

Free – Take One!
Please Patronize Our Advertisers!

An Evening With Michael Simon Thursday, Nov 19 Lakewood Public Library



THE LAKEWOOD OBSERVER

Proud Member Of The Observer Media Family Of Community Owned Newspapers & Websites

Volume 5, Issue 23, November 17, 2009

Community Honors Our Veterans



Mayor Edward Fitzgerald addresses the large crowd gathered at Lakewood Park to honor America's Veterans and thank them for their tremendous service.



These veteran's prepare for a 21 gun salute for all veterans who have paid the ultimate price for our freedoms. More great photos online <http://lakewoodobserver.com>

Board Of Ed Holds Work Session On Phase III

by Christine Gordillo

At a special session on Monday, Nov. 16, the Board of Education dug deep into the Phase III Steering Committee report in its effort to gather as much information and analysis as possible before it makes its decision regarding the possibility of closing of another elementary school. Phase III of the districtwide construction program will address the future of Grant, Lincoln and Roosevelt elementaries as well as the eastern half of Lakewood High. The Steering Committee last month recommended two

options to the Board:

Option A: Rebuild LHS East, renovate or rebuild Roosevelt and Grant elementaries, and decommission Lincoln Elementary

Option B: Rebuild LHS East, renovate or rebuild Roosevelt and Lincoln elementaries, and decommission Grant Elementary.

At the meeting's outset, Linda Beebe reminded the Board that it is, "Looking at the well-being of the community as a whole, not just the school district."

During the special session, the Board broke its work down into 10 categories of focus. Each Board member was responsible

to become the subject matter expert in his or her category. The breakdown of categories was as follows: Charge of the committee; Forum I results; six versus seven schools; transition considerations, building site considerations, Forum II results; Phase III Committee Forum evaluations; alternative perspectives and Forum II table comments; district configuration and other considerations; and finally, the next steps ahead.

In some areas, administrative and outside experts were brought in to advise the Board. Architect Rodwell King of GPD Group and lead architect on the Phase I & II projects, addressed building site considerations and focused mainly on the merits and weaknesses of the Grant and Lincoln sites, both of which have their share of each. King acknowledged that a rebuild of either Grant or Lincoln versus a renovation would allow the district to better utilize each

site to its advantage.

Dr. Paul Williams, an assistant professor in Cleveland State's Department of Education who among other subjects teaches about school buildings and grounds, addressed the district configuration if the district were to go to six elementary schools as well as the committee's process, which he called "extensive, thorough and excellent." No

matter what the Board's decision, Dr. Williams said it would be a solution that he refers to as "satisficing" meaning both satisfactory and one that requires sacrifice.

The Board intends to hold further discussions on Phase III and will also hold a session for public comment on a date to be determined. Look for updates on the district web site at www.lakewoodcityschools.org.

Illuminate a Memory With The Lakewood Division of Aging

by Anne Wilkins

"Illuminate a Memory" is an annual project sponsored by the Lakewood Foundation that allows participants to remember their loved ones in a unique and meaningful way. For a \$5.00 contribution, an ornamental dove with your loved one's name will be placed on a holiday tree at one of the Division of Aging's senior centers. The doves will hang on the trees through the month of December. A special letter of acknowledgement will also be mailed to your loved ones or their families, informing them of the contribution made in their name. These letters are sure to bring happiness, and recall holiday memories of your special times together.

Please join us for lunch and the tree lighting ceremony at either senior center on Friday, December 4, 2009. Lunch reservations should be made by November 30th, by calling 216-529-5000.

Order Your Holiday Wreath



by Mazzie Adams

Celebrate the holiday season with a beautiful, handcrafted wreath! Each twenty-four inch wreath is adorned with a red and silver bow and three glittering snowflakes. The wreaths will bring long-lasting pleasure throughout the holiday season. Sales support the educational mission of the Lakewood Historical Society.

Order your wreath by November 27 by calling 216-221-7343 or visiting www.lakewoodmuseumstore.com. Wreaths can also be purchased, while supplies last, at the Skate House in Lakewood Park on Wednesday, Dec 2 and Thursday, December 3.

Thanksgiving Food Drive Serves 300 Families

by Jeff Worron

Join the many Lakewood volunteers, donors and sponsors who will come together to gather and deliver two large bags of food to over 300 needy families and seniors in time for the Thanksgiving holiday. Your help is needed to sort food on Friday and help us deliver food

to those in need on Saturday.

The Lakewood Charitable Assistance Corporation (LCAC) will be holding their annual Thanksgiving Food Drive Friday and Saturday, November 20 and 21. Friday sorters will be accepting and sorting food from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and doing perishable bagging 6 to 7:30 p.m.

On Saturday perishable bagging and delivery to families will be from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Come witness one of the greatest community efforts at the Masonic Temple located at 15300 Detroit Avenue. For more information on LCAC you can visit their website at www.lcac.info.

Lakewood Calendar

This calendar presents various public Lakewood events and notices for the next two weeks (excluding Lakewood Public Library sponsored events found separately on the Lakewood Library page). Your Lakewood calendar item can appear on this calendar too, by submitting items to our website public calendar at www.lakewoodobserver.com Home Page.

Thursday, November 19

An Evening with Michael Symon Presented by the Lakewood Public Library Foundation and First Federal of Lakewood

6:30 PM Lakewood Public Library, 15425 Detroit Ave.
Join Cleveland’s own celebrity chef Michael Symon for an evening of conversation, cuisine and beverages. Tickets are \$100 (\$40 tax-deductible) and include a signed copy of Michael’s new book “Live to Cook: Recipes and Techniques to Rock Your Kitchen,” valet parking, food and beverages. Proceeds benefit the Lakewood Public Library Foundation.

Friday, November 20

Elizabenefit and Art Show

7:00 - 11:00 PM West Shore Unitarian Universalist Church
20401 Hilliard Boulevard, Rocky River, Ohio 44116
An evening of fine art by Cleveland area artists (for purchase and for auction) food, drinks, music and great times! All proceeds will benefit local artists, and particularly Lakewood local Elizabeth Klonowski Gadus, who is awaiting a double lung transplant. It will be an even you won’t want to miss! Make your holiday shopping experience go further by supporting local artists and donors. We look forward to seeing you there! Tickets are \$10.00 in advance (if paying by check/paypal) or \$12.00 cash at the door.

LCAC Thanksgiving Food Drive
November 20th and 21st at Masonic Temple. See front page for details.

Saturday, November 21

Fourth Annual Vendors Fair

10:00 AM - 3:00 PM Grace Presbyterian Church, 1659 Rosewood
One stop Christmas shopping from all your favorites: Silpada Jewelry, Mary Kay, Pampered Chef, Avon, Tupperware, Arbonne, Jewlbox, Premier Designs, and MORE! Chinese Auction & Bake Sale. FREE admission!
www.gracelakewood.org, 228-6060.

Sunday, November 22

WJCU Blizzard Bash Benefit Concert for the Hunger Network of Greater Cleveland

6:00 - 9:00 PM Brothers Lounge, 11607 Detroit Avenue, Cleveland
Join us at Brothers Lounge (11607 Detroit Ave, Cleveland) for free hors d’ouvres, drink specials, door prizes, raffles and great music on Sunday November 22nd! The 4th Annual Blizzard Bash Benefit Concert for the Hunger Network of Greater Cleveland will feature The Jack Fords and special guest The 609’ers. It’s a night of great local music benefiting a terrific organization that helps our community. Doors open at 6:00 pm, The 609’ers start at 6:30 pm. A \$5 donation is required at the door. All ages. www.brotherslounge.com or www.wjcu.org.

Tuesday, November 24

Interfaith Thanksgiving Worship: AIDS Taskforce of Greater Cleveland Pantry

7:00 PM Liberation UCC, 13714 Madison Ave.
An Interfaith worship service will be held at Liberation United Church of Christ and friends. At this service Liberation will collect non- perishable food items to help the AIDS Task Force Pantry continue its work. The Pantry provides two food bag orders a month to those in need. If you would like to help, bring any donations you wish to Liberation UCC. You can bring the bags any Sunday morning at 10:30 AM or join us for our Interfaith Thanksgiving service. You can also contact us any-time (216- 521- 5556) and we will make arrangements to pick up the bag.

Virginia Marti College Holiday Window Unveiling

7:30 PM Virginia Marti College of Art & Design, 11724 Detroit Ave.
Please join us for our Holiday Window Unveiling. Story time by our friends at the Lakewood Library. Refreshments will be served.

Wednesday, December 2

Lakewood Historical Society Christmas Wreath Pick-up

See front page for details.

Lakewood High 9th Grade Choir/Band Winter Concert

7:30 PM Civic Auditorium, 14100 Franklin Blvd.
Thursday, December 3
Junior Women’s Club of Lakewood Annual Elves Auction

7:30 PM Lakewood Congregational Church
This lovely event put on by some of the finest Ladies in Lakewood welcomes the public to attend. Silent and live auction of many local and creative holiday giving items. Elves Auction benefits: H2O, LakewoodAlive and Lakewood Charitable Assistance Corporation.

Friday, December 4

Gingerbread House Making

6:30 PM - 8:30 PM Lakewood United Methodist Church, 15700 Detroit Avenue
Come make a gingerbread house. \$10.00 per house.No charge for attending but not building. Tickets available at church office during the week or night of event if still available, Proceeds go to Lakewood Christian Service Center, Interfaith Hospital-ity Network, Habitat for Humanity and Community Meal.

Coles Dusenbury Choral Festival

7:00 PM Church of the Ascension (next to Garfield Middle School) 13216 Detroit.
The Church of the Ascension will be holding the 6th Annual Coles Dusenbury Choral Festival. The Horace Mann Elementary Choir from Lakewood, Louis Agas-siz Choir from Cleveland and the Show Choir, Mens’ Choir and Chamber Choir from Westlake will be performing a holiday concert. It is a free event. A freewill offering will be taken.

Saturday, December 5

Light Up Lakewood

6 - 8 PM Downtown Lakewood on Detroit Avenue from Marlowe to Arthur Ave. (Lakewood Hospital to Lakewood Library)
Light Up Lakewood will magically transform downtown Lakewood into an old-fashioned main street featuring local entertainers, refreshments, a visit from Santa, an official holiday lighting and plenty of good cheer.

Sip Into the Holidays

7:00 - 10:00 PM Local Girl Gallery, 16106 Detroit Avenue
An auction of hand painted wine & cocktail glasses designed by local artists. Live auction begins at 8:00 PM. Procees benedit the programs administered by the Lak-wood Commission on Aging. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased at Local Girl Gallery or at artwoodohio.org

Visit www.lakewoodobserver.com for many more events going on around town.

Holiday Thursday Evenings On Madison Ave.

by Mel Page
Starting Thursday, December 3, and continuing through the holiday season over seventy Madison Avenue merchants will be open extended shopping hours from 5 to 8 p.m. December weather may be dark and dreary but local storefronts will be lighting up the way to welcome you to explore all the uniqueness and specialties that can be found right here in your neighborhood.

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

West End Tavern presents:
“Sunday Brunch”
A 20-Year Lakewood Tradition
Eggs Benedict • Eggs Sardoux •
Stuffed French Toast • Pot Roast Hash
Omelets • Fritatas • and more!
featuring our famous
"Mega Mimosas"

**Your Independent Source for
Lakewood News & Opinion**

Published biweekly with a current circulation of 10,000 copies. The paper is made available free of charge and can be found at over 130 business locations within the City of Lakewood and on our web-site. The views and opinions expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the publisher and staff.. Copyright 2009 • The Lakewood Observer, Inc. All rights reserved. Any reproduction is forbidden without written permission.

The mission of the Lakewood Observer is to attract, articulate, and amplify civic intel-
ligence and community good will in the city of Lakewood and beyond.

Become an Observer!
As a product of citizen journalism, The Lakewood Observer is looking for people, ages 1-100, to get involved in the paper and the city. We are looking for volunteer writers, photographers, designers, and illustrators to help with the production of the paper. It does not matter if you are a professional or amateur, our editorial staff will be glad to help you through the process.

Register to our website Member Center where you can submit stories, press releases, letters to the editor, photos. No need to register to post online calendar or classified ads.

Upcoming Submission Deadline	Publish Date
Sunday, November 22	Tuesday, December 1
Sunday, December 6	Tuesday, December 15

www.lakewoodobserver.com --- 216.712.7070
14900 Detroit Avenue, Suite 205, Lakewood, OH 44107
The Lakewood Observer
is powered by:

PUBLISHER <i>Mel Page</i>	EDITOR IN CHIEF <i>Margaret Brinich</i>	ADVERTISING <i>Maggie Fraley</i> <i>LO.adsales@gmail.com</i>
------------------------------	--	--

ADVISORY BOARD - Kenneth Warren, Steve Davis, Heidi Hilty, D.L. Meckes, Dan Ott, Jeff Endress, Lauren Fine, Steve Ott
EDITORIAL BOARD - Thealexa Becker, Margaret Brinich, Kimberly Nee, Matthew Nee, Vincent O’Keefe, Heather Ramsey, Casey Ryan, Karen Schwartz, Daniel Slife, Beth Voicik
WEBMASTERS - D.L. Meckes, Jim DeVito, Dan Ott, Jim O’bryan
PHOTOGRAPHY - Christopher Bindel, Dennis Ehren, Cathy Leonard, and Robert Rice.
PRODUCTION - A Graphic Solution, Inc.
ILLUSTRATIONS - Rob Masek

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS - Mazie Adams, Christopher Bindel, Jill Connor, Kristine Dutton, Christine Gordillo, Kelley Hynds, Mary Johnson, Dana Korosi, Cathy Leonard, Ken Lipka, Sarah Luikart, Valerie Mechenbier, Lilly Murphy, Paul Nickels, Meg Ostrowski, Ziggy Rein, Gary Rice, Aimee Smith, Fran Storch, Ryan Sweeney, Chris Weaver, Martha Wood, and Jeff Worrton.

Lakewood Hospital

Lakewood Hospital Unveils New Orthopaedic Unit

by Aimee Smith

Lakewood Hospital, a Cleveland Clinic hospital, will open its new Orthopaedic Unit, which features private patient rooms, on Monday, November 16. The \$3.2 million renovation project is part of the hospital's multi-year strategic plan, Vision for Tomorrow. The Unit offers a modern, warm and healing atmosphere that will enhance the patient and family experience. Additionally, the Unit will become the blueprint for future renovations at the hospital. By offering state-of-the-art improvements and enhancements, Lakewood Hospital will continue its tradition of excellent inpatient and outpatient care well into the future.

"The groundwork for Lakewood Hospital's Vision for Tomorrow began more than two years ago," said Jack Gustin, president of Lakewood Hospital. "The ultimate goal of Vision for Tomorrow is to secure Lakewood Hospital's viability for the future. By renovating this 16-bed Unit and enhancing a solid, state-of-the-art Orthopaedic program, is one way we can meet the needs of our aging patient population."

Vision for Tomorrow was developed in response to the changing needs of the west side community. The committee was comprised of leadership from Lakewood, Fairview and Lutheran hospitals; Cleveland Clinic regional administration; commu-

nity physicians and members of the Lakewood Hospital Association Board of Trustees; and the Lakewood Hospital Foundation. The committee assessed current and future community needs and its stewardship duty to the city of Lakewood and surrounding cities.



Opening of the first remodeled floors at Lakewood Hospital, part of their Vision for Tomorrow program.

"With this plan, we are confident Lakewood Hospital will continue their strong partnership with the city of Lakewood and our neighboring cities and residents in western Cuyahoga and Lorain counties," said Fred DeGrandis, President and Chief Executive Officer of Cleveland Clinic Regional Hospitals.

Improvements and upgrades to the Orthopaedic Unit include private patient rooms which feature an ADA-Bathroom with shower; Nurse Call Monitor System;

Suction, O2 and Blood Pressure connections behind cabinet doors; computer for nurse/physician electronic medical charting; 32" Flat Screen TV; and Wireless Internet Access. The nurse's station includes an increased work area for physicians and staff; wheelchair acces-

sible desk for patients and families; and Linens and Nutrition Center for family members. Additionally, because Lakewood Hospital encourages patients' families and loved ones to participate in the healing process of the patient, they have included a lounge area for family members to use while their loved one undergoes tests. The lounge includes a 32" flat screen TV, coffee machine, refrigerator, seating for several groups of people, wireless computer access, and

a private bathroom.


Construction and improvements, as part of the Vision for Tomorrow strategic plan, will continue in phases over several years. Some of the projects slated for 2010 include constructing a 16-bed ACE (Acute Care for the Elderly) Unit featuring private rooms, renovating and expanding the Senior Behavioral Health Unit, continued improvements to the parking garage, finalizing the replacement of the heating and cooling systems, and replacing generators. A significant investment supports the Vision for Tomorrow plan and represents one of the largest investments in Lakewood Hospital's history. In addition, a \$5 million gift was provided by the Lakewood Hospital Foundation and a \$500,000 gift was given in support of this plan from the Lakewood Hospital Medical Staff. "Vision for Tomorrow sets our eyes on the future and enables us to meet the changing needs in healthcare. Our renovations and program enhancements will attract patients from all over northeast Ohio. The ultimate goal is to continue our century long tradition of providing the best care for the patient today and well into the future," states Gustin.

A ribbon cutting ceremony was held at Lakewood Hospital Wednesday, November 11, to celebrate the grand opening of this new Unit. In addition, a large orthopaedic community health talk and tour was held the same day.


Thinking, Speaking and Moving Are Important to

Stroke Treatment and Prevention

Your Life Is Our Life's Work



Cleveland Clinic Neurological Institute at Lakewood Hospital




James Gebel, M.D.
Specialty: Stroke and cerebrovascular disease

Dr. Gebel, a Stroke Specialist, Is Now at Lakewood Hospital

Lakewood Hospital is home to some of the most advanced treatments for neurological disorders. Now, with the addition of James Gebel, M.D., patients suffering from a stroke, brain aneurysms or hemorrhages or other cerebrovascular diseases, have greater access to the highest level of treatment and most sophisticated technologies.

To schedule an appointment with Dr. Gebel, please call 216.529.7110. To receive a free stroke information kit, visit lakewoodhospital.org/stroke

Lakewood Hospital
a Cleveland Clinic hospital

Nature's Bin Recognized For Outstanding Commitment To Food Safety

ural foods market located on Sloane Avenue in Lakewood. In addition to all of the healthy food choices available

SOS (Save Our Staff) Thrift Store

accessories, men and women's clothing, shoes, and home goods all ranging from 10 cents to \$10. If you would like to make arrangements for drop off you can call the church at 216.521.7424 or visit SOS Thrift Store at Cove United Methodist Church at 12501 Lake Ave in Lakewood during store hours every Tuesday and Saturday 1-4 p.m. and the second Saturday of every month open until 5 p.m.

Avoid The Slush And The Rush With Bidding... Bidding... Bought!

Auction proceeds support the Chamber's economic development and business outreach programs. Don't delay – bidding ends on December 8th! Start your holiday shopping early and buy local in the comfort of your own home with a click of the mouse!

BIDDING BOUGHT



ibuyneo.com

Buy to Support
Northeast Ohio
Powered by COSE

ONLINE HOLIDAY AUCTION

<http://www.lakewoodchamber.org>



LAKEWOOD
OBSERVER



Children's Christmas Books
\$100.00
Value: \$100.00
Time Left: 21d 10h 15m



Children's Christmas Books
\$100.00
Value: \$100.00
Time Left: 21d 10h 15m



Children's Christmas Books
\$100.00
Value: \$100.00
Time Left: 21d 10h 15m



Children's Christmas Books
\$100.00
Value: \$100.00
Time Left: 21d 10h 15m



Children's Christmas Books
\$100.00
Value: \$100.00
Time Left: 21d 10h 15m



Children's Christmas Books
\$100.00
Value: \$100.00
Time Left: 21d 10h 15m



Children's Christmas Books
\$100.00
Value: \$100.00
Time Left: 21d 10h 15m



Children's Christmas Books
\$100.00
Value: \$100.00
Time Left: 21d 10h 15m



Children's Christmas Books
\$100.00
Value: \$100.00
Time Left: 21d 10h 15m



Children's Christmas Books
\$100.00
Value: \$100.00
Time Left: 21d 10h 15m



Children's Christmas Books
\$100.00
Value: \$100.00
Time Left: 21d 10h 15m



Children's Christmas Books
\$100.00
Value: \$100.00
Time Left: 21d 10h 15m



Children's Christmas Books
\$100.00
Value: \$100.00
Time Left: 21d 10h 15m



Children's Christmas Books
\$100.00
Value: \$100.00
Time Left: 21d 10h 15m



Children's Christmas Books
\$100.00
Value: \$100.00
Time Left: 21d 10h 15m



Children's Christmas Books
\$100.00
Value: \$100.00
Time Left: 21d 10h 15m

MUCH MORE ONLINE!



erie design
Signs, Banners & Graphics



**LAKEWOOD
OBSERVER**

tea smoothies wifi



the heartbeat of the city

phoenix coffee

lakewood
216-226-4401

fairtrade friends and fun

1510B DETROIT

Every Sunday!



pajamas
BRUNCH

Roll out of bed and into 56 West!

all for
\$7.56
KIDS
\$4.56

Scrambled Eggs
Eggs Benedict
Eggs Florentine
Omelettes made to order with unique ingredients
Bacon & Sausage • Hash Browns
Gourmet Topped Pancakes
Fresh Fruit



fiftysixwest
BURGERS • SALADS

Now Serving Brunch On Sundays 9 AM - 2 PM • LUNCH & DINNER 7 DAYS A WEEK
16300 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood
216.226.0056 • www.fiftysixwest.com

Lakewood City

Mayor Takes Steps To Battle Housing Issues

By Christopher Bindel

Mary Louise Madigan, Vice President of Council, called the November 2, 2009 meeting of Council to order at 7:34 P.M. Her first order of business was to excuse Councilman Michael Dever (At-Large) from the meeting.

Madigan then delivered a communication from the Housing Committee, of which she chairs, to Council. Discussed in the last Housing Committee were two proposed ordinances. The first ordinance was to extend the Lakewood HOME program, which helps first time home buyers get part of their loan interest free to help purchase their house. This program would be extended for two years if passed. The second ordinance was to create an agreement with the Cuyahoga Housing Consortium to receive \$300,000 dollars of HOME funds to help construct new homes where rundown and dilapidated houses have been raised in Birdtown.

The Committee recommended passage of both ordinances to Council, which they did.

Councilman Kevin Butler (Ward I) then delivered a communication from the Rules and Ordinances Committee regarding two ordinances. First, he discussed the proposed changes to the ordinance outlining a resident's responsibilities to maintain the sidewalks. The Committee looked at changing the language to included tree lawns and aprons as part of the sidewalk, requiring property owners to maintain the structure of them as well as the sidewalk. The changes also allow the City to treat those who do not maintain that property the same way

they would if the owner did not maintain their own property.

The second item they looked at was an ordinance that would allow the City to hire a restricted amount of police officers, which have already passed the Civil Service process in another City, without having to put them through our own. This would give the Mayor the power to streamline hiring processes, saving the City time and money.

The Committee recommended the passage of both ordinances. After discussion and extensive affirmation of their agreements, both ordinances were passed.

Councilwoman Nickie Antonio (At-Large) delivered a communication from the Health and Human Services Committee regarding the amendments and renewal of a contract with Cuyahoga County's Department of Senior and Adult Services. The amended contract takes out personal care assistance, but increases the number of delivered meals and medical transportation for the elderly. As all the question of the Committees members were sufficiently answered at the meeting, they recommended adoption of the ordinance upon its third reading, which will occur at the next Council meeting.

Mayor Edward Fitzgerald asked Council to consider a number of new objectives to help Lakewood with its housing problems. Among these ideas were requirements for landlords to acquire an occupancy license yearly

for every unit they rent. In order to receive the license the landlord would have to provide their primary address and information on the structure and its mechanics and the property would also have to pass an inspection. The Mayor also asked Council to consider requiring owners of properties that remain vacant for more than three months to get a vacancy license. This license would be required for banks and mortgage companies as well as single owners. Although these licensing fees my add extra burden on landlords, the Mayor brought up the option of allowing some breaks to landlords that can prove that they have run background checks on their tenants. The Mayor submitted these ideas to Council asking them to refer them to the proper committee for consideration. The Council referred the Mayor's statement to the Housing Committee.

Mayor Fitzgerald then told the Council that First Federal of Lakewood had agreed to create a special loan program for Lakewood residents. The program allows home owners to receive Home Equity Loans or Home Equity Lines of Credit at a 0.50% discount of First Federal's current rate for up to \$250,000 dollars for home improvements. Any up front fees would also be waved. The program is only available for Lakewood residents and properties within Lakewood.

Continuing, Mayor Fitzgerald asked the Council to consider an agreement between the City and the District

Advisory Council of Cuyahoga County to provided public health services. Council accepted the communication and referred it to the Human Services Committee.

Fire Chief Lawrence Mroz asked Council to approve the acceptance of money from the county to pay for the overtime of Lakewood's Hazmat Coordinator who took part in the Office of Domestic Preparedness Ohio Task Force's Hazmat Regional Exercise, which took place on May 19, 2009. The Council approved the measure on its first reading.

Police Chief Timothy Malley then asked Council to approve an agreement that would allow the City's police to trade in their old, outdated guns, for new guns at no cost to the City. The trade would consist of 113 hand guns and 14 rifle accessories for 115 new guns. The value of the guns will be about \$40,000. This was made possible when a gun manufacturer came to the City asking them to trade in their guns for the manufacturer's guns. When offered, the City decided to ask their current supplier if they could match the deal and they did.

Council referred the matter to the Public Safety Committee to look into further.

After a few questions from the public, Vice-President Madigan adjourned the meeting at 8:53 P.M.

Halloween Window Painting Winners

by Val Mechenbier

The West End of Lakewood was transformed into a spooky art gallery this Halloween by over 100 Lakewood students in grades K-12 in the 5th Annual West End Halloween Window Walk. Over 80 Lakewood business store front windows were painted with images of witches, cobwebs, pumpkins, ghosts – even a fantastic depiction of a monsters vs. skeletons basketball game!

This year's winners, by category, were:

Grade K-2 - Sponsored by Breadsmith, Erie Design, Freeman Law Office, Steve Barry Buick, and White Cloud Pilates Studio:

Honorable Mention: Logan Ann Snyder of Hayes Elementary

Best of Show: Maya George of Horace Mann Elementary

Grade 3-5 - Sponsored by Kergaard Cleaners, West End Tavern, and The Designer Consignor:

Honorable Mention: Nava Ramazanali of Lincoln Elementary

Best of Show: Maya Sutcliff of Grant Elementary

Grade 6-8 - Sponsored by Norris Chiropractic, Ranger Electric, and Russell Chiropractic:

Honorable Mention: Jared Anderson of Harding Middle School



The Kompier-Voinovich family stand by and wait for past winner John Kompier to finish up his entry.

Best of Show: Katherine Renaudin of Harding Middle School

Grade 9-12 - Sponsored by McCarthy's Ale House:

Best in Show: Samantha Cross of Lakewood High School

Group Category - Sponsored by Dewey's Pizza

Honorable Mention: The Goblin Girls from Lincoln Elementary

Best in Show: St James CYO Basketball Team

Family Category - Sponsored by Donatos Pizza

Honorable Mention: The Posedel Family

Best in Show: The Volpe Family

Thanks to all of the participating business, students, and families for making this event a success. For more information please contact the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce at (216) 226-2900.

Ohio Norsemen Julefest December 5

by Catherine McCutcheon

The Ohio Norsemen will be holding their annual Christmas Party, Julefest. It will be held from 4:30 to 9 p.m. on Saturday, December 5th at the Community Room at Don Umerley Center 21016 Hilliard Blvd., Rocky River, Ohio. The Ohio Norsemen gather to share their Norwegian heritage and celebrate the culture of Norway. Scandinavian items will be for sale. There will be children's craft table, music, singing around the tree, visit from Julenisse (Santa), and buffet dinner. Tickets are \$18 for adults, \$8 for children age 4-12, 3 and younger are free. Contact information: 440-356-6533 or 440-821-8891. Reservations are needed by November 27. Checks can be sent to Ohio Norsemen Inc., P.O. Box 770225, Lakewood, Ohio 44107.

Also, Friday November 20, Dr. Wayne Munson will be presenting a lecture for International Education Week at Kent State University. Come to Moulton Hall Ballroom, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and learn how the open air life "friluftsliv: is the foundation of the Norwegian culture and lifestyle. For more information, visit www.ehhs.kent.edu/ciie/events/international.ed.week.efm.

Lakewood Public Library Events

All Events and Programs Are Free And Open To The Public

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 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
November 16 – 19: Puppet Palooza
November 23 – 24: Mosaic Cornucopia
November 30 – December 3: It's Puzzling
Monday – Thursday at 4:00 p.m. in the Children's and Youth Services Department at Main Library and Madison Branch

CREATION STATION: Students kindergarten to 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 & Youth Services Department at Main Library & Madison Branch
HOMEWORK ER: Students kindergarten through eighth grade
Need help with your homework or just want a cool place to work? Come to the Homework Room for help and resources. No need to register. Tuesday, September 8 – Thursday, May 27.

Monday – Thursday, 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m., in the Children's and Youth Services Department at Main Library and Madison Branch

YOUTH READING PROGRAMS

GETTING GRAPHIC: For youth in sixth through eighth grade

They say "a picture is worth a thousand words." Join us as we discover the truth behind that sentiment and explore graphic novels as an artistic and literary medium. To register, please stop in or call (216) 226-8275, ext. 140.

Tuesday, November 24: American Born Chinese by Gene Luen Yang
7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room

CHOOSE YOUR READING ADVENTURE: For youth in 6th through 8th grade

Thursdays @ 7:30pm - 8:30pm; What to read after a page-turning mystery? You be the judge of that. Venture inside a vampire's lair, set sail on an 18th century pirate ship, or ensnare yourself in the world of fairies. Each month, vote for which title to read from a different genre. To register, please stop in or call (216) 226-8275 ext. 140. **November 19 Adventure, Main Library Multipurpose Room**

ART EXPLOSION: For youth in fifth through eighth grade

Learn about different artists, then experiment with and create your own style to display at a special art show. To register, please stop in, call (216) 226-8275, ext. 140 or use the form provided on the last page of this booklet.

Tuesdays: November 17, December 1 from 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Art Show on Saturday, December 5, 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Main Library Multipurpose Room

HOGWARTS EXPRESS: For youth in fifth through eighth grade

Meet us on Platform 9¾ for a journey into the fantastical realm of Harry Potter. All registrants will be granted admission into the world's most prestigious School of Magic. Once the term begins, students will compete in Harry Potter-themed games and activities for the chance to win the house cup. How will you be sorted? To register, please stop in, call (216) 226-8275, ext. 140 or use the form provided on the last page of this booklet.

Wednesdays, October 7 – November 18, 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
in the Main Library Multipurpose Room

T4RF: TWEENS FOR READING FUN: Youth fourth or fifth grade

How better to relate to books than to read about characters who are similar to you? Book discussion, activities and team games guarantee lively and entertaining evenings! To register, please stop in or call (216) 226-8275, ext. 140.

Thursday, December 3: Chasing Vermeer by Blue Balliet
7:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room

FAMILY PROGRAMS

FAMILY WEEKEND WONDERS

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

Main Library: Friday: 10:30 a.m., 2:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m.
Saturday: 10:30 a.m., 2:00 p.m., 4:00p.m.; Sunday: 2:00 p.m.
Madison Branch: Friday 10:30 a.m., Saturday 11:30 a.m., Sunday 3:00 p.m.
November 21, 21, 22: What Should I Wear?
November 27, 28, 29: Family Reunion

FAMILY MUSIC & MORE: For the whole family

Spend a Saturday evening at the Library and enjoy programs featuring musicians and other talented performers. Performers are subject to change. Seating is limited. Doors open fifteen minutes prior to the performance.

Saturday, November 28: MOVIE NIGHT: Rescuers Down Under
7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room
Join us for the second film featuring the characters Bernard and Bianca and starring the vocal talents of Bob Newhart and Eva Gabor. This time the top members of the Rescue Aid Society travel to Australia to help a boy named Cody save a golden eagle from the clutches of the villain, McLeach, voiced by George C. Scott.

Saturday, November 21

FIVE STAR FILMS: The Big Sleep (1946) Directed by Howard Hawks, Not Rated

You know you're in good hands with a screenplay by William Faulkner based on the novel by Raymond Chandler. Step into a world of suspense and intrigue where danger lurks in every shadow. The immortal Humphrey Bogart portrays private detective Philip Marlowe and Lauren Bacall plays her part as a smart and classy rich girl as only she can. This film noir thriller set the standard.

6:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

Sunday, November 22

SUNDAY WITH THE FRIENDS: Brazilian Bossa Nova

Luca Mundaca's sultry voice and memorable bossa nova melodies will transport you to the secret heart of Brazil. The song Ha Dias from her debut album recently rocketed Luca to international recognition and helped her nab a 2008 Independent Music Award for World Fusion!

2:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

Thursday, November 26

Lakewood Public Library Will Be Closed For Thanksgiving

Tuesday, December 1

TRUE CRIME CLEVELAND: The Fourteenth Victim

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.

The Butcher of Kingsbury Run was just warming up when Eliot Ness came to town. Thirteen murders later, Ness sacrificed his career and the murders stopped. Did he get his man?

7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

Wednesday, December 2

MEET THE AUTHOR: Collinwood Fire by Edward Kern

The school tragedy that changed fire laws across the country is the subject of the book and this slide show presentation of rare photographs, narrated by the author. Books will be available for sale and signing at the event.

7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

Thursday, December 3

MID-CENTURY MODERN LAKEWOOD

While Lakewood is known primarily as a streetcar suburb, tucked among the turn-of-the-century structures are some excellent examples of mid-twentieth century design. Richard Sicha of the Lakewood Heritage Advisory Board looks at residential, commercial, and institutional buildings from the forties to the seventies.

7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

Saturday, December 5

HOLIDAY PUBLIC SALE

\$3 Bag of Bargain Books and 1/2 Price Sale

BOOK GROUPS

Tuesday, November 17

KNIT & LIT BOOK CLUB

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. Tonight's discussion is about *And the Ladies of the Club* by Helen Hooven Santmyer. **7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Meeting Room**

Thursday, November 19

BUSINESS BOOK TALK WITH TIM ZAUN AND FRIENDS

Keep up to date with the latest ideas and meet like-minded Lakewoodites with host Tim Zaun. Refreshments provided. Visit www.timzaun.com or go to www.lkwdpl.org/bookclubs to learn more.

What Would Google Do? by Jeff Jarvis
Media maven Jeff Jarvis deconstructs the Internet search giant's success from a distance so that we can apply Google's wisdom to our own companies, institutions and careers.

7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room

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. All classes take place in the Main Library Learning Lab on the 2nd floor.

NOVEMBER CLASSES:
Sat. 11/21 @ 3 p.m. – Web Searching Basics
Tues 11/24 @ 7 p.m. – Spreadsheet Basics
Sat. 11/28 @ 3 p.m. – E-Mail Basics

Lakewood Public Library

The Collinwood School Fire Of 1908

by Martha Wood

Edward Kern, author of *The Collinwood School Fire of 1908*, will narrate a slide presentation at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, December 2 in the Main Library Auditorium at Lakewood Public Library. Mr. Kern will have copies of his book available for sale and signing at the event.

The school tragedy that changed fire laws across the country took place on Ash Wednesday, March 8, 1908. The children who were attending Lake View Elementary School that day were primarily the offspring of European immigrants. The school, one of the largest buildings in Collinwood, was three stories high and built almost completely from Georgian pine. Shortly after 9 a.m., overheated steam pipes located in the basement ignited the wooden



joists under the front stairs and the resulting fire became the largest school fire ever, with 172 children

and 2 teachers losing their lives. Only 194 of the 366 students survived.

Mr. Kern lost four members of his family that fateful day. His father's brother and sister perished in the fire. But Kern finds comfort in the fact the fire resulted in a major national effort to improve fire safety and he says "Better laws, better doors, and schools are made out of better materials. After that fire was the upswing - they really looked at the subject of what schools are made of."

Kern and others have made an effort to locate where the victims were buried so that they can map it out. There is a monument in Lake View Cemetery that is dedicated to 19 children and one teacher who are buried in a mass grave. Mr. Kern believes that the fire has faded from memory because people wanted to forget about it. "One of the biggest things that I've noticed, from the people that did know about it, was that it wasn't talked about - it was such a tragedy at the time. People just hushed it up and the mothers would not talk about it and it was so devastating." "Families left town - they left money in the bank, they just disappeared, it was such a tragedy. Everybody in Collinwood lost a child."

Mr. Kern will show 70 slides on the fire followed by period for Q&A. Join him at 7 p.m. Wednesday, December 2 at Lakewood Public Library.

Spice up your Sunday!

by Chris Weaver

All the Bossa Nova fans at Lakewood Public Library are buzzing about the upcoming appearance of international star Luca Mundaca on Sunday, November 22 at 2p.m. Described by the L.A. Times as "blessed with a sweetly engaging sound and impressive musicality," the Independent Music Award-winning songstress will perform her Brazilian-jazz magic, including her critically acclaimed song "Ha Dias."

Bossa Nova's roots are in cool jazz and samba, where it gets its rhythm and attitude. In its purest form, these songs are performed exclusively on acoustic guitar with vocal accompaniment, though performances will often include piano, electronic organ, acoustic bass and drums as well. The music style sprang up on the beaches of Rio de Janeiro in the 1950s featuring songs about carefree, bohemian lifestyles and beautiful women.

Musicians Stan Getz, Ella Fitzgerald, Charlie Byrd and even Frank Sinatra embraced the style and performed it passionately, so you know you'll love it.

Luca Mandaca looks forward to introducing you to her work and the world of Bossa Nova. Join us on Sunday, November 22 at 2p.m. in the Main Branch Auditorium for this free program made possible by the Friends of Lakewood Public Library.



Time for a breath of fresh Air. Inside.

There's nothing better than a breath of fresh air. Unless it's a breath of fresh air in your perfectly climate-controlled home. A Lennox® Home Comfort System maintains constant humidity and temperature settings, and protects your family from indoor air hazards including pollen, pet dander and dust mites. Call us today to bring the freshness of outside air—in!



Receive up to a **\$1,000 Rebate***
with the purchase of any qualifying Lennox® Home Comfort System.

Up to an additional
\$1,500 in Federal Tax Credits**
may be available with the purchase and installation
of qualifying high-efficiency products.



(216) 221-0310
13729 Madison Avenue • Lakewood, OH 44107
slifehvac@sbcglobal.net



OH Lic #16431
Offer expires 11/30/2009.
*Rebate offer is valid only with the purchase of qualifying Lennox® products.
**See dealer for details and visit www.energystar.gov for more information on the credit guidelines and list of qualifying heating and cooling equipment.
© 2009 Lennox Industries Inc. See your participating Lennox dealer for details. Lennox dealers include independently owned and operated businesses.

Lakewood Observer

LCSC Community Garden Prep Day

by Ken Lipka

On Saturday November 7, community volunteers joined Lakewood Christian Service Center staff and friends to begin the preparation of six 20' x 20' garden plots at Madison Park. The City of Lakewood has given LCSC permission to use the property for its community garden project, which will be planted in early spring. The project developed out of a pilot that began in 2008. "LCSC was fortunate to have the full support of Lakewood and Earth and Food (LEAF) in providing two garden plots at Cove Park and two at Madison Park for our clients," said LCSC executive director Trish Rooney. "Nature's Bin provided us with half-priced plants to get our gardeners started. Their generosity offered a wonderful opportunity for individuals without garden access to grow their own fruits and vegetables. This great pilot was the impetus for us to take this next ambitious step."

Volunteers from St. Edward High School helped to spread 40 cubic yards of Sweet Peet on the six plots as well as the mulch to define paths and borders, making access to the garden spaces easier and neater. The Sweet Peet, a 100% organic mulch and soil amendment, was donated to the project by Urban Organics in Brunswick, Ohio, a company owned and operated by long-time Lakewood supporters Mark and

Michele Bishop.

"This project is a good fit with the Madison Park master plan," according to city of Lakewood Assistant Director of Planning and Development Dru Siley. "And it is a great example of collaboration between the city and a community organization like Lakewood Christian Service Center to help our residents and improve the park."

The planting plan for this large space is still being defined, with one thought to make this more a like a community "mini farm" rather than six individually-con-

trolled plots. The idea of not replicating produce in each individual plot has merit when one of the goals of the project is to provide a variety of produce to individuals and families who do not have access to fresh fruit and vegetables because of the prohibitive cost. Meetings will begin after the first of the year to formulate the overall garden design. Bedri Memaj will have oversight of the project once the plan is finalized. Memaj took part in this year's pilot project and had a very successful 10'x10' space at Cove Park. It is anticipated that the LCSC gardeners will

have the benefit of insight from members of LEAF and from OSU Extension as the plan rolls out. As with the 2009 project, LCSC clients will have the opportunity to sign up to take part and will be selected through a drawing. In 2009, the names of the four participants were drawn from over 50 families who signed up.

"The project is not just about the garden itself," said Rooney. "This will be a great opportunity for our clients to have fresh, healthy food not only for themselves and their families, but also to provide it to others in our community."

Still Need Community Bus Circulator

by Ziggy Rein

Lakewood Mayor Ed FitzGerald at the October 5th Lakewood City Council meeting said regarding efforts to revive the discontinued Lakewood Circulator Bus service that:

- The Greater Cleveland Regional Transit System (RTA) has decommissioned its Circulator equipment; however, the buses are not being decommissioned at once, so he is still waiting to acquire free Circulator buses from RTA.
- The Mayor is bothered by the fact that RTA is asking for an assessment by RTA for its proposed one-day Circulator-replacement service.
- He has not ruled out the City of


Lakewood doing something on its own (as far as having its own Circulator service).

- Although Lakewood has its own mechanics, there are hidden costs involved in running a Circulator bus route.
- For Lakewood to run its own Circulator system, start-up money is needed which would have to be made up later.
- There is a possibility for Lakewood to run its own system making a profit or at least breaking even.
- Approaching institutional users and beneficiaries of a Circulator route in Lakewood such as Lakewood Hospital, Giant Eagle and other Lakewood

businesses for funds is another possibility.

- A super-Circulator route covering Lakewood and West Park may be feasible, which could have a combined annual ridership of about one million.
- RTA's decision to eliminate the Circulators goes not only against the needs and desires of the people, but also against common sense.

Mayor FitzGerald emphasized that the City of Lakewood is not giving up and neither should each and every Lakewood resident. To get involved in the fight to revive Lakewood Circulator service call "Riders to Bring Back the Daily Lakewood Circulator," (216) 221-2724.



LUNCH & LEARN

John Remchick, RPh,
Clinical Coordinator
Lakewood Hospital Pharmacy
presents

"Supplements: What's Safe, What's Not"

Thursday, November 19, 2009 at 11:30 a.m.
Assisted Living Building
1381 Bunts Road, Lakewood
(Campus is on NE Corner of Bunts & Detroit.)
RSVP by November 17th to 216-226-4010
Complimentary lunch provided!



Lakewood Senior Health Campus is a 150-bed Skilled Nursing Facility, 54-suite Assisted Living, and 60-suite Independent Living Continuum of Care Retirement Community.



O'Neill Management
Locally owned and managed by the John O'Neill Family,
serving seniors in the West Shore area since 1962.
www.jtonm.net



Bay Village, Ohio
440-871-3474



North Ridgeville, Ohio
440-327-1295



Lakewood, Ohio
216-228-7650



North Olmsted, Ohio
440-734-9933

NEW CLASSES



BREAKDANCE & BOYS TAP

for Ages 5-Adult. Taught by b-boy Tony Fresh of Funky Monkey Entertainment. www.fmecrew.com

For Ages 7-teen

216-228-3871
www.silhouettedance.net


East End | Main Ballroom | 12501 Madison Ave
West End | Silhouette Dance "Too" | 15641 Madison Ave

Carabel Beauty Salon & Store

TREAT YOUR TEEN! (13-17 yrs old)
Only \$20
Your Choice: Mani/pedi with take home polish
-OR-
Hair style, hair cut & hair ornament

216.226.8616 Your Feminine Connection
15309 Madison Avenue • 216-226-8616





Rozi's Wine House


CELEBRATING OUR 70TH YEAR!
FOUR GENERATIONS STRONG!

Rozi's Calendar of Events

10/23 - Founder's Brewery Beer Tasting
Celebrating Cleveland Beer Week!

Let Rozi's be your first stop for Holiday Party planning, gift baskets, corporate gifts, beer and wine making supplies.
WE DELIVER!

For more info, please call or email us at wines@rozis.com
216-221-1119 • 14900 Detroit Avenue • www.rozis.com



Weekly Tastings Every Saturday!

Lakewood Schools

LCA Collecting Winter Clothing Items for Needy

by Christine Gordillo

Students and staff at Lakewood City Academy, the Lakewood City Schools’ alternative education school, are doing their part to help those struggling financially in the community to get through the coming winter months. The “Needs Room” opened its doors this week at LCA in the former Franklin Elementary School’s LRC (LCA is housed at the

Franklin site). The hope is that needy families will be able to come to the room and find clothing and other items that have been donated by the community. LCA is looking for donations of gently worn clothing, hats, gloves, coats, boots, shoes, backpacks or other items that might benefit students and their families. Donations can be dropped off at the LCA office, 13465

Franklin Blvd. during school hours. District staff at each school will arrange for students to come to the room before and after school, or students may visit with a parent or guardian. Any questions regarding the Needs Room can be directed to the following LCA staff: Renee Kolecki, Deb Hallberg, Pete Hokky or Terri Elwell at (216) 529-4037. This is not the first time LCA stu-

dents have rallied to help their greater community. “The students at LCA have made it their mission to give to those in need. Last year the students raised money for the lymphoma society and reached the goal set for them,” said Terri Elwell, LCA principal and district coordinator of alternative education. “The LCA students are dedicated to doing good deeds and they are happy to see others benefit from their hard work. I am extremely proud of my students. They are great kids with big hearts,” Elwell said.

Phase 3.1 - Here We Go Again

by Betsy Voinovich

Last night the School Board held a special work session to sift through the materials of the Phase 3 committee. The Phase 3 Committee, if you remember, was formed to determine which of three Lakewood elementary schools was to close, and which were to be rebuilt, to accommodate the State of Ohio’s plan to help pay to rebuild only two of our three remaining elementary schools.

The Board had divided the thick file submitted by the Phase 3 Committee into sections, each had a section to present. There were also two “experts” brought in to help make sense of the materials.

The most significant comments were made by the first expert, Rodwell King, the architect who evaluated each site in terms of feasibility for rebuilding.

He said he tried to be as objective as possible, following 13 criteria set by the Ohio Schools Facilities Commission. His major focus was on site size: Grant and Roosevelt were rated “good.” Lincoln was “fair,” but only if Lincoln was rebuilt at three stories, a change he felt was, “Not best for academic delivery.” His main concern was that Lincoln was undersized by the Ohio School Facilities Commission’s standards. The chart he posted on the wall read: “It is submitted that site acquisition may be required in order to provide adequate parking and play space of appropriate dimensions.” Meaning that for Lincoln to really work, they’d need to acquire houses. This might be tricky, because the rules being followed by the Board include, not using Eminent Domain and trying to be “fiscally responsible.” Another concern he had with Lincoln was its location on, “Busy Clifton Boulevard,” which was both a safety and a noise concern. Overall, his concern if Lincoln is rebuilt, is that the problems with Lincoln

now will continue for the next 50 years. Grant, according to Mr. King, is a good rebuilding site, with 67,000 square feet left after parking space and playground space. Roosevelt has 29,000. Lincoln has 22,000 if renovated, which Rodwell King thinks is unrealistic, because of the cost. If it’s rebuilt, there will only be 10,000 feet left. This then requires acquiring neighboring houses, in addition to renovating Lincoln into a three-storey building. Grant is on a residential street, away from noise and traffic, unlike Lincoln. One of the major issues of the evening was what the heck happened to the Phase 3 Committee? I’m on the Phase 3 Committee, and our task was to study the Lakewood School District and make a recommendation as to what Lakewood’s new six school configuration should be. After six months of study, our Committees (District Configuration, Building Sites, and Transition) made their recommendations. District Configuration concluded that the best site for a school was the one requiring the shortest walk for the greatest number of families. The largest number of families, according to the U.S. Census bureau, live in the center of Lakewood. More significantly, the most dense area of “family-friendly” housing is there too. According to the County Auditor’s office and the U.S. Census Bureau, this area has had a dense population for that last hundred years, and “trend-wise” is likely to continue to be densely populated well into the future. Thus, the committee concluded that the schools that should remain open were Grant and Roosevelt. The simple reason: to put schools where families live now, and where family-friendly housing will remain. Though we had a firm recommendation, our overseeing committee, decided not to report it to

the community. At the Community Forum in September, at which the Committee was supposed to report all of the Phase 3 findings, many of the Phase 3 findings were left out of the presentation. The housing density maps were not used. The student density maps were marginalized. When we were broken into small groups, and a Lakewood resident asked to see the maps again showing which children aged 5 through 11 would be forced to walk more than three quarters of a mile to school, the “leadership” refused to put the numbers up again. The “community” at the Community Forum’s conclusion was not based on most of the information the Phase 3 Committee collected, including student enrollment, housing density and architectural reports. In the end, the wisest, most motherly voices prevailed, and when it came time for Phase 3 to make its recommendations to the School Board, one of the leaders of Phase 3 spoke up and said that in good conscience, this committee, that had worked for nine months to figure this out, had no recommendation to make. School Board member Matt Markling pointed out, in his own words, “It could not be underestimated that the Phase 3 Committee, which was supposed to make a recommendation about which school was to close, had made no recommendation,” and the School Board would NOT be using the findings of the September Community Forum as deciding factors in their decisions. The Board had been asked to study all of the information themselves, and had been entrusted by the community to make the right decision, which he promised, was their intention. After Mr. Markling spoke, the second expert, a visiting professor at Cleveland State brought to speak to us by Superin-

tendent Madak, stood up to present the findings of the committee of which I was the co-chair, District Configuration. The professor said he’d been through all the Phase 3 materials, and had concluded that the community made the “right” choice, at the thoroughly discredited Community Forum. He had no explanation for this, even when questioned by Board Member Betsy Shaughnessy. Though he said he had studied Lakewood’s population, he did not know that Lakewood Catholic Academy is a magnet school for all of Lakewood, and that the students who go there don’t necessarily live in the immediate neighborhood of the school. He also did not know that the name of the city whose school district he was studying was “Lakewood” not “Lakeview,” a name he repeated six or seven times. Why this expert was brought in was not clear. Is it an admission that the members of the School Board, many of whom have spent years devoted to serving Lakewood, and who certainly know more about their own district than an out-of-town “expert” with a three page report in his hand, aren’t capable of figuring out this information on their own? The data the School Board has to deal with now is not subjective. It has to do with student enrollment, housing density, and trends that show where families live in Lakewood, and where they are likely to live in the future, along with Rodwell King’s building site evaluations. The County Auditor’s office and the U.S. Census Bureau are standing at attention, ready to serve, as is Mr. King. We are putting our fate into the hands of our elected officials on the School Board. With this decision, we will see what they are made of.

Ivan Gelfand: America’s Money Man™



America’s Money Man™ and author of “Your Money, Your Future”, Ivan Gelfand publishes an eNewsletter around the 15th of each month. The yearly subscription for Ivan’s eNewsletter is \$29.95.

Observer readers have an opportunity to receive the eNewsletter for F-R-E-E. That’s a \$29.95 eNewsletter for FREE! Go to: IvanGelfand.com/signup. Learn from America’s Money Man™

Brighten Your Smile, Build Your Confidence

Jeffrey W. Laubmeier, D.M.D.
General & Family Dentistry

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| ■ Gentle & Patient Dentist | ■ Great Customer Service |
| ■ Digital X-rays | ■ Good with Children & Fearful Patients |
| ■ New Patients Welcome | ■ Affordable Fees |
| ■ Emergencies Welcome | ■ Senior Discounts |
| ■ Most Insurance Accepted | |

14583 Madison Ave. (just east of Warren Rd)
216-226-3084
www.jwldentistry.com

Hours:
Mon-Thurs 8am-5pm
Friday 7am-Noon

Lakewood Arts

The Screw Factory Artists of the Lake Erie Screw Co. Building hosted an event, Saturday, November 7. Everyone enjoyed looking at and buying artwork, and chatting with artists. Photos by Dennis Ehren



Above: The warehouse walls provide artists with a large area to display their works.
Below: Striking portraits adorn the walls below.



Above: Phyllis Fannin and Guest More great photos online <http://lakewoodobserver.com>
Below: The Screw Factory Artists show off their art in an industrial setting.



Artistic Duo Display Work At Phoenix Café

by Ryan Sweeney

While Halloween may have ended almost three weeks ago, patrons of Lakewood’s Phoenix Café might have a different story to tell. Upon entering this humble establishment, even the regular customers find themselves looking over their shoulders to catch a glimpse of a werewolf ...or two. The walls are practically teeming with skeletons, robots and nightmarish creatures that almost defy description.

Local artists Liam Hoban, 23, and Evan Lang, 24, have taken one of Lakewood’s most popular hangouts hostage with their art for the month of November.

The debut for their combined exhibit took place on Sunday, November 1st at 8pm and was attended by a number of the pair’s friends as well as other art enthusiasts. People had the opportunity to not only appreciate a wide range of captivating visuals (all of which being available for purchase), but also had a chance to speak with the artists themselves. “People can just tell you’re a member of the art community. I like to talk to people about the concepts, talk about the biz, exchange tips and even tools of the trade,” said Evan on the opening night. “I enjoy occupy-

ing the walls of a coffee shop with my work; it shows I live in Lakewood and also gets my name out there.” Liam gave a similar account of the event stating, “Openings are fun because I can answer questions, and it really means a lot when people come out to see the show.”

This month’s exhibit marks the 2nd time these long time friends and collaborators have presented as a pair, their previous debut took place at Phoenix in August of last year, and it is the 3rd time Liam has held a show at this notorious cultural hot spot. “We wanted to have our show around the same time as last year’s; we applied back in March and ended up going in November, it’s a really popular place,” said Liam. “People there appreciate art for what it is, they’re open to new artists and it’s a good place for starting up. They’re accepting to everyone.”

As a team so familiar with working together, Evan and Liam both have nothing but feelings of optimism for this month’s show, which comes to a close Monday, November 30th at 8pm. “I’m glad we chose the Phoenix,” said Evan. “People are always there. Working with Liam, we both have a lot going on, but though our concepts differ we have a balancing spectrum of work

Photo by Christopher Bindel



Lang’s and Hoban’s unique artwork can be found for the month of November at Phoenix in downtown Lakewood.

that is both eye-catching and appeals to everyone.”

Prices range from \$5 to \$100 and include relief prints, digital prints, drawings, mixed media pieces and collages. “When making my art I want to create something for everyone. I don’t want people to feel intimidated, like they have to break the bank over it,” Liam said.

Both Liam and Evan share almost identical views on how art should be appreciated and affordable and they utilize unique styles to present the most pleasing and engrossing experience for their audience: Liam creates detailed woodcuts for some pieces

as well as colorful drawings he calls, “Loose and illustrative.” He draws inspiration from comics, cartoons and even his own life. Evan, on the other hand combines brush, splatter and spray painting (among other things) to create visually assaulting images. At times he admits to using firecrackers to get the best splatter effects, he aptly describes his work as, “An attempt at Noise Rock on paper.”

With the amount of experience and talent presented here, this November showing is sure to be a hit and, as a result, a future exhibit could very well be in the works for these two up and coming artists.

The Mayor's Ball

Why Do You Love The Beck Center For The Arts?

by Maggie Fraley

Despite the economy, hundreds of people attended the Mayor's Charity Ball at the Beck Center this past Saturday night to show their support for the Arts. There was delicious food provided by area restaurants, great art for the silent auction, live music to enjoy and who doesn't love a party? So as I strolled around with my camera & notebook in hand, I asked..."Why do YOU love the Beck Center?"

"Because of my students"- Melanie Szucs, Beck dance instructor since 1984, Associate director of Dance

"Because of the opportunities it offers children." -Karen Langenwalter, Accountant at the Beck Center

"The Beck Center is about children being exposed to the Arts and

being changed forever because of it." -Rosemary Corcoran, 25 year Board member

"The Beck is Lakewood...and I love Lakewood!" -Kyle Weigand, Prudential Lucien Realtor

"Art is crucial to a community." -Jim Crawford, Director of the Lakewood Public Library

"This is the magical place where my daughter is the happiest." -Missy Toms, Director of Marketing & External Affairs at the Beck Center

"I have a tradition of taking my family to the theater at Christmas time, and it's always a great family show!" -Holly M. Lauch, Assistant to the Mayor- City of Lakewood

"The Beck Center is Lakewood's premier Arts and Culture Center. It



Library Director James Crawford and Beck Marketing Director Missy Toms check in guests.

grew out of the community, and now has a regional reach as 1000's of kids come here to discover the Arts." -Mayor Edward FitzGerald

"I remember dropping off my daughter for classes and taking a leadership class here right in Lakewood- it's an asset to the community!" -Dottie Buckon, Director of the Department of Human Services, City of Lakewood

"It's convenient...and offers a cultural smorgasbord!" -Rick and Paula Reed

"We love that it's not moving to Westlake!" -Bill and Mary Lou Call

"We've lived in Lakewood for 37 years and our children have taken classes here and we've seen many plays." -Kevin and Linda McDonough

"I love the Beck Center, because it's

so good for the community!" -Lucinda B. Einhouse, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Beck Center

"It's so good, especially for kids... and we love theater!" -Tim and Patti Laskey

"It's a great anchor for the community and keeps the arts alive!" -Ross Keller, owner of Italian Creations

"Having talent has nothing to do with having money. The Board of the Lakewood Arts Festival have been pleased to give grants to the Beck Center to support kids who have talent and a passion for Art." -Karen Cooper, retired Chair of the Board of the Lakewood Arts Festival for 20 years

"It's the place where dreams can be realized!" -Annie Elder



Mayor FitzGerald poses with members of the Wright family,- owners of Buckeye Beer Engine- and their feline silent art auction purchase.



Lucinda B. Einhouse, President and CEO of the Beck Center with Patti and Tim Lasky.

Winter is on the way...

And no matter what brand of heating equipment you have, it will occasionally need service. We service all major brands including boilers. Look to us for all your heating needs.

216 221-0310

Not to be combined with any other offer
Up to \$1,500.00 Tax Credit on select furnace and AC systems

\$10.00 Off any furnace, boiler clean and check or service call. expires 3/31/2010	\$100.00 Off any new Lennox furnace installed expires 3/31/2010	\$125.00 Off any new boiler installed expires 3/31/2010
---	--	--

That's Slife!

www.slife-hvac.com

Serving Lakewood For 16 Years!

FFL GIFT CARDS

Simplify your holiday shopping with a gift that is never returned.

Our gift cards are welcome anywhere
Visa® debit cards are accepted.

Speak with one of our tellers to get yours today!

To get more details call 216-529-2700, your local branch or visit www.ffa.net/giftcards

FIRST FEDERAL LAKEWOOD MEMBER FDIC • LENDER

We've Been Here. We'll Be Here.

Out & About

Give A Gift That Keeps On Giving: The Arts

by Fran Storch

Beck Center for the Arts invites you to take a sneak peek of the exciting new classes we are offering next semester by checking out the winter/spring 2010 class catalog, now available online at www.beckcenter.org. Dance with a former Radio City Rockette; throw a pot on our new electric wheel; train to be a Tony Award winner. Enroll in one of more than 140 classes offered each week in dance, music, theater, and visual arts at the Beck Center, winner of the 2009 “Best of the West” award for both Music and Dance Education by West Shore Magazine. Classes fill up fast, so register today! Call 216.521.2540 x10 to sign up for classes.

Winter/spring classes begin the first week of February and make a great holiday gift for any member of the family. Can’t decide which class to take? We offer gift certificates for any amount for every name on your shopping list.

Beck Center is also proud to announce that Tony Award-winner and former Beck student, Alice Ripley is now an Honorary Director of the Beck Center Board of Directors. Ms. Ripley won the 2009 Tony Award for Best Performance for a Leading

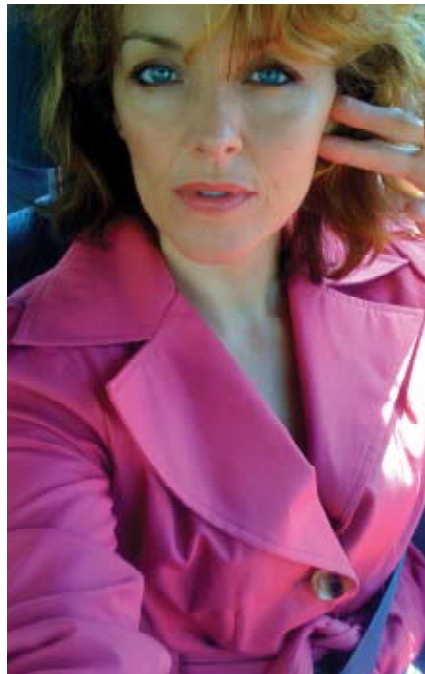


Free hands-on art activities at Beck’s Super Saturdays

Actress in a Musical for her role in the Broadway hit, *Next to Normal*. In a letter from our winter/spring catalog, she reminisces about “Saturday mornings learning theater techniques, making close friendships, and developing a strong love for the theater.” We encourage you to develop your creative self and artistic skills at the Beck Center. Take a class and enrich your life.

Also don’t forget to join us for Super Saturday on November 21, from 9 to 11 a.m. This free, hands-on art activity for young artists, ages 10 and under, and their families happens each month at Beck Center. This month we will make a Thanksgiving craft, compliments of Usborne Books, and parents can do some pre-holiday shopping with Direct Sellers of Lakewood. A portion of the proceeds from the sale benefits the Beck Center.

This series is generously sponsored by the Lakewood Arts Festival, to expose young artists to the arts and to stimulate their creative abilities. For more information, contact Ed Gallagher, Beck’s director of education, at egallagher@beckcenter.org, or call 216.521.2540 x10. The Beck Center is located at 17801 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood.



Former Beck Center theater student and Tony Award winner, Alice Ripley



Lakewood Catholic Academy students heading to St. Luke Church, accompanied by Lakewood’s finest!

Saints Strolling On Clifton!

by Paul Nickels

Accompanied by an escort from Lakewood’s finest, nearly 500 Lakewood Catholic Academy students strolled together from the school to St. Luke Parish on Clifton Boulevard on Friday, October 30 to celebrate an All Saints’ Day Mass together. Each student carried the image of a saint he or she had chosen to study in preparation for the event.

“The real heroes in our children’s lives are the saints,” said LCA Principal Maureen Arbezniak. “As part of a special curricular goal we have set for our school this year, we are intensifying our study of the

lives of the saints, who are true and timeless role models of virtue for our children.”

Fortunately, it was a warm morning for the stroll, the rain held off, and the students were able to enter the church to the strains of “When The Saints Come Marching In,” played in the vestibule by a band of fellow LCA students.

Lakewood Catholic Academy, now in its fifth year of operation, was formed through the merger of the parish schools of St. Clement, St. James, and St. Luke in 2005. Today it is home to nearly six hundred students in pre-school through the eighth grade.

Landfall

TRAVEL

AMERICAN EXPRESS

Travel Services Representative

BOOK YOUR WINTER VACATION TODAY!

\$50 off

restrictions apply

Vacations

14724 Detroit Ave. • Lakewood

216-521-7733

www.landfalltravel.com

travel@landfalltravel.com

Mon-Fri 9am-7pm • Weekends by Appt

Italian Creations

Restaurant, Catering, and Take-out

Making life simple... Catering from Italian Creations

216-226-2282

16104 Hilliard Road • Lakewood

www.ItalianCreation.com

Italian and Classical American Cuisine

The Beck Center for the Arts presents

Take Your Family on a Holiday Journey to Neverland!

A musical based on the play by James M. Barrie

Lyrics by Carolyn Leigh, Betty Comden and Adolph Green

Music by Mark Charlap and Jule Styne

Peter Pan

A high-flying holiday adventure!

December 4 - January 3

Don't delay - Call today!

216.521.2540 www.beckcenter.org

17801 DETROIT AVENUE IN LAKEWOOD

SoftRock

COX

Other Arts Council

Gifts & Culture

AMERICAN EXPRESS

PRODUCED THROUGH SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH SAMUEL FRENCH, INC.

LAKE HOUSE CAFE Deli & Grill

Beautiful View of the Lake

VERY REASONABLE PRICES

Weekend Dinner Specials

Friday & Saturday

• Prime Rib • Lake Erie Perch

• Filet Mignon • Crusted Tilapia

HOLIDAY PARTIES WELCOME

Catering Available. Private Parties. Call For Details!

Bring in this coupon for 10% OFF for Two People

DINE IN ONLY. EXPIRES 12/15/09.

11850 Edgewater Drive, Lakewood 216-228-5253

www.lakehousecafe.food.officelive.com

Out & About

Lakewood's Place For Sports And Duels!

by Mel Page

Madison Avenue is full of small and modest storefront businesses that are simply owned by fellow Lakewood residents doing something they love and offering it to the community. Even in cases of the most modest incomes, the independence and freedom of running their own business provides satisfying rewards. These rewards are passed on to the surrounding community in so many ways. One being the diversity and convenience of offered goods and services paired with expertise and customer service. A perfect example of this would be All-American Sports. Looking for a place where you can not only purchase sports items, but also challenge someone to a Duel? No, this is not the Old West! It's a small storefront on Madison Avenue. This family-friendly retail store features baseball, basketball, football, hockey, racing, and golf packs of sports cards. But that's not all.

Being tuned in to what the customers needs are (as a locally-owned business can do best), it is also a place where duelists can meet for casual and organized YUGIOH collectible card game play. The YUGIOH card game is based on the popular TV show of the



Young locals appreciate All-American Sports providing a unique recreational and accessible hobby. Here duelers are playing a YUGIOH tournament in the storefront.

same name. In this fast-paced, exciting card game, 2 players Duel each other using a variety of cards to defeat their opponent. The outcome of the Duel is determined by Official Rules.

Of course, it is entertaining and is a game. However, for young players it teaches gamesmanship, strategy-thinking, value of cards, proper care of cards, and even practices basic arithmetic when dueling. Tables are set up in the storefront where

duelers of all ages can be found almost daily gathered to duel, trade, and talk about their mutual interest in YUGIOH. The store also offers a section where duelers, mostly kids, try and sell their cards for a little extra spending money.

During the summer months, when school is out, the store is crowded with duelists. When school resumes in the fall - and after homework is done - duelists come in, anxious to try out a new deck or challenge someone to a duel. Official Tournaments are held on a local, regional, national, and world level with prizes awarded to top players.

Whether you're a beginner or an experienced player, anyone interested

in joining in on the fun and challenge in the world of YUGIOH should call or stop in the store. Weekly tournaments are held on Saturdays and late afternoons during the week. The store offers shoppers the opportunity to select from a wide variety of packs, decks, single cards, and supplies to protect the value of the cards and collectibles. All-American Sports features YUGIOH and Sports packs starting at only \$1.00 each and ready-to-play, custom-made YUGIOH theme decks.

Card collecting can be a rewarding hobby and pastime for any age. It can be particularly satisfying to know that kids in the neighborhood have this low-cost pastime available to them that allows them to connect with others in friendly sportsmanship card playing and trading. With the winter days approaching we will all be looking for things to do indoors. Consider exploring the world of cards.

Whether you're looking for a LeBron James, Peyton Manning, Tiger Woods or other superstar cards, Cavaliers, Browns, or Indians team sets, Rookie Cards, a complete set of TOPPS baseball cards, or a special sports gift for someone, All-American Sports is here as your local resource for it all. All-American Sports has been a locally and independently owned business since 1985. It is located at 13737 Madison Ave. and can be reached at 216-521-5222 or email all-american23@sbcglobal.net.



Rick Borelli, owner, standing with just a sampling of the cards in his store.

AROUND THE CORNER

EATERY
DRINKERY
FUNNERY

Now Booking
Holiday Parties!

NEW! WAREHOUSE
ROOM, OFF PATIO
Perfect For Parties!

Monday: 2 for 1 Black Angus Burgers
18616 Detroit Avenue
216.521.4413 • www.atccafe.com

The Best Hotdogs in Cleveland!

- Chicago Style Italian Beef
- Beef Hot Dog
- Specialty Dogs
- Turkey Dog
- Veggie Dog
- Beef Polish
- Polish Boy
- Italian Sausage
- Chicken Dings
- Fries (Cheese/Chili)
- Sweet Potato Fries
- Onion Rings

Open Mon-Sat 11-8

14877 Detroit Ave. (In Marc's Plaza)
Call Ahead! 216.221.9781

WATERBURY COACHOUSE

\$5.99 Daily Specials

Monday- Strip Steak
Tuesday - Pork Chop
Wednesday - Chicken Paprikash
Thursday - Spaghetti & Meatballs
Friday - Perch Sandwich
Saturday - 2 for 1 Steak \$14.95

20 Years of
Real Food & Real Deals

Delicious
Home Cooking

216-226-9772

13333 Madison Ave.

Dinners - Sandwiches - Salad - Wings
17615 Detroit Rd.
Dine In - Carry Out - Delivery (til 3:30am!)
Mon-Sat 4pm-3:30am
Sunday 2pm-1:30am
OPEN LATE!

no coupons
Low Prices
EVERYDAY

1 Year Anniversary

	Small 6 Cut - 9"	Medium 8 Cut - 12"	Large 12 Cut - 16"	Party Tray Half Sheet
PIZZA				
Plain	\$6.00	\$7.50	\$9.75	\$10.75
1 Item	\$6.50	\$8.25	\$10.75	\$12.25
2 Items	\$7.00	\$9.00	\$11.75	\$13.75
3 Items	\$7.50	\$9.75	\$12.75	\$15.25
4 Items	\$8.00	\$10.50	\$13.75	\$16.75
Deluxe	\$8.50	\$11.25	\$14.75	\$18.25
Extra Items	\$0.50	\$0.75	\$1.00	\$1.50
Extra Cheese	\$0.75	\$1.25	\$1.75	\$2.50

Pulse Of The City

Groovy And Grown-Up, The LHS Class Of '69

By Gary Rice

Some of you may know that I took the summer off from writing my regular column here. Let's face it, column writing takes time, and sometimes more than a little research; not to mention the endless proof-reading and MORE proof-reading that one goes through in order to bring you something that hopefully makes a little sense.

Given the choice of basking in the sunshine out at my lakeside vacation home or writing columns for you, something had to go. Sorry about that!

By the way, they did announce the availability of wireless internet at that vacation spot. Guess who did not use it. As the Good Book says, there's a time for every purpose under Heaven, so when the internet got in the way of snoozin' and banjo pickin', my retiree's privilege kicked in.

I hope that you also were able to enjoy some of that all-too-chilly summer weather, along with spending some time with your families. That is so important in our all-too-serious world these days.

This summer, it was time for the Lakewood High School Class of '69's reunion. I'd already written a column about Lakewood in 1969 a few months ago in the Lakewood Observer, in part because I thought that classmates might enjoy reading



Reunion band members (L to R) Gary Rice, Declan Simon, Linc Chamot, and Mark (Shane) Phillips

a remembrance about those times. I passed those columns out at the reunion, and many out-of-towners really appreciated hearing about the Observer project.

Only thing was, before I went there (like with our previous reunions) I had to talk myself into going.

Like many of you, I suppose, my high school years held a mix of memories: at once good and yet at times horrible. Previous reunions had revealed to me the all-pervasive truth that many people change so little in their fundamental attitudes and behaviors. Reunions can indeed be painful triggers for some less-than-memorable occasions. I'd attended my 20th reunion, and on that occasion several of the same lunch tables bunched back together, the same cliques cliqued back up, and the same lame banter came from the same lame banterers.

Therefore, I decided to miss the 30th reunion, or the 35th, or whatever it was. As far as I was concerned, it was time to grow up and move on...or that is, at least move AWAY from the "good old days."

I suppose that back in high school there were two things going on with me. The first was having to deal with speech, hearing, and a few other issues that served as social alienators among the in-crowd. Teasings and put-downs can be brutal in high school, and as one who refused to be victimized by any of

that nonsense, I became a bit of a rebel. The other issue was that I'd gone into music in a BIG way. I'd played bass drum in the marching band, plus I was in the band SKIE, a local rock act. When one's in a band and on a stage, the ability to socialize with others is a bit limited, due to the fact that it's you providing the entertainment rather than being the one entertained. In 1970, my band SKIE battled another band HAZE here in Lakewood Park, shortly before both bands broke up on the shoals of life.

Anyway, here it was...the 40th reunion coming up. Should I go? Well, the heck with it all, yes I would.

Furthermore, I thought I'd see whether I could roust up some survivors from the SKIE and HAZE bands to see whether we wanted to re-live the rock days...Hey, it would be easier to play my guitar than have to deal with the social aspects of a reunion....or so I thought.

Anyway, the reunion people thought it was a great idea, and I was able to round up former SKIE musicians Linc Chamot (bass), Mark (Shane) Phillips (guitar and lead vocals), and myself (guitar). Rounding out the crew was the great Declan Simon (drums) of HAZE fame.

I guess you could have called us HAZY SKIES.

Could we do it again? After a two hour rehearsal (heck, after two MINUTES), we had it nailed. These guys were good musicians then, and are just as good these days.

On July 31st, at Mickey Krivosh's fantastic new Warehouse room at Around The Corner, we kicked it off. I opened the set with a hard-rock version of the Lakewood High Alma Mater, resplendent in a marching band hat and my vintage school jacket. (I'd also supplied the guys with tie-die T-shirts, while good friends and fellow musicians Gary and Linda Cavano supplied us with a real purple-blobbing lava lamp!)

The following day, the LHS Class of '69 gathered down over the hill (no pun intended) at the Cleveland Yacht Club for a dinner. That was the social part that I'd been dreading.

Only guess what? The cliques were gone, the smiles were genuine, and the handshakes?

Heartwarming. We'd all finally grown up.

Sugar Is Everything Nice!

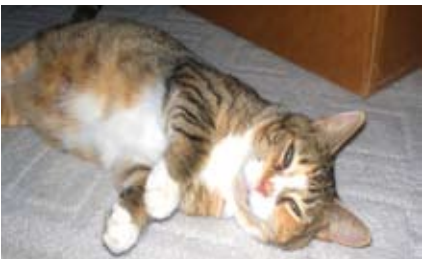
by Jill Connor

PAWS was called when a kind woman found a sweet mother cat and her four young kittens. The mother cat, Sugar, has nursed her kittens to be big and strong and now it is time to find her forever home. Sugar is everything her name suggests...sweet as can be!

She loves belly rubs or any other attention that can be lavished on this beautiful brown/orange tabby girl. Sugar is up to date with routine vac-

cines, spayed, tested negative for feLuk/FIV and litter box trained. Can't your home use a little sugar?

If intersted, please contact PAWS at 440-442-PAWS or www.pawsohio.org.



Receive a
\$100 Gift Card
when you add
VoiceManager!*
Call: 216.535.0580
Click: www.checkoutcb.com

The new voice service you can manage with nine fingers tied behind your back.

**INTRODUCING,
PHONE TECHNOLOGY BUILT TO
MAKE YOUR JOB MANAGING IT EASIER**

You're already expected to do superhuman tasks. Now you can have a voice communications system that makes it easy and does the work for you. There's no equipment to maintain and you can manage all the advanced features with just a few clicks.

COX
Business

Lakewood Observer

Give a Bark to Save the Park

by Sarah Luikart

The never-ending battle over the Lakewood Dog Park has once again reared its ugly head. For those of you who thought the lawsuit had gone away, it hasn't. For those of you who do not know about the fight, allow me to bring you up to date.

The Lakewood Dog Park opened its gates in June 2003 as a fenced area where dogs could exercise and socialize with one another. Visitors traveled from all over Cuyahoga, Summit, Lake and Lorain Counties to allow Fido a chance to romp with friends.

Soon after, two households in Rocky River began complaining about the "noise and odor" emanating from the park. In 2007, the two couples convinced the City of Rocky River to file a lawsuit against the City of Lakewood in hopes of closing the park. The action has left most people wondering why Rocky River opted to side with these two households, versus the thousands of others who either want to see the park remain open, or who have no opinion on the matter. The case was ultimately dismissed, and the dismissal was later appealed. Now, we are back at the beginning, with an active lawsuit that is

currently in the discovery process. The trial is set to begin on January 19, 2010.

To date, Rocky River has spent tens of thousands of taxpayer dollars on this suit, per an itemization of costs provided by the city's law director. With the court case in preliminary stages, this number will continue to increase over the next few months. In today's economy, is it prudent for a city to spend limited taxpayer funds on the closing of a park that many of those taxpayers use, but don't pay for? How has the Rocky River administration allowed its priorities to weigh so heavily in favor of a handful of residents, while it virtually ignores the interests of many others? Perhaps Rocky River should instead consider using this money to open its own dog park to serve its residents and neighbors.

If you have not visited the dog park, you may not realize that the park is adjacent to the wastewater treatment plant. As you can imagine, on hot, summer days, the odor from the plant can be noticeable and unpleasant. Predictably, the Rocky River plaintiffs have armed their case with accusations that the smells are actually coming from the park. Now, it does not take a brain sur-

geon, or even a team of local attorneys, to determine that the odor is caused by the plant, not the dog park.

Regarding the barking that has remained at the forefront of arguments, how is it possible to determine where the alleged barking is coming from? The complainants' homes sit at the edge of the Rocky River Reservation and the walking trail where dogs and their owners hike year round. Could the barking be coming from these dogs? These two homes are also within equal distance of the Lakewood Animal Shelter. Is the shelter the next facility on the Rocky River hit list?

In the shadows of the turmoil and chaos of fighting cities lies a park full of bouncing dogs and puppies. As one of the west side's most utilized parks, dozens of volunteers dedicate their time to maintain and enforce the rules of the park. Citizens from all over the area continue to bring their best friends for a romp with other dogs. There are currently twenty-two cities represented in the park's member list, though many non-members use the park, as well. Nearly twenty percent of the overall members are Rocky River residents.

The park does not only cater to

dogs, but to humans, as well. It is quite common to see small buses parked along the edge of the fence, allowing the elderly and physically challenged riders a front-row seat for the action. These visitors acknowledge the therapeutic benefit of watching and visiting dogs. The most recent tour bus to visit the park was full of residents from a Rocky River nursing home.

With so many problems in the world, why would anyone want to close one of the few places that makes people (and dogs) happy? If there wasn't such a need for a dog park in the area, there would not be so many visitors there everyday. Chances are, either you or someone you know uses the Lakewood Dog Park. Why not speak for those who have no voice, and help save the park. A short email or phone call to Rocky River's mayor, Pamela Bobst, is a quick way for you to do your part in saving the park. Please place a call to the mayor at 440-331-0600, or send her an email at mayor@rrcity.com. For additional information regarding the lawsuit, or for a way to contact Rocky River's council members, please visit the park's website at www.LakewoodDogPark.org.

Three Students Win Scholarship From Virginia Marti Foundation

by Kelley Hynds

Three first-year students at Virginia Marti College of Art and Design have been awarded the first annual Virginia Marti Foundation scholarships.

Katarzyna Kuczynski, a Fashion Merchandising student from North Ridgeville; Marcia LeGoullon, a Fashion Design student originally from Canfield now living in Lakewood; and Sara Scarcella, a Fashion Design student from Uniontown, all wrote letters explaining how the scholarship would help them.

Katarzyna was inspired by her younger brother who, at the age of 3, was diagnosed with cancer. Katarzyna says her brother fought hard for his life and fought to live out his dreams. And she says he inspired her to do the same. "Winning this scholarship means I can better myself, I can go further in life, and I can learn more about what my passions are," she says. "My brother

pulled through his illness when no one said he would. So that inspired me to fight harder, too. And winning this scholarship has given me the chance to go after my education ... and conquer the world!"

The scholarship has given Marcia the chance to chase her dreams, too. She says she was drawn to Virginia Marti College because of its welcoming, family atmosphere and because she thought it nurtured great artists. "The school is very hands-on," she says. "VMCAD has a well-rounded art program, and I know I will learn to excel and improve my design skills and abilities." She says without the scholarship, she may not be able to afford her education. "I am so thankful for this chance," she says. "Winning this scholarship means I now have the opportunity to work hard and to follow my dreams."

Sara says the scholarship has not

only helped her, but has helped her family as well. Her parents have supported Sara and her three brothers (plus an international student from Japan who is staying with the family!). But her dad is currently looking for full-time work in the financial industry while her mom works as a nurse at an assisted living facility. Sara says the scholarship will help ease some of the burden on her entire family.

She chose VMCAD for the small class sizes and the quality of the Merchandising program. "I feel VMCAD is very goal-oriented and not only will they teach me how to be a fashion designer but also a knowledgeable business and trade person." And she says the school really focuses on helping its students turn their artistic talents into a career. "Getting this scholarship will allow me to focus on my schooling and help me to realize my dreams."

This is the second year for the Virginia Marti Foundation and its first set of scholarship winners. Applicants had to be enrolled as a full-time student at Virginia Marti College, had to present 3 letters of recommendation and had to demonstrate a financial need. Winners also had to maintain a minimum of 2.8 GPA to be eligible for the \$500 prize. The foundation presented each winner with her award Friday, November 13th

at the Embassy Suites where the Foundation is holding its annual fundraiser "The Art of Design in '09." The event featured a Fashion Show, dinner, dancing and a silent auction. The proceeds will go to providing scholarships for next year's applicants.

Virginia Marti College of Art and Design is an accredited art college helping creative professionals succeed in their careers since 1966 and offers degrees in Digital Media, Fashion Design, Fashion Merchandising, Graphic Design and Interior Design.

CORRECTION!

In LO Volume 5, Issue 22 the article entitled "Election 2009 Comes To A Close With Familiar Faces" reported, "Smith will be join Nickie Antonio and Brian Powers, both of whom retain their current seats on council, with Powers coming in as the top vote getter of the six candidates."

The vote totals in fact place Antonio above Powers by 25 votes with 5616 and 5591 votes, respectively. The sentence should read, "Smith will be join Nickie Antonio and Brian Powers, both of whom retain their current seats on council, with Antonio coming in as the top vote getter of the six candidates."



NOW YOU CAN
Rent A Husband
HANDY SERVICE



- Painting
- Gutter Cleaning (most homes \$70-\$75)
- Drywall, Plastering & Repair
- Minor Electrical/Plumbing
- Carpentry/Lattice Work
- Chimney Caps/ Roof Repair
- Home Pressure Washing
- Tree Service/Pigeon Problems

- Driveway Sealing
- Deck Cleaning
- Broken Windows/Sash Cords
- Vinyl Replacement Windows
- Porch Repair / Steps / Hand Rails
- Bathroom / Kitchen Remodeling
- Tub Surrounds
- Vinyl Siding

And all those jobs and repairs that you never had the time or talent to do yourself!

(Building code violation correctons)

Call: **Rich Toth at 440-777-8353**

Bob's Appliance Service

Repairs On Most Major Brand Appliances



- Stoves
- Refrigerators
- Serving Lakewood and the Westside Suburbs Since 1980
- Quality Rebuilt Washers and Dryers
- Delivery Available

- Dishwashers
- Washers/Dryers

Speed Queen
Commercial Grade Washers and Dryers – American Made! Independent Dealer

216/521-9353
Leave Message on Machine

2003/05/06/07/08 Angie's List Super Service Award!

Greening The City

Trees of Lakewood

by Ziggy Rein

It's likely that trees, in various ways, contribute more to the welfare and happiness of mankind than any other living plants. They shade us, protect us, purify our water supply, furnish the homes that are built from them, furnish paper, provide us with their fruits, and serve us in thousands of ways. Trees deserve to be recognized and appreciated.

The part that trees have played in history is significant. The historical importance of trees can be recognized by the fact that they are mentioned in the Bible 358 times. Cedars alone are mentioned 75 times. Trees have also played a considerable part in the struggle for liberty and the founding of the United States.

In an attempt to restrict the liberties of the Colony, Sir Edmund Andros, governor of all New England tried to steal the Connecticut Charter in 1687. When the charter was brought to him, the lights were suddenly blown out, and when relit the charter was gone. It had been taken away and hidden in the hollow of an oak. This tree stood for nearly a hundred and seventy years after, and was always respected as the "Charter Oak."

On August 14, 1765, a group of men calling themselves the Sons of Liberty gathered in Boston under a large elm tree to protest the hated Stamp Act. The Sons of Liberty concluded their protest by lynching two tax collectors in effigy from the tree. From that day forward, the tree became known as the "Liberty Tree." It continued to be a rallying point for the growing resistance to the rule of England over the American colonies.

Ohio boasts of several historic trees and groves such as the Logan Elm, the McGuffy Elms, the Fort Ball Sycamore, the Centennial Oak, the Cary Oak, Leas Oak, the President's Grove and the Author's Grove. The most famous by far was the Logan Elm.

Logan Elm State Memorial is said to be the site where, in 1774, Chief Logan of the Mingo tribe delivered his eloquent speech on Indian-white relations. The speech was supposedly delivered under a large elm tree. Considered to be one of the largest elms in the U. S., the tree stood 65 feet tall, with a trunk circumference of 24 feet and a foliage spread of 180 feet. It died in 1964 from damage by blight and storms.

Before the arrival of the early settlers and the cultivation of the land, the area upon which Lakewood is built, was a "great forest fringing Lake Erie." That "great forest" has now been replaced by tree-lined streets, tree-covered parks

and tree-shaded homes. While Lakewood's varied & innumerable trees line nearly every street throughout the city, they form the most imposing colonnades along Clifton Boulevard and Lake Avenue.

Six Lakewood trees were identified by the Early Settlers Association of

at 1611 Ridgewood, 2052 Belle, 1541 Arthur Avenues and 14318 Lakewood Heights Boulevard. A pin oak, estimated to be at least 175 years old, stands in front of the Marathon station at 13900 Lake Avenue.

Besides grand old trees, there are also unusual ones like the two pines that form an archway over the walk to the front porch of

of new trees and \$382,000 for other forestry expenditures.)

4. An Arbor Day Observance and Proclamation. (Arbor Day is observed on the last Friday in April.)

The Tree City USA® program, sponsored by the National Arbor Day foundation in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service and the National Association of State Foresters, provides direction, technical assistance, public awareness, and national recognition for urban and community forestry programs.

Take a walk or ride a bicycle and enjoy the beauty and glorious fall colors of the great number

of diverse trees found in Lakewood such as pines, larches, spruces, cedars, willows, aspens, birches, walnut trees, hickories,

hornbeams, alders, chestnuts, beeches, oaks, elms, mulberry and tulip trees, sycamores, hawthorns, locusts, buckeyes, maples, basswoods, flowering dogwoods, ashes, catalpas and

many others and various fruit trees as well.

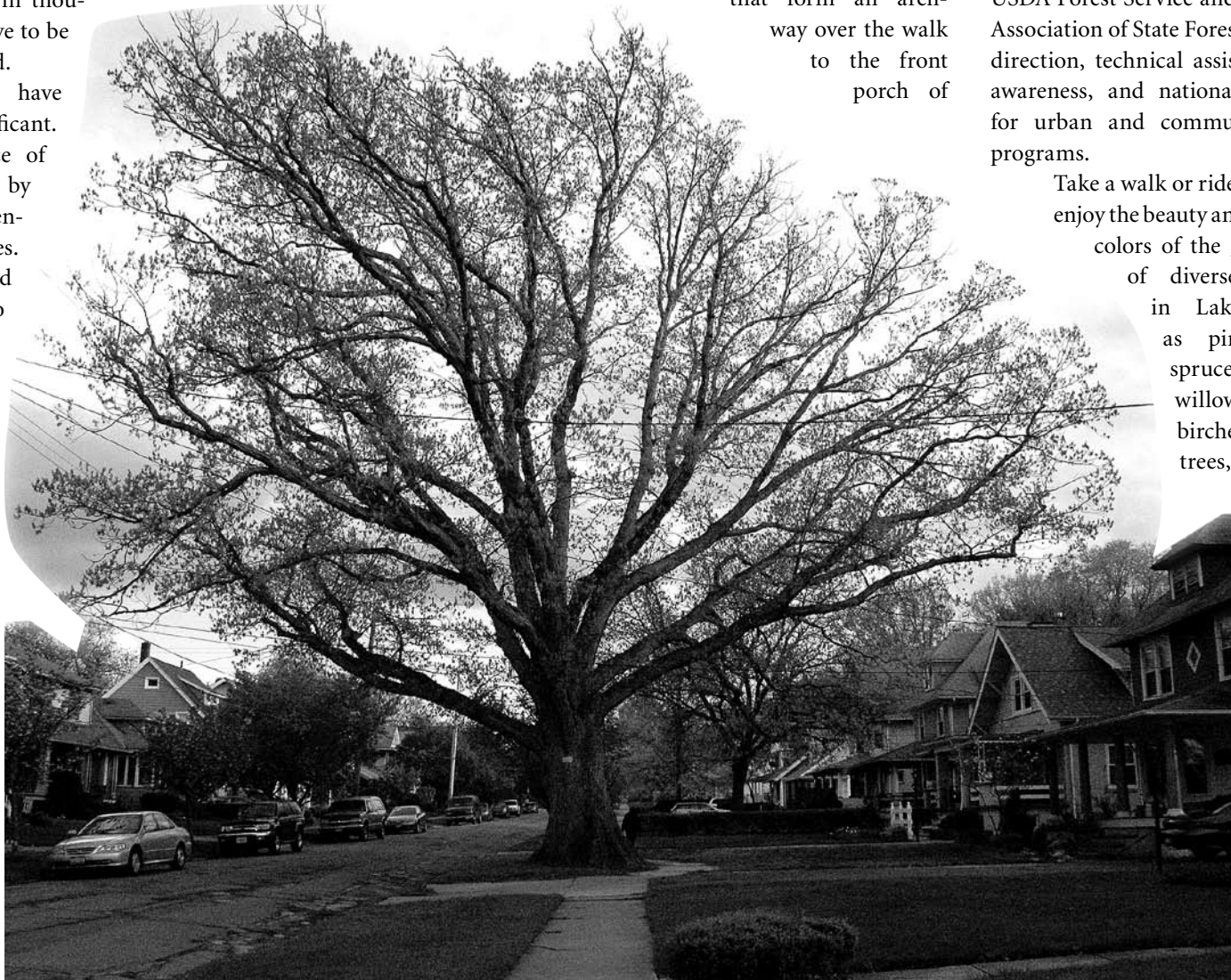
The many mighty, majestic oaks, though, are the most magnificent and most common among all of Lakewood's trees.

What would our world and, of course, our city be like without trees?

Without trees this would be a dreary and uncomfortable world. Trees are among nature's best gifts, but they are so common that we do not half appreciate their shade and beauty. We partake of their food and wood as a matter of course. Often it is with trees as with friends; we do not appreciate their real value until we have lost them.

Without trees man would be without many indispensable things of life. Without trees the birds, squirrels, and many other wild animals would be homeless. Without trees many of the choicest wild flowers and ferns would be without a sheltering canopy. Without trees the whole balance of nature would be destroyed and human life imperiled.

Man cannot get along without trees. If we want to continue as a happy people and a prosperous nation we must see to it that we have plenty of healthy and thriving trees. This is our civic and social duty. "A country without trees is like people without children." — Theodore Roosevelt.



the Western Reserve in 1946 as some of the oldest trees in Cuyahoga County, and have been designated as "Moses Cleaveland Trees." Regrettably of the six only three are still thriving. One of them, a white oak, on the tree lawn of 1270 Summit Avenue, still has a metal plaque attached to its trunk by the Cleveland Sesquicentennial Commission proclaiming that "It was standing as part of the original forest when Moses Cleaveland landed at the mouth of the Cuyahoga River. July 22, 1796." The plaque also admonishes: "Let us preserve it as a living memorial to the first settlers of the Western reserve."

Of the others two remaining oldest trees, a swamp white oak adorns the front of Roosevelt Elementary School at 14239 Athens Avenue, and a pin oak lives on at 2145 Carabel Avenue. Unfortunately, another Moses Cleaveland Tree, a pin oak at 2108 Lakeland Avenue, was uprooted by a storm in the 1950's. However an old pin oak next door at 2110 Lakeland Avenue is still thriving. A white oak at 1289 Ramona Avenue had to be cut down in 1979 because of its hazardous proximity to the house at that address. An elm at 18258 Sloan Avenue is no longer extant.

Some others of the many old trees around Lakewood are a white oak on the front lawn of 14511 Lake and one at 2165/67 Wyandotte Avenues, pin oaks

1568 Grace Avenue. There are the two prominent groups of white birches at the north side of Lakewood Park, a linden tree in front of St. Edward High School, and a tulip tree of considerable size at 1454 Woodward. A white oak at 2183 Eldred Avenue consisting of two trees whose trunks are fused together. Due to the fact that the trunk actually is two trunks, it has an exceptionally great circumference. An old silver maple at 2062 Atkins Avenue consists of a trunk that is divided into three large main branches. One of those branches spans across nearly the entire property frontage. A perfectly-shaped tall blue spruce, whose branches start at the very bottom at the ground is located at 14241 Bayes Avenue.

Lakewood is certainly deserving of its name, for with its vast number of trees it truly is a "wood" by the "lake."

This year Lakewood has again been designated a Tree City USA® as it had been every year since 1979. In order to be a Tree City USA®, the City of Lakewood had to meet four criteria, it must have:

1. A Tree Board or Forestry Department,
2. An enforceable tree-care ordinance,
3. A budget at least \$2.00 per capita on trees and tree care. (Lakewood has budgeted \$60,000 for the planting

Lakewood Observer

Cleveland West Road Runners Club: 32 Years Running

by Cathy Leonard

Ask any Cleveland West Road Runners Club (CWRRC) member who gathers at wintry dusk on Thursdays at Lakewood Park what the group is about, and he or she will likely tell you it's a social club built by people who love to run.

Lakewood resident John Paull, a Cleveland West member since 1995, put it this way: "I've met some of my best friends through the club. You can't beat it!"

Built from scratch by a few friends training for a marathon, Cleveland West has segued into an enduring social organization whose members embrace walking, running and racing at all levels.

The club's origin hails back to the mid-1970s when Jess Bell, former chief executive officer of Lakewood-based Bonne Bell Inc.; Steve Gladis, a now-retired Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) agent; and a few others ran in the Rocky River Metropark on Saturday mornings. The group decided to train for the Heartwatchers Marathon, a 26.2-mile course that extended from Bowling Green State University to the University of Toledo.

Gladis, who had run with an early-morning group while stationed with the FBI in Monterey, CA, set the 7:30 a.m. Saturday run meeting time – the



CWRRC member Cathy Leonard runs along in Red Rock Canyon Park.

and '80s helped the fledgling club attract runners, according to Rocky River resident Dave Clinton, who joined the club in 1979. "The running atmosphere in (the late 1970s) was upbeat and positive. There was a lot of enthusiasm about running, so a lot of people came out to try it," he said.

Bell, who died in 2005 at age 80, said in a 2002 interview that he considered the first race his company hosted – the 1976 run from Bonne Bell in Lakewood to the Bonne Bell location in Westlake – as a turning point for Cleveland road running.

"We were opening our plant in Westlake then, and decided to have a race from Bonne Bell Lakewood to Bonne Bell Westlake, which was about 7 3/4 miles," he said. "Our first race attracted nearly 1,500 runners. The largest race anyone knew about in this part of the country (at that time) was 300 to 400 runners.

I think everyone agrees that (with) the '76 race, road running exploded."

One of Bell's early races drew Frank Shorter, the 1972 Olympic Marathon gold medalist. "That attracted attention. Runners got to run with an Olympic champion – that brought out a lot of runners," Clinton reminisced.

Cleveland West had a hand in starting other area road races, some of which still exist. For example, the Bay Days 5-miler held on July 4 in Bay Village has been around for more than 30 years. The Columbia Station 10-miler, one of CWRRC's first races, later became the Spring Class half-marathon and 5k.

The club's current races are Bay Days 5-mile and 1-mile kids fun run, the Spring Classic half-marathon and 5k, and the Fall Classic half-marathon and 5k, which will be held Nov. 22 at the Metropark Bonnie Picnic Area in Strongsville.

The club's last race each year, the Fall Classic, expanded to welcome

walkers about four years ago and draws about 1,000 participants annually, according to race director Lou Karl. "Our goal is to support the local community with an emphasis on exercise and a healthy lifestyle, so we are reaching out to people of all fitness levels," he explained.

Relatively new for Cleveland West is free entry to its races (sans shirts) for kids ages 14 and under. "Another goal is to encourage kids to get involved in running and fitness," Karl noted.

The club also continues to support the Mohican 100/50 Mile Trail Run, which it founded, and the Cleveland Clinic Sports Health River Run half-marathon and 5k.

Training Tales

What draws these CWRRC members to lace up their shoes and hit the road sometimes before dawn? Many say it's the camaraderie, support and encouragement that having running partners provides.

"I look forward to our Saturday morning runs and sometimes even more so to our coffee and social time after the runs," said Beth Kalapos, a Lakewood resident and club member since 1992. She explained that club runs, "Bring together people with common interests. Having others to run with, and a great park to run in, is motivating especially when training

for long distance races."

Cleveland West hosts several weekly runs/walks on Cleveland's west and southwest sides. Groups meet on Sundays at Little Met Golf Course in the Metroparks at 8 a.m.; Tuesdays in Hinckley at 6 p.m.; Wednesdays at Berea Falls at 6:15 p.m.; Thursdays (in winter) at Lakewood Park at 6 p.m.; and Saturdays at Scenic Park at 7:30 a.m.

In addition to being the location for a club run and one of the organization's three summer picnics, Lakewood Park appears to be a convenient meeting locale for many Cleveland West runners. "I am partial to the Lakewood Park runs since it is so close to my house," Kalapos said. "The route on Lake Avenue to Edgewater Drive is great to run in the winter. The streets are well lit and the roads are always plowed. It is my home course!"

Others members noted they meet at the park for training runs on different nights. Angie Ridgel, a club member since about 2004, also uses another local route for her training. "I do my tempo and interval repeats on Edgewater Drive from Parkside Drive to Nicholson Avenue and back. It is exactly 1.5 miles," she said. "It is a perfect loop – little traffic, lake view, nice houses, a little elevation, smooth pavement. Where else in the city can you do this?"

Still, it's the club's social influence that draws members from varying backgrounds and abilities to gather for walks and runs in Cleveland's west-side communities. "I've been running most of my adult life, but prior to this year, I never ran with an organized group. The club has transformed my running from a lonely and solitary activity to one filled with social interaction and support," said Jeff Moelich, a Lakewood resident who joined Cleveland West earlier this year. "Having others to run with has provided significant motivation and encouragement, which has helped to improve my overall running experience and performance."

The only downside he sees to the roughly 150-member club is that it's not attracting new blood quickly enough. "I'm tired of being the new guy," he quipped.



Carl Leonard and Lou Karl, CWRRC members, wait with their friend Mike Seymour at the starting line of a marathon.

same ritual Cleveland West runners adhere to today.

"I was at language school for the FBI. A group of folks used to run the golf courses (Pebble Beach and Spyglass) on early Saturday mornings," said Gladis. "(After moving to Cleveland), I started running in the valley and would talk to people I found running. I asked them to meet me on the next Saturday at 7:30 a.m. The group started to grow."

Building Enthusiasm

A 1975 gathering at Gladis' then home in Bay Village was the club's first official meeting, according to club records. Cleveland West became incorporated in 1977 with about 67 members, which grew to about 250 by year's end.

"The minute we decided to get something going, it became like getting a start-up business off the ground. I think we all loved it so we didn't mind the effort," said Gladis.

The running boom of the 1970s

20445 Emerald Pkwy.
Off Grayton in Cleveland
(216) 265-3689
euphoriacleveland.com

Home & Garden

The Lawn Is History For This Lakewood Teacher

by Lilly Murphy

Perhaps you’ve noticed that some of the lawns of Lakewood homes are quietly disappearing. In their place are an interesting mixture of groundcovers, prairie flowers, trees, shrubs, and evergreens. I admire these passionate gardeners with enough guts to go grassless and was excited to meet one Lakewood family who has permanently put their lawnmower to rest.

Upon entering Sean and Hope McGuan’s landscape, the first thing I realized, besides the obvious fact that there was not a blade of grass in sight, was the sense of tranquility and comfort amid the flora and fauna.

Although the yard includes a compost bin, rain barrel and other sustainable features, the benefit of having less lawn and an anchor of native plants is the focus of this visit.

When questioned about why he chose to eliminate his lawn about seven years ago, Sean McGuan points out the environmental benefits, such as requiring much less water and fertil-

izer, being very low maintenance, and being attractive to wildlife. While Sean is not a native plant purist, he pointed out that he has not included any invasive species.

Sean possesses a wealth of knowledge about prairie plants and plant history and folklore, much of it gained at Holden Arboretum’s library while he was a teacher-in-residence there. His passion while showing me his favorite plants and touting their many virtues made it clear that this is a true labor of love.

Running Serviceberry, which I learned has edible berries that taste much like blueberries, is used as a foundation plant. A Sugar Maple tree and an asymmetrically shaped Jack Pine were planted in the front yard and help block the view of Lakewood Hospital across the street. Bar Harbor Juniper, Virginia Sweetspire, Wild Senna, Native Rhododendrons, Blue Star, and native grasses including Little Blue Stem, are just a few of the plants garnering his enthusiasm.

An enormous ancient oak tree sits on the back property line and is attractive to an array of wildlife. An inviting hammock is stationed under its shade, surrounded by naturalized plantings. Wildlife, including an owl, hawks, Goldfinches, winter Wrens, and Chickadees, have discovered this little paradise. Meanwhile, Sean is hoping to attract Cedar Waxwings with Eastern Redcedar, a type of Juniper.

The southern side of the house has become Hope McGuan’s vegetable garden. It includes big Brussels sprouts and huge, healthy, heavy-bearing Roma tomatoes that Hope uses to make spaghetti sauce, which she freezes.

Like many gardeners, Sean’s plans for his garden are always evolving. In the future, he envisions a rooftop garden of succulents on top of his garage.

Sean ended our tour by saying that he would like to see more people moving their landscape border more than five feet from their home’s foundation

and choosing beneficial plants.

I left with a gift of homemade spaghetti sauce and a “Must Have” list of native plants, wishing I had more time to discuss the merits of each and every plant in this ecologically aware landscape.



The McGuan’s front yard filled with trees and other native plants.



A back yard oasis thrives and offers a very usable space, without any grass to be found

Robert Myers
Insurance Agency

We Protect Your
Family Home Business Auto

rjmyersinsurance.com **216.227.3300**
15707 Detroit Avenue, Suite 216, Lakewood

TORRY'S THREADS
ON MADISON

Torry Ann Tustan
Tailor | Clothier | Proprietor | Entertainer

Trust your appearance and style to Torry's multi-talented expertise:

- Expert Modifications & Repairs
- Wedding Dresses & Attire
- Professional Business Attire
- Custom Made Costumes!
- Prom and ALL Formal Wear
- Bags, Hats, Ties, Coats, Misc.
- Also - Fine Art: enamels, paintings, drawings, photographs and more!

13739 Madison Avenue Tues. - Fri.
Lakewood, OH 44107 10am - 6pm
216-526-3022 Saturday
 12 - 4pm
torrysthreads@rocketmail.com

John Rehner
FINE ART & FRAMING

16108 Detroit Ave. **216.227.2790**
johnrehner.com • johnrehner@gmail.com
Tues-Fri 11-7 / Sat 11-6

CUSTOM FRAMING
FINE ART
DIGITAL PRINTING

Holiday Open House
Fri-Sun 11/27-29 Stop by...
Great Gift Ideas!

Since 1918

HOBBOY KEY WORKS

Mobile Unit Serving Lakewood & Western Suburbs

Current Owner
Celebrating 29 Years in business

Install, repair & rekey
Keys guaranteed to work

John Kristoff, The Locksmith
Cuyahoga: **216-226-5835**
Lorain: **440-647-0608**

Residential & Commercial

Gardens
BY GAYDOS

Custom Garden & Landscape Management

Fall & Winter Services
Fall Clean Ups
Plant Installations
Aeration & Dethatching Services
Bulb Planting
Fall Decorations & Plantings
Christmas Lights & Decorations
Snow Services

Call Matt Gaydos at: 216 521-0436
or gardensbygaydos@gmail.com

INTRODUCING...

Perfect for
Holiday
Entertaining!

Family
Favorites!

the Market

at
PLANTATIONhome

14401 DETROIT AVE • LAKEWOOD • 216-227-4663

The Back Page



We Offer Barrier-Free Design



Remodeling the North Coast since 1959

MAMA

NKBA

IMPERIAL HOME CENTER

KITCHEN AND BATH SPECIALISTS

Ohio Lic #17970

BBB MEMBER Cleveland

Come visit our 4,000 sq. ft. Total Kitchen and Bath Showroom for Complete Solutions from Design to Installation.

16000 Madison Ave.
(just west of Madison and Hilliard, next to the park)
216.221.6955
fax: 216.221.6958
www.imperialhomecenter.com

Showroom Hours:
Weekdays: 10am to 5pm
Saturday: 9am to 2:30pm
Evenings by Appointment

CABINETS • APPLIANCES • BATH FIXTURES • COUNTER TOPS • FLOORING



We Gladly Assist Do-It-Yourselfers





ALLURE PAINTING
INTERIOR/EXTERIOR • COMMERCIAL/RESIDENTIAL

Professional Painters,
Quality Service

WE PAINT IT ALL!

- Homes
- Condos
- Apartments
- Offices
- Businesses
- Churches
- Additions
- Basements
- New Construction

We do more than just paint:

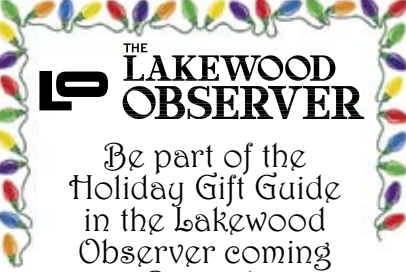
- Color Consultation
- Plaster & Drywall Repair
- Ceiling Repair & Texturing
- Skim Coating
- Wallpaper Removal
- Deck & Fence Staining
- Paint Removal
- Carpentry

Scheduling
Gutter Cleaning

BONDED & INSURED

FREE ESTIMATES
216-287-7468
www.allurepainting.net

Lakewood Owned & Operated



THE LAKEWOOD OBSERVER

Be part of the Holiday Gift Guide in the Lakewood Observer coming out December 1, promoting local shopping.

50% of the proceeds going to The Lakewood Family Room

Contact: Maggie Fraley
Advertising, Sales and Marketing
LO.adsales@gmail.com

HOME ALONE PET SITTING, INC.




In Home Pet Care While You Are Away


Experienced Veterinarian Technician

Bonded & Insured

216-226-7337
d.hokin@sbcglobal.net



Coffee • Art • Beer



Phoenix Roasted Coffees • Big Microbrews Selection
13321 Madison Ave 216-221-4479
Times/Hours 10am-10pm Fri - Sat 10am - 12am Sunday/Monday Closed

HOLIDAY JACKET SWAP-A-PALOOZA

Bring in any gently worn jacket or coat 'til Nov. 28th & Geiger's will give you 20% off a new, top brand jacket or coat. And we'll donate the old one to Goodwill.

Get to know Geiger's

ESTABLISHED 1932 GEIGER'S
WWW.SHOPGEIGERS.COM

14710 Detroit Avenue • (216) 521-1771
19126 Old Detroit Road • (440) 356-9665
Chagrin Shopping Plaza • (440) 247-4900



Serving Lakewood Since 1922






Sales
Service
Installation

Call us today
216-521-7000
24 hour
Emergency Service



***Use this ad for \$15 off any service call or \$125 off any furnace or A/C installation.**




Why Rent? Buy A Townhouse!

Villas
AT WATER'S EDGE

- » 2-3 bedroom units available with new appliances included.
- » Pet friendly
- » Private garden patio
- » Covered assigned parking
- » Minutes from Downtown!
- » West 70th - North of Detroit
- » Walkable Community



Detroit Shoreway-Gordon Square
Edgewater Park- Lakefront bike/walking path

The Villas are the Best Value!
FHA financing approved
8 year tax abatement
\$6,500-\$8,000 tax credit
\$5,000-\$10,000 grant from the city



Call for more information ~ 216-651-4792

New Reduced Price
\$112,500



Open Every Saturday & Sunday from 2-4