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# THE LAKEWOOD OBSERVER

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Volume 5, Issue 18, September 9, 2009

## Schools Soar to State's Excellent Ranking

by Christine Gordillo

The Lakewood City School District has earned an "Excellent" designation for its student performance and achievement in the 2008-2009 school year. The district met 26 of the 30 state indicators to help elevate the district from "Effective" to "Excellent." Four of Lakewood's schools - Garfield and Harding middle schools and Grant and Lincoln elementary schools - also earned an "Excellent" rating.

"You have done an amaz-

ing job and you should be very proud," Superintendent P. Joseph Madak told the staff gathered at the district's Aug. 25 Convocation to kick off the school year.

Lakewood High School, which has earned an Excellent rating each year since 2004, met all 12 of its state indicators. However, because the school failed to meet its Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) goals in two student sub-groups, it has been rated a "Continuous Improvement" school despite its students achieving beyond

the state standards in all categories. "We must not let AYP get in the way of celebrating LHS' accomplishments," Dr. Madak said. The AYP facet measures the progress a school is making toward the federal government's 2013-2014 goal of 100 percent compliance in student performance by all subgroups in all schools.

The district also exceeded the state's value-added measure, which looks at a student's progress from the start of the school year to the end. The positive rating in this measure

for the district means that our children are receiving more than one year's worth of academic progress during a school year.

Part of the successful leap to Excellent status can be attributed to the district's concerted effort over the past 18 months to translate the state standards

required in each subject area into "clear learning targets" for teachers, students and parents. The targets have been written in easy-to-understand language that keeps everyone on the same page as far as monitoring a student's progress.

continued on page 8

### Letter To Lakewood Observer

#### Congressman Kucinich Takes Hard Stance Against RTA Cuts To the Editor:

I want to thank the Lakewood Observer for their comprehensive coverage of the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority's (RTA) plans to halt the Circulator buses. I share the concerns of Mayor Ed FitzGerald, Lakewood Schools Superintendent Joe Madak, and several other of your readers about the need to keep the Lakewood Circulator in operation. Along with Mayor FitzGerald, I have taken some steps to keep the Circulator serving Lakewood. I also want to clarify some points made by your readers in the Letters to the Editor section.

The Lakewood Circulator provides a much needed service to the people of Lakewood, including seniors, persons with disabilities, students, and others who want to shop and take advantage of Lakewood's many amenities. I strongly oppose the shutting down of the Circulator bus in Lakewood and other locations that enjoy popular support and low cost per rider. I testified last year at RTA's hearings in opposition to service cuts and wrote to RTA this year when the transit agency announced that it was cutting Circulator Service. Because Mayor FitzGerald is willing to take on the management of the Lakewood Circulator, there is a chance we can continue that service if we can find the funding and get administrative waivers. I have asked the Federal Transit Administration

(FTA), which provides equipment and limited operational expenses for RTA, asking for such waivers. I also wrote to the FTA and other agencies at the state and federal levels seeking financial support. I am in dialogue with those agencies to try to find the support.

I agree with your reader James Benson that RTA seems to favor downtown projects above proven successes like the Lakewood Circulator. On August 19, 2009, veteran Cleveland journalist Roldo Bartimole wrote a column about this, "RTA Getting Out of the Transit Business . . . Really," which can be accessed at "<http://readroldo.com>" <http://readroldo.com>.

According to RTA, it has \$10.5 million in stimulus money which it could apply to operational expenses. However, RTA reports that it also has an \$18 million shortfall. I wrote to RTA General Manager Joseph Calabrese to ask that this funding be applied to saving the Circulator. However, I do not agree with Benson that it is simply a matter of calling the President of the United States to cash in on a political favor to access the American tax dollar. There is a process through which requests for expenditures must go to access federal tax dollars from executive branch agencies. I am diligently going through that process with the FTA and other agencies to ensure that our tax dollars are wisely spent on programs which serve the people.

Because I strongly believe in the merits of the Lakewood Circulator as a program which increases the quality of life and best serves the people of my district, I am making the best case I can for the continuation of this important project. I have also joined with the City of Lakewood in a lawsuit against RTA to force the transit authority to turn over documents which might explain its logic in shutting down the Circulator.

Finally, I disagree with personal attacks on decision-makers. Even though we may disagree with decisions they make, the best way to address a decision we disagree with is to make the strongest case for a different decision. I believe that the Lakewood Circulator is an excellent program which serves so many different population groups who live, work, shop, and otherwise do business in Lakewood. Therefore, I am doing everything I can to save the Lakewood Circulator. The public can help by exercising their democratic rights and writing to the various decision-makers listed on the front page of the last Lakewood Observer to state why they think the Circulator is worthy of saving. Thanks again to this paper for alerting the public to what they can do to save such an important program which serves the people of Lakewood.

Sincerely,  
Dennis J. Kucinich  
Member of Congress

### Election Results

Nickie J. Antonio	2400
Brian Powers	2283
Monique Smith	2196
Ryan Patrick Demro	1993
Daniel E. Shields	1157
Jared K. Shapiro	825

Daniel Bartos	756
Edward M. McCartney	483
Anthony Davis	291

by Margaret Brinich  
Editor-In-Chief

After a rainy start to the day, Lakewood's primary election came to a close with six of nine candidates advancing onto the general election in November. With 41 of 41 precincts reporting, approximately 12,470 Lakewood voters turned out to voice their opinions and help decide which three individuals will serve as at-large city council members. Unlike the four members of council who each represent one of four geographically distinct wards, this election cycle allows us to select at-large council persons - those who are responsible for representing the interests of the entire city of Lakewood.

Now that the first set of results are in, the stage is set for November 3rd when the top six vote getters Nickie Antonio, Brian Powers, Monique Smith, Ryan Demro, Dan Shields, and Jared Shapiro will once again compete for your vote. Candidates for School Board will also appear on the November ballot. The Lakewood Observer and online "Observation Deck" will be featuring ongoing coverage of the remaining candidates. Keep reading through the general election to find out where they stand on Lakewood's most pressing issues, and become an informed voter in time for November 3rd.

**Join Lakewood Online at**  
**<http://lakewoodobserver.com/forum>**

Where you can interact with all of the candidates running for Council-At-Large in this election.

#### Council at Large Candidates Forum - 2009

*This is a non-discussion area where candidates ONLY may post their platforms, views, and ideas. At certain points questions will be posed to the candidates from the public.*

Stop by LO's Observation Deck, it's where Lakewood talks.  
**Not required to sign in, except when posting**

# Events & Notices

## Get Your Four Legged Costumes Ready Spooky Pooch Parade Time!

by Shannon Strachan

Get Your Four Legged Costumes Ready – It’s Spooky Pooch Parade Time! Are you ready to hang out with your dog? Are you ready to dress your dog in costume? Or, are you just ready to watch, laugh and giggle? Then you are ready for the Second Annual Spooky Pooch Parade happening on October 17, 2009. Pet owners and their dogs will step off in their best Halloween costumes to parade down Detroit Avenue from St. Charles to Arthur Avenue and back. They will turn around in front of the Lakewood Public Library where celebrity judges will judge the costumes for various prize categories. Total parade route will be .8 miles. The event will begin at 12:30 p.m. at St. Charles Green (North of the Parking Garage at 1360 Belle Avenue). Dogs and owners may register on-line at [www.downtownlakewood.org](http://www.downtownlakewood.org) or register in person at the event from 12:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m. Cost of the event is \$10.00 for preregistration (registration must be received by noon on October 16, 2009) or \$15.00 for “day of” registration. New this year is the Spooky Pooch Coloring Contest. Look for the Spooky Pooch Coloring page to be available for pick up and drop off at the Lakewood Public Library and other participating businesses as well as elementary school



back pack mail. The Spooky Pooch committee is seeking sponsorships and Table Sponsors for the event. This event attracted 200 dogs and 400 dog owners last year; that number is expected to at least double this year as this event is the only one of its kind in the region. (Check out the video of last year’s parade at [www.downtownlakewood.org](http://www.downtownlakewood.org)) Businesses, rescue groups and other non-profits are welcome to come fundraise for or promote your business or organization by providing information and/or selling products or food. Sponsorships and Table Sponsorship information is available at [www.downtownlakewood.org](http://www.downtownlakewood.org) or you may contact Shannon at 521-0655 or [sstrachan@lakewoodalive.com](mailto:sstrachan@lakewoodalive.com). All proceeds will benefit downtown Lakewood revitalization and the Lakewood Animal Shelter. *LakewoodAlive is a 501(c)(3) economic development organization. Downtown Lakewood, a program of LakewoodAlive, is focused on the revitalization of Lakewood’s historic downtown district.*



## Community Festival Saturday, Sept 12th At Madison Park

by Melissa Garrett

The 22nd annual Lakewood Community Festival is scheduled for Saturday, September 12, 2009 from 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM at Madison Park, 13029 Madison Avenue. The festival celebrates community, cultural heritage, and families. It is a day of fun and activities for everyone.

There will be a Flag Raising Ceremony at 11:00 AM by various military organizations. Entertainment for the day will include Silhouette Dance Studio, Jazzman, Polka Pirates, The Culkar Family Band, Riley Brothers, Italian Choral Group, and more.

Craft and game booths, pony rides, children’s games, the NASA Bus, Alpacas from the Starburst Suri Alpaca Ranch, Euclid Beach Rocket Car, Ohio National Guard Rock Climbing Wall,

and the Lake Erie Nature Center will all be part of the festivities, as well as a variety of delectable foods including stuffed cabbage, pierogies, cabbage and noodles, kielbasa and sauerkraut, meatball sandwiches, pizza, hamburgers, French fries, and funnel cakes, Vietnamese cuisine, and other dishes. An assortment of traditional ethnic baked goods and other desserts will be available.

The festival, sponsored by the Lakewood Community Festival, Inc. and the City of Lakewood, is traditionally the last event of the summer. Proceeds from the festival will be donated to various local organizations. In the event of rain, the festival will be held on Saturday, September 19, 2009.

For further information, contact the Office of Community Relations at (216) 529-6650.

## Join In At LEAF’s Urban Agriculture Forum

by Margaret Brinich

The Lakewood Earth And Food Community is excited to announce a very special Third Thursday educational event with “A Panel Discussion on Urban Agriculture.” On Thursday, September 17th at 7pm in the Lakewood Library Main Library Auditorium a panel of local experts will gather to discuss topics around urban agriculture efforts here in Lakewood and the surrounding area.

Come learn about the existing efforts and huge potential for pursuing rainwater harvesting, backyard hens, soil building, and permaculture in your backyard and throughout Lakewood. Panelists will include citizen pioneers from throughout Northeast Ohio and local government officials who’ve navigated the policy implications of our region’s urban agriculture revival. We’ll consider the pros and cons of urban agricultural practices, paral-

lel public policy, and their potential impact on life in our city. Come with your questions and ideas for advancing sensible and sustainable agriculture in Lakewood as following the moderated panel discussion, the panelists will field questions from the audience.

**Confirmed panelists include:**  
**Peter McDermott:** Founder, Local Food ClevelandNetwork Weaver, E4S (Entrepreneurs for Sustainability);

**Jan Henderson:** Manager, Heifer International (nonprofit promoting sustainable agriculture);

**Dru Siley:** Assistant Director of Planning and Development, City of Lakewood;

**Bobbi Reichtell:** Sr. Vice President for Programs, Neighborhood Progress;

**John Campanelli:** Reporter, Cleveland Plain Dealer (and keeper of eight chickens in Hudson, Ohio).




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fax: 216-521-9518

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# Lakewood Healthcare

## Lakewood Hospital Operations Analyst Wins Early Career Healthcare Executive Regent’s Award

by Anne Kuenzel

Mohun Sundar, Operations Analyst at Lakewood Hospital, Lakewood, Ohio, received the American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE) Early Career Healthcare Executive Regent’s Award at the ACHE Breakfast as part of the Annual Meeting of the Ohio Hospital Association in Columbus, Ohio. The award was bestowed on Mr. Sundar by Kevin J. Miller, FACHE, ACHE’s Regent for northern Ohio and President of Ashtabula County Medical Center, Ashtabula, Ohio.

The Early Career Healthcare Executive Regent’s Award recognizes ACHE affiliates who have significantly contributed toward the advancement of health care management excellence and the achievement of the goals of ACHE. Affiliates are evaluated on leadership ability, innovative and creative management, executive capability in developing their own organization and promoting its growth and stature in the community, participation in local, state, or provincial hospital and health association activities, participation in civic/community activities and projects, and participation in ACHE activities and interest in assisting ACHE in achieving its objectives.

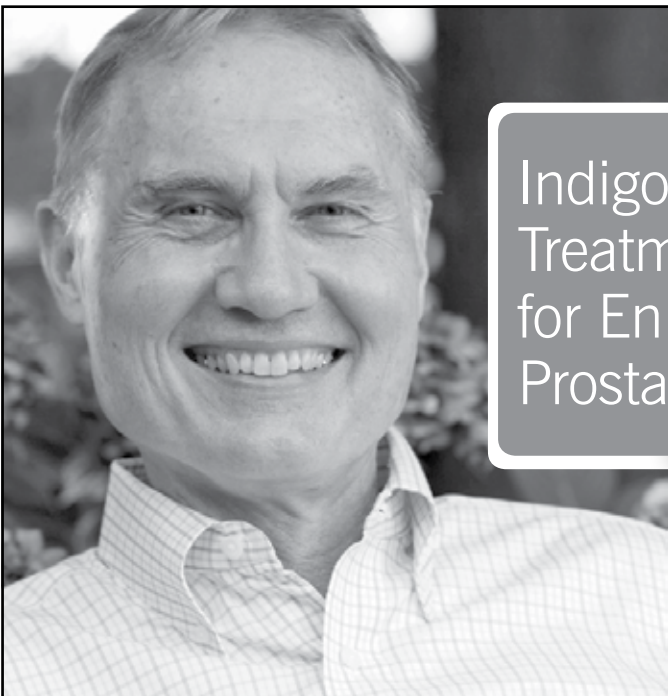
“I am very appreciative of and deeply humbled by this great award. This accomplishment is a reflection of working with extraordinary healthcare



leaders and individuals at all levels who continue to raise the bar on how to serve our local communities with compassion and purpose,” stated Mr. Sundar.

Mr. Sundar has served as operations analyst at Lakewood Hospital since 2007. Prior to this, he served as an Administrative Fellow for the Cleveland Clinic Western Market hospitals. Additionally, Mr. Sundar holds a member status in the American College of Healthcare Executives, demonstrating a commitment to professional excellence. He is also a member of the Group of Aspiring Leaders (GOAL), a young professionals group for the Cleveland Clinic Health System and a board member of the Cleveland State University Health Care Alumni Association.

Mr. Sundar received his bachelor’s degree in electrical engineering from University of California, Santa Barbara, and his MBA in healthcare administration from Cleveland State University, Cleveland, Ohio in 2006.



Indigo Laser Treatment for Enlarged Prostate.

Many men 60 and older develop an enlarged prostate. Without proper treatment, damage to the bladder and kidneys can occur. Hear from board-certified urologist, Kalish R. Kedia, M.D., of Lutheran Hospital, as he discusses Indigo Laser, a newer minimally invasive procedure for treating enlarged prostates quicker and with faster healing time.

### Health Talk

Wednesday, September 23  
Brooklyn Senior Center  
7727 Memphis Avenue, Brooklyn  
Light dinner served at 5:45 p.m.  
Health Talk begins at 6:00 p.m.

### FREE Prostate Screening

Includes exam and PSA blood test for men 40 and older  
Saturday, September 26  
Lutheran Hospital 1E  
1730 W. 25th Street, Cleveland

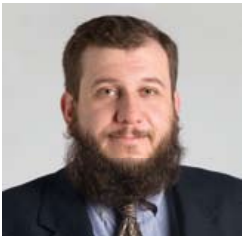
Registration is required for both events. Call 1.877.234.FITT (3488)  
lutheranhospital.org

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Moving, Feeling and Dreaming Are **Your Life**  
Expanding Neurological Care **Is Our Life’s Work**



## Cleveland Clinic Neurological Institute at Lakewood Hospital



**Ilia Itin, M.D.**  
Specialty: Neurology/  
Movement Disorders



**Andrey Stojic, M.D., Ph.D.**  
Specialty: Neurology/  
Epilepsy



**Diana Tanase, M.D., Ph.D.**  
Specialty: Neurology

### Now Welcoming Board-Certified Neurologists, Drs. Itin, Stojic and Tanase.

Lakewood Hospital is part of Ohio’s #1 Neurology and Neurosurgery Program\*, offering the most advanced care in neurological treatments, prevention and rehabilitation services. With the addition of Cleveland Clinic Neurologists, Drs. Itin, Stojic and Tanase, patients have greater access to a wider range of specialized care in fields such as general neurology, epilepsy and movement disorders like Parkinson’s Disease.

\* Ranked by U.S.News & World Report, 2009.

To make an appointment, please call 216.529.7110.  
lakewoodhospital.org/neuro

 **Lakewood Hospital**  
a Cleveland Clinic hospital

# Lakewood Observed

## CVS Completes Expansion Project With New Lakewood Gateway Sign

by Melissa Garrett

CVS Pharmacy is completing construction of their recently expanded and renovated location at 11706 Clifton Boulevard. The developer on the project, Zaremba Group, LLC, redeveloped the existing location by adding over 5,000 square feet. The store has been fully remodeled, adding a new photo center and an expanded beverage section while the exterior now features over 30 additional parking spaces, new landscaping and bike racks. A new full-service double drive-thru will also operate 24-hours a day along with the store and pharmacy. Construction is scheduled to be complete by the end of August.

To facilitate the project, the City of Lakewood approved a rezoning of the property, which is located at the Northwest corner of Clifton Boulevard and West 117th St. The city's Architectural Board of Review also closely reviewed and approved all modifications to the building and site. "The design intent of the addition was to blend seamlessly with the historic context of the existing structure," said Sean McDermott, the Development Manager for Zaremba Group, LLC.

Originally envisioned in the city's Clifton Boulevard Streetscape Plan, a

new city gateway sign was installed on the hard corner by CVS. The "Lakewood" sign features a mixture of cast stone and brick, with accent lighting for enhanced viewing at night, thus greeting those heading west on Clifton Boulevard. Prior to construction, several businesses relocated nearby, including Huntington Bank, Gold Coast properties and B. Fazio Salon.

"We want to thank CVS and the Zaremba Group for the attractive, gateway sign at West 117th and Clifton," stated Mayor Ed FitzGerald. "We appreciate CVS and Zaremba incorporating this streetscape into their reconstruction plans so people entering Lakewood from the east are greeted with the beautiful, new sign."

Zaremba Group, LLC, located



in Lakewood, is a fully integrated real estate developer involved in the business of developing freestanding commercial projects, shopping centers and multi-family residential properties. Since the company's inception in

1920, Zaremba Group, LLC has crafted a strong history of retail development and is an established leader in the real estate industry. For more information on Zaremba Group, LLC, visit [www.zarembagroup.com](http://www.zarembagroup.com).

## Lakewood Real Estate Seminar To Be Held On September 24th

by Melissa Garrett

The Lakewood Real Estate Seminar will be held on Thursday, September 24, 2009, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Sweetwater Landing in the MetroParks, 1500 Scenic Drive. This seminar is designed to showcase Lakewood and its diverse, attractive housing stock. "Where New Meets Old in Lakewood" is the theme of this year's seminar. Registration forms are available on the City of Lakewood website at [www.onelakewood.com](http://www.onelakewood.com) or by calling (216) 529-6637.

The morning lecture series will include presentations on economic and community development initiatives, improving Lakewood's Century Homes, and financing programs to maintain and improve Lakewood Century homes. There will also be a panel discussion on green remodeling and

deconstruction techniques that can be effectively incorporated into any custom historic rehabilitation project. During lunch, a speaker from the Federal Reserve Bank will discuss "Breaking the Housing Cycle". In the afternoon, there will be a presentation on land development and appraisal. The day will conclude with participants viewing recent commercial and residential development projects.

This real estate seminar is accredited by The Ohio Division of Real Estate for 6 hours of continuing education for realtors. There is a \$55.00 registration fee. Space is limited, so please register early. Non-realtors are also welcome to attend for \$25.00.

For further information, contact the City of Lakewood's Division of Community Development at (216) 529-4663.



### LUNCH & LEARN

**Jill Dubbs,**  
**Physical Therapist**  
**Lakewood Hospital**  
**presents**



**For Women Only:**  
**Treatments for Incontinence**  
**Thursday, September 24, 2009 at 11:30 a.m.**

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

**RSVP by September 22nd to 216-226-4010.**  
Complimentary lunch provided!



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16400 Madison Ave. Lakewood, Oh 44107

Lakewood Recreation & Education

for registration visit [www.lakewoodrecreation.com](http://www.lakewoodrecreation.com) or call 216.529.4882

Lakewood Youth FUTSAL League

LHS Soccer Coaches Andrew Toth, Boys Varsity Head Soccer Coach, Joshua Thornsberry, Girls Varsity Soccer Head Coach and Vlad Godosev, Boys Varsity Assistant Coach are please to announce the Ranger Youth FUTSAL League.

WINTER LEAGUES (8 week seasons)  
Session 1: November 1 - December 20  
Session 2: January 10 - March 14

Games will be played on Sundays at various gym locations throughout the Lakewood City Schools. Available to boys and girls U8 - U14 (age division may be combined based on registration)

Team Registration \$400 per team per 8 week season  
8 player maximum per team/roster edits permitted Individual Registration \$55 per Lakewood resident; \$65 per non Lakewood resident per 8 week season  
Teams will be formed by Recreation staff with special attention given to schools, zip codes and requests. Please note all request at time of registration.

Lake Erie Basketball League

Boys Grades 4-6 & Girls Grades 5-6

The Lake Erie Basketball League (LEBL) is a developmental travel basketball league for community-based teams of fourth, fifth and sixth grade students. For the 2008-09 season there were 118 teams (boys and girls) in the various divisions, representing 27 mainly western and southern suburbs of Cleveland. Each team plays 10 regular season games, and there is a post-season league tournament. The LEBL was founded in 1997 to give younger players an opportunity to play competitive basketball against talented players from other communities in a league setting. To encourage the development of ball handling and court skills, zone defenses are not allowed at the fourth and fifth grade levels. The Recreation Department will be entering boys and girls teams this fall. Players are encouraged to attend the open gym sessions and tryouts. Coaches are needed. Interested parents must contact the Recreation Department.

LEBL Boys Tryouts & Open Gym

Boys Grades 4th, 5th, and 6th

Boys Tryouts - Saturday, September 26 and Sunday, September 27 at Lakewood High School; participants are encouraged to attend both sessions.  
4th Grade 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm, 5th Grade 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm  
6th Grade 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm  
Open Gyms - will be held Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays starting September through September 24. No open gym 9/6 and 9/8  
Tuesdays and Thursdays, Roosevelt Elementary School,6:00 pm to 8:00 pm  
Sundays, Lakewood High School, 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm

LEBL Girls Tryouts & Open Gym

Girls Grades 5th and 6th

Girls Tryout - Saturday, September 26 and Sunday, September 27 at Harding Middle School. Participants are encouraged to attend both sessions  
Saturday 9:00 am to 11:00 am, Sunday 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm  
Open Gyms - will be held Saturdays and Mondays starting September 5 through  
September 26. No open gym 9/7, Mondays, Emerson Elementary School 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm, Saturdays  
Emerson Elementary School, 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm

2010 Summer Travel Opportunities

Baseball & Softball

Cuyahoga Valley Baseball Association (CVBA) Saturdays, October 17 & 24, 2009  
LHS Stadium Baseball Field, (Rain Site East Gym)  
Ages 9-10 - 2:00 pm; Ages 11-12 - 2:45 pm; Ages 13-14 - 3:30 pm;  
Ages 15-16 - 4:15 pm  
Players are encouraged to attend both Saturdays. Players are asked to pre-register by calling the Recreation Department. Walk-ups welcome!

Emerald Necklace Fastpitch Softball  
Mon. and Wed., October 12, 14, 19, 21, Harding Field (Rain Site Harding Gym)  
Ages U10-U18, 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm  
Players must at least attend two sessions. Players are asked to pre-register by calling the Recreation Department. Walk-ups welcome!



Lakewood Congregational Church  
An Open and Affirming Church of the United Church of Christ  
"Where God is Still Speaking"

**RALLY DAY!**  
**Sunday, September 13, 2009**  
**10 a.m. Worship & Sunday School**

Join us for our new Sunday School & Music programs  
**PLUS Youth Mission Trip Presentation & Potato Bake Lunch**

Corner of West Clifton Boulevard and Detroit Avenue, Lakewood  
216-221-9555 · [www.lcc-church.org](http://www.lcc-church.org)

Phil Argento's Basketball Clinics

by Erin Fach

Phil Argento, Lakewood High School's Varsity Boys Basketball Coach and the Recreation Department's Youth Basketball Coordinator is offering the following youth basketball clinics. To register or for more information please call 216-529-4082 or visit us on-line at [www.lakewoodrecreation.com](http://www.lakewoodrecreation.com)

**Basketball Dribbling Clinic** - Boys and Girls Grades 3-9  
Fridays for 6-weeks starting September 11 through October 16  
Hayes Elementary School, 16401 Delaware Avenue 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm  
Bring your own basketball  
Cost: Lakewood resident - \$35 per clinic or \$60 for both the dribbling and shooting clinic; Non-Lakewood resident - \$45 per clinic or \$80 for both the dribbling and shooting clinic

**Basketball Shooting Clinic** - Boys and Girls Grades 3-9  
Fridays for 6-weeks starting September 11 through October 16  
Hayes Elementary School, 16401 Delaware Avenue 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm  
Bring your own basketball  
Cost: Lakewood resident - \$35 per clinic or \$60 for both the dribbling and shooting clinic; Non-Lakewood resident - \$45 per clinic or \$80 for both the dribbling and shooting clinic

Faithful Hope

by Reverend Mark Thomas

Soon, churches will be celebrating what is often called Rally Day. This marks the beginning of a new church year as choirs and Sunday school classes (along with many members) return from summer's rest. And to their congregations, leaders of faith communities will be proclaiming messages of hope – hope that allows us to believe life can be a pageant of joy. It is the right message for just these times. It will not be some sweet, saccharine statement that dares to suggest all moments in life are victorious. It is not a proclamation meant to insult the intellect by denying there are real problems to face and overcome. We know our businesses do not always flourish. Our relationships are not always vibrant, and hard work and constant study do not guarantee success. Those who speak of faithful hope and life as a celebration of joy will not be suggesting that life is without anxiety. It does mean, however, that because of our trust in love's ultimate victory over the powers that would diminish us, we can live with triumphant hope even in the face of difficult times and circumstance. Our faith calls us to reach for the horizons beyond our own troubles and radiating hope to others. Off the coast of Labrador, you will find the towering icebergs that soar high in the air. What is most surprising is that they all sail south. While that might not seem strange at all, it is important to know that they are sailing south against the strong winds that blow against them. What allows the icebergs to move against the wind and waves crashing against them? The answer lies in the fact that the vast majority of their mass is below the surface, and beneath that surface is the mighty Labrador Current. In spite of the buffeting strength

of the wind and waves, the icebergs sail south as they are carried along by the unseen current below the surface. The triumph of faithful hope moves in the same way. Against the difficulties of life and the challenges before us, it can carry us through the trials and limitations of life. It is easy to become cynical with our world: unspeakable horrors are visited upon people every day, physical and emotional abuse is all too common in the homes of every neighborhood. We witness how ancient hatreds, made even more deadly through modern weapons, can wreak havoc on a people. So, is it possible to proclaim that life can be filled with the triumph of hope and the celebration of community? I would ask: Do we dare think otherwise? Do we dare give in, believing ourselves to be powerless to confront the forces that would diminish even one member of our human family? There are times when it would seem God asks the impossible of us. There are moments when faith demands more than we think we can bear. Faith in God demands that we not only see a light at the end of the tunnel, but to also know that the light is calling us to move forward, to step with confidence and trust into the darkness that sometimes stands before us. This journey of life is not without its detours and difficult obstacles – but it is our journey to make. And it is our time to make it. Our communities are best served when the power and enthusiasm of faithful hope are brought to bear on the difficulties before us. Lakewood and the surrounding area are well served by many faith communities, each bringing to bear their vision of a better world, and seeking to bring the faithful message of hope to all. by Reverend Mark Thomas, Senior Pastor, Lakewood Congregational Church

# Lakewood Public Library Events

All Events and Programs Are Free And Open To The Public

## LAKEWOOD PUBLIC CINEMA:

Backbeat (1994) Directed by Iain Softley Rated R  
**Saturday, September 12 at 6:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium**  
Ah! To be young, in love and a Beatle! In the days before they were huge, John, Paul and George slogged through twelve hour days in seedy German night clubs, honing their sound on classic R&B covers. Watch the boys discover the world outside of Liverpool. Add an artsy dream girl, a doomed painter and an angry young Lennon caught in a life-altering love triangle and you have a heart-stopping, foot-stomping, rock’n’roll story.

**SUNDAY WITH THE FRIENDS: The Joe DeJarnette Jazz Ensemble**  
**Sunday, September 13 at 2:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium**  
Some of the most beautiful ballads ever written get the Joe DeJarnette treatment in this dreamy afternoon showcase of music by Miles Davis, Thelonious Monk and Duke Ellington. Listen closely for sweet Latin melodies and New Orleans largesse in a sprinkling of original compositions.

**Meet the New Director: A Reception for James Crawford**  
**Sunday, September 13 at 3:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium**  
James Crawford, the new Director of the Lakewood Public Library wants to meet you! A special reception, open to the public, will be held in the auditorium lobby at Main Library on Sunday, September 13 at 3:00 p.m. Enjoy light refreshments and light conversation with the man chosen by the Board of Trustees to uphold the Library’s tradition of superior service and keep an eye on the future.

**MEET THE AUTHOR: Shadow Confessions by William Price**  
**Wednesday, September 16 at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium**  
CIA operative Wasily Orlof is back in the adventurous follow-up to Shadow Travels. With son Yuli in tow, Wasily drops in on the Hong Kong safe house of his old friend, Captain Pugachev. And while he’s in town, he sees no reason not to draw a million pounds out of his late wife’s pre-war Triad bank account. How was he supposed to know that she was still alive and using the money to finance covert operations for Red China? Chased by his half-brother and sister over three continents, Yuli falls in love and stages a military coup or two before arranging a family reunion at the Gold and Silver Exchange with Red Chinese, CIA and Triad agents thrown in for good measure. Both books will be available for sale and signing at the event.

**FIVE STAR FILMS:**  
**The Thief of Bagdad (1940-U.K.) Directed by Michael Powell Not Rated**  
**Saturday, September 19 at 6:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium**  
A classic adventure film for the young at heart begins in exotic Old Bagdad. Conrad Veidt plays the devilishly attractive and evil Grand Vizier who plots to steal the throne by marrying the king’s daughter. But a handsome prince is the rightful heir to the kingdom. Hmmm... The plot thickens. Be ready to take a magic carpet ride! Also Stars: John Justin, Sabu, June Duprez.

**SAVE OUR HOMES: Tips from the Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas Foreclosure Mediation Program**  
**Monday, September 21 at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium**  
Get information about how to avoid foreclosure and find out what to do if a foreclosure action is filed against you.

**TRUE CRIME CLEVELAND: The Day Marilyn Died**  
**Tuesday, September 22 at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium**  
Mark Wade Stone presents selections from Doris O’Donnell’s Cleveland, the Emmy award winning TV series on Cleveland history produced by Storytellers Media Group.  
Did they have the right man all along? Sam Sheppard’s account of the early morning hours of Independence Day 1954 is reconsidered using modern techniques.

**LAKEWOOD HISTORICAL SOCIETY:**  
**LAKEWOOD—THE MAKING OF A STREETCAR SUBURB**  
**Wednesday, September 23 at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium**  
In just thirty years, Lakewood transitioned from a small, rural community to a thriving city with new residential and commercial districts. Mazie Adams, Executive Director of the Lakewood Historical Society, explores the development of Lakewood into a streetcar suburb. The population boom between 1890 and 1920 led to new subdivisions, new commercial buildings lining Detroit and Madison, the creation of major utilities services and streetscapes as well as the construction of churches, schools and municipal buildings.

**RESOURCES FOR COLLEGE, CAREER AND FINANCIAL AID PLANNING**  
**Thursday, September 24 at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium**  
Ohio’s economic future depends on a better-prepared workforce stepping up and doing their best. If you need help pursuing your post-secondary education or are looking for fresh career planning tools to help you along the way, you’re not alone. Cleveland Scholarship Programs, Inc. is one of the oldest and most-emulated college access programs in the country. Find out about the programs they offer and learn about some of the best on-line and print resources for researching colleges, careers and the financial aid process.

**BOOK GROUPS:**  
**BOOKED FOR MURDER**  
**Tonight’s book discussion is about Finding Nouf by Zoe Ferraris**  
**Thursday, September 10 at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Meeting Room**  
In this modern Saudi Arabian mystery, desert guide Nayir al-Sharqi, is called on by a wealthy family to recover a missing teenage girl. Just days before her wedding, Nouf is found dead. But when the family learns the suspicious circumstances, they no longer care about finding the truth. Undeterred, Nayir risks all to unlock the hidden world of Saudi women. For more details, visit [www.lkwdpl.org/bookclubs](http://www.lkwdpl.org/bookclubs).

**KNIT & LIT BOOK CLUB**  
**Tuesday, September 15 at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Meeting Room**  
Lynda Tuennerman hosts a social club for multitaskers—a book club and a stitchery group! She’s looking for readers who can enjoy intense discussion of modern classics while relaxing with their latest stitching project. Come share your passion for great literature and show off your knitting, crocheting, counted cross-stitch, embroidery and quilting works-in-progress. At each meeting, the group decides what will be read next. Call (216) 226-8275 ext. 127 or visit [www.lkwdpl.org/bookclubs](http://www.lkwdpl.org/bookclubs) to learn more. Tonight’s book discussion is about The Zookeeper’s Wife by Diane Ackerman

**BUSINESS BOOK TALK WITH TIM ZAUN AND FRIENDS**  
**Thursday, September 17 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 [www.timzaun.com](http://www.timzaun.com) or go to [www.lkwdpl.org/bookclubs](http://www.lkwdpl.org/bookclubs) to learn more.  
The Illusions of Entrepreneurship: The Costly Myths That Entrepreneurs, Investors, and Policy Makers Live By by Scott A. Shane.  
Scott Shane, Case Western Reserve University’s Professor of Entrepreneurial Studies at the Weatherhead School of Management, details the current state of entrepreneurship in the United States. Topics include “Who Becomes an Entrepreneur?” and “What Makes Some Entrepreneurs More Successful than Others?”

**A PANEL DISCUSSION ON URBAN AGRICULTURE IN LAKEWOOD**  
**Thursday, September 17**  
**7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium**  
Join an interactive discussion on the future of rainwater harvesting, backyard hens, soil building, and permaculture in Lakewood. Panelists will include citizen pioneers from throughout Northeast Ohio and local government officials who’ve navigated the policy implications of our region’s urban agriculture revival. We’ll consider the pros and cons of urban agricultural practices, parallel public policy, and potential impact on life in our city. Come with your questions and ideas for advancing sensible and sustainable agriculture in Lakewood.

**LEARNING LAB CLASSES:**  
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.  
**Word Processing Basics: Saturday, September 8 at 3 p.m. in the Main Library Learning Lab**  
**Job Hunting Workshop: Thursday, September 17 at 10:00 a.m. in the Main Library Learning Lab**  
**Web Searching Basics: Saturday, September 19 at 3 p.m. in the Main Library Learning Lab**  
**Spreadsheet Basics: Tuesday, September 22 at 7 p.m. in the Main Library Learning Lab**

**CHILDRENS & YOUTH SERVICES**  
**AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS**  
**THE ZONE: For students in kindergarten through fifth grade**  
Get in the Zone and sign up for a week of themed activities! Visit [www.lkwdpl.org/youth](http://www.lkwdpl.org/youth) for the list of fun and exciting programs just for kids. To register, please stop in or call (216) 226-8275, ext. 140. Tuesday, September 8 – Thursday, May 27  
**September 8 – 10: Apples to Apples to Apples**  
**September 14 – 17: Harry, Hermoine, Hagrid, and More**  
**Monday – Thursday at 4:00 p.m. in the Children’s and Youth Services Department at Main Library and Madison Branch**

**CREATION STATION: For students in kindergarten through fifth grade**  
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.  
**Fridays, September 11 – May 28 at 4:00 p.m.**  
**Children’s and Youth Services Department at Main Library and Madison Branch**

# Lakewood Public Library

## Be A Part Of The Bee!

by Arlie Matera

Vivify yourself with expeditiousness—the first ever Lakewood Public Library Spelling Bee is coming! All youth in 4th through 8th grade are invited to experience the ardor and exhilaration, blunders and bloopers, triumphs and disappointments of a competitive spelling bee.

“I’ve always loved watching the Scripps Howard National Spelling Bee on t.v.” says youth librarian, Audrey Sumser. “It’s so exciting. My stepdaughter has competed in the bees put on by the Cleveland Public Library, and I started thinking it was time Lakewood hosted a spelling bee of our own.”

Preliminary rounds begin on Thursday, October 1st in the Main Library Multipurpose Room. During each of the next three Thursdays, the tension will mount as the number of competitors dwindles. All spellers still standing on October 29th will be invited to a friendly meet and greet reception before facing off in the cham-

pionship on Friday, November 6th.

“The championship round will be a Scripps Howard-style bee,” says Sumser. “It’ll be held in the Main Library Auditorium, where we have a stage, lights, and microphones. It’s the perfect setting for the big event.”

Sumser and fellow youth librarian, Tracie Forfia, are already hard at work on word lists and pronunciations for the bee. Don’t miss your chance to shine in what is sure to be one of the highlights of the year at Lakewood Public Library!

To register, stop in at the children and youth services desk, or call (216) 226-8275 ext. 140.

**Preliminary Rounds:**  
Thursdays, October 1-October 22, 4:00-5:00 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room.

**Competitor’s Meet and Greet:**  
Thursday, October 29, 4:00-5:00 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room.

**Spelling Bee Championship:**  
Friday, November 6, 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium.

## The Joe DeJarnette Treatment

by Ben Burdick

The immortal music of Miles Davis, Thelonious Monk and Duke Ellington gets the Joe DeJarnette treatment on Sunday, September 13 at 2:00 p.m. in the Lakewood Public Library Main Auditorium. Teacher, trumpeter and bandleader Joe DeJarnette, Jr. is well known around these parts as a friend to the Lakewood Public Library. After years of sharing stories, photos, videos and music from a five decade career in jazz, we’ve talked Joe into giving a special Sunday afternoon concert filled with his favorite ballads. Careful listeners will also be rewarded with snatches of sweet Latin melodies and New Orleans largesse as Joe and his ensemble sprinkle in some of their original compositions. (And those who stay after the show will be treated to light refreshments at the Director’s Reception. See related article.)

The Library has proven to be an excellent venue for musicians seeking an audience that will take the time to sit and really listen. That’s why Joe has taken the opportunity to turn this concert into a long-dreamed-of showcase for his favorite kind of songs. Why ballads? “When you hear a ballad you can’t escape it, you can’t fly over it. It moves slowly,” says Joe. “A musician playing a ballad has to have a good command of what he is playing. It offers you an opportunity to make musical statements. Silence becomes music in some instances.” For classic examples of Joe at work, visit the Library’s [www.lkwdpl.org/tv](http://www.lkwdpl.org/tv).

Joe picked up his first trumpet as a teenager and it’s barely left his lips since. His love of playing followed him from High School into the Army where he joined the U.S. 19th and 173rd Military Orchestra and earned a rating of AAA—an honor that fills him with pride to this day. But it was the civilian world of jazz and free association that called him and wouldn’t let go. After two years, he left the armed services for the exciting and limitless Cleveland jazz scene of the early sixties where his intelligent approach quickly distinguished him and he’s remained a fixture ever since.

As a student, Joe has never stopped learning and he doesn’t see why anybody else should. From East Technical and John Hay High Schools to Lakeland’s Modern School of Music where he studied music theory under Phil Rizzo, he has always sought out new ideas to unlock the secrets of his craft. At the Cleveland Institute of Music, he studied Dalcroze Eurhythmics and theory with Harry Herfort and devoted serious time to the Hruby Conservatory of Music with the Cleveland Orchestra’s Alois Hruby. Today, this Lakewood resident likes to teach as much as he likes to play. He has retired from his positions with the Cleveland Board of Education, the Cleveland Area Arts Council and Cleveland Department of Recreation, but continues his teaching with individual students and captivated audiences.

## Middle-Schoolers Can Choose To Get Graphic at the Library

by Audrey Sumser

Whether you love reading graphic novels or want more say in the direction of your book discussion, students in grades six through eight will have the opportunity this fall to participate in two unique programs at the Lakewood Public Library: “Getting Graphic” and “Choose Your Reading Adventure.”

Did you know that the Children’s and Youth Services Department owns a number of graphic novels? “Getting Graphic” is a program designed to highlight this growing collection and will appeal to both die-hard graphic novel readers and those students who are interested in the format but haven’t had much exposure to the books. Middle-schoolers will read six of these distinct and engaging titles, including perennial favorite Bone: Out from Boneville by Jeff Smith and 2007 Printz Award-winner American Born Chinese by Gene Luen Yang, and will delve into their artistic and literary merits while participating in games, puzzles, and other activities to enhance the experience. By the end of the program, students will have a greater appreciation of the medium and will hopefully seek out additional graphic novels to explore on their own.

Meanwhile, “Choose Your Reading

Adventure” is a new approach to the way the department’s book discussions have been structured in the past. Here, students know in advance the genre of each night’s book discussion but not the actual title to be read, with the exception of the first night’s book, The Mysterious Benedict Society by Trenton Lee Stewart. Given two options at the end of each session, middle-schoolers will vote for their preference, and the book with the most votes will be the focus of the next meeting. By structuring the sessions in this manner, students help direct the program, empowering them to make informed decisions about their reading choices while reinforcing the notion that the library values their input. As always, students can expect insightful discussion as well as lots of fun as they take part in games and activities that support the books.

Programming at the library this fall is bound to appeal to students of all ages, but if you’re in middle school and looking for something beyond the ordinary, then check out “Getting Graphic” and “Choose Your Reading Adventure.” You’ll be glad you did. To register for these or any other Children’s and Youth Services programs, please stop by the library or call us at 216-226-8275, extension 140.

## MEET THE AUTHOR: Shadow Confessions By William Price

by Martha Wood

Local author William Price will be here to discuss his new novel, Shadow Confessions, on Wednesday, September 16 at 7 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium. Price is also the author of Shadow Travels. Both books feature CIA operative Wasilly Orloff. Shadow Confessions finds Orloff and his son Yuli in Hong Kong where they visit Wassilly’s godfather, Captain Pugachev, at his safe house. On a dare from Yuli, Wasilly withdraws a million pounds from an account he shared with his first wife, whom he believes to be dead. But she is alive and well and using the account to finance covert Red Chinese operations. A global chase ensues!

Price comes from a family of Russian descent. He and his wife married during the 1960s and during the 1970s they became missionaries. During this period of time Price and his wife were also witness to political unrest and a military coup. When they returned to the United States they raised a family and William worked as a carpenter. He is currently retired but his many interests keep him busy. He is a beekeeper and a winemaker and he has also volunteered on overseas archeology digs including a summer course at Oxford in England.

While growing up William trav-



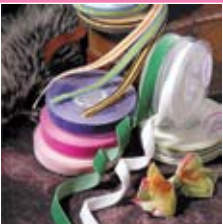
Author William Price with his 2 novels.

eled with his father and brother all over the world. He continues to travel and he has visited fifty-four countries to date. The experiences William has had while traveling and living abroad gave him the inspiration to write. He attends Cleveland State University and is pursuing his interest in art, archaeology, photography and of course, writing. William entered a portion of his book in the CSU Creative Writing contest and shared second place. Both of Price’s novels will be available for sale and signing at the event on Wednesday, September 16 at 7p.m. at Lakewood Public Library

### FLOWERS LACE AND BOWS

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Carabel Beauty Salon & Store 15309 Madison Avenue

# Lakewood Schools

## Schools Soar to State's Excellent Ranking

continued on page 8

“Our work to clarify the state standards and indicators is just the beginning. We are now working to link those clear learning targets to the formal and informal assessments that we use to measure our students’ progress,” said Jan Soeder, assistant superintendent for elementary education.

Besides the district’s “Excellent” schools, Hayes, Horace Mann and Emerson elementaries achieved “Effective” ratings and Harrison and Roosevelt elementaries and Lakewood City Academy ranked “Continuous Improvement.”

The state confers six designations on districts: Excellent with Distinction, for districts that have an Excellent rating and above-expected growth in the value-added measure for two con-

secutive years; Excellent; Effective; Continuous Improvement; Academic Watch and Academic Emergency. The state determines its designation based on four measures: state indicators, of which the district met 26 of 30; performance index, or the level of achievement of every student, of which the district scored 96.4 out of 120; AYP, which the district did not meet; and value-added measure, which the district exceeded. “There is no simple answer to student success,” said Soeder. “It is hard work on the part of students, teachers, administrators, and families that we hope will ultimately pay off in an ‘excellent with distinction’ rating from the state.”

To look more closely at the 2008-2009 district Report Card and individual school Report Cards, visit [www.ode.state.oh.us/reportcard](http://www.ode.state.oh.us/reportcard)



Lakewood High School kicked off a new freshmen orientation program on Aug. 18 called “Fresh Start,” a student-run, interactive two-day event. Here, Fresh Start mentors, most of them LHS upperclassmen, participate in a marshmallow eating contest during the pep rally that capped off the second day.

## “CCLAS” Website Gets A New (Online) Home

by Dawn Pyne

CCLAS, (pronounced “claws”), also known as Citizens Committee for a Lakewood Animal Shelter, recently updated the design and functionality of their website in order to take advantage of current web resources as a way for the community to learn about membership and volunteer opportunities, CCLAS events, as well as to browse pictures of (adorable) cats and dogs available for adoption and find information how to make donations to this community shelter.

CCLAS will still maintain an

online library of pets for adoption via [www.petfinders.com](http://www.petfinders.com), but will also maintain a library on its website with additional photos, and create an individual page for each adoptee-to-be.

Designed by a Lakewood-based volunteer, the website provides a fresh, new online presence for the shelter as it celebrates its twenty-fifth year of service in the community. CCLAS is a recognized 501(c)(3) non-profit organization support group for the Lakewood Animal Shelter. In Cuyahoga County, Lakewood is the only city near west of Cleveland that has an animal shelter,

and welcomes all community members and animal lovers who would like to support this effort to pitch in. CCLAS volunteers work side-by-side with the City and Shelter staff to clean the shelter and care for the animals on Saturdays, and CCLAS maintains a list of people who can foster animals as the need arises.

Check out [www.cclas.info](http://www.cclas.info) for new look and latest updates.



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Lakewood Business Observed

Around The Corner 35 Years And Growing

by Casey Ryan

If you drive west out of Lakewood along Detroit Ave., there is a sharp right turn just before you cross the bridge into Rocky River, and around that corner on your right hand side is a little bar and café called...Around the Corner.

"I was trying to come up with a name for the place when I first got it," says owner Mickey Krivosh, "and people kept saying, 'ya know, it's right there around the corner,' or 'it's just around the corner,' so that's what I decided to call it." And if you have lived in Lakewood or the surrounding area at any time in the past 35 years (and are of legal drinking age!), you have probably been to Around the Corner.

This September marks Krivosh's 35th year in business, and to celebrate he is having a larger and longer-than-usual anniversary bash. From Thursday, Sept. 17th until Sunday, Sept. 20, the party will roll on with food and drink specials, contests, live music, and other entertainment. Highlights include the Mickey's Mustache look-alike contest on Thursday, Great Lakes Christmas Ale on Friday and Saturday, anniversary t-shirts on Friday, a contest to win Browns tickets Saturday, a Browns game tail-gate party Sunday with special guest Kevin Mack, and much more.

This year's party will also be bigger than ever thanks to the May 8th opening of the Warehouse, a 2700 square-foot addition to Around the Corner. Housed in a former print shop and warehouse adjoining the back patio, the Warehouse is an open and airy room with high ceilings, large windows overlooking the patio, it's own bar, a stage for bands and DJs, and a concrete floor which took 400 tons of gravel to bring level with the patio from the former tenants' excavated work space. The room can (and already did) host group parties for over 100 people. Currently accessible off the patio, the Warehouse will eventually connect to the existing indoor portion of Around the Corner through an adjoining storefront. During football season, it will serve as a focal point for Browns and Ohio State games, with food and drink specials and multiple plasma screens, including one 65-inch by 40-inch monster plasma covering one wall.

Krivosh said a lot of the credit for the Warehouse goes to his son Ryan. "Yeah," says Ryan, "I kind of pushed Dad a little on the Warehouse idea, and so far it's worked out great." "Ryan played a big part in working on the new expansion," Krivosh says. "He brings a lot of energy, a lot of new ideas to the place." Ryan, a 2007 graduate of Kent State University, is slowly taking over the reins from Mickey. Some of the fresh ideas he has brought include a Christmas-in-July party, Wednesday Night Celebrity Dunk Tank, a Miss Around the Corner Pageant, and a body paint and fashion show, many of which were held in the Warehouse. Ryan also came up with the Crab Races, a contest in which contestants sponsor hermit crabs (provided



Mickey Krivosh with son Ryan Krivosh.

and cared for by a local pet store) in a race to the center of a table. Having seen similar contests as a youngster during family vacations in Florida, Ryan wanted to bring the same event to Around the Corner, and they have been a huge hit. And as with many of the events and promotions there, much of the proceeds go to different charities.

"My goal is to keep up promotions and keep bringing in a younger crowd," says Ryan Krivosh. Asked if he had any long term expansion ideas of his own, Ryan said "...not now, but if the right opportunity came along, well...". The fact that Ryan is doing more and more for the business suits Mickey just fine.

"I've had a pretty good run over the years," says Mickey, "and I want to turn it over to him and hope he has a pretty good run, too." A good run, indeed. Krivosh (Mickey) literally built Around the Corner from scratch. A lifelong Lakewood resident and 1970 Lakewood High School graduate, he rented the original storefront in 1974 at the age of 23 and had to get the liquor license out of escrow. He furnished it with equipment and furniture – at first the place didn't even have barstools – bought at auctions around the state. From there, he built the business up over the years, offering good food and cold drinks at a reasonable price served by a friendly

staff. After ten years he expanded to the storefront next door, adding a stage and second bar. He was the first to bring wings to the area in 1984, after trying them at the Anchor Bar in Lake Chautauqua. Around the Corner also had The Singing Machine, allowing patrons to sing along with musical accompaniment, before it was called karaoke. Krivosh also opened the first bar patio in Lakewood in 1986, well before anti-smoking legislation made it almost a necessity. The original patio boasts a soaring roof that covers the bar area and holds several televisions as well as heaters to allow use in cooler weather. The patio has been expanded several times since then and is usually packed with an energetic and lively crowd from the first warm breath of spring until the cool breezes of autumn.

All that success, Krivosh says, has not come without sacrifice. "This is a seven-days-a-week job. There are no days off. We're open just about every day of the year, and it takes a lot of hard work to keep the place running," he says. Krivosh says that over the years he has had a lot of long-term, hard-working, and loyal employees, and now sees some of their children working there as well. In addition to Ryan's contributions, his daughter Jennifer pitches in on a part-time basis, and his wife Patty plays a very large but behind-the-scenes role in the bar's success. Of his employees, Mickey says, "I treat them with respect, and they do the same for me. It really is like a big family." Even some of the customers are like family. Krivosh says some of his original customers from the early days still drop in. He greets them with a smile and a handshake, and maybe a story is swapped. The younger crowd, more Ryan's age, garners more business, but no one leaves Around the Corner without a smile.

"I may be rounding third and heading for home," Mickey Krivosh says, "but I'm not going anywhere yet." For the sake of all of us who like to enjoy a fun night out with good friends and good food and drinks, let's hope he – and Ryan and the rest the Around the Corner staff – are around another 35 years.

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# Wellness Watch

## Living Wills

by Matthew Nee

It's been several years, but I'm willing to bet that the name Terri Schiavo still rings a bell. In March 2005, Ms. Schiavo's case captured our attention and prompted an often contentious national debate as to end-of-life choices. That debate, however, was certainly tame compared to the painful drama that played out among Ms. Schiavo's family.

Ms. Schiavo was on life support – she could not survive without a feeding tube – and she was diagnosed as being in a permanently vegetative state. Because Ms. Schiavo left no clear direction as to her end-of-life decisions, her family fought it out. Debate raged between her husband (who argued that Ms. Schiavo would want life-support removed) and her parents (who argued that she was conscious and should continue to receive life support). And Ms. Schiavo lingered on, unable to make her wishes known and, likely, even unaware that her loved ones and the nation were embroiled in a dispute as to her fate. Eventually, after years of family feuding, a court decided that life support should be removed, and Ms. Schiavo died from dehydration.

Like Ms. Schiavo, we all will face the end of life. That's out of our hands. But how we face it and what burdens we leave for our loved ones is not. By creating a living will, you may set forth whether you want to receive life-sustaining treatment (including artificially supplied nutrition and hydration) if you are unable to make informed medical decisions and are in a terminal condition or a permanently unconscious state. A living will communicates your wishes to your doctors and loved ones, even when you can't.

Had Ms. Schiavo executed a living will, her wishes would have been known, and there would have been little, if any, room to debate whether life-sustaining nourishment and hydration should have been removed. Granted, the media storm created by Ms. Schiavo's case was extraordinary. But it highlights why a living will is such an important part of an estate plan. By creating a living will, you make your end-of-life decisions known via a legally enforceable document. Your loved ones will be thankful they don't have to guess at what you would have wanted or, worse, fight over your fate.

The foregoing is for informational purpose only and is in no way intended to be, nor should it be construed as, legal advice.

Please note that a living will is not necessarily the same as a health care power of attorney. A health care power of attorney is a legal document by which you nominate someone to make health care decisions for you when you are unable to do so. Such decisions might, but do not necessarily, include end-of-life choices.



**Lakewood Shamrocks Are Champs Again!**

For the second year in a row, both Lakewood Shamrocks teams were playoff tournament champions in the Four Corners League. The Novice Girls team (ages 7-9) capped an undefeated season with a championship game victory on July 30. The Senior Girls team (pictured, ages 12-14) followed up on July 31 by winning a thrilling 6-5 championship victory over previously undefeated Engine 39. Both teams are sponsored and coached by Lakewood City Councilman Brian Powers.

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## Wellness Watch

Department of Human Services/Division of Aging

# Providing Nourishment To Senior Residents, Body And Soul

by Lacey Caporale

As I watched Lakewood residents stream into the senior center, there was an unmistakable sense of community not only among the residents but also the volunteers and staff. People were coming together over meals provided by the Division of Aging. While observing their interactions with one another, it is obvious that residents are not simply receiving a meal; they are building relationships and staying connected to their community. It's hard to say whether it was the smiles on their faces or the strong sense of fraternity within the center, but one thing is certain about the meal program; it has a positive affect on everyone it touches.

In 1973, the City of Lakewood through the Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging started a congregate and home-delivered meal program to provide healthy lunches to people age 60 years and older. The program is not only about receiving a nutritious meal but also allows for socializing with peers and is a venue for seniors to stay engaged in their community. The congregate and home-delivered meals contain one third of a participant's daily dietary needs. A registered dietitian creates a monthly menu and Division of Aging staff members compile a monthly activity calendar. Together, these documents are printed and made available to participants and the general public. The information is also posted on the City's web site, [www.onelakewood.com](http://www.onelakewood.com) under the Department of Human Services/Division of Aging.

Ron Guy, a senior who has been involved in volunteering and other activities at the Lawther Senior Center for the past two years, told me that the program gives him a chance to get out of the house and interact with people his own age. Ron explained, "I need people to talk to. I have friends here and they depend on me to come". The congregate meal program and the center is a home away from home for Ron. He and the other participants made it clear it is beneficial for them to be around people in "like situations", giving

them a chance to forget about their problems and enjoy time and lunch together.

The congregate meals are served to residents at 11:45 am Monday through Friday at the Lawther Senior Center (16024 Madison Avenue) and Senior Center East (12400 Madison Avenue). Anyone 60 years of age and older is welcome. Each person served under this program can voluntarily contribute to the cost of the meal. The suggested meal donation is \$1.00 for both home-delivered and congregate meals. Programs are provided during the congregate lunches that include information on activities in Lakewood. According to Ron, it keeps them informed on what is happening in their community. Reserving a meal is as simple as signing up through the Division's Nutrition Office by calling (216) 529-5000. Transportation to both meal sites is available if needed.

An eight-year participant in the congregate lunch program, Doris Fecser explained that because of her poor eyesight she depends on people at the center. "Without them I wouldn't be informed on community activities." Doris explained that she loves coming to the senior center because the people here encourage her to go to events such as the annual senior picnic that was held at Lakewood Park in July. Humanities, a program Doris really enjoys, is facilitated by a volunteer who reads the letters to "Dear Abby" from the newspaper. After the reading, the seniors discuss the situations and give their advice on what the writer should do. Today Doris was delayed in getting to the center and she missed the "Dear Abby" program. The Humanities volunteer took Doris aside and read the articles to her, repeating the program just for Doris.

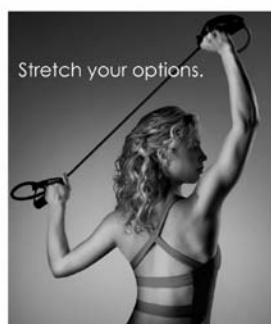
Home-delivered meals are available to Lakewood residents who are home-bound often due to health issues and are unable to prepare their own meals. Individuals in need of home-delivered meals can be referred to the Division of Aging by various sources, including community and hospital social work-

ers, family members, and caregivers. Residents can also make a self-referral for a service assessment. Once the need for home-delivered meals is determined meals are started immediately. Each day Monday through Friday volunteers deliver 130 hot meals to the homes of older residents. As a new member to the Lakewood community, I understand how hard it is to live far away from your family. Some people don't have family nearby to keep them company and help prepare meals, so the smiling face of a volunteer means so much to the program participants. As an observer, it was easy to see the senior residents were deeply grateful for the hot lunches they received through both meal programs. After speaking with

both Ron and Doris I now understand how important the meals are; they are so much more than meals. Not only are seniors receiving lunch, but they are also growing as individuals and staying connected to their community. When delivering meals to the homes, I could see how much each person appreciated the hot meal given to them. Sometimes with age comes disadvantages and for individuals who cannot cook for themselves, the home-delivered meals lift a huge burden off their shoulders and have helped to keep them healthy. Whether individuals are receiving congregate or home-delivered meals one thing is clear: the Division of Aging meal programs provide nourishment to senior residents, body and soul.



Meal program participants Doris Fecser, Emery Nagy, Rosemary Corrigan, Ron Guy and Sandy Conkling enjoy food and friendship at the Lawther Senior Center.



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# Lakewood Observer

## Do Not 'Dispar' It's Only An Increase In Fare

by Justin Piccorelli

In honor of the Regional Transit Authority's (RTA) fare increase, I rode my bicycle to work today. Maybe it was the brisk fall air, or perhaps the exhaust fumes that got me thinking. A quarter or two increase in bus fare may not put me in the financial crapper, but what about others? As the price of everything goes up around us, why does this small hike in the price of public transportation make me feel especially queasy?

Let's put the economic downturn aside for a moment. The Cleveland area has been in a period of economic transition for some time now. Much of this transition is due to the changes in companies' geographic preferences within

the region. In the interest of reducing costs many employers moved outside city limits, while those who employed "knowledge workers" remained in Cleveland. While efficiency may have fueled this migration, it's led to an objectionable byproduct- income disparity. Cleveland proper has jobs available, but while many Cleveland residents likely have the capacity to do these jobs, in reality they lack the formal and necessary training to land them. And while the economic downturn may have heightened these events, it's the economic transition and corresponding migration that Cleveland struggles with.

I'm almost certain that it's the cou-

pling of events- this migration with the increase in cost of public transportation, that cause my feeling of sickness. No matter how you spin it, people who have less are impacted more by the fare increase. Unemployment rates within Cleveland have risen when compared to the suburbs, and the increase in bus fares makes the process of finding employment (likely outside of Cleveland proper) that much more difficult. Isn't it bad enough that one's ability to find employment is already tied to wealth? In fact, the question I recall being asked the most on job applications is- "Do you own a car?" While people on the preferred side of the economic transition may have options to deal with the

increase in fares, like driving or bicycling, the less fortunate now have less flexibility to manage this increase.

So what should be done about the RTA's \$20 million deficit? The city could raise taxes on those who can afford it and further subsidize the RTA to cover their deficit. But, this wouldn't be politically or economically wise given Cleveland's current state. The RTA could also work to establish more agreements with local employers to help increase ridership, and decrease their deficit. Businesses could enhance their image if they committed to purchasing bus passes on behalf of all their employees and encourage employees to support public transportation. This would increase efficiency by increasing ridership and decrease the relative cost per person as well as air pollution. On the other hand, increasing the cost of public transportation will increase both the disparity in wealth and level of pollutants, and promote the social and economic decline of the region.

Public transportation is provided in an effort to decrease the natural gap in mobility between those with different income levels and afford all with equal opportunities. Basically, public transportation should enable people of all income levels to live productive and happy lives. As my stomach turns I can't help but wonder if the U.S. was founded on this principle of equal opportunity, then what gives Cleveland the right to abandon it?

many of us must speak to ask and impress upon the Mayor to continue his efforts to save or bring back the Lakewood circulator, rather than just going along with a once-a-week shopper bus that does not cover Lakewood like the current RTA circulator does. More people rode it before RTA in November 2008 sabotaged it by reducing it to every hour, making it much less convenient. Before it was every 30 minutes. But RTA's often empty downtown trolley buses run every 10 minutes, duplicating big bus routes downtown. THAT is unfair. So the Mayor should sue RTA about that unfair discrimination too, wrongfully favoring downtown.

Attend the next meeting of Riders To Save The Lakewood Circulator, October 4 Sunday 3:00 p.m. in the Lakewood Public Library 15425 Detroit. Call 216-221-2724 to help save or bring back the circulator.

## Help Save Or Bring Back Lakewood Circulator Bus

by Steve Gannis

There is hope to save the RTA Lakewood Circulator or bring it back. But failure is guaranteed if we don't try. Perseverance is a key to success. Remember that after RTA eliminated all #75 bus trips between North Olmsted and downtown Cleveland for several weeks last year, people protested and got rush hour #75 bus trips to and from downtown restored. So RTA can be pressured to reverse its decisions.

We must write letters to Lakewood Mayor Ed FitzGerald and Congressman Dennis Kucinich (keep copies as proof) and letters to publish continually in newspapers, telling them RTA's proposed once-a-week shopping trip bus, from one location to a store and back, reported in the September 5 Plain Dealer, is not enough, and asking them to continue their efforts to save or bring back the Lakewood circulator.

Lakewood Mayor Ed FitzGerald filed a lawsuit to force RTA to give him copies of its public records documents about how and why it decided to eliminate our popular and needed circulator. He rightfully suspects RTA has no good reason. The September 2

Plain Dealer reports that RTA claims it would be unfair, as RTA's false reason for refusing to save the Lakewood circulator, which RTA's July 15 circulator comparison chart states has 4 times more riders per trip and costs about 80% less per rider than some other RTA circulators. Then it is also "unfair" for RTA to eliminate other buses, which it sometimes does lately. So "unfair" is a false reason, another lie, from RTA. Mayor FitzGerald should have his law department lawyers expand his current records request lawsuit, to utilize the legal discovery process to have the court order RTA to answer under oath, in person, his questions to discover the real and unjustified reason RTA refuses to save the best circulator, or a few of the best. FitzGerald must ask the judge to order RTA to save the Lakewood circulator, and order RTA to run the circulators on schedule, not 20 to 30 minutes late, and to stop its frequent failure to provide a driver, resulting in the circulator not making its run (September 2 Plain Dealer).

Mayor FitzGerald should consider now adding to his lawsuit, a demand that RTA immediately give him all

its records of the past 3 years about fareboxes not working on many RTA circulator buses, including on what dates each circulator bus farebox was not working. And what dates they were repaired and working again. Because on those dates the non-working fareboxes were not collecting fares nor counting riders, says circulator driver Mamie Bell, in a written statement, creating a major false undercount of riders and fares received, which RTA fraudulently and negligently based its decision to eliminate all circulators on. Falsification by RTA officials is a crime. Mamie Bell, who retired September 1 from RTA after years as a circulator bus driver and past president of its circulator drivers union now is speaking out, since RTA can no longer retaliate against her. She states that RTA knew circulator fareboxes often did not work, and often took days or weeks to repair them. She is willing to help Lakewood City Hall officials interpret those RTA records, and possibly testify in court about this.

Attend the September 9 Wednesday Lakewood City Council meeting, 7:30 p.m. in Lakewood City Hall where

## Lakewood Chamber Of Commerce Hosts 53rd Annual New Teacher Luncheon

by Valerie Mechenbier

Education is very important in our community and it is a long standing tradition that the local businesses invite any new teacher or administrator in Lakewood to a banquet in their honor. This year the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce invited 30 new public and parochial school teachers to the 53rd Annual New Teacher Luncheon.

This year's luncheon, sponsored by Ohio Educational Credit Union, was held at Garfield Middle School on Friday, August 21st and was catered by Italian Creations. Each teacher received a complimentary meal, a tote bag full of school supplies and other

goodies, and a door prize - all donated by local businesses.

"The New Teacher Luncheon is always one of our most popular events" said Patty Ryan, President of the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce. "I'm always impressed with how generous our local businesses are when it comes to our teachers." The 130 attendees at the luncheon also heard remarks by Dr. Joseph Madak, Superintendent of Lakewood City Schools, and Mr. Ed Favre, President of the Lakewood City School Board.

This year's New Teacher Luncheon was an exceptional opportunity for Lakewood businesses to show their

great corporate spirit by welcoming the new teachers, offering their support and words of encouragement and thanking them for the service they provide to our community.



Lakewood Schools: Phase III

Field Of Dreams

by Meg Ostrowski

Back in April I wrote an article for the Lakewood Observer, Location, Location, Location, in which I suggested that the Lakewood City Schools Phase III Steering Committee consider a new elementary school at Kauffman Park. Many have since asked me what happened to the idea.

Shortly after the article appeared in the paper, I formally submitted it to the committee for consideration along with additional research and rationale.

I have summarized the proposal in a simple sketch, district map, and top ten list. The sketch was intended only as a starting point, as the design would require professional development and modifications based on the input of all involved. The map justifies the location based on current student residences and the fixed locations of family-friendly housing units to satisfy the community desire to maintain reasonable walking distances for our youngest students. The top ten list is a reminder of my original inspiration confirmed with findings collected along the way.

Top 10 Reasons A New School At Kauffman Park Is A Good Idea

1. It is located in/near a park with mature trees.
2. It would provide the best athletic facility available to elementary students in the city.
3. It could help with park maintenance and/or upgrades.
4. It could serve as an anchor to the revitalization of downtown.
5. It could be used as a community center during non-school hours.
6. It protects valuable community green space from commercial development.
7. It is located close to Lakewood Public Library whose Youth Services Division supports the school district with outreach and after school programming.
8. It has the least negative impact on teaching and learning during construction.
9. It brings together Grant, recognized as a Blue Ribbon School and designated EXCELLENT by Ohio Department of Education, and Lincoln, also designated EXCELLENT by ODE.
10. It supports families by locating elementary schools within reasonable walking distance of the most student residences, even better than the current seven elementary school configuration, now and as predicted by census data.

BONUS: It reflects our identity as a city, great neighborhoods with a strong urban core.

The proposal received support from some members of the committee but many dismissed the idea as “too costly” without time for a thorough investigation. Others feel that having two neighborhoods (Grant and Lin-



Someone asked me why I would want a school near a strip mall and train tracks. I don't. I want a school near a park and a library in the heart of a city full of kids who deserve the best we have to offer.



Configuration/ Walking Dis- tance	Remove Grant	Remove Lincoln	Remove Roosevelt	Remove Grant and Lincoln; Add	*Current 7 School Configura- tion
# of Students Walking < ¼ mile	2029	2079	2035	2165	2149
# of Students Walking > ¼ mile	247	197	241	111	127

This matrix identifies the total number of elementary students throughout the district that were enrolled during the 2008-2009 school year and their walking distances based on the configurations considered by the District Configuration Sub-Committee. Census data confirms, based on current housing stock, we can expect a similar situation for decades.\*Included for reference only

coln) lose their elementary schools to make Kauffman possible is too much to ask. Many simply think that having to bring so many parties to the table (The Board of Education, The City of Lakewood, property owners and residents) make it too complicated and therefore risky. They believe that a conservative approach better serves the community by avoiding possible delay of the process.

There was a question of whether or not completion of the high school renovation (also part of Phase III) could be split from the elementary school solution to buy the committee more time. According to Treasurer Rick Berdine, postponing a decision on the elementary schools could delay receipt of state funds, some of which are needed for the high school. OSFC will disburse funds once Lakewood passes the necessary bond issue and the final phase of

the project begins.

Nathan Kelly, Lakewood City Planning Director, stated that the city is committed to being a good partner to the Lakewood City Schools and has provided all available information to the committee and school leadership to assist in the evaluation process of all potential options, including a new school at Kauffman Park. In doing their part to avoid delay, they “would consider and swiftly evaluate any pro-

posals presented to the city.”

Those in attendance at the last committee meeting before a summer recess delivered the wake up call when “...we reluctantly accepted that we didn’t have all the answers regarding Kauffman Park and accepted that we wouldn’t be able to unearth the answers in time to honor our pledge of arriving at an achievable and timely solution. Therefore, the consensus vote was to move forward building cases for two recommendations that didn’t involve Kauffman Park,” as stated by committee member Jim Kenny.

In my disappointment I would visit the park, sense the school, imagine the children there, and wonder why more people couldn’t see the potential.

Outsiders, including Jaime Bouvier, founding member of Kauffman Park Friends, expressed their positions.

“I am sorry to hear that the Lakewood Schools have decided not to continue to pursue that possibility. I know that most of the people whom I spoke with, while opposed to selling parkland, were not necessarily opposed to placing a school on the property -- and many people were in favor of it.”

Phase III committee member and lifelong resident, Bob Lugibihl, stated, “We may have missed a tremendous opportunity regarding Kauffman Park, which many people initially thought was an excellent site. Without access to and the ability to sit down and discuss the various options in developing this property as a “Joint Venture” with the Board of Education and The City of Lakewood, the committee could not carry the proposal forward. This could have been a WIN-WIN for all involved. The biggest winners would have been the people of Lakewood.”

Ideas like this can’t get off the ground without the collective will of an entire community. In the end, I wish I had a more satisfactory explanation of the proposal’s demise but the truth be told, despite some support, it turned out to be my vision alone.

Looking forward, I encourage you to attend the Phase III Community Forum on Tuesday, September 15th at 7:00 p.m. in the East Gym at Lakewood High School to learn about the two remaining proposals and offer your input. Don’t let just a few influence the decision for the whole community, as all residents will be impacted by the outcome of this process.

Most importantly, keep in mind how far we have come towards completing the district’s Master Facilities Plan for our schools and help get us over the finish line by supporting the upcoming bond issue to insure that Lakewood receives the state’s contribution of approximately \$47 million to the project.

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# Lakewood Schools: Phase III

## Sub-Groups Present Data, Seek Community Input

by Mike Zanonni

You may have noticed these signs around Lakewood that say:  
**COMMUNITY FORUM  
SCHOOLS' FUTURE  
PHASE III  
SEPT 15, 7 PM LHS  
LHS EAST GYM**

They're in front of the elementary schools, and there's one in front of Lakewood High on Franklin, where this forum will take place in one week. You may have wondered what it's about, and if you spared another thought, wondered what it has to do with you. I did, so I did some digging.

These homely, black-on-white signs are about the future of Lakewood, as a place to live and raise children. In a nutshell, Phase III is the rebuilding or renovating of two elementary schools and the completion of the renovation of Lakewood High School. The State of Ohio will provide a good chunk of the money for two of the three Lakewood elementary schools that are in need of renovation, and for the completion of the renovation of Lakewood High. But it was determined that we have one too many elementary schools for the number of students they serve, and therefore Lakewood plans to close one of its seven elementary schools.

Lakewood would still have to raise some of what it needs, through a bond issue whose passage isn't certain. The remaining six elementaries, with their new district configuration boundaries, will have to serve Lakewood's families now and for the next 50 years.

Four of the current elementary schools (Emerson, Horace Mann, Hayes, and Harrison) have been recently rebuilt or renovated, so they are not being considered for closure. That leaves Lincoln, Grant, or Roosevelt; two of which Lakewood will rebuild or renovate, one of which will be closed.

The community—you, me, everyone here—has been invited by the School Board to be part of the process to determine which school to close and which two to rebuild or renovate, since this affects the city as a whole. In fact, three sub-committees of community members have already been at work for several months, looking at issues like student density, walking distance, safety, transition plans, and the best use of building sites.

These three community-based groups are the District Configuration Sub-Group, the Building Site Sub-Group and the Transition Sub-Group. All three have made their recommendations to the School Board, and their work of several months is now on a web site: <http://www.phasethree.org/>. Many of our friends and neighbors have spent a lot of time, done a lot of research, and have brought their recommendations to the School Board, with supporting data, which any of us can now access, in time to add our thoughts at the community forum on September 15th.



The following are summaries of each group's recommendations, and reviews of the supporting data—in other words, my best shot at condensing a lot of information. Charts, maps, diagrams, and spreadsheets—daunting at first, and less than well-organized—but real and important information is here, beginning with the determinations of the District Configuration Sub-Group, charged with showing how the re-configuration of the School District, with only six elementary schools, would impact the walking distance and safety of affected students.

### District Configuration

This group examined “walkability” (goal: the least number of children having to walk more than ¾ mile) and safety implications (goal: fewest children crossing busy intersections, walking along busier streets and crossing train tracks). Looking at the hypothetical closure of each elementary school in turn, it was determined that the resulting re-configurations of the school district could be ranked in terms of negative impact to the community. The number of current students who would be negatively affected is documented for each scenario.

These scenarios include a new-ish idea, first introduced by a Lakewood mom in the Observer (Volume 5, Issue 7, April 7, 2009), and also detailed on the Phase III web site. This idea is to build a new school on the site of Kaufman Park, and to close both Lincoln and Grant Elementary schools.

According to the District Configuration sub-group, this is how each scenario ranks, in order of negative impact:

1. Least negative impact: Remove Lincoln Elementary (on Clifton Blvd.). The fewest “extreme [distance] walkers” and “walk safety” issues would result from this closure. This is the sub-group's primary recommendation. This configuration leaves 196 children walking more than ¾ miles.
2. Remove Lincoln and Grant elementary schools and build a new one at the site of Kaufman Park, situated between the two, off Detroit Ave. A close second choice. This configuration leaves only 110 children walking

more than ¾ miles, but the sub-group felt that other factors, including safety, made it slightly less recommendable than their first choice, above.

3. Remove Roosevelt Elementary (on Athens Ave.). This would leave 241 children walking more than ¾ miles.

4. Most negative impact: Remove Grant Elementary (on Elmwood Ave.). Grant currently serves the center of Lakewood, which has the highest density of families with children compared with all other areas of the city. According to this sub-group, the largest number of students would be affected negatively if this school were to be closed, with 246 children walking more than ¾ miles to school, 26% higher than in this group's first choice.

Though this group produced a concise recommendation to the School Board, to rebuild or renovate Grant and Roosevelt and to close Lincoln, the volume and variety of numerical and map data accompanying it is large, and it requires a serious time investment. Most of it has to do with student and housing density, i.e. where the students live vs. where they would have to go to school. The work of this group might be enhanced if student access to transportation and socio-economic factors were also considered.

### Building Sites

This group looked at the question of land use as affecting Lakewood as a whole. Much shorter on data than the work of District Configuration group, its recommendations seem more subjective by comparison. Determinations were apparently based on preferences within the group, which admittedly reached a “firm consensus” on just one thing: Roosevelt should not be closed, as it represents the best use of the land it occupies.

As a question by itself, it seems that the value of having any centrally located elementary school (read: Grant or Kaufman) divided this group. Though Lakewood's population is weighted significantly toward the middle and south, it was noted that some in this sub-group simply “liked” the idea of three schools serving the northern part of Lakewood, and three others serving the south, with none in the center.

Centrality aside, the Kaufman idea was evaluated negatively primarily because of the “land swap” it would require between the School Board and the city, instead of the kinds of site criteria that were detailed for other schools, like pedestrian, bike and car access, which still might be examined, at least hypothetically, for a Kaufman. Among their evaluations, however, is that Kaufman in any form just wouldn't work for Lakewood for the next 50 years, which is presumably why the land swap itself was not explored in a more substantial or robust way, in terms of land value, cost or feasibility.

So, if Kaufman is just out and Roosevelt is already “best used,” they are left with the question of which, Lincoln or Grant, should be closed. By “clear majority,” this group supports closing Grant and rebuilding or renovating Lincoln and Roosevelt. According to the summary chart provided, the Lincoln site will serve Lakewood well, now and in the future, while Grant rates only “Maybe.” (It is worth noting, however, that this group compared Lincoln “with additional land acquisition” to other schools, including Grant, as they exist now. If there is a reason for this, it is not clear, and it is not mentioned whether or not Grant could acquire additional property.)

This group does mention one Negative about Lincoln, its small size, while one could think of at least a few more, considering that it's on a fairly busy 6-lane street (Clifton Blvd.), with limited drop-off/pick-up space and a playground close to traffic. The group also lists as Negative Grant's proximity to commercial property, though Grant is located on a residential side street, with more ample space for drop-off/pick-up within its own boundaries and a playground isolated from traffic. Further research might help smooth out some of these gaps.

I had hoped to find more data from this group, concerning building conditions, comparative necessity of land acquisitions, cost estimates for rebuilding or renovating (at least for Lincoln and Grant) and architectural reports on the feasibility and cost of expanding on existing sites, and on the development of Kaufman. These data would be helpful still.

### Transition

This group concerns itself with the smooth transition to the new configuration created by the closure. Though not determinants of the decision of which school to close, it offers recommendations on the timing of the redistricting, whether displaced students should be kept together in the interim, and related factors, such as the boundaries of the middle schools and ongoing sites for the Gifted And Talented program. Among its recommendations:

1. The 7th (closing) school should remain open during construction/renovation.

**continued on next page**

Lakewood Schools: Phase III

# Caring For Our Students

by Jill Milensski

As a member of the Phase III committee, I have been asked to speak to my experience of the process of how the committee came to its recommendations.

First, some background. I have lived in Lakewood since 1992, and chose it over all other communities in the Cleveland area. My husband and I moved here from the east coast (he's from New England, I'm from the DC area) for a job and we had a year to find a place to live. We chose Lakewood for many of the same reasons you did: walkability, beautiful older homes with character, good schools, access to the Lake and the metroparks, an interesting downtown as well as unique restaurants and shopping.

I have two children. My son will be in 6th grade at Garfield Middle school this fall. He has attended 3 elementary schools: a magnet charter school in Cleveland for 1st & 2nd grade, Lincoln for 3rd & 4th and then the newly renovated Emerson Elementary for 5th. He is in the GT program so was not at his home school for elementary. Technically, we are in the Grant district and are sending our daughter to Kindergarten there this fall. Because we have moved around schools so much, I find myself in a unique, more neutral position when it comes to the issue of an elementary school closing. I am not attached to any one school. My son has had a great experience at all 3 schools he has attended, and judging from my brief

time at Grant, as well as parents I have talked to, I know my daughter will also.

I got involved with the Phase III committee because I felt I could contribute my experience with the various schools and also because I wanted to be a bridge to parents who do not yet have children attending elementary. I have been involved with the Lakewood Early Childhood PTA (LECPTA) for 9 years. That organization has been invaluable to me in meeting friends and making connections throughout Lakewood. When my son changed schools, it was the LECPTA connections I had made that helped smooth the transition. When I joined the Phase III committee, I was happy to see many well known faces from the LECPTA as

well as families from the two schools we had attended.

One of the most wonderful things about Lakewood is the number of people who are active in the community. When I went to the Phase III committee, I was STUNNED to see how many people had shown up. This is not the case everywhere! When I was at the Cleveland charter school, you were lucky to fill seats at a school event! One of the things I've gotten out of this process is that Lakewood people CARE about their schools and their community. They are not afraid to get involved. There are many intelligent, thoughtful, active people on this committee, and for that we should be glad.

Yet they do not represent everyone in the Lakewood community. That is where YOU come in. On September 15th, there will be a Community Forum at Lakewood High School, East cafeteria at 7 pm. This is your chance to come and make your voice heard. At that meeting, the committee will present its findings and will give a recommendation as to which of the three schools should remain open and be renovated or rebuilt. This is your chance to see all of the data that the committee has painstakingly collected about the issues that the Lakewood community felt was the most important when it comes to the schools. This is your city. Please come and make your voice heard, even if you do not currently have a child in the Lakewood schools. What is good for the schools is good for Lakewood.

Having been to all of the elementary schools during this process (we held meetings at all of the schools, old and new), I can say that the new schools really are fantastic. We owe it to the children of Lakewood to rebuild our schools so that ALL children can go to up-to-date, highly functional schools.

One final note. If you are the parent of a child under age 5 who has not yet attended Lakewood schools, please tour your neighborhood school and talk to parents. I think you will find that they are very happy with their child's experience. Parents, teachers, and administrators are all very involved with the schools, which is part of why they are successful. If you have concerns about anything in particular, such as before or after care, Preschool, full or half day K, special programs for Gifted and Talented or for special needs children, please let the school board know. Although these specific concerns may not be addressed at this particular forum, the committee has brought up these concerns in our meetings. We want to work through the problems, and broadcast the successes.

When I joined this committee, I had a lot of questions and concerns swirling around about lots of different things. I'm glad I was a part of the process, and I tried to make my concerns and the concerns of my neighbors and friends known. Now it's your turn. I'll see you on September 15th at the Community Forum.

# Come As You Are

by Sandy Donahoe

Be who you are. I am a wife, mom, advocate, Lakewood resident, registered voter, neighbor, former teacher, Phase III Committee member, and friend. I am a person who cares about the Lakewood City Schools.

On Tuesday, September 15, the Lakewood Schools will be holding a Community Forum seeking the views of all residents on the third and final phase of the schools' rebuilding program. It will begin at 7 p.m. in the East Gym at Lakewood High School. Please attend.

The Phase III Committee has been meeting since January to discuss the options for the completion of the rebuilding project that began with the "Designing Our Next Fifty Years" Committee recommendations seven years ago.

All around this town, newly built and renovated schools welcome many of our students. This fall, the just-com-

pleted west wing of LHS will greet a new class of high school students. But, the older, east wing still remains. It is outdated, antiquated, and needs to be replaced. Three elementary schools also remain in need of our attention. Two of them will be rebuilt or renovated. It is clear that we have made great progress, but our work is not done.

Our School Board, once again, is seeking public input so that an educated and informed decision may be made regarding the remaining schools in the district. The Ohio Schools Facilities Commission has informed our district that with the passage of a third bond issue, state monies will become available so that Lakewood can complete this third and final phase of our rebuilding project. The School Board and the Phase III Committee need you. We are holding a forum so that all Lakewood residents have an opportunity to voice their opinion. We need husbands, wives, singles, parents,

youngsters, seniors, empty nesters, newcomers, students, neighbors, and friends. It does not matter who you are. We would like you to come as you are.

Lakewood has always been recognized as a city of great diversity. We need the voice of the entire community. The final phase is not just about Lakewood High School or Grant, Lincoln, and Roosevelt elementary schools. All Lakewood students will be affected. All Lakewood residents will be impacted. All Lakewood citizens need to be heard, whether they have students in the schools or not.

I am a citizen, parent of five, and concerned community member. I see you in our parks, at the library, at the grocery store checkout, on the soccer field, at the concession stand, at musical performances, and around the block. On Tuesday, September 15, I want to see you at 7 p.m. in the East Gym of Lakewood High School. Come as you are. Be who you are.

# Sub-Groups Present Data

continued from previous page

2. Redistricting lines should be drawn upon completion of construction.
  3. Temporary sites should aim to keep current student populations together.
  4. Middle school boundaries should be redrawn with respect to the new elementary configuration.
  5. Consider moving Gifted And Talented programs to one centrally located school in the new configuration, or two disparately located schools (presumably one easterly and one westerly), instead of at the current two schools, Lincoln and Grant, which are both centrally located with respect to east and west.
- This group presents no real data as such, though it does reference community preference, as gauged by a

previous community forum. Their determinations are likely to be the least controversial of any of those made by the three community sub-groups.

That's about it. If you want to know if I'm being fair in my representation of these groups' work, please go to the Phase III website and judge for yourself: <http://www.phasethree.org/>. In fact, it's probably also good idea to put your own eyes on the three schools, Lincoln, Grant, and Roosevelt to "put a face with the name," so to speak, and give a real context to the forum discussion next week. Lincoln: Clifton Blvd. & Summit. Grant: Elmwood Ave., between Hilliard and Detroit. Roosevelt: Athens Ave., five blocks east of Warren.

The new configuration will, without a doubt, split up some current school communities and join others together. Parents especially have a lot

of feeling for their schools, and some deep loyalties. But since the quality and accessibility of Lakewood's public education is the main reason families have always been drawn to Lakewood—something that ultimately determines the quality of our lives, the value of our property, the safety of our streets and the vitality of our businesses—making the right choice, loyalty aside, is important for all of us.

Please come to the public forum at Lakewood High School on Tuesday, September 15th at 7:00 PM. You couldn't do yourself and your community a better favor than to come informed as to what our neighbors and friends have worked very hard to show us, and to represent yourself and your family in the Phase III decision process. One look at the Observation Deck's online forum tells me that this will be a passionate gathering.

# Lakewoodite Perspective

## Please Stop Shooting The Messenger

by Bret Callentine

It's like running in mud: the faster you try to move, the more you slip and slide, getting nowhere quick and getting plenty dirty. So, after weeks and even months of debate, here we are, still talking about healthcare, though judging by the clips making the news, there doesn't seem to be much actual discussion going on. Too many people with too little information are talking at each other and not with each other. Attempting to debate the issues recently, I've been called many names, had my character, ethics and moral guidelines questioned, and I have even been challenged on the validity of my personal faith.

What I haven't had happen yet is for anyone to answer my direct questions on the matter. If I imply that the existing proposal might not cover everyone, I'm told that I, "don't care about my fellow man." When I bring up the question of how it will affect the budget,

I'm yelled at as being "uncaring" and "greedy". And if I dare suggest that there might be a better way to accomplish the needed changes, I'm dismissed as a "stupid Republican" who, "would rather do nothing as thousands of uninsured people die needlessly."

Well I'm sick and tired of people attacking me instead of my arguments. It's pointless. So, instead of saying one more thing on the subject, I believe I'll simply defer to the thoughts of others. From here on out, if you disagree with anything you see printed, don't blame me or call me names; take it up with the person who said it. Then let me know if you can dismiss their assessments with the same rhetoric as you would mine.

Congressional Budget Office (CBO) letter to Representative Nathan Deal, dated August 7, 2009, responding to a question concerning the effects of

proposals to expand governmental support for preventive medical care and wellness services: "Although different types of preventive care have different effects on spending, the evidence suggests that for most preventive services, expanded utilization leads to higher, not lower, medical spending overall...[as the] added costs of widespread use of preventive services tend to exceed the savings from averted illness."

CBO letter to Representative Dave Camp, dated August 28, 2009, responding to a request to estimate the change in Medicare Part D premiums that would result from certain provisions contained in H.R. 3200: "CBO expects that the responses of pharmaceutical manufacturers to those three provisions of the legislation would also increase Part D premiums...Overall, CBO estimates...an average increase in premiums for Part D beneficiaries, above those under current law, of about 5 percent in 2011. That effect would rise over time and reach about 20 percent in 2019."

CBO report, "Key Issues in Analyzing Major Health Insurance Proposals", December 2008: "For the same budgetary costs, a refundable tax credit might be more effective at increasing insurance coverage, both because it can be designed to provide a larger benefit to people who have low income than they receive under current law and because those recipients might be more responsive to a given subsidy than are people with higher income...The available evidence indicates that a small share of the population would be reluctant to purchase insurance even if subsidies covered nearly all of the costs... Proposals to require insurers to cover all applicants or to guarantee coverage of preexisting health conditions would benefit people whose health care would not be covered otherwise, but insurers would generally raise premiums to reflect the added costs...Recent studies indicate...that when payment rates change...hospitals shift only a small share of the savings or costs to private insurers (the same logic would apply for uncompensated care). Instead, lower

payment rates from public programs or large amounts of uncompensated care may lead hospitals to reduce their costs, possibly by providing care that is less intensive or of lower quality than would have been offered had payments per patient been larger...Proposals that required employers to provide health insurance could adversely affect the hiring of employees earning at or near the minimum wage, because the total compensation of those workers could exceed their value to the firm."

CBO letter to Representative Charles Rangel, dated July 17, 2009, analyzing the effects of the America's Affordable Health Choices Act of 2009 as introduced July 14, 2009: "According to CBO's and JCT's assessment, enacting H.R. 3200 would result in a net increase in the federal budget deficit of \$239 billion over the 2010-2019 period...That increase would be partially offset by net cost savings of \$50 billion and additional revenues of \$86 billion, resulting in a net increase in the deficit of an estimated \$65 billion...Collectively, those provisions would yield a significant increase in the number of Americans with health insurance. By 2019, CBO and the staff of JCT estimate, the number of nonelderly people without health insurance would be reduced by about 37 million, leaving about 17 million non-elderly residents uninsured."

The Congressional Budget Office was established in 1974 in order to offer "objective, nonpartisan, and timely analyses to aid in economic and budgetary decisions on the wide array of programs covered by the federal budget." It's currently comprised of over 200 people, including PhDs from the Brookings Institute, Harvard University, M.I.T., Northwestern University, Yale, Stanford, Columbia, the RAND Corporation, the American Enterprise Institute, Dartmouth, and the University of Minnesota (to name a few). Essentially, this collection of brainiacs was put together to answer just about any question the legislative branch cared to ask, and they do it all without name calling, pettiness, or salacious bickering. Perhaps there's more that we can learn from them than just economics.



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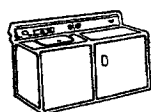
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Lakewood Entertainment

The Dixon Family Brings Its Bluesy Rock To The Lakewood Library

by Joan Rubenking

From rhythm and blues to that old time rock and roll, this eclectic “family” plays American music dating back to the turn of the twentieth century. If you are a music fan at all, make a plan to join us in the Main Library Auditorium on Sunday, October 11, at 2 p.m. as The Friends of the Lakewood Public Library present this refreshing group of talented musicians who will make you feel as if you’ve stepped back in time and space into a smoky 1950s roadhouse while comfortably seated in our auditorium. The Dixon Family demonstrates through its selections the ways in which some of today’s music has been influenced by earlier artists and genres, and they do it with energy to spare.

The Dixon Family has been playing as a group since 2006, and features members from such notable Cleveland bands as Lucky Pierre, the Wild Giraffes, hot tin roof, Fayrewether, Balls of Fire, Cats on Holiday, and Empire. The

new group was formed when founding member/drummer Dave Zima was taken by the name “Dixon” embroidered on a cousin’s bowling shirt; the nickname was quickly applied to the family and became the name of the current band. Besides Dave Zima, who works a day job at NASA Glenn, on drums, the other Dixon Family members are: Tom Jares, who works as teacher in Cleveland, on vocals and guitar; Steve Musichuk, a classically trained keyboardist who owns a photo/frame shop; and Joe Russo, a metallurgist, on vocals and bass guitar.

Dave Zima is grateful for the early musical influences that came from his family. “My older sisters were in their early teens when I was born, and from my crib I heard Elvis, Buddy Holly, and the Everly Brothers.” When he grew a little older, Dave was aware of his parents’ love of polkas and he “loved watching polka drummers at weddings.” After that, for the music loving Zima, it was the British Invasion, Motown, Funk, Glam Rock, Punk Rock, Rockabilly, and Swing Blues.



One of Cleveland’s finest bands The Dixon Family, laying down a burning set at Parma’s Rock and Rib.

sion, Motown, Funk, Glam Rock, Punk Rock, Rockabilly, and Swing Blues.

The Dixon Family has been pleasing crowds at such area venues as Fat Fish Blue, The Beachland Ballroom, the Brothers Lounge, the Savannah Bar and Grill, and Tommy’s Beachcliff. They opened for the Michael McDonald/Steely Dan show at the Blossom side stage in 2006 and were featured at the Great American Rib Cook-Off as well. Musically, the Dixon Family line-up is strong from top to bottom, but they realize their biggest asset is pouring their

hearts into every song. Their credo is: “to serve the song is to serve the audience.” The eclectic tastes of Zima and his bandmates result in a playlist that delivers everything from New Orleans funk to Chicago blues and rock and roll with a honky tonk soul. On Sunday, October 11, their stage show will enliven your spirits, because this Family knows the importance of being entertainers. This free event is generously funded by Cuyahoga residents through Cuyahoga Arts and Culture and the Friends of the Lakewood Public Library.

“Hedwig” Is A Hit

by Peter Hampton

A man in frilly cowboy boots, a pink dress and a cowboy hat walks up on stage and asks, “Are there any Hedwig virgins in the audience tonight?” I timidly raise my hand along with a half-dozen or so others and think, “So it’s gonna be one of those shows....”

Cleveland Public Theatre’s production of Hedwig and the Angry Inch at the Hi Fi Concert Club is anything but typical. Never having seen the show before (and knowing almost nothing about it), I’m unable to compare this production to others. But I am a fan of musical theatre, and my experience with Hedwig was unique. The story of Hedwig takes us through the life of a transgendered East Berliner, from his confused childhood during the ‘60s where he shares a small, cramped apartment with his mother, through

a sex change operation gone wrong, to her relationship with famous rock-and-roller Tommy Gnosis. Although the show starts out with witty, sarcastic dialogue, it eventually moves into a very dark, serious place, revealing Hedwig’s struggles in her relationships both with Tommy, and with her current husband, Yitzhak.

From the beginning I was hooked, both with the show itself, and with this particular production. Dan Folino, as Hedwig, is an incredible performer, both in his acting and as lead singer of the band The Angry Inch. But although Folino has almost all of the dialogue to himself and sings most of the songs, this can hardly be called a one man show. Alison Garrigan, as Yitzhak (and director, and costume designer), also does a wonderful job as Hedwig’s moody husband and back-up

singer. Between her strong acting and make up, I actually thought she was a man until she came out to bow at the end. And then there’s The Angry Inch (named after the remains of Hedwig’s messed up sex change operation), a very talented band (to say the least) made up of Dennis Yurich and Brian Hager on guitar, Jason Giaco on drums, and Derek Poindexter on bass. I found myself really enjoying music, and felt that the performers deserved the loud applause they got after each song.

This may not be the kind of show you’d take your eight-year-old to see, but it’s definitely worth checking out at least once. The show runs through October 3rd at the Hi Fi Concert Club in Lakewood, and tickets are \$20.



# Hedwig and the Angry Inch

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# Lakewood Real Estate

## 1st Time Home Buyers Should Buy Now For Great Opportunity

by Kathy Lewis

Most first-time home buyers are likely aware of the opportunity provided to them by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. It authorizes a tax credit for the purchase of a principal residence on or after January 1, 2009, and before December 1, 2009. The tax credit that may be claimed is equal to 10 percent of the property purchase price up to a maximum of \$8,000. A first-time home buyer is one who has not owned a principal residence for the three years prior to making a purchase. For married couples, both must be first-time buyers to qualify for the tax credit.

The typical real estate purchase transaction takes 45 to 60 days to close from contract acceptance to title transfer. The window of opportunity will close soon—now is the time to get serious about a purchase to reap the benefits of this tax credit.

Before coming to an agreement with a seller on a purchase contract, the buyer must first find the right house. That takes time as well. Because

real estate transactions can be complicated, the Ohio Division of Real Estate in its publication, “Home Buyer’s Guide,” suggests buyers may want to use the services of professionals such as licensed real estate agents, real estate appraisers, real estate attorneys, and qualified inspectors to advise on the details of a home purchase. With the help of professionals, proper choices are more likely made and transactions are more likely closed on time. Closing on time is critical for those buyers who qualify for the tax credit.

Refer to the federal government’s website [Federalhousingtaxcredit.com](http://Federalhousingtaxcredit.com) and talk to a tax professional for more details on qualifying for a chance to purchase a home in a market where supply is plentiful\*, pricing is favorable, interest rates are low, and tax benefits are considerable.

\*Through the Multiple Listing Service, Lakewood currently has available for sale 253 single-family houses, 110 multi-family houses, and 127 condominiums.

## Clifton Park Celebrates 140th Anniversary

by Valerie Mechenbier

In 1869, a group of men – including five real estate developers, two lake captains, a coal operator and a banker – signed articles of incorporation for the Clifton Park Association. The Association promoted the area as a respite from the grit and grime of Cleveland. Visitors came to the resort via the Rocky River Railroad to enjoy boating and bathing activities, as well as picnic areas and beer gardens. Within five years, the Association began transforming Clifton Park into a residential area by subdividing the land into 80 irregular-sized lots. Many homes along Clifton Park’s curved streets became summer residences for wealthy Clevelanders, complete with servants’ quarters. Happy 140th Anniversary, Clifton Park!

## Lakewood Real Estate Statistics (According to Multiple Listing Service)

By Andy Tabor - Realtor, GRI - Prudential Lucien

### July 1 – July 31, 2009 Real Estate Statistics

Single Family Sold YTD .....	181
Single Family Pending (Under Contract) .....	23
Single Family Contingent (Under Contract).....	10
Single Family Active .....	185
*****	
Condo Sold YTD .....	44
Condo Pending (Under Contract).....	4
Condo Contingent (Under Contract).....	2
Condo Active.....	105
*****	
Multi-Family (2-4 Units) Sold .....	62
Multi-Family Pending (Under Contract) .....	21
Multi-Family Contingent (Under Contract) .....	3
Multi-Family Active.....	96
*****	



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