cover and repainting trim.

The national average for a mid-range bathroom remodel was \$15,899, which included replacing fixtures, installing a porcelain-on-steel tub, new shower and ceramic tile flooring.

If you're like many consumers today, you are more budget conscious and may not be able to afford thousands of dollars on a remodeling project. Here are some alternatives that will give your kitchen and bathroom a fresh, modern look without breaking your piggy bank.

Kitchen

**Cabinets**—Give your cabinets a fresh look by either refinishing or refacing the fronts at a more economical cost than buying new ones. You can even take the center face out and install a glass front.

**Hardware**—Replacing your cabinet knobs and drawer pulls, can give your kitchen an entirely new look.

**Paint**—A fresh coat of paint is always a sure bet. And it is one of the least expensive ways to give a room a makeover. To further transform the room, choose more modern hues, such as a warm yellow or deep red.

**Countertops**—The price of natural quartz or stone countertops can quickly eat away your kitchen remodeling budget. Less expensive, yet still attractive alternatives are solid surface materials such as Silestone® or granite

and ceramic tiles. An even more affordable choice is laminate, which is easy to install yourself and comes in a variety of colors and styles.

**Faucets and Sinks**—Add a fresh new look by replacing your sink and faucet with a high-arched spout in an updated finish, such as brushed nickel, brushed chrome or stainless steel.

**Backsplash**—Another option to modernize your kitchen's look is adding a backsplash. But rather than having ceramic tiles, consider creating a mosaic with ceramic or glass or install a faux backsplash panel.

**Window treatments**—Switch out older valances with options that let the natural light in.

**Lighting**—By adding under cabinet lights or even track lighting, you can create a dramatic look to your kitchen.

Bathroom

**Paint**—As with the kitchen, a new coat of paint is a low-cost way to renew a room's look. Choose a warm color to give the room an intimate feel.

**Showerheads**—Change out old showerheads with a new rain shower-head.

**Shower Doors** – If you still use shower curtains for your bathtub, you can update the look by installing glass doors. Frameless doors are preferable. However, if the walls aren't flush to the tub area, framed doors will still give you the modernized look you're seeking.

**Hardware**—Just as with the kitchen, replacing the knobs and handles can give your vanity a fresh new appearance.

**Lighting and Mirrors**—In addition to the vanity, the lighting and mirrors above that area can combine to make the perfect focal piece for your bathroom. If changing the vanity is not in your budget, consider swapping out your unframed glass for a more decorative mirror and add a new lighting fixture.

You don't have to spend thousands of dollars to add pizzazz to your kitchen or bath. Just changing one or two elements can make a huge difference in its appeal to you and a potential buyer down the road.

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Real Estate

REALTY REALITY: Q & A

“What does it mean when a house for sale is listed as ‘contingent’?”

That’s a frequently asked question because the term ‘contingent’ is sometimes confused with ‘pending’. Both are part of the sequence of a transaction. The sequence begins when a home is listed for sale and referred to as ‘active’. Later, when an offer is made and accepted by both the Buyer and Seller, it’s typically referred to as ‘contingent’ because the sale of the home is ‘contingent’ on certain conditions being fulfilled within a specific time frame. Those conditions usually include the inspection and/or the buyer formally applying for a loan and securing financing. Next, ‘pending’ is when all of the contingencies have been removed –one more step forward toward closing. And, of course, the last in the sequence and the very best status description for both Buyers and Sellers is ‘SOLD’!

Historical Highlights

by Maggie Fraley

Did you know about the first Speeding Laws? When East Rockport became the Hamlet of Lakewood in 1889, it was a time in our history before cars were even on the roads. But, surprisingly, there was still a need for speeding laws. Riding or driving horses or any other animal was strictly governed by one of the first ordinances passed in Lakewood. It stated that it was unlawful for anyone to go faster than eight miles an hour! Reflecting... about such a very different time in Lakewood brings to mind that Spring is coming soon with community activities like 5 and 10K races ...It’s amusing to realize that the runners and power walkers filling our streets, will be ‘breaking that law’!

From the MLS: Lakewood Real Estate Infomation

by Andy Tabor, Realtor, GRI

January 2009 Month End Real Estate Statistics

Single Family Closed	15
Single Family Closed (Year To Date)	29
Single Family Pending (Under Contract)	12
Single Family Contingent ( Under Contract)	6
Single Family Active	138
Condo Active	119
Multi-Family ( 2-4 Units) Closed	9
Multi-Family ( 2-4 Units) (Year To Date)	15
Multi-Family Pending (Under Contract)	7
Multi- Family Contingent (Under Contract)	1
Multi- Family Active	83



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## Loveable Darby Looking for a Home




by Jill Connor

Darby is a big boy who looks tough but is just a big softy that loves to be around people and will be your shadow! He is great with other cats. Darby was brought in during the coldest days of the Lakewood winter by a kind woman who gave him shelter. PAWS was able to step in and help find him a home. He is great with other cats and loves to play, play, play!

Darby is up to date with routine vaccinations, is altered, litter box trained and just waiting for his forever home! Could it be yours? If interested in Dearby, please contact The Public Animal Welfare Society of Ohio (PAWS) at 440-442-PAWS or visit [www.pawsohio.org](http://www.pawsohio.org).

  
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