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# THE LAKEWOOD OBSERVER

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Volume 6, Issue 9, May 5, 2010

## Lakewood School Levy Passes

Ohio General Assembly (with 78 of 78 precincts reporting)  
State House of Representatives (D)

Antonio: 4140

Bullock: 3531

City of Lakewood (with of precincts reporting)

Issue 6

For the Tax Levy: 5676

Against the Tax Levy: 3734

Cuyahoga County (with 1065 of 1068 precincts reporting)

Issue 15

For the Tax Levy: 147382

Against the Tax Levy: 74812

## Lakewood Job Seekers Need Assistance

by Kristine Pagsuyoin

Lakewood, like so many other communities in the Greater Cleveland area, has been hard hit by job loss and the difficulties that arise during extended unemployment for individuals and especially for our families.

Some job seekers who are new to the current job market are facing challenges as they try to navigate the high-tech process of job searching. Whether they are recent col-

lege graduates, a mom trying to go back into the workforce, or a senior with many years of experience, tracking down and successfully applying for jobs is more complex than in years past. Sadly, many types of jobs in our area have been lost forever and so trying to transition to a new career adds to the stress of job searching.

The Lakewood Family Collaborative is partnering with the Cuyahoga County **continued on page 4**

## Lakewood Resident Appointed To Cuyahoga Arts And Culture Board

by Joanie O'Brien

Matthew Charboneau of Lakewood has been named to the board of trustees of Cuyahoga Arts & Culture. A graduate of Oberlin College Conservatory of Music and a professional musician for the past fifteen years—he plays the double bass and electric bass—Charboneau currently leads the Council of Smaller Enterprise's (COSE) Arts Network, a resource for professionals from Northeast Ohio's creative industries. Charboneau was sworn in at the annual meeting of the Cuyahoga Arts & Culture board; his term extends through March 2013.

Steven A. Minter, president of the five-member Cuyahoga Arts & Culture board, welcomed Charboneau's appointment,



Matthew Charboneau

which was made by the Board of Cuyahoga County Commissioners. Principle criteria for candidates were expertise in arts and culture; civic, educational, and business leadership with broad arts and culture knowledge; gender and racial diversity; and knowledge of the

**continued on page 11**



photo by Frank Lanza

The Rodeman family strikes a pose last Saturday night at the LEAF Community's Rutabaga Nights 2. One of the best parties each year. Frank Lanza of frankjlanzaphotography.com, put this set together and was taking photos of all that were willing to pose. Frank is yet another very talented Lakewood photographer that the LO has had the pleasure of working with. You can see his work from this shoot and others online. <http://lakewoodobserver.com> follow the **Rutabaga Nights 2** thread on the "Observation Deck." Where Lakewood talks over the digital fence! More photos on page 16 and online!

## Building Community In A Learning Garden

by Dan Slife

Spring has arrived and the Lakewood Public Library and LEAF Community will soon break ground on a Learning Garden to be located behind the Madison Branch Library, on Madison Park property. The Learning Garden is funded by a grant award of \$9,666 from the State Library of Ohio. Funds will support the development of a dynamic community amenity that integrates educational programming space, public seating and a community garden.

The grant was obtained through the combined efforts of several community partners. Lakewood Public Library and LEAF Community have committed to stewarding the project from ground-breaking to harvest. The organizations will share equal burdens of a 25% matching funds grant requirement. In addition, the City of Lakewood, Friends of Madison Park, H2O and the Lakewood Christian Services Center have all signed on to the project, providing critical resources, support and direction.

The Learning Garden project is a Growing Com-

munity special grant from the State Library of Ohio. According to the State Library's website, "Through direct involvement in the work of the garden, and through educational programming and books and other media, food gardens engage residents of all ages and of different abili-

ties in learning about plant life, gardening practices, life cycles, ecology, nutrition, hunger, and more."

Once completed, the Lakewood Public Library and LEAF Community will provide educational program-

**continued on page 6**

## Assitant Secretary Of The Treasury Visits Lakewood



Herb Alisson Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Financial Stability of the United States, stopped by Congressman Kucinich's office Monday morning. He had been invited by the Congressman to hear first hand, the frustrations some are having with various programs in place to reduce mortgages. This woman had problems after being approved. Asst Sec. Alisson took many notes and gave a recap of what he had heard, and promised to make it easier.



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). Calendar items can be submitted at our website at [www.lakewoodobserver.com](http://www.lakewoodobserver.com) on the Home Page. Whereas this printed calendar listing is limited to non-profit events relevant to Lakewood, our website calendar welcomes all Lakewood events!*

Wednesday, May 5

Live Well Lakewood Wellness Challenge

7:00 PM - 8:15 PM, Lakewood City Hall Auditorium, 12650 Detroit Ave.  
Every Wednesday in May. The Wellness Challenge participants encourage each other to practice healthy eating, to get moving, and to explore Lakewood on foot or bicycle. Anyone 12 years or older who lives or works in Lakewood is welcome to participate. Topic: Getting Started/Mediterranean Diet; Physical Therapist T. Gallagher  
You can join the challenge anytime. Just come to one of our sessions. For more information, visit <http://livewelllakewood.org> or call (216) 529-7695.

David Knopfler Plays The Winchester

9:00 PM, Winchester Music Hall, 12112 Madison Ave.  
By the mid 1980's, Dire Straits was one of the biggest bands in the world. They rode the wave of the new fidelity of the CD that propelled their 1985 release "Brothers In Arms" to the top of the charts across the globe. Dire Straits was born in 1977 and David Knopfler was rhythm guitarist in the band for the first two albums. David is performing as a duo with Harry Bogdanovs and will play some Dire Straits songs as well as material from his lengthy solo career. As is usual at almost all Winchester shows, David will be available after the show for autographs, photos and questions! Visit [www.thewinchester.net](http://www.thewinchester.net) for more info. The Winchester Music Hall continues to bring shockingly big names to the intimate club and our humble city.

Friday, May 7

"Jazz You Like It" Doris Long - Joe Hunter - Dallas Coffey

7:00 PM, Waterbury Coach House, 13333 Madison Ave.  
Wonderful trio plus - playing traditional jazz in a cozy neighborhood restaurant & lounge.

Saturday, May 8

Operation Medicine Cabinet: Prescription Drug Take-Back Program

9:00 AM - 2:00 PM, Lakewood Police Department, 12650 Detroit Ave.  
The Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Office, in cooperation with the Westshore Enforcement Bureau, Lakewood Police Department and Drug Awareness and Prevention Inc., would like to help you to safely dispose of any outdated or unwanted prescription medications. Nationally, teenage prescription drug abuse is rapidly increasing, and your family MEDICINE CHEST could become a teenager's best supplier. Help to protect the environment from overdosing on improperly disposed of medications. Collection programs greatly lessen the chance of prescription medications entering our water supply, or the food we eat. This is a completely confidential program. No personal information will be asked! Please remove all prescription labels before arriving. For more information, call 1-800-473-6467. For a complete list of drop off sites, visit: [www.DrugAwarenessAndPrevention.com](http://www.DrugAwarenessAndPrevention.com).

Family Photo Day!!!

10:00 AM, Pilgrim Saint Paul, 14224 Detroit Ave.  
Please join us at Pilgrim Saint Paul Lutheran Church starting at 10A.M., Just in time for Mother's Day!!! Affordable packages at \$29 & \$49 less tax. Scott Duncan's work can be seen at [www.scottduncanphotography.com](http://www.scottduncanphotography.com) or contact at 440-864-9205. Photos will be proofed on site and available for pick up in 48 hours. If special delivery is needed, please notify a church member after your photos are taken. For additional prints, please contact Scott Duncan at the phone number listed above. Please register for your photos at 216-221-3189 with your name, phone number, and address. Pilgrim Saint Paul is located at the corner of Detroit and Manor Park.

Troy Memorial Open House

10:00 AM - 4:00 PM, 13330 Madison Ave.  
The event is free and open to the public, there will be a drawing along with pizza, refreshments and other goodies. Come in to see what Troy Monument of Lakewood has to offer in the time of need of your loved one. All are welcome.  
Contact Lynn at 216-521-3228.

Tuesday, May 11

"Europe - After the Honeymoon" presented by Lucian Bartosik

7:00 - 9:00 PM, Lakewood Senior Center, 16024 Madison Ave.  
Lakewood Photographic Society hosts Lucian Bartosik, a superb fine art photographer, working in both Europe and America. <http://lucianbphotography.com>.

Rain Barrel Workshop

7:00 PM - 8:30 PM, Woman's Club Pavilion, Lakewood Park  
The educational seminar is free and open to anyone who is interested in learning about rain barrels. If you would like to construct a rain barrel at the workshop, the cost is \$40. To register, contact Laura Travers at [ltravers@ccbh.net](mailto:ltravers@ccbh.net) or (216) 201-2001 ext. 1225. Rain barrel construction is limited to the first 30 registrants.

Community Calendar  
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7th Annual

TASTE OF  
LAKEWOOD

Sunday, June 6, 2010 4:00pm - 7:00pm  
presented by

LAKEWOOD  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

&

Lakewood Hospital

a Cleveland Clinic Hospital

Lakewood Early Childhood PTA & The City of Lakewood Present:

5th Annual  
MEET THE TRUCKS!

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM • June 5, 2010 • Lakewood Park

COME SEE THE FLEET THAT KEEPS THE CITY RUNNING!

They'll be on display to see, touch, and even blow the horns!

Ambulance • Fire Dept. Ladder Truck • Police Cruiser • Dump Truck  
Police Motorcycle • SWAT Team Vehicle • Aerial Truck • Garbage Truck  
Metroparks Nature Tracks Bus • Snow Plow • Street Cleaner

LECPPTA will be collecting canned goods for the Lakewood Christian Service Center.

Lakewood Early Childhood PTA  
every child, one voice.

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THE  
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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 website. The views and opinions expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the publisher and staff. Copyright 2010 • 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 intelligence 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 3-100, 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, May 9	Tuesday, May 18	
Sunday, May 23	Tuesday, June 1	

**[www.lakewoodobserver.com](http://www.lakewoodobserver.com) – 216.712.7070**  
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Join the Discussion at: [www.lakewoodobserver.com](http://www.lakewoodobserver.com)





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please call 216.227.BONE (2663).



# Lakewood City News



## Lakewood Firefighters Raise Funds To Compete

Lakewood Firefighter Combat Challenge Team, from left to right are: Scott Koehler; John Poloha; Michael Dobranski; Mark Koehler and Larry Artzner, not pictured - Paul Jeske are holding a Fundraiser on Thursday, May 13th, 2010 from 7:30-9:30 pm at Around the Corner in Lakewood to raise funds for entrance fees, equipment, and travel expenses to have Lakewood and Ohio represented in Kissimmee, Florida at the Scott's Firefighter Combat Challenge. On May 21st-22nd, 2010, the Lakewood Firefighter Combat Challenge Team will be participating in the Scott's Firefighter Combat Challenge in Kissimmee, Florida. Larry Artzner will be competing in the individual competition on May 21st. Mark Koehler and Michael Dobranski will be participating in the tandem competition and all five members will compete as a team for the relay event on May 22nd.

Tickets are \$20 per person and can be purchased at the door. Your \$20 ticket will get you all you can eat pizza, wings and more and all you can drink Miller Lite.

There will be several items up for raffle: such as a Trip to Florida with 2 tickets to Disney World or Universal, \$150 Gift Certificate for Kristen Caldwell Photography, donations from the Reagle Beagle, West End Tavern, and several other businesses in Lakewood as well as a 50/50 raffle.

## Lakewood Job Seekers Need Assistance

continued from page 1

Library and the Lakewood Public Library for an evening workshop designed to help Lakewood job seekers learn more about the free career and job seeker services available to anyone looking for a new job or trying to make a career change. Being unemployed for an extended amount of time can be isolating, stressful, and costly for job seekers. The career services being offered through our public libraries offer support, guidance, and help build job searching skills for people that would normally cost hundreds of dollars using a personal career coach or taking computer classes at a community college.

Many of us know of families and individuals who are struggling with job loss and we want to help. Yet, we don't always know where to turn or have the extra time to track down resources. For communities, and employers trying to provide more job search training and services to laid-off workers, knowing about these resources is a must. So often funds are not available to help the unemployed; however, providing those people with information at the time of departure can make a huge difference in the time it takes them to get back on their feet and to stay positive during the process.

The Career & Job Seeker Services Workshop is Tuesday, May 18th, at

the Lakewood Public Library Auditorium from 7pm-8:30pm. We will be joined by Jim Hansen, Career Counselor and Job Club Facilitator with the Cuyahoga County Library, and Amy Kloss, Instructor for the Lakewood Public Library Technology Department, who will help us learn how to use these resources and increase our understanding about the current job market. Attendees to the workshop will receive information they can take with them and will have an opportunity to ask questions directly to a professional career counselor. This event is free and open to all job seekers, and those who want to help job seekers.

For more information, or to register for this event, please contact the Lakewood Family Collaborative at lakewoodfamilycollab@gmail.com. Or, call 216-529-6868.

Registration is suggested, but not required.

The lakewood family collaborative is a network of organizations, businesses, agencies, and dedicated individuals working together to enable children, youth, and families to thrive and become successful members of the lakewood community.

The Collab meets every 4th Thursday each month, 1pm-2:30pm at the Lakewood YMCA. To learn more email lakewoodfamilycollab@gmail.com.

## City Of Lakewood Receives 2010 Community Partner Award

The City of Lakewood received an award for its role in attracting and growing small businesses. The WECO Fund, a local organization that is dedicated to helping individuals start and expand small businesses, honored the City of Lakewood for the city's role in microenterprise development.

The City partners with WECO to strengthen small businesses through the city's SEED Program. Lakewood's Start-up and Existing Entrepreneurial Development (SEED) Program provides start-up funding for the build-out costs of starting a new business. The program can be paired with other sources of operating capital through WECO.

In just two years, the program has already helped to start and grow nine small businesses in Lakewood. "The partnership is a shining example of how collaboration can create neighborhood anchors and strengthen local business communities," said Christine Henry, Executive Director of the WECO Fund.

"It's nice to be recognized by WECO, but the real honor is that we have nine new and growing busi-

nesses that call Lakewood home," said Nathan Kelly, Director of Planning and Development. "Despite challenging economic times, Mayor FitzGerald and Lakewood City Council continue to support investment in economic development, especially successful programs like the SEED Program."

Patty Ryan, CEO of the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce noted, "Difficult economies are often when entrepreneurs take their leap. Lakewood's affordability, right-sized office spaces, and number of complementary businesses make Lakewood a reliable location for starting a business."

The 2010 Community Partner Award was delivered to the city at WECO's Annual Impact Luncheon and attended by nearly 200 people from throughout the region. Recent beneficiaries of program include a wide variety of businesses from architects to hardware stores and art galleries to coffee houses. Chains, bars and franchises are generally not eligible to participate in the program.

## To Tell The Truth

by Jerry Masek  
RTA Media Relations Manager.

There is a posting on the Lakewood Observer calendar for May 3 that is so full of errors I cannot let it pass for news.

"Public meeting to discuss and plan bringing back the daily Lakewood circulator bus, because the Friday afternoon shopper bus as a replacement is not enough. RTA cheated Lakewood by eliminating the popular circulator September 20, but operates downtown Cleveland circulator buses (small green trolley buses) running every ten minutes daily, never collecting fares (free), favoring downtown, just like the Euclid Corridor HealthLine (that replaced the adequate # 6 bus) and the unused Flats Rapid. RTA evades accountability."

1. RTA did not "cheat" Lakewood, it made a necessary decision to balance its budget, as required by law.
2. The downtown trolley buses are underwritten by a corporate sponsor. First it was the Convention and Visitors Bureau, and then Corner Alley. It is now Dollar Bank. The sponsors reimburse RTA for the funds that would normally be collected as fares.
3. I cannot tell, the way this is written, why the HealthLine was even brought up. Ridership is way up over the former #6 route, and development along Euclid Avenue continues. It is a success.
4. There is no "Flats Rapid." There IS a light-rail Waterfront Line. On April 4, service on the Waterfront Line was reduced to weekends and special events only. When the East Bank re-development is completed, regular service will likely resume.

Thank you for the opportunity to set the record straight.



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Lakewood Public Library Events

All Events and Programs Are Free And Open To The Public

Wednesday, May 5

**MEET THE AUTHOR:**  
**1000 Comic Books You Must Read** by Tony Isabella

You can call them graphic novels if you want to, but it’s time to face the facts. Comic books are at the cutting edge of art and culture and you’re way behind. Don’t fret. Tony Isabella wants to help. With twenty years as a commentator, nearly forty years as a creator and over fifty years of reading comics under his belt, he’s the mild-mannered man for the job. In his latest book, illustrated with some of the best comic art of the last seventy years, Tony goes beyond superheroes into adventure, romance, humor, horror and more. From Uncle Scrooge to Betty and Veronica, with Batman, Spider-man and Fin Fang Foom along for the ride, you won’t want to miss the four-color slideshow presentation that goes with this talk! Books will be available for sale and signing.

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

Saturday, May 8

**THE LAKEWOOD PUBLIC CINEMA: From Russia with Love (1963)**  
**Directed by Terence Young   Rated PG**

The name is Bond, James Bond. Who else can protect the free world by romancing a stunning Russian beauty? Obviously, she will betray him and lure him into a deathtrap, but it’s all a part of 007’s plan. Look out for belly dancers and poison-tipped shoes and see for yourself why Sean Connery still owns this part.6:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

Wednesday May 12

**LAKEWOOD HISTORICAL SOCIETY PRESENTS:**  
**DESIGNING AN APPROPRIATE ADDITION FOR AN OLD HOUSE**

Planning an addition for an older home can be tricky. The Cleveland Restoration Society’s Kerry Adams will outline the important elements to consider when adding on and what to expect throughout the project.

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

Saturday, May 15

**FIVE STAR FILMS: Jezebel (1938)**  
**Directed By William Wyler Not Rated**

Long before Gone with the Wind’s Scarlett O’Hara became an untouchable icon, Bette Davis lit up the screen as Jezebel, a beautiful but willful southern belle. At a grand ball, she is shunned by her peers. Then her fiancée, Henry Fonda, walks out. Time passes. The Civil War begins. Her ex returns, but not as he was. She tries to win him back and does the unimaginable against all odds.

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

Sunday, May 16

**SUNDAY WITH THE FRIENDS: NORTHEAST OHIO SONGWRITER’S CIRCLE**

Separated by a variety of styles, this talented group usually gets together once a month to share original songs and a few laughs. They come looking for feedback and often leave with something wholly unexpected. John Arliss hosts the creative process as it unfolds, live on stage.

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

BOOK GROUPS:

Thursday, May 13

**BOOKED FOR MURDER: Special Guest Irma Baker: Mystery for a Laugh**

Crime isn’t funny but crime fiction can be hilarious. Enjoy light refreshments prepared from mystery recipes as we welcome an expert who has had her ribs tickled by the best. From ditzy bounty hunters to nosy innkeepers, we’ll laugh our way through a murderer’s row of cracked-up crime stoppers.

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

Tuesday, May 18

**KNIT & LIT BOOK CLUB**

Lynda Tuennerman hosts a social club for multitaskers—a combination book club and stitchery group. She’s looking for readers who can enjoy intense discussion of modern classics while relaxing with their latest stitching project. Come share your passion for great literature and show off your knitting, crocheting, counted cross-stitch, embroidery and quilting works-in-progress. At each meeting, the group decides what will be read next. Tonight’s book is The Guernsey Literary And Potato Peel Pie Society by Mary Ann Shaffer. Call (216) 226-8275, ext. 127 or visit [www.lkwdpl.org/bookclubs](http://www.lkwdpl.org/bookclubs) to learn more.

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

Wednesday, May 19

**MEET THE AUTHOR: The Harding Affair: Love and Espionage During the Great War** by James David Robenalt

Just because she was a paid German spy doesn’t mean it wasn’t love. A treasure trove of letters sent by Warren G. Harding to his longtime mistress may reveal an exciting new chapter of history. Did their love change the course of world affairs? After reviewing materials suppressed for eighty years, the author makes a compelling case. From Harding’s reporter days in small town Ohio to The War to End All Wars, The Harding Affair casts fresh light on everyone from Kaiser Wilhelm to Eugene V. Debs along with Teddy Roosevelt, Woodrow Wilson and every other major figure of the early twentieth century. Books will be available for sale and signing.

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

Thursday, May 20

**BUSINESS BOOK TALK** with Tim Zaun and Friends—**MEET THE AUTHOR! Lemonade Stand Selling: Accelerate your Small Business Growth** by Special Guest Diane Helbig

It doesn’t have to be scary or hard, but eventually you have to make your sales. Thankfully, the Author herself will be on hand to discern what it really means to sell a product or service.

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

**UPCOMING MAY CLASSES:**  
**Saturday, May 8: WEB SEARCHING BASICS @ 3:00 p.m.**  
**Thursday, May 13: JOB HUNTING WORKSHOP from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**  
**Saturday, May 15: WORD PROCESSING BASICS @ 3:00 p.m.**  
**Tuesday, May 18: SPREADSHEET BASICS @ 7:00 p.m.**  
**Saturday, May 22: INTERNET BASICS @ 3:00 p.m.**  
**Saturday, May 29: E-MAIL BASICS @ 3:00 p.m.**

CHILDRENS & YOUTH SERVICES

**AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS**  
**THE ZONE: For students in kindergarten through fifth grade**

Get in the Zone! Spend 30 minutes doing the activity of your choice. Choose from crafts, games, puzzles and more. Visit [www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.com/youth](http://www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.com/youth) to see the current and upcoming activities.

**Tuesday, September 8 – Thursday, May 27**  
**Monday – Thursday at 4:00 p.m. in the Children’s and Youth Services Department at Main Library and Madison Branch**

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

Join us for crafts each and every Friday after school. There is no need to register; however, to schedule groups, please call Main Library (216) 226-8275, Ext. 140 or Madison Branch (216) 228-7428.

**Fridays at 4:00 p.m., ongoing through May 28**  
**Children’s and Youth Services Department at Main Library and Madison Branch**

**HOMEWORK ER: For students in 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.

**Mondays – Thursdays, 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m., ongoing through May 27**  
**Children’s and Youth Services Department at Main Library and Madison Branch**

WEEKEND 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.**  
**May 7, 8, 9: ions, Tigers, & Bears**  
**May 14, 15, 16: Dr. Seuss**

**WEEKENDS WITH WEE ONES: For families with children under 2 years old**

Spend a part of your family weekend time clapping your hands, tapping your feet, singing nursery rhymes and, of course, sharing books. We will provide materials and ideas for families wishing to continue the fun at home. Programs are offered every weekend throughout the year, and there is no need to register in advance.

Saturdays at 11:30 a.m. and Sundays at 3:30 p.m.  
Madison Branch Children’s and Youth Services Department

**TAIL WAGGIN’ TUTORS: For children ages 7 – 12**

Bone up on your reading skills by reading to a dog. Drop in for a one-on-one session with one of our dogs and owners that have been certified through Therapy Dogs International.

**Saturday, May 8 from 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room**



# Lakewood Public Library

## A Presidential Affair:

# Warren Harding And His Spy Mistress

by Andrea Fisher

Throughout history, scandal has been no stranger to the White House. The Warren Harding administration is no exception. Local author James Robenalt will be discussing *The Harding Affair: Love and Espionage during the Great War*, his newest book about our country's 29th president and his affair with an alleged German spy during World War I at 7 pm on Wednesday May 24th in the Main Library Auditorium.

What started as a symposium on Ohio presidents at the 2004 vice-presidential debate at Case Western Reserve University, turned into Robenalt writing a biography on Warren Harding. The book is based largely on the adoring and sometimes steamy love letters between Harding and his mistress Carrie Phillips, which were previously under seal at the Harding family's request at the Library of Congress.

No other book on Harding has explored the president's affair with Phillips, and all of the personal and political implications caused by such a liaison. The Harding/Phillips affair began in the summer of 1905 when the couples were neighbors in Marion, Ohio. Their relationship continued while Harding was a U.S. Senator and lasted for nearly 15 years. Robenalt not only tells the story of an amorous affair, but also poses the question of how this relationship may have affected history. Did his mistress talk him out of entering the 1916 presidential race? Had he been president earlier, would the U.S. have entered into World War I sooner? In addition to the letters, Robenalt also researched the file on Carrie Phillips from the Bureau of Investigation as well as the investigation of her German-sympathizing activities by the American Protective League.

Cleveland native, James Robenalt is an attorney with familial ties to the 1920 presidential election; his great-grandfather contributed to the campaign of Harding's opponent James M. Cox and he recommended Franklin Roosevelt as his running mate. Despite Robenalt's focus on the affair, he said he also wants to elevate the reputation of the former president. Harding was the first president to support civil rights in the South and also

freed Eugene Debs, who was jailed for disagreeing with the war.

Come to the Main Library Auditorium to hear all about the thrilling secret life of Ohio's own Warren Harding at 7pm on May 24th. James Robenalt's book, *The Harding Affair: Love and Espionage during the Great War* will be available for sale and signing at this event. As always, all programs at the Library are free and open to the public.

# The Man Of A Thousand Comic Books

by Ben Burdick

Tony Isabella, "America's most beloved comics writer and columnist," will be the featured guest at Lakewood Public Library's next "Meet the Author." In the interest of full disclosure, however, it should be noted that the very first person to describe Tony as "the most beloved" was Tony himself. (He was only joking.) To his credit, the reputation has stuck. After five decades of reading, writing and reviewing comics, Tony the commentator is widely known for crisp, often humorous observations that combine a deft, critical eye with a childlike heart. Who else is willing to tackle tough questions like, "Why is Batman so mean?" You might laugh, but Tony is dead serious about standing up for grown-up graphic novels, even as he challenges the big publishers, flush with movie-making cash, to continue offering quality comic books to younger readers.

Tony will be sharing stories, telling jokes and using some of the most striking covers in the history of the medium to promote his new book, *1000 Comic Books You Must Read*. This free event takes place on Wednesday, May 5 at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium. Books will be available for sale and signing at the event.

You may think that a thousand comic books sounds like a lot for an essential reading list, but Tony's first response to his publisher's proposal was, "Just a thousand?" Looking back over seven decades of publishing, there was no way he could limit himself to



the exploits of superfolk. What about westerns, romance comics, monster mags, science fiction, mystery, history, biography, comedy and war? What about Archie, Betty and Veronica? What about Scrooge McDuck, Little Lulu and Melvin the Monster? Should he include edgier fare like *Maus*, *Persepolis* and *The Dark Knight Returns*? Of course, he had to...

The final product is beautiful to look at and a joy to read, with every witty entry graced by gorgeous full color art from every style and era.

"Meet the Author" is a continuing series of programs at the Lakewood Public Library, free and open to all, that brings published authors from all walks of life to Lakewood to discuss their craft, answer questions and sell their books. To learn about more upcoming authors, visit [lakewoodpubliclibrary.com/calendar](http://lakewoodpubliclibrary.com/calendar).

# Musical Inspiration And Collaboration At The Library

by Chris Weaver

On Sunday, May 16 at 2:00p.m., Lakewood Public Library's "Sunday with the Friends" series will get your feet tapping and your creative juices flowing with a visit from the NorthEast Ohio Songwriters Circle in the Main Library Auditorium.

The group's goal is "to provide an opportunity for experienced and aspiring song writers to share their work." NEOSC members are said to have "equal opportunity ears" when it comes to everything from blues, country, folk, and gospel, to children's songs, rap, and international & ethnic tunes. Get ready to hear new song variations brought to life for the very first time at this special engagement.

Be sure to get acquainted with the

group's members and make plans to share your musical passions at their next meeting. Musicians can attend NEOSC's monthly meetings to present new projects and ideas, and give feedback to fellow artists as they develop and polish their compositions. Sometimes, two artists are on the same musical page, resulting in great new collaborations.

Expect passionate performances in a variety of styles from this diverse crowd!

This free event is generously funded by Cuyahoga Arts and Culture and the Friends of Lakewood Public Library. Musicians, composers and avid listeners alike will find something to love in this afternoon with a group that proclaims: "Everyone is welcome!"

# The Library Card: It Is Yours Alone

by Lena Donofrio

The Lakewood Public Library is asking its patrons to hold onto their library cards tightly.

"Your library card is your passport to a lifetime of reading, learning, and discovering. Like your passport or your driver's license, it's yours alone and only you may use it," said Director James Crawford.

No other card in your wallet is likely to allow you access to books, educational aids, computers, music, movies and more at such a great price--- free. That is why Lakewood Public Library has a single-user policy. In other words, only the owner of the card may use it. This policy exists to protect personal information, use of the card and the library's collection. Spouses, significant others and children are no exception.

Lakewood Public Library works diligently to make sure that only the proper owner of the card is using it. This is why the library requires a limited amount of demographic information, including gender.

Allowing someone else to use your card jeopardizes your access to our vast and valuable book collection, computer access in our technology center and use of audiovisual material, which includes hundreds of DVDs, CDs and Audiobooks. Controlling what is checked out on your account is important. It only takes one missing item to block your card, so please don't let others use it.

To register for a Lakewood Public Library card, please stop by any desk at either Main or Madison and present valid photo identification with current address. Signing up is free and takes only moments.

For more information about Lakewood Public Library visit: [www.lkwdpl.org](http://www.lkwdpl.org).

# Building Community In A Learning Garden

continued from page 1

ming to children and adults about themes spanning ecology, sustainability, nutrition, and poverty awareness.

"Lakewood Public Library's Children's and Youth Services Department envisions a series of outdoor storytimes in the garden along with a larger "harvest" event in the fall. Programming in the garden enables us to completely immerse children, both mind and body, in an educational environment

which combines literacy, music, food and nature," said Children's & Youth Services Manager, Andrew Harrant. All produce from the Learning Garden will be donated to Lakewood families in need through the Lakewood Christian Services Center.

The Learning Garden Collaboration is looking for volunteers! If you're a novice gardener or a seasoned green thumb interested in gardening with us, please contact Dan Slife at 226-8275 xt.135.

Lakewood City

Updating Lakewood Traffic Laws

On April 19, 2010 Council President Kevin Butler (Ward I) called the Council Meeting to order at 7:34 P.M. He then read a communication from the Committee of the Whole regarding Energy Efficiency Block Grant Funds. These funds were allocated to the City through Community Development Block Grant funds for the purpose of making upgrades in City infrastructure to make it more energy efficient. The Grant will help pay for 12 improvement projects in the City totaling nearly \$450,000 dollars, as reported by the Department of Public Works. The improvements will take place between now until about June of 2011.

The next item on the agenda was an ordinance to sell a City driveway to Misencik Funeral Home. The drive is adjacent to the property and with planed changes to it, once ownership is transferred, would actually make it more accessible. As the ordinance had already been considered by the Economic Development Committee and recommended for adoption, as well as being its third reading at Council, they voted and passed the measure.

Councilman Brian Powers (At-Large) then read a communication from the Public Safety Committee. First, he discussed an ordinance that would decriminalize parking tickets as a way to streamline the process and increase payment of them. Although the Committee believes the ordinance should be adopted they suggested that Council defer the vote. The reason for deferring the vote was because it was not believed that the arrangements that are necessary to process the parking tickets civilly could be done within 40 days, which is the amount of time after an ordinance is passed before it becomes an active law.

by Christopher Bindel

The second item Councilman Powers and the Public Safety Committee discussed was a resolution from Tom Bullock about rewarding people for information that would lead to the apprehension of graffiti vandals. As the issue of handling graffiti is on the agenda of several of Council's committees, they decided to table the item until further discussion had been explored by the other committees.

Law Director, Nora Hurley then brought forth a number of updates and changes to Lakewood's traffic codes. The changes she requested would make Lakewood's laws consistent with the same laws at the state level. Since it had been quite some time since these laws were last looked at there was a lot that needed to be updated. Director Hurly introduced three ordinances to be looked at and revised, one of which is 180 pages long. That should give some indication to the momentous task that is before them. All three ordinances were referred to the Rules and Ordinances Committee.

Next a communication from Fire Chief Lawrence Mroz was read, asking Council to allow the City to accept \$6,000 dollars from the county. The money would be used to pay overtime for those members who participated in training with the Urban Area Security Initiative. The trainings included how to handle situations involving explosives and incendiary devices as well as hazmat exercises. Council passed the resolution.

The last item on the agenda was a communication from Police Chief Tim Malley asking Council to allow the City to accept a donation from the Steel Valley Credit Union. In the near future

the Lakewood Police Department will be holding a Bike Rodeo in Madison Park. Bike Rodeos are good opportunities for officers to teach Lakewood's youths good biking behavior as well has for them to have their bikes licensed. Steel Valley Credit Union has agreed to

donate \$455 dollars to purchase a Bike Rodeo Kit which will help facilitate the operation of the event. Council passed the resolution.

After a very brief meeting of mostly procedural official business, Council President Butler adjourned the meeting at 8:10 P.M.

Calendar

Community Calendar  
continued from page ?

Wednesday, May 12

Heart Saver AED/CPR Certification Class

6:00 - 9:00 PM, Fire Station #1, 14601 Madison Avenue  
Learn basic techniques of adult CPR and how to use an AED. Students also learn about using barrier devices in CPR and giving first aid for choking. The course teaches how to recognize the signs of four major emergencies: heart attack, stroke, cardiac arrest and foreign-body airway obstruction. The scope of this course does NOT include infant (0-12 months) CPR technique. Class fee of \$35 must be paid in advance at least one week prior to the class date and is non-refundable. To register, contact Cheryl Behm at Lakewood Hospital, 216-227-2481. Course books are available for purchase prior to or at the class for \$14.00 each.

Friday, May 14

Seussical!

Beck Center for the Arts, 17801 Detroit Avenue  
Beck Center Youth Theater presents Seussical! on the Mackey Main Stage May 14-22. See Page 11 for details, stop by the center or call 216-521-2540 x10

Saturday, May 15

Preservation Month Scavenger Hunt

May is National Preservation Month and the Lakewood Historical Society is celebrating Lakewood's architectural treasures with a scavenger hunt. The free event will run between May 15 and May 25, 2010. See Page 14 for full details.

Sunday, May 16

Ohio Norseman Syttende Mai Fest

1:00 - 4:00 PM, Women's Pavilion, Lakewood Park, Belle & Lake Ave.  
Ohio Norseman welcomes you to celebrate Consitution Day - Norway's historic annual holiday! Featuring: potluck luncheon, program, national anthem, sales table, T shirt sales, games/contests, raffle and parade. Cost: Adults \$5.00 + dish to serve 10-12. Children: 18 & younger FREE, Hot dogs, tableware and beverages provided; Bring dish + an item for the Chinese/Norski Raffle. Contact Jo at 440-821-8891 for info.

Monday, May 17

City Council Meeting

7:30 PM, Lakewood City Hall Auditorium, 12650 Detroit Ave.

Lakewood Schools Board of Education Meeting

7:00 PM, Harding Middle School, 16601 Madison Ave.

Tuesday, May 18

Career & Job Seeker Workshop

7:00 - 8:30 PM, Lakewood Public Library  
See Page 1 for story.

Visit our calendar online for many more events going on around town at [www.lakewoodobserver.com](http://www.lakewoodobserver.com)

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# Lakewood Schools

## LHS Among Top Teams At Model UN Conference

by Christine Gordillo

The Lakewood High School Model United Nations Club once again put forth an outstanding performance at the Cleveland Council on World Affairs Model UN Conference held last month. Lakewood won eight awards (tied for the most of any school), and won four of the nine Superior Delegation Awards--the highest possible delegation award.

The conference's theme this year, Re-evaluation and Collective Reconstruction as a Global Community, explored how the world can improve and move forward in a new direction with the help of international diplomacy. During the conference, student delegations debate and negotiate about

their committee topics and then write resolutions based on the issues debated. Preparation throughout the year leading up to the conference includes researching their assigned country and its policies relating to a topic to be debated at the conference.

Lakewood was competing against 14 other schools, including Orange, Rocky River, Western Reserve Academy, Shaker Heights, Mentor, Revere, St. Joseph Academy, Andrews-Osborne Academy and Westlake. Lakewood won the following awards:

**Superior Delegation Awards:** The teams of: Michael Yee and Sarah Speice; Fred Groce and Jared Melnyk; Ryan Cleary and Matt Sims; and Stacy Sponsler and Alberto Rodriguez

**Excellent Delegation Awards:** Kristian Hila and Zach Urbach; and Brian Brink.

**Honorable Mention:** Danielle Curran and Matt Majewski

**"Gavel" Outstanding Delegate Award:** Una Bobinac was named the single most outstanding delegate in the prestigious and highly competitive Security Council.

Lakewood's Model UN team has established a reputation for excellent over the many years it has participated in the program. A fine example

of that is the fact that Club president Alex Neidert and Grant Colvin, both four-year members of the Club, did not participate in the competition because, given their demonstrated mastery of debate and conference skills, they were asked to co-chair two of the committees.

Club adviser Dr. Chuck Greanoff wished to thank all 27 club members for conducting themselves, "With enthusiasm, dignity and integrity." He called it, "An honor to work with such dedicated students."

## LTA's Book Giveaway



Hayes 1st grader Ryan Britt receives his free book from teacher Nancy Sharbaugh as part of the Lakewood Teachers Association's book giveaway. The teachers donated money to buy a reading-level appropriate book for every 1st grader in the district. This is the seventh year the teachers have provided books for the district's newest readers.



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# Lakewood Schools

## Harding Legal Eagles Shine In Mock Trial Contest

by Christine Gordillo

Last month, Harding Middle School once again participated in the Ohio Center for Law-Related Education’s Middle School Mock Trial competition in Columbus and came out as one of the top teams, earning an “Excellent” rating. The only higher rating is Superior, which only one school attained. In addition to the outstanding team performance, seventh graders Katherine Renaudin and Connor Cimino won “Best Attorney” and “Best Witness” awards, respectively. This was the second straight Best Witness award for Cimino.

The trial for the competition was based on Avi’s documentary novel “Nothing but the Truth.” Forty middle schools from all over Ohio participated in this authentic and

worthwhile opportunity to immerse the students in the American judicial process.

The school’s Mock Trial Club held playoff trials in March to determine which top attorneys and which top witnesses would comprise the team that represented Harding at the Middle School Mock Trial showcase. Coached by teacher Ruth Pangrace and assisted by parent/attorneys Pete Kwiatkowski and Tamara Karel, 30 students from grades 6-8 demonstrated how well they know the judicial process and courtroom procedure. Three prominent Cuyahoga County judges presided over the playoff trials: Judge John O’Donnell, Judge Kathleen Keough, and Judge Dick Ambrose. Judging panels also included local guest attorneys and Lakewood school



administrators. After counting the ballots, four attorneys and six witnesses were selected to compete at the Ohio Statehouse.

Harding’s team included Ann Ela-

ban, Cole Karel, Katherine Renaudin and Kathryn Urban as attorneys, and witnesses, Devon Chodzin, Connor Cimino, Callan Foran, Renee Klann, Maggie Pizzo, and Sean Weddell.

## LHS Alum Stavros Awarded Fulbright Scholarship

by Christine Gordillo

Harpist Lucia Stavros, a senior at the New England Conservatory in Boston and a 2006 graduate of Lakewood High School, has been awarded a prestigious Fulbright Scholarship to research and study under harpist Isabel Perrin in Paris, France, for a year. Stavros will also study contemporary French music as well as work in the

Paris public schools demonstrating harp and giving lessons.

“France is a very important place in terms of the harp,” Stavros said. “The current harp pedal was invented in France.” Stavros said she is eager to learn the harp technique used by the French, which differs from the American technique.

Stavros credits the “unquestioned support” she received at Lakewood High

School for helping her advance along the path to a career as a professional musician. Stavros, who started playing harp at age 7, credited LHS orchestra director Beth Hankins as an early influence. “She took me under her wing and let me use the harp at the high school while I was only in middle school,” Stavros said. Hankins also gave Stavros full access to the semi-grand pedal harp, which is prohibitively expensive for the average family to purchase, throughout her high school career.

“Lucia is one of the finest musicians that I have ever worked with,” said Hankins. “I knew that she would succeed, but to be awarded a Fulbright Scholarship is unbelievable. I am so proud.”

The music Stavros made while she was at LHS is still memorable to principal Dr. William Wagner. “I thoroughly enjoyed hearing Lucia practice the harp as I would walk by the Civic [Auditorium]. It was a beautiful, calming effect in the midst of very busy days.”

While at Lakewood, Stavros participated in numerous performing arts groups including Chamber Orchestra, Symphony Orchestra, Symphonic Mixed Choir and Barnstormers. She

also was part of the Lakewood Project group that was invited to go to Salt Lake City, Utah, where she played the first electro-acoustic harp at the Lyon & Healy Pop and Jazz Harpfest in 2004. Stavros was among the first to perform on this innovative harp.

With the help of the LHS Guidance Office, Stavros was able to parlay her musical talent honed at Lakewood High into a scholarship at the select New England Conservatory, one of the top music schools in the nation.

The Fulbright Program is administered by the U.S. Department of State. The U.S. Student Program awards scholarships to U.S. graduating seniors, graduate students, young professionals and artists through a merit-based competition. The program emphasizes leadership development. Approximately 1,500 scholarships are awarded each year.

After her time in France, Stavros, who also performs as a vocalist, plans on continuing her music education in graduate school. She is still considering to which schools she will apply when she returns from France.

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## LHS Action Team



by Chris Brinich

On May 3, students at Lakewood High School worked with LHS Action Team captains in partnership with Volunteers of America and Major League Baseball. Cleveland Indians first baseman, Russell Branyan helped students assemble more than 700 personal care bags that will be distributed to homeless men and women.



# Lakewood Schools

## A ‘Cool’ Reminder To Recycle

by Mary Beth Kohl

Spring may have already arrived and the all of the ice and snow are gone for the season, but the only place Emerson Elementary students want to get into is the plastic igloo that was constructed on the school’s stage. What has been democratically dubbed “Fort Emerson,” began as a concept while researching possible art projects utilizing recyclable material to facilitate and enrich Emerson’s artist-in-residence program; a PTO program devised to supplement art education at the school. In the current economic climate where financial cuts permeate every level and affect just about all that

we do, the creativity and determination of a small, dedicated and creative team of parents pulled off a fun and interesting project for the Emerson students to enjoy.

The children were asked to bring in their empty white and clear one gallon milk jugs as the primary material for the project. Students eagerly responded to the request and within three weeks, nearly 900 milk jugs had arrived at the school for the project. After a few initial obstacles regarding location, adhesives and sorting through what turned into a mountain of plastic, construction of the igloo commenced.

Several of the 400 plus students at



photos by Mary Beth Kohl

Emerson lent a hand and were involved in the construction of the project. From the fifth graders employed to move the mountain of plastic out of the PTO kitchen down to the kindergarteners who helped place the first few rows, all grade levels were engaged and anxious to be involved and participate with the igloo’s creation. The students exclaimed many positive, “Oohs! Aahs!” and “Wows!” as they watched daily construction take place from their perches in the cafeteria during their lunch periods as the igloo was revealed behind the stage’s velvet curtain.

The igloo rests on a base of cardboard saved specifically for the project and is supported by a base of fifty milk jugs that were ballasted with sand by students for additional stability. Other than the cost of 8 1/2 pounds of hot glue sticks used to adhere the 731 one

gallon, 7 half gallon, and 3 quart size plastic jugs and \$2.00 for carpet remnants, no funding was required to construct what has become a visual monument to recycling and to what we consume within a very short time frame- not to mention a very appealing and fun place for the children to enjoy.

The igloo has since been turned over to the teachers at the school to use as a special reading or picnic luncheon area or for positive rewards. It has also generated a multitude of mathematical questions as well as providing a strong visual reinforcement for the children to support the importance of recycling everything they possibly can. The igloo provides a tangible illustration to a small portion of the recyclable plastic products we all use and also encourages the children to continue with their good recycling habits.



Mrs. Hare’s Second Graders enjoy their Right to Read books with Mr. Markling.

## Roosevelt School Celebrates Right To Read Week

by Regina Westlake

Roosevelt Elementary School celebrated Right to Read Week from March 29 through April 1, with enthusiasm. Roosevelt PTA president, Becky Boatman, along with teachers Mrs. Vullo, Mrs. Kidd and Mrs. Schultz, presented all students with their own Scholastic book to keep. During the day, students would “stop everything and read” for 15 minutes each day.

Students also had the opportunity

to support Right to Read Week by wearing shirts, hats, and buttons that promoted literacy.

Guest readers were invited to school to share their favorite stories with the students. Those visiting were Judge Patrick Carroll, School Board Member Matthew Markling, radio personality Glenn Anderson, Lakewood Public Safety members Mr. Fischer, Mr. Rasch and Ms. Seidel, and Roosevelt alumnus Mrs. Steiner.



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Lakewood Entertainment

Getting Dark And Victorian  
At The Root In May

by Haley Morris

It's that time again and The Roots walls are turning over for May. We welcome street and muliti-media artist Zachary Hart Baker, Chicago native, to give us a taste of what Cleveland means to him.

"The influence of fine art in my life has always been on the rise. From childhood into my mid 20's, I have been moved by the history and street culture surrounding Cleveland. My latest work is a multimedia expression of the arts, such as, film, literature, and improv. I use different colors and media as well as texture to bring out dimensions while on a flat surface. It makes the subject stand out to the point in which it could grow and become organic, whereas, the work I have taken to the streets can be and is only temporary until someone, or myself, takes it away."



Come check out Zach's work in person anytime in the month of May. Sip that iced tea and breath a sweet sigh of relief that April showers bring May flowers ... and killer interpretations of Titanic survivors!



The Wickersham Brothers clown around.

Your Favorite Dr. Seuss  
Characters On Stage At Beck

by Fran Storch

Join the mischievous Cat in the Hat and his friends in this fantastical, magical, musical extravaganza as Beck Center Youth Theater presents Seussical! on the Mackey Main Stage, May 14-22. Director Russ Stich leads a huge cast of talented young actors, ages 7 to 18, on this loosey, gooseical, lollapaloozical adventure. All of your favorite Dr. Seuss characters come to life, including Horton the Elephant, Gertrude McFuzz, Lazy Mayzie, and all of the Whos of Whoville.

Tickets are only \$12 for adults and

\$10 for children (18 and under). For specific show dates and times and to purchase tickets, go to [www.beckcenter.org](http://www.beckcenter.org) or call the Beck Center's box office at 216-521-2540 x10.

Located at 17801 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood, the Beck Center for the Arts is a not-for-profit 501(c)3 arts organization offering professional theater productions on two stages, arts education programming in dance, early childhood, music, theater, and visual arts, and gallery exhibits featuring local and regional artists.

Lakewood Resident Appointed To  
Cuyahoga Arts And Culture Board

continued from page 1

public sector. As COSE's point person for the region's arts and cultural industries—designers, musicians, gallery owners, photographers, performers, and artists representing a wide range of disciplines and media—Charboneau's effectiveness at bridging the sometimes disparate worlds of business and the arts is widely respected. Among the successful initiatives the COSE Network coordinates are the annual Arts Business and Innovation Awards, which recognize local individuals and organizations whose navigation of the often complex intersection between the arts and business communities is exemplary.

According to Minter, "Matthew's impressive combination of expertise and experience make him an ideal fit for the CAC board. Here we have a young man trained at one of the nation's pre-eminent conservatories, who is not only an accomplished musician and a gifted performer, but who is also an innovative arts administrator with a Master of Nonprofit Organizations (MNO) degree from Case Western

Reserve University. What's more, he is deeply acquainted with this community, its resources, and the individuals committed to the sustained growth of Cuyahoga County's creative sector. For all of these reasons, I am confident Matthew will be an active, contributing member of the board from day one—and an excellent advocate for the diverse stakeholders he will represent."

Cuyahoga Arts & Culture Executive Director Karen Gahl-Mills echoed Minter's enthusiasm, citing Charboneau's record of building relationships that have brought new accessibility—and new relevance—to the region's arts and cultural gems. "Matthew's professional record, including his time as associate director of Roots of American Music (a nonprofit organization that delivers arts-based assembly and residency programs to underserved schools throughout Northeast Ohio) assures me that he understands and values the public mission of Cuyahoga Arts & Culture and that he will be a great partner in the fulfillment of that mission."

Charboneau's appointment to the

board was applauded by Tom Schorgl, president and CEO of the Community Partnership for Arts and Culture (CPAC), who said, "Matt will serve as a key link between the business community and the arts and cultural community as a CAC trustee. Given the sizable role that this community's arts and cultural sector plays in the larger local economy, the importance—and the potential—of this link is extraordinary."

The vacancy that Charboneau has been tapped to fill is a result of the retirement of trustee David Bergholz, who, along with Minter, became one of two original members of the CAC board in April 2007. Thanking him for three years of dedicated board service,

Minter acknowledged the significance of Bergholz's role and the lasting effect it would have on an organization that, in only three years, has become one of the nation's largest sources of local public support for the arts.

"The \$48 million in operating support and project support grants CAC has made to date are an investment whose dividends are paid in communities throughout Cuyahoga County. CAC's impact on neighborhoods, on organizations and institutions of all sizes, on this region's effectiveness in attracting tourist dollars, and on countless numbers of vital outcomes is only beginning to be known. Dave's continued on page 22

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# Wellness Watch

## Growing And Giving With The Lakewood Garden Center

by Margaret Brinich

The little garage at the corner of Clarence and Detroit has housed various iterations of car related businesses over the years, but with a fresh coat of green paint outside, Lakewood can now claim a garden center of it very own. Owners Paul and Jenna have successfully taken a dingy garage and transformed the interior into an appealing combination of garden themed industrial chic. After spending much of his adult life working at other people's garden centers, Paul's expertise is a welcome addition for a city filled with passionate gardeners. During my behind the scenes tour, the husband and wife team voiced their enthusiasm about filling a long empty niche in Lakewood. Their excitement has only grown as these Cleveland Heights residents continue to discover the supportive nature of Lakewood's small business community, the City of Lakewood, and of course, Lakewood residents.

When asked if they had concerns about having Home Depot and other super-stores near by, Paul was confident, but realistic about being a small business owner. He replied saying, "I don't really see Home Depot as a threat. I have faith in the products and atmosphere that we are offering. When we chose Lakewood it was

because, we saw Lakewood as a vibrant community with the ability to differentiate between these two types of businesses. We feel that our customer base in Lakewood will recognize and appreciate the importance of our high standards both for the products we sell, as well as for the business practices we choose to follow."

Outside, a once bare parking lot, illustrates Paul's point perfectly. A lovely selection of healthy, multi-colored blossoms and greenery is strategically placed to make the most of a relatively small area. Whether you are searching for annuals, perennials, trees, shrubs, vegetables, herbs, or just some gardening advice for the novice green thumb, the Lakewood Garden Center will not disappoint. Other basic gardening necessities are also available, such as mulch, peat moss, pots, small tools, and fertilizers with both conventional and organic options. Many of the vegetable plants are also available as organic varieties.

Even as a fledgling business, the Lakewood Garden Center is already proving itself to be a strong community partner. On their first day open for business, the Garden Center lent a striking variety of potted plants for the Lakewood Earth And Food Community's Ruta-

baga Nights fundraiser. In so doing, the Lakewood Garden Center has demonstrated their commitment to doing their part to build upon the vibrant community life that initially attracted them to Lakewood. This trait will undoubtedly help them quickly establish themselves as a positive addition to Lakewood with other like-minded business owners and customers alike.

## Celebrating National Drinking Water Week

by John Goersmeyer

The City of Cleveland Division of Water will observe National Drinking Water Week, May 3- 8, and will host an Open House at two of its water works facilities, including free public tours and other family friendly activities. The Open Houses will be held Saturday, May 8th, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the following locations:

Drinking Water Week is an annual event sponsored by the National Drinking Water Alliance, composed of non-profit groups and government agencies.



Owners Paul and Jenna

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Wellness Watch

# Is Your Child Well-Adjusted?

by Dr. Allison K. Norris

I am often asked if my father, mother, sister, brother, or husband works with me in my office. I then explain to people that “this is not a family business but instead I TREAT families, babies up to grandparents.” This usually turns into a longer conversation about how I treat children, why children would need chiropractic, and is it safe?

Children are amazingly adaptable. They fall down and scrape their knee. There are tears shed but typically a band-aid and a kiss and they are magically healed. It really is often that simple. But what happened to their body when they took that fall? The body is amazing and will simply absorb those little bumps and bruises. It isn't until many bumps and bruises have occurred that the body starts to fail in adapting and aches and pains begin to set in. For most of us this does not occur until much later in life.

Chiropractic care in children helps children adapt even better to those bumps and bruises and takes them into adulthood with better body awareness and many tools to address issues sooner rather than later if needed. Adjustments affect the nervous system which coordinates with the immune system within the body. When a subluxation - what a chiropractor adjusts - is present, the nervous system and immune system work less efficiently and effectively. Removing

these subluxations allows for proper nervous system functioning, a boost in immune system response, muscle flexibility, improved joint mobility, and overall feeling good. Adjustments on a young person can also help with ear infections, reflux, colic, eating issues, constipation, scoliosis, birth trauma, bed-wetting, and growing pains, to name a few. Parents often get to the end of their rope managing and treating some of the above issues and chiropractic can be an affordable, non-invasive, easy solution for many people.

So, is it safe? Absolutely. I recommend taking a pediatric patient to a chiropractor who is either specially trained in working with infants and

children or to one who has a lot of experience and is comfortable treating infants and children. I have worked on my own children and many of my patients' children since the beginning of my practice. Their spines move and function in the same way as an adult's but their bones are spongier. An adult has clear delineations between bone, muscle and soft tissue textures in their body, whereas a child's body all feels pretty similar until they are weight bearing. Once they begin walking their bodies slowly begin changing into more of an adult body - their bones get harder, their muscles get bulkier, and their ligaments get stronger.

When I work with a young patient

it often appears that I am not doing much other than holding them and talking to them. The pressure is light and the adjustment is quick. I check their hips, mid-back, upper neck, and arms and legs. I make sure they do not have any tight spots in their muscles and that they are generally moving all their body parts the way they should. Then I teach the parents a few things to do at home that are pertinent to each patient. The parents are with the child more than I can be so it is important they are part of the treatment plan.

The best part of working with the younger population is they get better so quickly! Little bodies love to feel good and they do it well most of the time.

## The Perfect Diet?

by Meg Gerba Perry

What if there were a diet that lowered your cholesterol, balanced your blood sugar, reduced your risk of cancer, reduced your risk of heart disease, reduced your risk of Alzheimers, helped you lose weight and tasted great as well? What if this perfect diet were not a late night infomercial trying to sell you a product but a way of eating the foods already available right here in Lakewood, would you be willing to try it?

The perfect diet is simply the Mediterranean diet. It has been tested against the American Heart Association's low fat diet and has shown to do a better job of reducing cholesterol. It has also been tested and shown effective as a great diet for diabetics and people with blood sugar issues. Most recently it has been shown to reduce the incidence of Alzheimers. This same diet also includes many of the foods that were touted as longevity foods in The Blue Zones, Lessons for living longer from the people who've lived the longest by Dan Buettner.

This healthy way of eating includes foods such as legumes, whole grains, nuts, seeds, lean meats and fish, lots of green vegetables and well as every other color of vegetable and many fruits. It does not include trans fats, sugars, fried foods or processed foods.

The big difference is that it is a

higher fat diet thus making it easier to stick to with the fats coming from healthy fats such as Flaxseed oil, olive oil, avocado and coconuts. It is also easy to follow this diet as a vegetarian.

One of the patterns I often see in my office with people who follow a very low fat diet is people have low triglycerides and yet will have high LDL cholesterol. Their livers are making the LDL to provide the body with the cholesterol it needs to function. When I see this pattern I have them increase their healthy fats and then their LDL cholesterol comes down.

The perfect diet is only perfect if it works to keep you healthy and the Mediterranean diet is one that can be adjusted to meet your individual health needs.

It is no surprise that eating healthy will improve your health but we do need to refresh our memory of what constitutes healthy foods when we

are so inundated with information on eating right. It used to be that lots of carbohydrates and little fat was considered healthy, now we are finding that carbohydrates more quickly than fats are converted to stored fat.

We also are learning about different kinds of stored fat, some good and some bad. There is always lots to learn. If you are interested in learning more about healthy eating, wellness, heart and bone health, detoxification, the immune system and stress and weight gain LIVE WELL LAKEWOOD is putting on a free 10 Week Wellness Challenge, where we will discuss these topics and have a chance to work out with some of the great fitness experts in our community. Go to [WWW.livewelllakewood.org](http://WWW.livewelllakewood.org) for more information and registration.

Meg Gerba Perry is a Doctor of Naturopathic Medicine

### What Are Your Favorite Snacks?

Create your own recipes with some favorite, healthy snack ideas this month:

- Orange segments dipped in vanilla yogurt with a sprinkle of cinnamon
- Apples, sliced thin, with crunchy low-fat peanut butter
- Popsicles made from any kind of fruit juice
- Frozen grapes
- Low fat yogurt & fruit smoothie (many recipes online!)
- Low-fat cottage cheese with unsweetened canned pineapple chunks & sliced almonds
- Low-fat cottage cheese with diced cucumber, chopped tomatoes, red onion and/or zucchini, seasoned with salsa
- Cucumber “boats” filled with low-fat red pepper hummus
- Celery stuffed with low fat cream cheese or peanut butter
- Try the many flavors of hummus as a dip for veggie sticks or tortilla strips or both
- Fat free popcorn mixed with a few pretzels, and nuts and/or dried fruit
- Low fat chocolate or vanilla soymilk (or blend with crushed ice for a ‘shake’)
- Any low fat yogurt mixed with walnuts (or another favorite)
- Any low fat yogurt topped with fresh berries

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# Lakewood Cares

## Ministerial Musings: Stress, Stress, Stress

by Rev. John Tamilio III  
“Stress is basically a disconnection from the earth, a forgetting of the breath. Stress is an ignorant state. It believes that everything is an emergency. Nothing is that important. Just lie down.”

~ Natalie Goldberg  
Stress. It seems to attack us from all corners: work, family life, even the nightly news with its constant reports of “what’s wrong with the world” seems to barrage us with fretfulness. Clearly that is not healthy, but how can we help it? It is everywhere, like a plague. In the car we face road rage. At the supermarket we wait in long lines, when we’d rather be somewhere else. And at the end of the day, when we long only to sit down with a hot cup of tea and a book,

we remember that there are bills to pay, laundry to do, and soccer games to get ready for. Stress. It is everywhere!  
But it is not enough to have friends say, “Stop worrying so much.” That doesn’t lessen the demands that surround us vying for our time and attention, our money and our energy.  
I do not offer these words from some bully pulpit or podium of “I know better” knowledge. There are times that I am a wreck as well with all the worrying I do. (Trust me on this one.) But there is a bit of Scripture that I keep in my back pocket that ushers me through such times of travail.  
“So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today’s trouble is enough for today.” (Matthew 6:34)

### Prayer

Holy God,  
I lay myself and my burdens before you:  
Transform my brokenness through the balm of your Spirit.  
Help me see my worries as limitless possibilities for change.  
Remind me, at the core of my being, that whatever stressors cloud my spirit, I am far more than what I do or say, because, in the end, I am loved by you — a love that knows no end.  
Thank you for the blessings you continually pour into my life in the name of the Sovereign One, Christ Jesus. Amen.

Jesus was talking to a group of people on a mountainside whose lives were full of stress. They were poor. They were worrying about what they were going to wear and where they would find their next meal. Yet, Jesus assured them that God would care for them, just as God cared for the lilies of the field and the birds of the air. God will also care for you — if you simply open yourself to the divine presence and let the Spirit of peace into your soul.  
Again, I am preaching to myself

## Preservation Month Scavenger Hunt

by Martina Edman  
May is National Preservation Month and the Lakewood Historical Society is celebrating Lakewood’s architectural treasures with a scavenger hunt. The free event will run between May 15 and May 25, 2010. Participants will search for twenty architectural details shown on the downloadable entry form. The search will take them around Lakewood and help them discover unique and interesting features of Lakewood’s urban landscape. The entry form and list of Lakewood supporters will be posted on the Lakewood Historical Society website [www.lakewoodhistory.org](http://www.lakewoodhistory.org) on

here as much as I am speaking to anyone who cares to read these musings. There are times that I have to remind myself to stop, to pray, to put everything into perspective — to see my life the way that God sees me. That’s not easy. We judge ourselves constantly, but God doesn’t. God is love. And God is saying to me, “Relax. You’re ok. You’re loved no matter what. Today’s troubles are enough for today. Relax. I will help you carry them.”  
May 15, 2010. Completed entries must be submitted by the end of the business day on May 25, 2010 and may be dropped off at Rozi’s Wine House, 14900 Detroit Avenue, or Lakewood Hardware, 16608 Madison Avenue. Entries with all correct answers will be entered into a drawing to be held at LEAF Night on June 9, 2010 at 6 p.m. in the Lakewood Public Library (winners need not be present at drawing). Prizes consisting of gifts and gift certificates from Lakewood merchants and organizations will be awarded to first, second, and third place winners.  
The Lakewood Historical Society advocates for our historic community, in addition to providing stewardship of artifacts and buildings. By continuing to link our community’s past, present, and future through the preservation of our built environment, we retain this sense of place as “Lakewood.” Preservation, combined with appropriate economic development, is the key to maintaining the beauty of our neighborhoods, retaining our high quality of life, and keeping our community vibrant. This May, be part of the hunt for Preservation Month!



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Lakewood Cares

H2O Participates in Earth Day Spruce Up



by Nicholas Aylward

This Earth Day, members of Lakewood’s youth volunteer program, H2O (Help to Others), were busy giving back, while having fun! As part of the Great American Clean-up in Lakewood put on by Keep Lakewood Beautiful, H2O members spent their Earth Day participating in a Spruce Up of Lakewood Park. Teaming up with the Rocky River Kohl’s Department Store, volunteers picked up trash and cleaned up the walkway by the lake. The group filled countless trash bags on their way to making the walkway more enjoyable for everyone.

After a quick trip around the park,

Students Pitch In To Help Grow Community Garden

by Christine Gordillo

A community garden sponsored by the Lakewood Christian Service Center to provide produce for needy families will be sprouting this summer at Madison Park thanks in part to the talents of a number of students at Lakewood High and the West Shore Career-Technical district.

The garden will be planted in late May on a parcel behind the pool donated by the City of Lakewood. Everyone knows, however, that there’s a lot of prep work involved before any planting can begin and students in the high school’s horticulture program and West Shore’s construction trades program are helping mightily in that regard.

The Service Center turned to teacher Mark Rathge and his horticulture class at the high school for recommendations on what vegetables would grow well in that particular soil as well as began to cultivating the seeds to be ready for planting in May.

LCSC director Trish Rooney said getting the high school’s horticulture class involved helped her organization save a lot by not having to be plants and instead starting the garden from seeds.

The Construction trades student

the members also created coffee sleeves made out of recycled materials. The sleeves urge people to “Save a Tree; Use a Mug” and will be given out at The Root Cafe. H2O members hope you will enjoy their hard work this summer at Lakewood Park.

H2O is a program of the Lakewood Department of Human Services Division of Youth in partnership with Lakewood City Schools. Under the direction of staff from the Division of Youth, H2O programs are intended to build and strengthen the confidence and resources of Lakewood’s young residents through service projects.

chipped in by designing and building a 55’x80’ fence around the garden with recycled bleacher seats taken down from the ballfield at the park.

“Our goal is to have a recycling and sustainable project” that gives back to the community,” said Rooney.

“We are glad to support the City going green and we appreciate the opportunity for students to work in the community,” said construction trades instructor Mike Dow.

Once the garden is thriving come fall, the fruits (or veggie’s) of everyone’s labor will be used in a special benefit event in September that will feature Chef Jonathan Sawyer of the Greenhouse Tavern. Sawyer will prepare a menu for the event with the help of the Culinary Arts students at Lakewood High that includes produce from the garden.

Clients from the Service Center will be given their own plot in the garden so that they may provide healthy, fresh produce for their families.


Rooney said she is grateful for the assistance provided by the Lakewood High students and teachers. “I think it’s really important for the public schools to be involved in this kind of project,” she said. “They’ve done a fantastic job.”

Guest Bartending Event To Benefit West Side Resident

by Michell Slife

Looking to have a great time and support a fantastic cause? The Salem Team at Keller Williams Realty and friends will be holding their third annual Guest Bartending Event at Around the Corner on May 20th from 6 p.m. to midnight. Proceeds from the event will be donated to help defray medical expenses for Rocky River resident and friend of the team, Brandon Hiller, who was seriously injured a year ago.

On May 2, 2009, Brandon, an avid volleyball enthusiast and referee for many local leagues, was officiating a game at Ohio Nets Sports Complex in Parma when he suddenly fainted



and fell approximately 10 feet from his stand, striking his head on the floor and suffering a severe brain injury. He was immediately rushed to MetroHealth Medical Center, where he underwent two separate surgeries to remove blood clots from his head. He remained in a coma for three weeks.

Since awakening, Brandon has

**continued on page 17**

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LEAF Community

# In Support Of Local Food: Rutabaga Nights Wrap-Up

by Margaret Brinich

Once again Lakewood residents demonstrated in spectacular fashion exactly how much local food means to so many in this City. Despite the competition from the Cavaliers play-off game, Rutabaga Nights 2, drew over 300 attendees. Throughout the evening they feasted on food from 13 restaurants, listened to the musical talents of four bands, watched a quirky performance by MorrisonDance, bid on nearly 50 auction items, enjoyed locally produced libations, danced around a Maypole, took home kitchen sprout

gardens, and had their pictures taken at a mock dining room table.

Many thanks go out to our many donors- the importance of your commitment to LEAF and the Lakewood community cannot be understated.

**Auction Items:**

**Artists:** Amy Bennett; Ellen Brinich; Jaime Bouvier; Richard Cihlar; Suzanne Cofer; Annabelle Fisher; Michael Gill; Dawn Hartle; Jeff Hulligan; Ivor Karabatkovic; Andrew Kiser; Rhonda Loje; Ursula Ryan; Josh Soderberg; Kimberly Soderberg; Jim Stahlheber; Stacey Torma; Beth Whalley

**Businesses:** Westshore Montessori School; Charles Scott Salons & Spas; West Park Station Restaurant & Bar; Italian Creations; Ride and Workout; American Greetings; Jazzercise; Trinity Lakewood Community Outreach; Lakewood Garden Center; Geauga Family Farms; Tremont Scoops; Cleveland Public Theater; Green Pastures Poultry; Lakewood Garden Center

**Restaurants:** 2 Dad's Diner; 56 West; Aladdin's Eatery; Beer Engine; Breadsmith; Dewey's Pizza; Gypsy Beans & Baking Co.; India Gar-

den; Karen Bosworth Confections; Kenilworth Tavern; Louise Bakeshop; Root Cafe; Spice of Life Catering

And a very special thank you goes out to the following businesses, who went above and beyond to make Rutabaga Nights 2 a success:

Frank Lanza Photography; Gypsy Beans & Baking Co.; Karen Bosworth Confections; Lakewood Garden Center; The Lakewood Observer; The Root Cafe

And Chuck Karnack of All Go Signs!

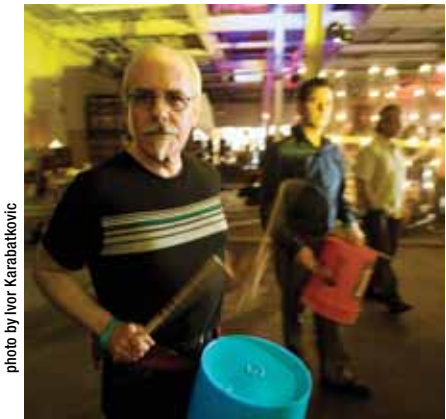


photo by Ivor Karabatkovic



photo by Ivor Karabatkovic



This unbelievable cake was by Karen Bosworth Confections.



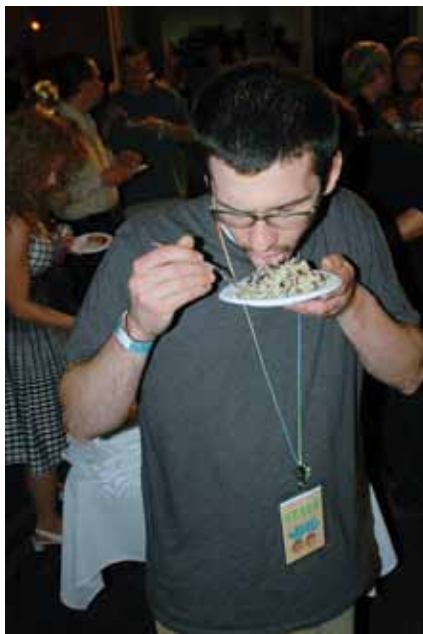
photo by Ivor Karabatkovic



photo by Ivor Karabatkovic



Frank Lanza set up for another photo.



As good as it looked! You can order Karen's cakes or try them yourself at 2 Dad's Diner



Lakewood Perspectives

In God (Not Government) We Trust

by Bret Callentine

I find it curious that many of the people who argue for removing the Ten Commandments from courthouses and outlawing nativity scenes from in front of city halls are some of the same ones who use an appeal to my Christian faith when trying to persuade me to approve certain other progressive agendas. “What would Jesus do?” isn’t just a bumper sticker anymore, it seems to be the newest battle cry for liberals looking to sway Christian conservatives into gaining an appreciation of government-funded social programs.

I’m familiar with several different translations of the Bible, and have spent much of my adult life studying the history and background of the different source materials and interpretations, yet, I can’t quite figure out how the political left reads “love thy neighbor as thyself”, and turns it into a call for more government welfare. I’ve read the parable of the Good Samaritan dozens of times, but not once did it make me think, “Hmmm, perhaps the government should have had more cops patrolling the road to Jericho.” And not once during Christmas Eve

service did I ever hear a sermon suggest that, “If Bethlehem had universal healthcare, Jesus wouldn’t have to have been born in a manger.”

Yet time and time again, in conversations dealing with a number of different political topics, I have someone quote me scripture in supposed support of their argument. “You should support a progressive tax structure, since wasn’t it Jesus who said, ‘It’s easier for a camel to fit through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God?’” The problem with this line of thinking is that it bastardizes the initial message. It perceives specific moral responsibilities from the general teachings of Christ, then manipulates the lesson into fallacious support of a completely unrelated course of action.

If the Bible were meant for that purpose, the story of the Prodigal Son would have read something like this... Luke 15:11-21 of the NLAT (New Liberal Activist Translation) Bible “There was a man who had two sons.

The younger one said to his father, “Father, give me my share of the estate.” So the man divided his property between them. After paying the appropriate inheritance taxes, the younger son got together all he had and set off for a distant country, and there squandered all his money. After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine due to global warming and he began to be in need. So he went to sign up for government assistance, but since he had not filled out the proper immigration forms, he was not eligible for food stamps. When he had reached his breaking point, he said to himself, “My father’s workers are unionized, and because of this they all have food to spare, I will set out and go back to my father and say to him ‘Father, the government failed to subsidize crops and the land owners refused to support the working class and as a result have created much suffering, certainly your God would want you to share your abundance.’” So he went back to his father. But, while he was still a long way off, his

father saw him and was filled with compassion and said “Capitalism has failed the people of that country, but you are still worthy to be called my son...”

Yet, somehow, I don’t recall reading about anyone getting that type of interpretation out of the Dead Sea Scrolls, and for good reason. The Gospels speak to a personal relationship with Jesus and define moral responsibilities on an individual level.

This doesn’t mean that the government can’t offer social programs, but it does remind us that we cannot simply delegate our ethical and moral responsibilities off to some faceless government agency. Jesus came to Earth to give us a personal relationship with his heavenly father. Apparently, God wasn’t satisfied with the bureaucracy of the existing church.

Whether or not you believe you are your brother’s keeper says nothing for how best to provide care. And I’m not sure that you’ll be able to find any biblical passages that support the notion that government intervention is the first and best response to serving the greater good.

Pulse Of The City

Happy Mother’s Day!

by Gary Rice

The 20th century may well have been marked by some of the greatest disputes known to humanity, but one holiday created at the dawn of that century enjoys universal agreement around the world. That holiday, of course, is Mother’s Day.

Although days honoring motherhood have been known since time immemorial, the first official American holiday occurred in 1908 through the efforts of one Anna Jarvis. Anna’s own mother had worked in sanitation during the Civil War, and had organized “Mother’s Work Days” at that time. Another famous woman, Julia Ward Howe (composer of the words for the “Battle Hymn of the Republic”), had also written a “Mother’s Day Proclamation” in 1870 encouraging



photo by Gary Rice

peace on earth, though she was unable to obtain official recognition back then for a Mother’s Day for Peace.

In 1914, the United States Congress passed a law declaring the second Sunday in May to be Mother’s Day. An older tradition from England had been known as Mothering Sunday.

Traditionally, carnations have been passed out in churches on the occasion of Mother’s Day. Red carnations have been given to those whose mothers were still living, and white ones to those whose mothers had passed on. Ironically, Anna Jarvis, in her later years, seemed to very much disapprove of the commercialization of the holiday.

In the pulse of our city, we spend a great deal of time discussing the various issues that impact our lives. I can think of nothing that would have a greater impact on our lives than the influence of our mothers. While most of us probably have endearing memories of our childhood, it should be noted, with sorrow, that many people do not share those memories. They might not have experienced the love and support of a caring Mom, for any number of reasons. To those people, my heart goes out.

Fortunately, I had a beautiful mother who was the light of my life. She’s been gone nearly six years now, but she lives in every thought and action that I do. Like many children, I did not always do everything the way she

wanted it to be done, and I certainly feel badly about some of those moments when we did not agree. Still, on the whole, our life together was a precious blessing. The lessons she brought to my life will always be with me.

Happy Mothers Day to all of the Mothers sharing the pulse of this city.

**Guest Bartending Event**

**continued from page 15**

been working hard to recover and rehabilitate himself. At first, he was unable to speak and had a trachea tube to help him breathe. In February he was transferred to MetroHealth’s skilled nursing facility where he continues to work on walking, upper body strength, and fine motor skills. His positive attitude, fantastic sense of humor and fighting spirit have inspired his many friends, including the members of the Salem Team.

The bartending event will be held in the Warehouse room at Around the Corner and will feature a DJ, trivia, raffles and more. All proceeds from the raffles and tips will go directly to Brandon.

The Salem Team is also accepting donations for raffle prizes. If you would like to donate an item, please contact Brian Salem at (216) 244-2549 or [brian@thesalemteam.com](mailto:brian@thesalemteam.com).

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Pets

# Dogs Love To Be Walked In Our Parks

by Mark Schulte

What a great day in Lakewood it was, as the leashed dog walking pilot in Lakewood Park and Kaufman Park began on April 10th. The citizens support committee was there with their dogs inspecting the clean up stations, ensuring that they were stuffed with pick up bags and talking to residents. There were plenty of happy and orderly

dog walkers that came out as well, with leashes attached and bags in their pockets. Joggers were using the path along with dog walkers and cyclists and everyone was pleased with the look and feel of a new dog friendly Lakewood. Visitors from out of state and neighboring cities were also enjoying the park with their dogs, commenting that now they would not hesitate to con-

sider buying a home in Lakewood or establishing their business here.

The committee would like to thank those council persons who voted for the pilot program, were positive in their comments and actions, and supported the committee's efforts over the past year to make Lakewood a more family friendly community including Kevin Butler, Tom Bullock, Nickie Antonio, Brian Powers and Monique Smith. Sincere gratitude also goes out to Joe Beno, Director of Public Works, and his staff who worked with the committee to place clean up stations, signage and map out safety concerns. Special mention and thanks also goes to Dru Siley, Assistant Director of Planning & Development, who championed the inclusion of value added programs like the leased dog walking pilot and citizen support efforts as an integral part of an effective and sustainable Lakewood Parks Master Plan.

Several dog walkers even chased away the flock of geese that were defecating on the lakefront outfield grass. Even on leash the dogs chased the geese into flight and did not allow them to return while the dogs were in the park. Walking on the outfield grass was very difficult given the numerous large piles of goose poop, but hopefully these piles will lessen as leashed dogs continue to walk the park with their masters. The citizens support committee also plans to conduct several educational seminars and park cleanups, encouraging fellow Lakewood citizens to join the effort to keep our parks clean and vibrant.

Proper etiquette is the key to continuing the expansion of our park usage. To that end the Citizens Committee In Support Of Leashed Dog Walking in Lakewood Parks offers the following suggestions for dog walkers:

### On Leash

Your dog should always be on leash outside of the dog's place of residence. Please remember that walking your dog means personally walking your dog on a leash. Do not simply "send your dog out" to do their business, which inevitably ends up on your neighbors' property for them to clean

up. While you may not mind the piles in your yard, your neighbors should not have to worry about it in theirs.

### Jump Or Approach

Your dog should be taught and controlled never to jump on or approach anyone without permission. Have an excited dog? Keep in mind that not everyone may be as much of a dog lover as you are. Don't assume that every man, woman and child wishes to pet your pooch. Some people are afraid of dogs, or may not be in the mood to be jumped on. Be sure to gauge their interest and get their permission before approaching. The same holds true for approaching other dogs.

### Be Respectful

Above all respect the rights of other persons and pets around you when walking your pet in a neighborhood. It is not courteous to allow your dog to walk on people's front lawns, or urinate on their mailboxes or landscaping. Instead, a more appropriate way to handle your pet is to walk in the street or on the sidewalk and to restrict your pet to the strip of grass that's between the sidewalk and street, staying clear of people's plantings and posts.

### Pick Up

Dog walkers must carry waste bags to pick up dog waste and place it in an appropriate container. Dog walkers, please, don't even leave your house without a plastic bag for picking up after your pet! And don't forget to use it! Be a considerate dog walker and carry extra bags to pick up waste and litter along your walk or to have one ready to give to a fellow dog walker who may need one.

### Under Control

• Keep your dog under your full control. Your dog must be under control at all times in all places by someone who is strong and responsible enough to maintain proper control of your dog.

### Follow Local Ordinances

• Dog owners must be aware of and obey local ordinances. By working together to be responsible pet owners, we can help keep our neighborhoods and parks enjoyable for all.

Coming up in future articles will be suggestions for non dog walkers.

Happy and Healthy Walking!

## Picking Up Poop Is The Right Thing To Doo

by Jennifer Elting

Why? Because dogs can't flush. Doggies can't scoop it, so you have to doo it! The Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District has introduced a campaign encouraging dog owners to Pick Up Poop, or "PUP." PUP educates pet owners about the environmental hazards of abandoned poop and encourages them to scoop that poop!

Dog poop is a contributor to many water quality problems, impacting not only local waterways but area beaches. When it rains, the runoff takes just about everything off the ground with it. Lawn chemicals, litter, road salt and debris, cigarette butts and bacteria from dog poop are just a few possible contaminants.

"There are approximately 90,000 dogs living in Cuyahoga County, producing 45 tons of poop each day," said Frank Greenland, Director of Watershed Programs. "Cleaning up after your pet is a simple way to help keep our neighborhoods, local waterways and ultimately Lake Erie clean."

The scoop on doggie poop

- An average pile of doggie doo produces 3,000,000,000 fecal coliform bacteria!

- Dog droppings have 10X more fecal coliform bacteria than cow manure.

- Dog poop can also contain other bacteria such as e. coli, salmonella and giardia.

- Dog poop is not a fertilizer; doggies eat a high protein diet (as opposed to a cow's vegetarian diet), resulting in highly acidic waste.

- 40% of U.S. households have at least one dog.

What to do with all that doo? Don't drop your dog's poop into the storm drain. Most storm drains flow directly to your local stream and NOT a wastewater treatment plant. Remember to take a bag with you (biodegradable preferred) on your walks and scoop that poop! "Doo" the responsible thing – your "doo-ty" as a pet owner – and simply throw the bagged poop into the trash!

The Sewer District will be promoting "PUP" at many events throughout the year, starting with Q104's "Pledge for Pets" fundraiser for the Cleveland APL. Sewer District employees answered phones and took pledges Friday, April 30, from 6-9 a.m; all callers during that time received a PUP bandanna for their doggie.

More information about the Sewer District and the PUP campaign is available online at [WhereDoesItGo.org/PUP](http://WhereDoesItGo.org/PUP).

## CCLAS Celebrates Its 6th Annual 'Hair of the Dog' Fundraiser

by Dawn Pyne

It's time for an evening filled with live music, comedy, food, drinks and fantastic local merchandise, all while helping our furry friends! And you can be a part of it.

The Citizens Committee for the Lakewood Animal Shelter (CCLAS) is sponsoring its sixth annual 'Hair of the Dog' Happy Hour and Silent Auction on Thursday, May 20th from 5:30 – 8:30 p.m. at Sullivan's Irish Pub & Restaurant in Lakewood. Once again, dozens of Lakewood and Cleveland-area businesses have generously donated items and services for auction, including tickets to Cleveland sporting events, live shows, restaurant and spa certificates, tons of pet-friendly products and much more! The event features local comedian Mark McKenzie (Last Call Cleveland) as emcee, and live music by Ben and Liz of The Dreadful Yawns. As always, 100% of the proceeds will benefit the Lakewood Animal Shelter and allow it to continue its low-cost spay and neuter program.

For twenty six successful years, the Citizens Committee for the Lakewood Animal Shelter has served Lakewood and all of Cuyahoga County's western suburbs by helping abandoned dogs, cats and other animals find safe and loving homes. The recent recession has provided many challenges, but has not interrupted our delivery on this mission. That's why we need your help now more than ever. Last year's event boasted a large turnout of animal welfare advocates, friends and community members, and we hope this year will set a new record!

WHAT: The Lakewood Animal Shelter's 6th Annual 'Hair of the Dog' Fundraiser

WHEN: Thursday, May 20th from 5:30 – 8:30 p.m.

WHERE: Sullivan's Irish Pub, 13368 Madison Ave, Lakewood

CONTACT: CCLAS Events (216) 744-6318 or [cclaspets@gmail.com](mailto:cclaspets@gmail.com)

For more information on our Hair of the Dog fundraiser and advance ticket purchases, visit us online at [www.cclas.info/HOD2010.html](http://www.cclas.info/HOD2010.html)

## National Dog Bite Prevention Week

by Charles Zingale, Terri Burkhart

Dear Dog Owner,

Your letter carrier takes great pride in delivering your mail promptly and efficiently. National Dog Bite Prevention Week is celebrated nationally in May. We would like to take this opportunity to remind you of a few safety concerns regarding dog bites and letter carriers.

Over 3,000 letter carriers were bitten last year. It is our goal to have every letter carrier deliver the mail safely without fear of getting bitten by a dog.

Please locate your mailbox away from open windows, doors, and where your dog may be tethered. Gates and doors should be securely latched. Screens are not considered a safe barrier between dogs and carriers. Do not open your door to get your mail until the carrier has safely left the area.

Although your regular carrier may be familiar with your dog(s), it is more likely that you may have a substitute carrier during summer vacation months. The time of delivery may also be at different times during the day. Making your children aware of dog safety will help to keep letter carriers safe in Lakewood.

We appreciate your cooperation. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact us at (216) 226-9691.

Sincerely,

Charles Zingale, Terri Burkhart

The Safety Committee, Lakewood Post Office



# Right Off The LO Deck

April 12, 2010  
Mr. Tom Bullock  
Lakewood City Council  
12650 Detroit Avenue  
Lakewood OH 44107  
Dear Mr. Bullock:

On the evening of Monday, April 5 you as a member of Lakewood City Council proposed for the first time a series of three supposed “campaign finance reforms.” As fellow members of City Council, we were puzzled by these proposals, for several reasons. First, the inflammatory wording of your communication created the false impression that public servants in Lakewood may have been receiving improper compensation or have otherwise been associated with the county corruption scandal. Second, portions of your proposals are likely unconstitutional and are therefore a waste of Council’s time and taxpayers’ money. Third, although you have been on City Council for over two years, you waited to introduce these proposals until less than a month before your upcoming primary election date against another member of our Council. Fourth, campaign finance reform is mor effectively done at the county level, rather than piecemeal at the suburban municipal level, because our elections are conducted by a County Board of Elections, not by the City of Lakewood. For these reasons and more, many people in the room that night were confused by your out-of-left-field proposals.

The confusion was cleared up the very next day, on April 6, when voters in Lakewood and Cleveland received campaign literature from you, attacking a fellow member of Lakewood City Council. This slick campaign flier proclaimed that you “pushed for tough new campaign finance reforms in Lakewood.” In support of this specious claim, the political piece cited the meeting minutes of Lakewood City Council. But your campaign literature was printed and sitting at the mail house BEFORE you even introduced these proposals. The flier makes reference to meeting minutes that did not yet exist because the meeting did not yet occur.

You call yourself “an honest reformer” campaigning for “tougher ethics laws.” But your political actions are neither honest nor ethical. You have made a mockery of Lakewood City Council by using our legislative process to introduce unwarranted, unworkable, and potentially unconstitutional ordinances, purely to score cheap political points. You have traded the integrity of our legislative body for a weak punch-line in your campaign literature.

As Lakewood taxpayers in a time of fiscal crisis, we are appalled that you chose to introduce legislation that, if passed, would surely require us to spend huge sums of money defending these ill-conceived ordinances against constitutional challenges. As Democrats, we are embarrassed that you as president of our Lakewood Democratic Club would engage in slimeball attack-style negative campaigning against a dedicated public servant. And, most important, as members of Lakewood City Council, we are outraged that you would so blatantly abuse our legislative process for your own short-sighted personal political gain.

You, sir, should be ashamed. The people of Lakewood deserve better than these political games from an elected representative.

Sincerely,  
Mary Louise Madigan  
Brian E. Powers

## Seeking Applicants For LO Citizens’ Advisory Committee

by Heidi Hilty

The Lakewood Observer Advisory Board is currently looking for persons interested in serving on an ad hoc Citizens’ Advisory Committee. We are interested in input from all walks of the community to assist with issues concerning policy, content, and direction of the paper.

Participants should be willing to meet with Margaret Brinich, Editor-in-Chief, and a member of the Advisory Board. Expect to attend 4 to 8 meetings over the next several months at a mutually convenient time (to be determined by the group).

Please email a brief statement that includes your name, contact information, why you’re interested, what you believe you may have to offer the group, and any other information you deem pertinent and appropriate to: heidi@lakewoodobserver.com. Emails will be accepted through May 31, 2010.

We are seeking a variety of diverse Lakewood citizens for this committee. Help us continue to propel the project forward as well as engage Lakewoodians – and the world!



## Become an Observer!

*The Lakewood Observer* is looking for people, ages 15–100, 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.

If you are interested, e-mail to: publisher@lakewoodobserver.com

**News releases**—If you have information on an event, organization, program or news on *anything* that has to do with Lakewood, send it to: city.editor@lakewoodobserver.com

**Calendar of Events**—To appear on our calendar of events, e-mail: events@lakewoodobserver.com

**Newsies/Delivery People**—*The Lakewood Observer* is looking for people that would like to help deliver the newspaper. If interested, e-mail: delivery@lakewoodobserver.com

**We need you to get involved! If you have or know of a story, we want it!**

## Hot Off The Deck

<http://lakewoodobserver.com/forum>

Join the discussion online – visit the OBSERVATION DECK

Topics	Replies	Author	Views	Last Post
LAKEWOOD DISCUSSION				
Rutabaga Nights 2	5	Ivor Karabatkovic	328	
New business, word on the street	6	Jim O’Bryan	761	Tue May 04, 2010 10:40 am
Fauna - In and around Lakewood.	28	Jim O’Bryan	1061	Mon May 03, 2010 3:02 pm
Clouds got in the way...	166		11126	Sat May 01, 2010 11:23 pm
garbage recycler picker	7	Jim Marquard	441	Mon Apr 26, 2010 5:13 pm
\$100,000,000 New Development!	67	Dustin James	2331	
2nd Grade Gifted and classes cancelled	8	Betsy Voinovich	559	Sat Apr 24, 2010 3:11 pm
Bike Path for Clifton Blvd. Project?	10	Ken Lipka	530	Wed Apr 21, 2010 3:52 pm
Thank you Lakewood...and others	0	Missy Limkemann	115	Thu Apr 15, 2010 9:40 pm
Found ring in Great Clips parking lot	4	Toni Northrop	188	Wed Apr 14, 2010 3:01 pm
New Logo for Downtown Lakewood	307	Mary Anne Crampton	22088	Wed Mar 31, 2010 8:07 am
Ahead at Lightspeed	332	Jim O’Bryan	43934	Fri Mar 12, 2010 4:39 pm
NATIONAL DISCUSSION				
Nice Straw Man	13	Bret Callentine	180	Sat Apr 10, 2010 12:47 pm
Kumbaya Beer Summit (non-Easter weekend)	23	Stephen Eisel	316	Tue Apr 13, 2010 6:01 am
Endangered Missing Child	34	Linda Summers	22165	
Isn’t it time you joined the discussion with friends, neighbors, and civic personalities?				

## LO Member Photo Blogs



Hundreds of galleries, with thousands of images from Lakewood’s most talented photographers for your enjoyment. Start yours today!



Lakewood Observer

# University Tees Sets Up Shop In Lakewood

by Ryan Sweeney

In these days of economic uncertainty it can seem, at times, that the number of negative stories in the news still outweigh the few that are positive. We hear small businesses continue to suffer and the vacant storefronts on Lakewood’s major streets are hard to miss. But in spite of all the hype, many businesses are doing well and have been steadily growing. One such company, which has chosen to move in to Lakewood’s East Side, is known as University Tees.

University Tees has been based in Westlake since 2006 but its origins take place inside a dorm room at Miami University back in 2003. At that time, roommates Nick Dadas and Joe Haddad took part in many student organizations. After interacting with some other, pricier print shops Nick and Joe decided they could better serve campus life through creating their own custom apparel company providing the best overall experience for student and

faculty alike.

Being students, Nick and Joe employed their peers to help with graphic design and sales, a tradition the company still keeps. Today, these Campus Managers operate out of approximately 85 Universities and serve as an easily accessible bridge to

a company that sells their products at a lower price with faster delivery. All while supplying the customer with flexibility and understanding that can only be provided by a fellow busy college student.

Over the years Nick and Joe (now President and Vice President of UT

## University Tees Receives \$50,000 Economic Development Fund Loan

University Tees, a growing business owned by Lakewood residents, is moving its headquarters to Lakewood this summer. The company sells apparel products to college campuses across the nation.

The growing business already opened a production facility in Lakewood in September of 2009 as part of its newly created company, 717 Ink. The company decided to stop outsourcing their printing processes and 717 Ink is the exclusive screen-printer for University Tees. 717 Ink recently entered into a long term lease at Lakewood’s Templar Office Complex (formerly the Lake Erie Screw Building), 13000 Athens Avenue.

“Small business is big business in Lakewood. That’s why the city established our economic development fund to grow small, growing, businesses” said Nathan Kelly, Lakewood’s Director of Planning and Development. “We’re glad to be part of their growth and proud that they are calling Lakewood home.”



respectively) have met with success on the college front and have watched their company grow. Since their college time they have widened their gaze to include orders from corporate clients requiring a wider range of promotional products such as hats, pens and mugs. To meet these demands UT expanded to include [www.Onpoint-promos.com](http://www.Onpoint-promos.com) which was designed to work for local groups, businesses and non profit organizations, some of which include Sherwin Williams, AT&T and State Farm. Their company’s next addition came last September in the form of 717 Inc (spelled Ink) which was established in Lakewood’s Templar Industrial Park located on Athens Avenue just south of Madison Park. This very appropriate locale is already known for the Lake Erie Screw Factory with its Screw Factory Artists galleries and shows. After outsourcing to other companies for almost six years UT now has their own manufacturing center with ample space on the second floor for the site of their new company headquarters.

From a college dorm, to an office in Westlake the members of UT have done a lot of traveling on their way to Lakewood. When asked about the move, President Nick Dadas stated, “There’s a lot of cost involved, we hope to be fully moved in by July. The City Planning Director Nate Kelly has been a big help bringing young companies to Lakewood. We received a C.D.B.G. loan (Community Development Block Grant) which helps finance the cost of moving.”

Despite all the changes over the years the company has never lost sight of the core philosophies they were founded upon. “We pride ourselves on our customer service,” said Vice President Joe Haddad. “We’re a young company so we’re very passionate and energetic; we go straight to the customer for everything to make the experience better for them.”

Creating a better experience is a common theme at University Tees, both for the customer and the employee. Among their reasons for moving to Lakewood Nick and Joe both cited its popularity among young people and the fact that many of their employees already live in the city. “A lot of our employees are straight out of college and now live in Lakewood, people should like living where they work,” said Joe. Nick agreed, going on to say, “We like the culture here, the popular restaurants. It’s the best place to live when you’re young.”

The history of University Tees is full of success; its future appears to be nothing but bright. In the past six months they have already hired seven additional people and with their continued growth more jobs will be created as they appear. As the year wears on residents can only hope to hear of the continued success of local business like UT and by extension, the continued revitalization of Lakewood as a whole. Learn more about University Tees at [www.Universitytees.com](http://www.Universitytees.com) or become a fan of their Facebook page.



# FOURTH ANNUAL WEB S.W.A.T.

## 5K RUN / 1 MILE WALK-RUN

### SUNDAY, MAY 23<sup>RD</sup>, 2010

**ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE CONCERNS OF POLICE SURVIVORS.**  
This organization provides resources to assist in the rebuilding of the lives of surviving families of Ohio law officers killed in the line of duty

**Place:** Race begins and ends at the Westlake Holiday Inn  
Located at the Crocker Road Exit on I-90, Westlake, Ohio. On-site Parking available.



**Time:** Registration and packet pick-up: 7:30 A.M.  
5K Race: 9:15 A.M. / 1 Mile: 8:50 A.M.

**Entry Fee:** Pre-registration \$18.00 (Deadline May 19<sup>th</sup>) / Race Day Registration \$23.00

**5K Race Awards:** Awards given to top male and female runners.  
Runners finishing in the top three in each age group will receive awards.  
Age Groups: 14 and under, 15-19, 20-24, 25-29, 30-34, 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54, 55-59, 60-64, 65 & over.  
Separate awards for Top male and female Law Enforcement Finishers.

**1 Mile Fun Run Awards:** Age Groups: 6-7, 8-9, 10-11, 12 & over

**All proceeds go to Concerns Of Police Survivors. Fully tax deductible donations accepted.**



Send registration form in by Wednesday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, and make checks payable to:  
Hermes Sports and Events – 1624 St. Clair Ave., Cleveland, OH 44114  
For more information call: (216) 623-9933 or visit: [www.hermescleveland.com](http://www.hermescleveland.com)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Male: \_\_\_\_\_ Female: \_\_\_\_\_ Age on race day: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
Adult T-Shirt size: S M L XL XXL (Circle One) Youth T-Shirt size: S M L (Circle One)  
Mark here if Law Enforcement Entry \_\_\_\_\_

**Waiver:** By my signature, I attest that I am physically fit and trained to participate in this event. I have full knowledge of the risk involved. Therefore, in consideration of the acceptance of my entry in the C.O.P.S. Run, I for myself, heirs, executors and administrators waive and release any and all rights or claims for damages I may have against Hermes Sports and Events, Concerns Of Police Survivors, the City of Westlake and the WEB S.W.A.T. Team and the parent municipalities and any other individuals associated with this event and will hold them harmless for any and all injuries I may suffer in connection with this event. I also permit photo images obtained to be used publicly.

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ Parent / Guardian (If under 18 years old)

Additional Donation to Ohio C.O.P.S.: \_\_\_\_\_ \$5.00 \_\_\_\_\_ \$10.00 \_\_\_\_\_ \$20.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

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



## Notes From Afghanistan

# Returning To A New Place

by Eric Smith

This time, when I walked down the helicopter ramp and felt the swirling grit of blowing sand, it was midday. The sunlight stung while I balanced my backpack on my body armor and walked to the waiting bus. Other things occurred to me, while I settled into my seat, that indicated this was not Iraq: the helicopter was German, I was inside an Afghan National Army(ANA) Post, and sharp mountain crags, covered with the first new growth of spring, stood sentinel as a backdrop to our arrival. The flight itself was brief, as we had only a short distance to travel. The German-run base we departed from was on the east side of Mazar-i-Sharif and my new home, Camp Spann, was on the west side. All in all, it wasn't a bad way to make the final leg of my journey to Afghanistan.

It's been sixteen months since I left Iraq and returned to upstate New York. Since that time I've taken a new job as the Brigade Operations Officer (S3), spent a month training in Louisiana, gone on trips to Iraq and Afghanistan (twice), and spent as much time with my family as possible. Now I'm in Afghanistan with the First Brigade, Tenth Mountain Division - the first combat formation from the Army to arrive as part of the Afghan "surge." Our mission is to train the Afghan National Police (ANP) so they can assume responsibility for securing their own communities against insurgent and criminal predation. It's quite different from our last one.

For most of the past year we were planning on deploying to Iraq in January 2010. The improving security situation, and the growing ability of the Iraqis to look after themselves made that deployment unnecessary and our orders were canceled. When the President announced a troop increase for Afghanistan, we were at the top of the list of eligible units. In December we began planning for the deployment to northern Afghanistan that began the first week of the year and will continue through mid-May. Though deploying three-thousand Soldiers and all their equipment from upstate New York in the midst of winter on short-notice is a daunting task, everyone pulled together and we made it over here.

Despite all the planning, all the preparation, the carefully constructed address lists, pre-labeled boxes, and last-minute outings, at the personal level, nothing can prepare you fully for the last few hours at home. The last goodbyes are always the same, no matter the unit or the destination. For us, we waited in an empty building for an hour while children, blissfully unaware of the true meaning of time, chased each other and played. The clock ticked

mercilessly onward, oblivious to us. We said our goodbyes, embraced in what felt like a tearful, slow ballet, and I walked awkwardly through the throng of couples and families, dancing to their own sad melodies of parting.

We climbed on the plane, clutching bags of homemade cookies and

cultural mixing ground for thousands of years. We sit astride the fabled silk road, the network of ancient trading routes that linked the orient and the occident. The passage of cultures can be seen in the faces of the local residents, the architecture, and the garish sculptures in the midst of Mazar-i Sharif's

of classical Persian, though depending on which unpaved track a traveler turns down, any of a dozen different languages can be heard.

The NATO command structure we are a part of, known as ISAF (the International Security Assistance Force), is no different. We work for a German Army headquarters and living with us are British, Norwegian, Swed-

ish, Croatian, Hungarian, Mongolian, German, Finnish, Bosnian, and French soldiers. One of our officers referred to daily meals as, "A tour of western European camouflage patterns." The universal language is English, but the idiosyncrasies of each country sometimes make for frustrating operations until we are able to understand what each unit can and cannot do, both in terms of regulations and capability.

The daily dramas and familiar rhythms of deployed life are present: staff updates twice a day, walk to the mess hall for meals, halt the spread (or propagate, for some) of the outlandish rumor of

the moment, inspections and rehearsals before we drive outside the wire, dodging large armored vehicles everywhere, the crunch of boots on pea gravel, wearing headlamps at night. . . It feels comfortable in a way, like I've returned, but to a new place.

We tolerate the elements, while we build the brigade's ability to conduct operations. The heat and cold that sometimes arrive on the same day, the wind that sweeps down from the central Asian steppe forcing us to wear sunglasses when moving from building to building, the rain-delivered mud that coats vehicles in a sticky mass, then dries into flaky cement - it's part of life now, ignored, endured, enjoyed, or tolerated.

Spring is over and synchronized with lengthening days and the retreating snowpack, the enemy is reentering the field. It's a footrace for us to get our Soldiers and their equipment in place before the insurgents realize the full import of what is coming. Measured with the cold math of military statistics, contact so far has been light, but it wasn't more than a week after we arrived that our Soldiers were in the fight. It's sure to be a hot summer in this very old and very new place.

Eric Smith grew up in Lakewood and graduated from LHS in 1990. He is currently serving as an infantry officer in the U.S. Army, stationed in Northern Afghanistan. His wife Dina and three children are living outside Fort Drum, New York, and they are kind enough to mail him kettle corn every few weeks. Eric's parents are Pam and Tom Smith, longtime Lakewood residents, who both agree he should call home more often.



*Camp Spann, Northern Afghanistan*

already twice-read letters, school drawings and iPods, good-luck charms and photographs; squeezed into our seats, and watched our homes disappear into the snow-covered landscape below.

Northern Afghanistan has been a

many traffic circles. The descendants of Tajiks, Uzbeks, Turks, Greeks, Indians, Russians, Ainaks, Arabs, and Pashtuns are represented in a swirl of color and humanity at each local market. The predominant language is Dari, a form



*MAJ Eric Smith, preparing to board the German helicopter.*



Real Estate

Utilities, Credit Cards Or Mortgage?

New Partnership Prevents Hard Choices, Strengthens Neighborhoods.

by Hilary Schickler

An exciting new partnership in Lakewood, focusing on homeowners' needs, will kick off during the month of May. LakewoodAlive is teaming up with Neighborhood Housing Services of Greater Cleveland (NHS GC) to provide Lakewood residents with access to a full range of homeownership education, foreclosure prevention, and lending programs.

"The loss of jobs or cuts in hours has made it difficult for some local families to pay their mortgages. They face difficult choices about which bills to pay, and often those choices put them at risk of losing their homes," said LakewoodAlive Executive Director Mary Anne Crampton. "NHS GC can assist these families with preserving their homes. This nonprofit organization has a long history of successful service to Northeast Ohio and brings the right mix of educational and financial resources to address Lakewood's unique needs." Residents having trouble making mortgage payments cannot ask for help too early. "Reaching people at the first sign of trouble is critical to keeping their homes," said Lou Tisler, Executive Director of Neighborhood Housing Services. "The sooner people reach out for help; the greater the chances are for a favorable outcome."

To help make assistance easier for Lakewood residents, NHS GC will work with Lakewood Alive to make NHS GC counselors regularly available in Lakewood. NHS GC staff will provide a number of services to assist homeowners to avoid losing their homes. These will include unbiased, individualized assistance so that clients can weigh their options, access mortgage assistance programs (including "rescue" funds), and receive representation at mediation where appropriate. Services will be provided at no cost to residents. "Helping preserve home ownership will not only provide much-needed assistance to local families, but also prevent the abandonment or loss of homes that can weaken our neighborhoods. That helps us all," said Crampton.

If you or someone you know is falling behind on their mortgage or would like to learn more about these services, visit the LakewoodAlive website [www.lakewoodalive.com](http://www.lakewoodalive.com) or the Neighborhood Housing Services of Greater Cleveland website [www.nhscleveland.org](http://www.nhscleveland.org). Residents can also make a confidential appointment to meet with an NHS GC staff person at LakewoodAlive by calling Francis Cintron at 216.952.9829. Appointments are available Mondays from 8:30 a.m. until 5 p.m., with evening hours available on the third Monday of every month.

Neubert Painting Announces 3rd Annual \$10,000 Charity Paint Giveaway

by Don Milewski

Neubert Painting is a residential painting contractor located in Lakewood. We've been in business since 1975 and part of our mission as a company is to give back to our community. That's why we started our Charity Paint Giveaway in the summer of 2008. Each year we ask the community to nominate a worthy homeowner or charitable organization that is in need of a paint job, but truly cannot afford it.

In 2008, we repainted the exterior of the home of a very special Lakewood resident. Nancy is truly inspiring. In spite of her own physical disabilities, she regularly volunteers her time as well as the special talents of her dog, to others, providing pet therapy to shut-ins who benefit from interaction with animals. In 2009, we chose Providence House, a crisis nursery for babies located in Ohio City. Providence House takes in more than 200 infants each year providing them with love and shelter while its dedicated staff and volunteers also work to rehabilitate and teach good parenting skills to the children's mothers and fathers. Neubert Painting was pleased to refresh and renew the exterior of this very worthy home.

We had several sponsors for last year's event. Sherwin-Williams provided paint and other materials and Sunbelt Rentals provided a 60-foot lift to allow painters to reach the building's high peaks. Einstein Bagels donated breakfast, and Chipotle, lunch, for 100 volunteers from Neubert Painting, Sherwin-Williams and Providence House. "It was truly a community effort," John Neubert, owner of Neubert Painting said, "I was really moved by how hard our volunteers worked on this large project." As a very special touch to commemorate the completed project, William Mannion, a watercolor artist from Bay Village, created a watercolor rendering of the newly painted Providence House. This framed "housetrait," as Mannion describes them, was presented to Providence House as part of the Neubert Painting giveaway. This accomplished artist has graciously volunteered his talents once again this year and will paint a "houstrait" of this year's \$10,000 Charity Paint Giveaway recipient.

We are currently looking for deserving projects are taking nominations for this year's giveaway! If you know of a homeowner or nonprofit organization that is in need of a paint job but truly cannot afford it, go to our website at [NeubertPainting.com](http://NeubertPainting.com) to fill out our online nomination form. Nominations are due by June 1st. We will be doing the paint work on Tuesday, August 3rd, weather permitting. This year's sponsors, once again, are Sherwin-Williams and Einstein Bagels, as well as Chic-Fil-A.

Real Estate Reality Planning Ahead

by Eric Lowrey

Congratulations, you have just purchased a new home. If you are like many people you have spent almost every dime you have just to get the house of your dreams. But what about maintaining this dream, do you have a plan for that?

When you go through your home inspection the inspector should give you an estimate for the life span of the mechanicals. A roof should last say thirty years and the one you just bought is twenty years old. So in five to ten years you will need a new roof. How are you going to pay for that?

What about a hot water heater? That will go bad in six years.

You can use your home inspection to plan an improvement schedule for your home and start saving for this plan. A wise buyer should have at least one to three percent of the purchase price in savings for any unforeseen expenses. Things rarely go as planned, so you should plan for the unexpected.

Buying a home is one thing, maintaining it is another. With good decision making and planning the home of your dreams can remain that way for many years.

Lakewood Resident Appointed To Cuyahoga Arts And Culture Board

continued from page 11

sensitivity to this community, its needs, and its potential is one of many reasons his mark on Cuyahoga Arts & Culture has been so very significant—and so very meaningful."

Monday's meeting also included the selection of board officers for the coming year. Steven Minter was re-elected as the trustees' president with Christopher Coburn, who was re-appointed to a second board term, to serve as vice president, and Vickie Eaton Johnson to serve as the secretary.

Cuyahoga Arts & Culture makes grants using public funds to support the arts and cultural assets that enrich Cuyahoga County and the lives of its citizens. Since 2007, CAC grants have delivered in excess of \$48 million to more than one hundred Cuyahoga county organizations and programs, helping to secure CAC's place among the nation's largest sources of local public support for the arts. Detailed information on CAC grantmaking, including the group's 2009 Report to the Community is available online at <http://www.cacgrants.org>.



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# Real Estate

## Breathing Easy In Lakewood

by Valerie Mechenbier

Spring has sprung – just ask any springtime allergy sufferer. We have moved from the season of cold air entering our homes to the season of pollen infiltration. There are many measures that can be taken to decrease exposure to pollen when it comes to your home (keep doors and windows closed during spring months, use an air purifier, vacuum carpet more often), but unless your house is air-tight, outside air will still make its way into your home. During winter and spring months in northeast Ohio, it is tempting to curse an older home for all of its leaks, or, as Lakewood homeowners might say, “fresh air intake”. Rising energy costs and the availability of tax credits for improving energy efficiency have prompted owners of older homes to battle the leaks – to “tighten up” – by insulating their homes and replacing their old leaky doors and windows.

On the other hand, newer homes and buildings that are built “too tight” have their own unique problems. Without an adequate amount of indoor air exchange with outside air, the more dangerous air might be inside rather than outside. Chemicals from ply-

wood and carpets, asbestos from ceiling tiles and flooring, mold from poorly ventilated areas – these are just a few contaminants that can affect occupants with an array of symptoms that can mimic colds or hay fever, and is referred to by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as “Sick Building Syndrome.”

Construction techniques, architectural styles, and building ventilation standards in the early- to mid-1900s were much different than in homes built since the 1970s: ventilation in pre-1930s structures was intentional and necessary in order to alleviate offensive human odors! Nearly a century later, modern technologies and materials that reduce the consumption of fossil fuels and improve energy efficiency in an older home are often worth the investment. But breathe easy, Lakewood: even after filling our walls with insulation and installing windows that don’t rattle, our bay windows, fireplaces, single-pane leaded glass windows, cantilever balconies, sleeping porches, and multiple roof angles – the “character” features that we love about Lakewood’s housing stock – are all helping to permit a beneficial transfer of fresh air into our homes.

### First Quarter Real Estate Statistics by Andreas Tabor

Lakewood Real Estate Statistics(According to Multiple Listing Service)		
Jan. 1 – March 31, 2010 Real Estate Statistics		
Single Family Sold	YTD	72
Single Family Pending (Under Contract)		67
Single Family Active		183
*****		
Condo Sold	YTD	14
Condo Pending (Under Contract)		7
Condo Active		125
*****		
Multi-Family (2-4 Units) Sold		25
Multi-Family Pending (Under Contract)		12
Multi- Family Active		115
*****		

Andy Tabor is a licensed Realtor.

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