

THE

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Lakewood School District

Helps Out Tornado-Stricken High School

by Christine Gordillo

Two truckloads full of desks, chairs, lab tables, file cabinets and other such necessary items to outfit a school rolled out of the Lakewood High School parking lot on Aug. 17, on their way to Lake Local Schools outside of Toledo

to help that district furnish a temporary high school being put together in the wake of a tornado that leveled Lake High School earlier this summer.

When news of the devastating tornado on June 5 that leveled Lake High School in Millbury spread, our district

knew it had to do something to help.

"We knew that if we were in a similar situation that others would be there to help us so we wanted to be able to do something to help this district in an unfortunate situation not of their making," said Treasurer Rick Berdine.

District officials contacted Lake Local administrators who in turn came to Lakewood to survey the pieces that would be available to them to see whether they would fit their

"We didn't have any science tables," said Lake Local Curriculum Director Jodie Takats, "So we were thrilled

5,000 square feet at Madison Park, where the outdoor skating rink used to be. There was a caveat: the garden had to be an added amenity to the park to tie in with the Park Master

Got Green?

by Trish Rooney

In the spring of 2009 four Lakewood Christian Service Center client families had the wonderful opportunity to each garden a 10' x 10' plot, thanks to the generosity of the Lakewood Earth and Food (LEAF) Community. It was such a positive experience that I approached Dru Siley, the City's Department of Planning and Development assistant director, to see if there might be city-owned property available for our use, knowing that the growing popularity of the LEAF gardens would make it



Volunteers designed and built this signage and info center

next to impossible for them to offer us additional plots. Dru offered LCSC approximately

Plan and the improvements

continued on page 16

Seventeen Years Of Service



H2O Members Thank Mrs. Steele

by Celia Dorsch

On August 15th, people from many walks of life gathered to recognize Nora Steele's seventeen year career with H2O "Help to Others" youth volunteer program. The attendees included student members of H2O, fellow co-workers from Lakewood Division of Youth and Lakewood High School, parents of H2O volunteers, and representatives from agen-

cies and organizations served by H2O.

Nora began volunteering with H2O "Help to Others" when it was launched by the City of Lakewood, Division of Youth in 1993. Her oldest son, Jeff, was one of the charter high school members of the group. As Coordinator of the new program, I was delighted when Nora asked if I could use her assistance as an adult volunteer. I knew that, as a PTA president and mother of five, she would have much to offer.

The H2O program expanded so rapidly that it was obvious that additional staff was needed. Nora proved to be the perfect candidate. She had demonstrated that she was great with kids and was passionate about spreading the

continued on page 4

to see so many science tables available." The Lakewood donation outfitted all the science rooms of the temporary high school, Takats said.

The furniture that the dis-

trict donated was sitting idle waiting to be auctioned. The pieces had come from the west wing of the high school that

continued on page 8

2nd Runner-Up In Miss Jr. Teen

by Litha Macon

Pryce Macon of Lakewood is an eighth grade student of Harding Middle School. She was recently selected to participate in the National 2010 Miss Jr. Teen Cleveland/ Akron/Youngstown pageant competition that was held at Independence High School on August 15 2010. Pryce submitted an application and took part in an interview session that was conducted by this year's Nationals' Pageant Coordinator. She was very completive in her division of girls in the age range of 13 and 15 and out of 60 young ladies she took home the 2nd Runner- up title in the completion.

Pryce displayed her personality and interview skills which were judged during all phases of the event. As a Lakewood resident she is very involved in the community and school activities, some of them are: H2O, Harding Jazz



Lakewood's own Pryce Macon.

and School Band along with 10 year's of ballet and tap.

This summer she started her own business in which she taught piano to small children in the community. Pryce has a busy schedule all year round and enjoys hanging out with friends in her spare time. She's looking forward to her eighth grade school year at Harding and her goal of training with Youth Challenge.

Hoops Return To Lakewood

by Nadhal Eadeh

The Lakewood Outdoor Basketball Committee (LOBC), in collaboration with the City of Lakewood, is delivering a return of trial outdoor basketball courts. The courts will open in the next couple of weeks. LOBC spent months lobbying city officials to allow a return of outdoor courts. According to LOBC, Lakewood remained one of the few cities in Northeast Ohio that did not have outdoor courts. "Outdoor basketball was successful in Lakewood for over 30 years," states LOBC co-founder Art Gold, "This is a step in the right direction and a victory for Lakewood's youth."

Two side-by-side hoops are being installed at Kaufman Park and will be evaluated as a pilot project. Success of the pilot program will be judged on how

basketball users follow the court's basic rules. The rules include: no wheels, no tobacco products, no foul language, and sharing the courts with other court users. LOBC's volunteers will monitor the courts during peak hours to ensure proper usage of the facilities and to ensure that the rules are followed. LOBC hopes that the success of this program will help foster a brighter basketball future for the youth of Lakewood.

"There are multiple locations that we are targeting for outdoor courts. Kaufman is our first step. If it is judged as a success, then more hoops will follow," said Art. The trial period is expected to last 100 days, its success will be judged on how well the courts are attended and how closely the rules are followed.

Calendar Page

This calendar presents various Lakewood events and notices for the next two weeks (excluding Lakewood Public Library sponsored events found separately on the Lakewood Library page). Submit your calendar event to our online calendar at www.lakewoodobserver.com on the Home Page. This printed calendar listing is primarily non-profit events relevant to Lakewood. However, our website calendar welcomes all Lakewood businesses and organizations to submit events. Compiled by Mel Page

Wednesday, August 25

Wednesday North Union Farmer's Market

10:00 AM - 1:00 PM, Kaufmann Park Parking Lot behind Drug Mart, 15412 Detroit

Thursday, August 26

Phoenix Project Parking Lot Sale - Through Saturday, Aug. 28 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM, 13351 Madison Ave.

Furniture, Clothing, Knick-Knacks, Small Appliances, and lots of other random stuff. Food and Live Entertainment. All proceeds will benefit the Lakewood Christian Service Center and the Phoenix Project.

Lakewood Family Collaborative Community Meeting

1:00 PM - 2:30 PM, Lakewood YMCA, Detroit Ave.

Join us to meet and network with other like-minded professionals and community leaders dedicated to making our community a better place for families, youth, and children to live and be successful. For more information call the Lakewood Division of Youth at 529-6868 or email lakewoodfamilycollab@gmail.com. Also on Facebook

Friday, August 27

Gallery Opening at the Winton Place

at the Melvina J. Freedson Gallery at 12700 Lake Avenue in the Winton Place. A presentation of art work in all mediums, from individual Collectors will be on view Opening Friday the 27th of August and running thru Friday, November 5th. All work is for sale. The Gallery is free and open to the public.

Group for Older Adults with Cancer

11:00 AM - 12:30 PM, The Gathering Place West, 800 Sharon Dr. Westlake A support group for older adults coping with a cancer diagnosis. For more info visit www.touchedbycancer.org/.

Brake 4 Kids!

2:30 PM - 3:05 PM

Brake 4 Kids signs will be available to the public at all Lakewood elementary and middle schools. See Page 12 for more information.

Saturday, August 28

Phoenix Project Parking Lot Sale

10:00 AM - 6:00 PM, The Phoenix Project, 13351 Madison Ave.

See above under Thursday listing. Saturday Lakewood Farmers Market

10:00 AM to 1:00 PM in the City Center Park, in front of Marc's on Detroit Ave. The market will operate every Saturday through October 2. The mission of this market is to connect local residents with fresh, local, homemade/handmade/homegrown produce and products while encouraging local entrepreneurship and unify the community through sustainable endeavors.

Local Girl Gallery presents "Glamour Gal Artwork of Dimitra Pasalis"

16106 Detroit Ave.

Show runs August 20th through September 17th. Check out www.localgirlgallery.com for Girls Night Out events and kids classes.

Cleveland Craft Coalition "Mods vs. Rockers" (Scooter Rally)

1:30 PM, Franklin Ave between 117th and 116th, Cleveland, Ohio

Motorcycles, scooters.....and knitters? Yep, you read that correctly...come out to the first ever Mods vs. Rockers Scooter Rally and support local business!

The Cleveland Craft Coalition was asked to set up a table there, so we're going to feature some of our artists....come out and have fun in the sun with us!

Monday, August 30

The West Shore Chorale Seeks New Singers!

6:00 - 9:30 PM, Rocky River Memorial Hall, Municipal Center in Rocky River at the corner of Hilliard and Wagar Roads.

The West Shore Chorale is actively seeking new members for its upcoming season. Membership is open to all singers with a strong interest in performing classical choral music. The Chorale is a 75-85 member chorus that performs 2 to 6 concerts per year, including one holiday concert in early December and one spring concert in early May. This year includes a costumed production of Verdi's Aida with Cleveland's Opera Circle, and performances of Handel's Messiah with the Cleveland Philharmonic. Rehearsals are on Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. at Rocky River Municipal Center. Auditions by appointment only. To schedule an audition call 216-373-7773. http://westshorechorale.org.



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

West End Tavern presents: Sunday Brunch"

A 20-Year Lakewood Tradition

Eggs Benedict • Eggs Sardoux • Stuffed French Toast • Pot Roast Hash Omelets • Fritatas • and more! featuring our famous "Mega Mimosas"

County Executive Candidates Forum

7:00 - 8:30 PM, Lakewood Public Library 15425 Detroit Ave., multi-purpose room. All candidates for Cuyahoga County Executive have been invited to discuss and answer questions put together by the citizens group, Riders To Bring Back The Daily Lakewood Circulator. See Page 10 for more information.

Tuesday, August 31

Veterans Benefits Primer Instructor: Candace Pollock

7:00 - 8:00 PM, Garfield Middle School, 13114 Detroit Ave., Room 116 This course covers the Veterans Improved Pension-Aid and Attendance benefits - one of the most overlooked sources of non-service disability income for disabled vets and their surviving spouses. Fee: \$10 For more information or to register please contact the Lakewood Community Recreation & Education Department at (216)529-4081.

Wednesday, September 1

Porches: History, Design and Construction

7:00 PM, Main Library Auditorium, 15425 Detroit Ave.

See the evolution of the American porch, from humble masonry stoops to fully furnished verandahs. Whether your porch is Victorian or Colonial Revival, it takes a beating in our Northeast Ohio climate. Kerrington Adams, a Senior Historic Preservation Specialist from the Cleveland Restoration Society, will look at common construction and deterioration issues and propose methods for repair and replacement of lost details.

Tuesday, September 7

U.S. Army Parachute Team, Golden Knights, visit Lakewood **High Stadium**

9 AM., Lakewood High School Stadium, at Bunts and Madison Ave.

See Page 8 for more information

Job Seeker Tuesdays in September

9:30 AM - 12:30 PM, Lakewood Public Library, Main Branch

September 7th topic: Resumes That Gets Results. See story on Page 5 and Ad Page 7.

Lakewood Dog Swim

5:30 - 8:00 PM, Foster Pool at Lakewood Park, Lake Ave.

Have a SPLASH and let your dog swim in Lakewood Park's Foster pool. Most dogs really love this event. It is \$5.00 for one dog or \$8.00 for two dogs. In addition to swimming, there will be vendors to browse, contests to enter, and other dogs to meet. Come dressed to get wet and bring some towels. And doggies, bring your person to the doggie event of the year and have a SPLASH!!! This event is run by the Friends of the Lakewood Dog Park, Inc., a non-profit organization, and proceeds help to improve our dog park. For more information, see www.LakewoodDogPark.org

Lakewood City Council Meeting

7:30 PM, Lakewood City Hall Auditorium, 12650 Detroit Ave. Regular meeting of City Council. Agenda can be found on website.

Visit our calendar online for many more events at www.lakewoodobserver.com



Your Independent Source for Lakewood News & Opinion

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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 illustraters 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

Sunday, August 29 Sunday, September 12

Publish Date

Tuesday, September 7 Tuesday, September 21

www.lakewoodobserver.com – 216.712.7070 14900 Detroit Avenue, Suite 205, Lakewood, OH 44107

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Lakewood Healthcare

Lakewood Hospital's Starry Night Raises Money To Help Uninsured And Underinsured

by Anne Kuenzel

On Friday, August 6th, Lakewood Hospital hosted its fifth annual Starry Night, a patron benefit presented by signature sponsor Regency Construction Services, Inc. More than 650 guests were in attendance and the event grossed nearly \$120,000.

"Once again, Starry Night was a shining star in Lakewood," said Janice Murphy, president of Lakewood and Fairview hospitals. "It was a perfect summer evening spent with friends and colleagues while raising money for two great causes. That's a great combination and makes it even more memorable."

The Lakewood Hospital Diabetes and Endocrine Center is the primary beneficiary of the monies raised. The Center uses event proceeds to host an educational Diabetes Symposium and to support its Diabetes Assistance Initiative (DAI), a program to help the uninsured and underinsured by providing funds for prescription diabetes medications and supplies as well as scholarships for diabetes education. Event proceeds also benefit the Lakewood Arts Festival Scholarship Fund.

A patient at the Center and recipient of a DAI scholarship shared his personal story at the event. He was not able to afford diabetes education classes and felt out of control with his diabetes. Yet, because of Starry Night, he was able to receive a DAI scholarship and is now able to learn how to better manage his disease and feels more in control. "This is truly what Starry Night is all about – to better enable us



A splendid night for Lakewood, the arts, the cooks and two good charities!

to support and care for the thousands of people in our community who have diabetes," Murphy stated.

New this year, the four gourmet food stations prepared by AVI Foodsystems Teams were judged by local culinary experts: James Bell, owner of Three Birds Restaurant; Patrice Campbell, owner/administrator of Ennis Court; Robert Ledzianowski, chef at Pier W; and Gary Lucarelli, owner of Players on Madison.

The winning team consisted of chefs Darren Bland, Stephanie Cipolletta, Tim DelPapa, Bill Kelly, Sandi Liptow, Rachel Meyer, Steve McGowan, Roger Smith, and John Winpisinger from Marymount Hospital, Huron Hospital, and the Cleveland Clinic, main campus, who served Watermelon Gazpacho, Prosciutto Wrapped Shrimp, Petit Lamb Burger and a Pave of Chocolate. "The food was more than amazing," said Murphy. "All of the teams put their heart and soul into the preparation and presentation and it shows. The food really is the shining star of the event."

Highlights of the evening also included a wine cork raffle, music by

The Bottom Line Band, and a live and silent auction featuring the works of local artists. Once again, Lakewood Hospital worked closely with Linda Goik from Local Girl Gallery to secure the pieces for the auction. Those artists include: Peg Asensio; Mary Ellen Behmer & Jen Murray; Bluma Bluebond; David Bordine; Kate Bordine; Lois Bosworth; Linda Lee/Cleveland Clinic; Renee Froerer; Linda Goik/ Local Girl Gallery; Leslie R. Greenberg, DDS; Joan E. Heinrich; Brian King; Tom Kochheiser; Brian Andrew Jasinski/Grey Cardigan.net; Cheryl Lee/ Local Girl Gallery; Jennifer Li; Sylvia Masek; Marcello Mellino, MD; Sharon Mikol, MD; David P. Milam; Leslie Grulich Moore; Michelle Mowery; Michele Rannells; Robert Rearick/ Friends of Starry Night; Noreen Rotar; Amy Sebold; Chrystene Thomas; Kris Williams; W. Michael Winston; and

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Peter McGannon, M.D.

Ophthalmologist specializing in general ophthalmology, cornea, anterior segment, cataract

- Education: Case Western Reserve Cleveland, OH
- Residency: Rush University Medical Center, Chicago, Illinois
- Fellowship: Baylor College of Medicine Houston, Texas

Come to the 23rd Annual LAKEWOOD COMMUNITY FESTIVAL Saturday, September 11, 2010 Madison Park ~ 13029 Madison Ave.



☆ Nationality Foods ☆ Craft & Game Booths ☆ Entertainment A Children's Games A Pony Rides A Balloon Man ☆ Bubble Man
☆ Alpacas from the Starburst Suri Alpaca Ranch ☆ Euclid Beach Rocket Car ★ Lake Erie Nature Center 🏠 Flag Raising Ceremony ~ 11:00 a.m.

FREE ADMISSION

Anyone interested in reserving a booth can call (216)529-6650.



Lakewood Community Festival, Inc. & the City of Lakewood



Cleveland Clinic Family Health Centers Welcome Back Bay Village Native, Peter McGannon, M.D.

Call today to schedule an appointment.

Cleveland Clinic Lorain Family Health and Surgery Center 5700 Cooper Foster Park Road 440.988.4040

Lakewood Hospital Professional Building 14601 Detroit Avenue Suite 550 216.529.5320

Welcoming New Patients at Two Locations

Dr. McGannon grew up in Bay Village and attended St. Ignatius High School. Having completed his specialty training, he is proud to rejoin our community and provide quality eye care to patients in northeastern Ohio.

Dr. McGannon is here to see you at the Cleveland Clinic Lorain Family Health and Surgery Center and Lakewood Hospital Professional Building. See Dr. McGannon and have secure access to your personalized health record when you sign up for MyChart.



clevelandclinic.org/LorainFHC

Every life deserves world class care.

Lakewood City News

Madison Ends The Summer In Style



Above: The Lakewood Car Culture Show, one of the many photos from George Kubas. More online at http://lakewoodobserver.com/photoblogs

Cleaning Up Madison Park







Left: Dru Siley, Lakewood Assistant Director of Planning and Development speaks to residents at the Madison Avenue East End Corridor Project gathering at Madison Park Bottom right: A group of volunteers before the painting began. Photos by Michael Yatcko. More photos online at http://lakewoodobserver.com/photoblogs

Rally to the Rescue in Kauffman





Left: Missy Limkemann and All Dogs Heaven Rescue. This fun event was Missy's idea, can't wait till next year. Above: New friends for life!

Seventeen Years Of Service

continued from page 1

word about the value of volunteering, as well as its benefits to the volunteer.

During Nora's seventeen year career with H2O, the program grew from an initial group of ten high school students to an annual membership of more than 500 Lakewood youth - representing five public and private high schools, and middle school youth from Garfield, Harding and Lakewood Catholic Academy. Nora was instrumental in recruiting young volunteers and developing service activities and outstanding community

events like Pumpkin Palooza, Spring Fling, Home Alone, as well as numerous veteran recognitions.

Mrs. Steele has long been recognized by H2O students as a kind, caring leader who always took the time to listen to them and bring out their talents and gifts. She has touched the lives of thousands of people, young and old, through her dedicated work as Assistant Coordinator of H2O. She will be missed, but we wish her well as she prepares for the arrival of a new grandchild and finally has some time for herself!

LH's Starry Night Raises Money

continued from page 3

Gerald J. Yustick.

"Linda Goik and all the artists who donated their work played a role in the success of Starry Night," says Murphy. "The art was stunning! I'd like to extend my sincere appreciation to Linda and all of the local artists whose hard work and generosity made Starry Night dazzle."

To learn more about the Diabetes Assistance Initiative, contact the Lakewood Hospital Diabetes and Endocrine Center at 216.529.5300.

Save the Date

Starry Night proceeds help fund the Fairview and Lakewood Hospitals Diabetes Symposium:

Living Well with Diabetes Wednesday, Nov. 3, 4 – 8 p.m.

LaCentre Conference and Banquet Facility, 25777 Detroit Ave., Westlake

This day is planned for those who are looking for better ways to cope with their diabetes. Back by popular demand, nationally recognized diabetes expert Ginger Kanser-Lewis will be the keynote speaker addressing "The Diabetes World According to Me!"

In addition, there will be numerous exhibits, opportunities to speak with health care experts, and brief seminars with Cleveland Clinic, Fairview and Lakewood Hospital physicians and wellness experts.

The event will include dinner and



door prizes. Learning can be fun! Come and see what is in store for you.

Please choose two health topics for your break out sessions:

Healthy Eyes: Diabetic Eye Conditions

Ryan Deasy, MD

Effects of Alcohol on Blood Sugar Sanjit Bindra, MD

Fitness for Life: Exercise made Easier

Hilary Hewkin Med, LAT, ATC, CSSCS

Meghan Loeffler, Health and Wellness Coordinator, Lakewood Family YMCA

Tips on Talking with Your Doctor James Gutierrez, MD

Please have your topic selections chosen before you call. If you are registering other guests as well as yourself, please be ready to provide their home mailing addresses and topic selections. Reservations: toll free 1.877.234.FITT (3488). Cost for this event is a non-refundable fee of \$10. Major credits cards only.



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Lakewood Public Library

SWTF: Lakewood Public Library Presents Jazz With Intransit

by Joan Rubenking

The Friends of Lakewood Public Library are pleased to present the premiere visit to our Sunday programs of the three-man jazz ensemble, Intransit, on Sunday, September 12, at 2 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium. This trio combines a unique blend of improvisational jazz and Latin polyphonic rhythms to entertain with original compositions, and play 'spiced up' jazz standards that audiences know and love. Intransit is known for getting their audience moving with an uptempo Latin groove or relaxing them with a laidback bossa nova or samba, so those who are so inclined may soon find themselves dancing in their seats (or

swaying, at least!).

Intransit formed in 2008 and fuses the talents of Edgardo Cora on drums, John Blosco on guitars, and Lincoln Adams on bass. In jazz, musicians gravitate to trios quite often, because the trio format offers both intimacy and power in performance, as Intransit believes. They say, "The aim is to become one breathing entity that creates improvisation as a group rather than be a vehicle for one soloist to shine."

Intransit names several jazz performers and groups as influences, including The Pat Metheny Group, Weather Report, Miles Davis Quintet, Richard Bona, and Antonio Sanchez. They also embrace traditional Puerto Rican folk music. If you are into the Cleveland jazz scene, you may have caught Intransit at Wolf Creek Winery, Wonder Bar, Hammond's Bistro, SASA Matsu, or The Mustard Seed. They have also played the Chagrin Falls Art Festival, the Medina Cultural Festival, and the "Come Alive with Jazz Night" at the Akron Zoo. They have been invited to play at the Fairlawn Country Club and at Barnes & Noble Booksellers, where their B&N Café performance earned them a rave review from the Event Coordinator.

For the three Intransit members, playing live is a constantly evolving and enriching experience. Each man brings a separate background to the group, culturally and musically, but the differences give each player a chance to teach, to learn, and to be spontaneous. As Cora states, "Nothing is a 'given' at Intransit and we like to keep it that way." Jazz fans may want to check out samples of Intransit's music, including original compositions, at their website www. intransitjazz.com before attending this upcoming performance. Then join us and the eclectic, energetic Intransit, live at the Library on September 12th, at 2 p.m.

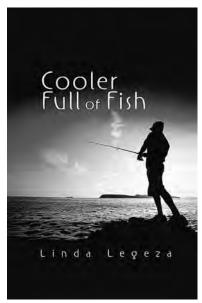
Tales From The Shores Of Lake Erie

by Andrea Fisher

Join us Wednesday September 8th at 7:00 pm in the Main Library Auditorium to hear local author Linda Legeza's tale of life, love, grief and chasing dreams on the waters of Lake Erie. Legeza has used the setting of Lake Erie and Northeastern Ohio as her muse in the novels Cooler Full of Fish and The Rainy Day House and is eager to share her love of the area with her audience.

In Cooler Full of Fish, the young Jeff Grabowski feels like he doesn't know much about life, but he sure knows how to win fishing tournaments. While all of his friends are embarking on the pleasures of adulthood like going to college and getting married, Jeff is left to look after his alcoholic father and assume the burden of the family fishing charter business. Jeff soon finds himself at a crossroads, asking the big life question of "What's my purpose?" and eventually sees how he can find happiness with fishing.

After losing her 17-year-old son in a car accident, Abby Richardson just can't seem to put her grief behind her in The Rainy Day House. Abby's marriage is falling apart and her boss is desperate for her to return to work to get started on an important project



Abby must escape and finds sanctuary in her family's cottage in Lakeside, Ohio where she meets a man and young boy. The pair provides her with solace; however Abby soon begins to wonder if they are too dependent on her.

Copies of Legeza's books Cooler Full of Fish and The Rainy Day House will be available for sale and signing following the program. As always, this Library program is free and open to the public. Join us Wednesday, September 8th at 7 pm and learn to love Lake Erie all over again through Legeza's heartfelt stories and kindhearted char

The Curl Advantage

by Bonnie Fencl

Everyone with curly hair or anyone with curly hair problems is invited to this program. If your hair is straight and you are thinking of a chemical curl or you want your natural curl relaxed, come to this program. I am a beauty salon owner, Carabel Beauty Salon & Store, and an editorial advisor for Beauty Store Business Magazine. I will show various types of curl, talk about products and show some tools to style hair. I want to hear from you. I will be at the Lakewood Library Monday September 13 from 7:00pm to 8:30 pm. I will have some samples to give away too. Young children who are old enough and ready to care for their own hair can benefit from this program. See you at the Main Library on Monday.

Tri C And Lakewood Collaborative Offer Free Workshops To Job Seekers In September

by Jon Neuffer

With the national unemployment rate climbing over 10%, the new Career Development and Transition Services at Cuyahoga Community College are reaching out to area residents impacted by the economic recession. We provide enhanced support services to the unemployed in Northeast Ohio. These much-needed services assist unemployed individuals with career planning and job coaching; skills and interests assessments; education planning to support retraining; appropriate academic and technical training programs; job search preparation; and job place-

The Career Development and Transition Team is a group of seasoned professionals coaching job seekers to be successful in their job search. We offer extensive knowledge and work experience in diverse industries such as education, banking/ financial services, manufacturing, social services, publishing, consumer products, and not for profit industries. Our combined backgrounds in human resources (recruiting and employee development), business advisory, professional outplacement services, and career coaching, are an ideal combination to serve as Career Development and Transition Specialists.

Please join us in September when we team up with the Lakewood Family Collaborative to launch our September 2010 Workshop Series, Tuesday mornings from 9:30am-12:30pm at the Lakewood Public Library. Each workshop will focus on a different topic crucial to the job searching process.

Resumes that Get Results Sept. 7

Sept. 14 Develop Your Job Search Plan

Using your Grapevine Sept. 21

Sept. 28 Ace the Interview.

To register for the workshops contact the Lakewood Family Collaborative at lakewoodfamilycollab@gmail.com or call 216-529-6868. Registration is not required but suggested as space may be limited.



Lakewood Public Library Events

All Events and Programs Are Free And Open To The Public

Compiled by Martha Wood Saturday, August 28

FIVE STAR FILMS

Burnt by the Sun (Russia-1994)

Directed By Nikita Mikhalkov

Rated R

The brilliantly crafted plot of this film unfolds during the era of Stalin. A popular Red Army colonel and hero of the Revolution spend an idyllic day with wife and daughter at the summer home of his batty in-laws. As suddenly as he vanished years before, his wife's former fiancée reappears in their midst. What is his agenda? Russian with English subtitles.

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

Wednesday, September 1

LAKEWOOD HISTORICAL SOCIETY presents:

Porches: History, Design and Construction

See the evolution of the American porch, from humble masonry stoops to fully furnished verandahs. Whether your porch is Victorian or Colonial Revival, it takes a beating in our Northeast Ohio climate. Kerry Adams, a Senior Historic Preservation Specialist from the Cleveland Restoration Society, will look at common construction and deterioration issues and propose methods for repair and replacement of lost details.

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

Saturday, September 4

Terry Meehan presents FALL GUYS AND FEMME FATALES: Film Noir in the Forties

The Maltese Falcon (1941) Directed by John Huston Not Rated

A mysterious woman walks into the low rent office of a hard-boiled detective. We have seen it before; but here, in the office of Sam Spade, is where it all began. With a pace that quickens as tension mounts, Humphrey Bogart, Mary Astor, Sidney Greenstreet and Peter Lorre are after one thing: The Maltese Falcon, a jewel-encrusted statuette, "the stuff that dreams are made of."

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

Lakewood Public Library will be closed Sunday, September 5 and Monday, September 6 for Labor Day.

Wednesday, September 8

MEET THE AUTHOR: Linda Legeza

Cooler Full of Fish

The Rainy Day House by Linda Legeza

Cleveland author Linda Legeza will answer your questions about writing and fishing. In her first novel, Cooler Full of Fish, a young man with a natural gift for rod and reel struggles to figure out the rest of his life. While his friends are moving on with relationships and careers, Jeff Grabowski is still taking care of his father's charter fishing company. His half-hearted plan is to make the business such a success that his father no longer needs him. But what would he do then? The author will also bring along her new novel, The Rainy Day House. Both books will be available for sale and signing at the event.

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

Saturday, September 11

THE LAKEWOOD PUBLIC CINEMA: A Day at the Races (1937)

Directed by Sam Wood Not Rated

When the Marx brothers head out to the racetrack for a few laughs, describing the plot almost seems misleading. Needless to say, Harpo plays the harp, Chico cons everyone into thinking he can play the piano and Groucho dances and struts his way from one-liner to one-liner—this time as Dr. Hugo Z. Hackenbush, horse doctor and personal physician to the rich and gullible.

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

BOOK GROUPS:

Thursday, September 9

BOOKED FOR MURDER BOOK CLUB: New York CityLush Life by Richard Price

After a night of barhopping on Manhattan's Lower East Side, three men are approached by two muggers. One man is shot to death and Detective Matty Clark is called to find the killer. Price's knowledge of the city and gift for realistic dialogue make for a powerful representation of the dark side of New York City.

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

Thursday, September 16

BUSINESS BOOK TALK with Tim Zaun and Friends

Switch: How to Change Things When Change Is Hard by Chip Heath and Dan Heath

The bestselling authors of Made to Stick present a blueprint for successful change in the twenty-first century.

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 SEPTEMBER CLASSES:

Saturday, September 4: INTERNET BASICS @ 3:00 p.m.

Thursday, September 9: JOB HUNTING WORKSHOP - 10:00a.m.- 12:00 p.m.

Saturday, September 11: WORD PROCESSING BASICS @ 3:00 p.m.

Saturday, September 18: WEB SEARCHING BASICS @ 3:00 p.m.

Saturday, September 25: E-MAIL BASICS @ 3:00 p.m.

LEAF COMMUNITY 2010

Every Wednesday night at 5:30 p.m. on the Main Library's Front Porch through the Harvest.

CHILDRENS & YOUTH SERVICES

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS:

HOMEWORK ER: For students in kindergarten through eighth grade

Need a little extra 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. *Homework ER will be closed for school holidays and vacations.*

Tuesday, September 7 – Thursday, May 26Monday – Thursday, 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m., in Main Library Children's and Youth Services

IT'S PUZZLING!

Ready to challenge your brain after school? Check out the Library's puzzle station. A variety of puzzles will be available, and correctly completed puzzles will be entered into a monthly prize drawing.

Tuesday, September 7 – Friday, May 27

Monday – Friday, 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m., in Main Library Children's and Youth Services and at the 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.

Main:

August 27, 28, 29: Read A Song September 3, 4: Fast, Slow, Away We Go

Madison:

August 27, 28, 29: Say the Alphabet September 3, 4: Read A Song

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, September 11 from 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room

Lakewood Sports

"The Madhouse on Madison" Is The Place To Be This Fall

by Mike Deneen

Lakewood has always been known as a community of great sports fans. Lakewood residents have enthusiastically supported the local professional teams since the days of Otto Graham, Tris Speaker and Austin Carr. However, it has become increasingly difficult in recent years to cheer for big name athletes. Many have grown weary of the ongoing antics in professional sports -- large contracts, massive egos, off-the-field crimes and misdemenors. Team owners often aggravate the situation with high ticket and concession prices.

Autumn is about to arrive, which means that local sports fans can find

a great entertainment value at one of Lakewood's great destinations -- Lakewood Stadium. The stadium, widely considered the finest high school football facility in the county, is affectionately known around Northeast Ohio as "the Madhouse on Madison". For many decades the field has been home to Lakewood High School football, and has seen countless great memories. Instead of cheering for millionaire players and billionaire owners, fans can gather alongside their friends and neighbors to support local kids who are playing for love of the game.

The Lakewood High School football team will return to action at the stadium on Friday, August 27 at 7pm

for its opener against Lincoln-West. This will be the first of six home games for the Rangers this season. Coach Ron Lewis and his team have been training hard this summer to prepare for the new season. As always, the Rangers face a rough schedule, including the likes of Twinsburg and Hudson.

The state of Ohio has among the best caliber of football in the nation (yes, even compared to the "Friday Night Lights" of Texas). College football programs at every level feature players from Ohio, and many Ohioans go on the National Football League. However, high school games offer not only great football action, but lots of extra entertainment. The Ranger Marching Band puts on a great halftime show at each and every Lakewood home game. Plus, the cheerleaders and mascot channel the crowd's enthusiasm.

All home games this year will begin at 7 p.m. rather than the usual 7:30 p.m. of past seasons. Each game will feature a special theme or activity that aims to recognize various groups in the community. The home opener will recognize all the new freshmen, who will be admitted free as part of their Fresh Start orientation program.

Ranger football games offer the best sports value in town. Ticket prices remain the same as last season and student and senior passes are available again as well. Tickets may be purchased at the LHS Athletic Office or at the ticket booth on game night. Ticket prices and availability are as follows:

Single Tickets:

- All tickets are \$6 at the gate
- Pre sale student tickets can be purchased for \$4 at the LHS Athletic office, Wednesday Friday til 3:30 p.m.

Passes:

- Adult 10-game pass can be purchased in the LHS Athletic office for \$50 (\$10 savings)
- Student 10-game pass can be purchased in the LHS Athletic office for \$30 (\$10 savings)
- Passes are good for 10 admissions to any LHS home varsity contest for the 2010 2011 school year.
- Lakewood residents 60 and older are entitled to a NOC Senior Citizen Pass. This pass is good for free admission to any home LHS athletic contest and any away LHS athletic contest vs. an NOC school. These passes will be made available at the ticket booth at any LHS Athletic event. THESE PASSES WILL NOT BE HONORED AT OHSAA TOURNAMENT GAMES.

LHS Varsity Football Schedule:

(Home game special activities in parenthesis)

Aug. 27 Cleveland Lincoln-West 7:00 p.m.

("Fresh Start"; all LHS freshmen will be admitted free)

Sept. 3 @ North Ridgeville 7:30 p.m. Sept. 10 North Olmsted 7:00 p.m.

(Hayes Elementary Night)

Sept. 17 Valley Forge 7:00 p.m.

(Youth Football Night; Family Night Celebration; Cox Cable Game of the Week)

Sept. 24 @ Strongsville 7:00 p.m. Oct. 1 Twinsburg 7:00 p.m.

(American Heart Association Night)

Oct. 8 @ Stow-Munroe Falls 7:00 p.m.
Oct. 15 Cuyahoga Falls 7:00 p.m.

(Homecoming; Dedication: Walk of Distinction;

Cox Cable Game of the Week)

Oct. 22 @ Elyria 7:00 p.m. Oct. 29 Hudson 7:00 p.m.

St. Edward To Host Three Games

The Rangers aren't the only team to play at Lakewood Stadium. St. Edward High School has been using the facility for its home games since 1984, the year artificial turf first replaced grass at the stadium. The Eagles will host Penn Hills High (Pennsylvania) on Friday, September 3 and Cleveland Benedictine on Saturday, October 2nd. Perennial state power Cincinnati St. Xavier will visit for a 2pm matinee on Saturday, October 16th.

The Eagles are expected to be among the best teams in the area, although a brutal schedule will likely suppress their season win total. Leading players on the Eagles include Offensive linemand Geoff Mogus and linebacker Delonte Gibson, who have already orally committed to play college football at Northwestern and Pitt, respectively.

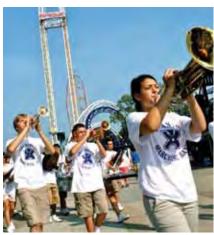
Strike Up The Band(S)!

Lakewood Stadium will again host the annual Lakewood Marching Band Festival, which will take place on Saturday, September 18th. A record number of marching bands are expected, Rocky River, Bay, Vermilion. Olmsted Falls, Saint Ignatius, Padua, Brecksville-Broadview Hts, Painesville Riverside, Lutheran West, and of course the Marching Lakewood Rangers.

Start time is 7 pm with a parade and pass and review introduction of each band as they enter the stadium. Field Shows begin at 7:30 pm. Look for more details in the next edition of the Lakewood Observer.

Ranger Marching Band Makes The Midway





Ranger Marching Band Performs at Cedar Point — Lakewood High School's celebrated Ranger Marching Band, directed by Brian Maskow, made a sweltering morning appearance Friday, Aug. 13, at Cedar Point in Sandusky. The half-hour midway performance by the 100-plus member band included special selections by the Rangerettes dance team and the Flag Corps. photos and story by Randy Varcho.





JOB SEEKER TUESDAYS in SEPTEMBER

Lakewood Public Library, Main Branch 9:30AM – 12:30PM

The Lakewood Family Collaborative along with Cuyahoga Community College, Career Development and Transition Services will be presenting **four free workshops** designed to help give job seekers the skills they need to help them on their journey to gaining employment or a new career.

SEPTEMBER 7^{TH} – RESUMES THAT GETS RESULTS

Understand the purpose of a resume, how to develop an effective resume and review the general guidelines and parts of a "resume that WILL get results."

SEPTEMBER 14TH – DEVELOPING YOUR JOB SEARCH PLAN

Explore the importance of having a Job Search Plan. Learn about the general guidelines and key parts for an effective Job Search Plan.

SEPTEMBER 21ST – USING THE GRAPEVINE TO GET RESULTS Learn how to "Use the Grapevine" to get your message out – to get

Learn how to "Use the Grapevine" to get your message out – to get referrals and gain insight into your target market.

SEPTEMBER 28TH – ACE THAT INTERVIEW

Practice your interviewing and receive valuable feedback pertaining to your strengths and area for improvement. Topics to be covers are: Basic Guidelines, Traditional Questions, Behavioral Based Questions and Telephone Interviews.

TO REGISTER: Contact the *Lakewood Family Collaborative* at 216-529-6868 or email **lakewoodfamilycollab@gmail.com**. Space may be limited. Registration suggested but not required. Workshops are free.





Lakewood Schools

Both New And Familiar Faces In New Roles For District

by Christine Gordillo

Retirements and resignations among district personnel have led to the new school year opening up with a number of familiar faces in some new positions as well as some brand new faces to the district.

On the administrator side, Mark Gleichauf, who has spent the last eight years as principal of Grant Elementary, is the district's Director of Teaching & Learning. Some of Gleichauf's duties will include those that belonged former assistant superintendent Jan Soeder, who oversaw elementary education for the district and retired in July after 26 years with Lakewood Schools. In addition to those duties, Gleichauf will be responsible for overseeing the district's School Improvement Plan for the state of Ohio, the district's pro-





Ms. Ramsey







Mr. Gleichauf

Mr. Badat

Mrs. Eckert Mr. Lake

fessional development program as well as the Gifted/Talented programming.

Gleichauf says he feels "very fortunate to be able to advance my career in this district," after spending nearly a decade at Grant, where his school earned and "Excellent" rating from the state in 2008-2009 and was named a National Blue Rib-

bon School in 2004.

Replacing Gleichauf at Grant is Roxann Ramsey, the district's former Coordinator of Teaching & Learning. Before coming to Lakewood, Ramsey was an assistant principal at Beachwood Middle School. As Teaching & Learning Coordinator, Ramsey was significantly involved with developing the elementary curriculum for the district.

At the high school, longtime LHS science teacher Lynn Eckert is the new House II principal. She replaces Sandra Donnelly, who retired. Newcomer to the district Yakoob Badat will replace Abby Neal as the House I principal. Neal resigned to accept a position in Florida, where her husband was transferred. Badat comes to the district from the Cleveland Metropolitan School District, where he was assistant principal at John Marshall High School for the last two years. Badat, a native of Malawi, is a graduate of St. Edward High School

and John Carroll University and earned a master's from Cleveland State.

In the middle schools, Rod Lake, whose position as Coordinator of Gifted & Talented was eliminated, will take on the assistant principal's job at Garfield Middle School. He replaces Catherine White, who resigned at the end of the previous school year due to health reasons. The district also said goodbye to Jerry Lanning, a former assistant principal at LHS who served as the district's coordinator of teaching and learning for secondary education last school year. Lanning resigned to take the principal's position with Polaris Career Center.

New faces in the district classrooms include Lisa Krumroy, who will teach science at the high school and Casey Squires, who will be a math teacher at the high school. April Georgius will be the new media specialist at the Garfield LRC.

Lakewood School District

continued from page 1

had been torn down, rebuilt and refurnished with all new items.

"The need there is far greater than our minimal cash return we'd get from that auction," Berdine told the Toledo Blade for an article it recently published on the donations Lake Local has received from various school districts and area businesses. The article calls Lakewood City Schools' donation, "An especially generous one."

The donation also helped get the ball rolling for other donors, according to Takats.

Once people heard about Lakewood donating other districts fell in line and started donating, too," she said.

The students, who return to school on Aug. 25, will be in their temporary home for at least two years, Takats said. She said the Lake Local district is just grateful that donors like Lakewood City Schools are helping to make the transition a little smoother.

Golden Knights Coming To LHS September 7

by Christine Gordillo

On Tuesday, Sept. 7, you won't want to miss being at Lakewood High's Ranger Stadium for a very special event. The U.S. Army Parachute Team the Golden Knights, in town Labor Day weekend for the Cleveland Air Show, will make a special drop-in appearance at Lakewood High Stadium on Sept. 7 at 9 a.m. The entire LHS student body will be there for this unique presentation by one of the most elite jump teams in the world.

Because the event is so special, the Lakewood High staff would like to invite the Lakewood community to enjoy the demonstration and presentation as well. The stadium gate on Bunts Road will open at 8 a.m. for the public to enter the stadium and be seated on the east side bleachers. The narrator for the Golden Knights will "jump-in" promptly at 9 a.m. and the demonstration should last an estimated 20 minutes.

The Golden Knights' jump is an event that is weather dependent. If the demonstration must be canceled due to poor parachuting weather, a notice will be posted on the Lakewood City Schools web site before 8 a.m. on September 7.

"This is a unique opportunity for the students of Lakewood High School to see the precision, teamwork and excellence that can result from individual and collective focus and discipline," said LHS Principal Bill Wagner. "These are skills that we try to instill in our students every period, every day. This assembly should highlight many of the expectations and challenges we work on every year while providing students an entertaining and thrilling opportunity of a lifetime."

The Golden Knights is the Army's official aerial demonstration team and makes appearances across the country at special events in an effort to connect the U.S. Army with the public.



business or organization at this year's event.

Email: JordansFamilyFoundation@Yahoo.com Phone: 216-221-0147

Carabel Beauty Salon & Store

CURLS GONE WILD!

We can help with Products and Haircuts that work! Come to the Lakewood Public Library On 9/13 at 7PM "Curl Advantage Workshop"

216.226.8616 Your Feminine Connection

15309 Madison Avenue • FREE PARKING

Lakewood Schools

Ranger Shop Helps Spread Lakewood Spirit

by Christine Gordillo

With the new school year fresh under way and the holidays only a few short months away, now is the perfect time to check out the Ranger Shop at Lakewood High. Sweatshirts, t-shirts, athletic bags, polos and many more types of spiritwear are available along with a variety of accessories such as hair bands, pencils, stickers, pennants, coffee mugs, etc.

The Ranger Shop is a joint project of the Lakewood Alumni Foundation and the Lakewood Athletic Boosters.

A Balancing Act

by Kristine Pagsuyoin

Last spring I voted for the Lakewood Schools operating levy because I wanted our district to be able to preserve as many of the wonderful programs as possible that we offer to our students, and because I wanted to provide our school district with the funding needed to continue to provide our kids with a good education.

Many citizens voted yes on the levy because they value education and want the best for Lakewood kids and families. By passing the levy a trust was established between the Lakewood School District and the community. We passed the levy, and in return our Board promised to do its due diligence to be accountable and responsible with our money, especially when it came to programming.

As we approach another school year we are beginning to receive bits and pieces of clues as to what programs may not be continued next year and the years soon following. To date, it is not clear as to which programs may be on the chopping block for next year, nor have there been any discussions at any of the regular school board meetings or with the community regarding program cuts.

Our elected Board must balance the needs of the District with the values and wants of a community. There is not always a win-win situation and there must be compromises in tough economic times. Yet, shouldn't parents and citizens at least be able to communicate to the District which programs, if cut, would be "deal-breakers"? How does our Board go about evaluating a program? Do they consider the consequences to our city, district, and Lakewood families when considering which programs to cut?

I believe our community doesn't want fires put out or a piece-meal approach to program decisions. My hope is that our District will take a comprehensive, holistic approach when deciding which programs they will offer to students, that they conduct research into programs that are evidence-based and proven to meet the needs of students, that they make the effort to understand what this community values most in education, and that they communicate their findings to the community and evaluate the feedback they receive when making final decisions.

We are experiencing serious financial challenges as a school district, but on the flip side there exists great room for opportunity if we take a holistic approach to our district, as the needs of the District are met and balanced with the needs and wants of our community. The time is now for decisions that will make us stronger and better equipped than other Districts to provide an excellent education in Lakewood. It will take creativity, forward thinking, and cutting edge decisions. Actually, when you get past the fear of what the financial situation may be you can see that there is opportunity and exciteBooster volunteers staff the shop and earn "Booster Bucks" for their time worked in the store. The Booster Bucks help offset the cost of their student-athlete's pay-to-participate sports fee. For each hour worked, a volunteer earns \$2.50 toward his or her student's fee.

The Ranger Shop, which is located just west of the L-Room on the eastern end of the high school, is open Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. and during other select events. The satellite Stadium Shop is open from 6:30 p.m. through half time of all the home varsity football games and during other select LHS stadium events.

Since the shop opened in 2005, it has caught the attention of many a visiting parent or official from other school districts who stop by while

attending a game or other activity at the high school. "They come in and they can't believe what we've got," said Anne Giffels, last year's president of the Athletic Boosters and a volunteer who's logged many, many hours at the Ranger Shop.

As the Alumni Foundation recognizes that many far-flung alumni wish to sport their Ranger Spirit in whatever state or city they live, plans are in the works for an online Ranger Shop as well. (Locals can take advantage, too!). The plan currently is to have the online store functioning by October, according to Alumni Foundation executive director Teresa Andreani.

You can reach the Ranger Shop at 216-529-4321 or visit www.lake-woodrangers.com for more info.



LHS Ranger gear for everyone.

ment in the future for education.

Many of the choices we make in the next couple of years will affect our District, our city and whether we will be able to attract new families to our city, and whether or not our kids can get into the colleges of their choice or get the jobs they want. There are some issues that our Board of Education faces that have to be solved quickly and not necessarily with community input. However, programs offered by a school district should not only meet state requirements and standards, but also be a reflection of the values of the community as a whole.



BRADLEY BAY Health Center Bay Village





Wellington place North Olmsted

Living Life & Celebrating National Assisted Living Week!



Lakewood Senior Health Campus invites you to join us for a...

Wine & Cheese Tasting Open House

Wednesday, September 15, 2010 from 4:30 - 6:00PM

1381 Bunts Road, Lakewood

(Campus is on NE corner of Bunts & Detroit)

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



Out And About

Lakewoodite And Cancer Survivor "Sings" **For Blood Cancer Cures**

by Charmaine J. Davis

Lakewoodian Charmaine I. Davis of AIIA Entertainment hosts the 1st Annual "Singing for Survivors" karaoke fundraiser, Wednesday, September 8, 2010 at Around the Corner Café, 18616-20 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood. The event will be held from 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. in the restaurant's warehouse room. \$5.00 donations will be accepted to participate in karaoke, with a 50/50 raffle drawing taking

place at the end of the event, based on audience votes of their favorite participant. There will also be 2 for \$1 raffle tickets sold for special prize drawings throughout the evening. The more participation, the bigger the pot grows - the better you perform, the more chances you have to win the top prize! One winner will be randomly selected through the raffle to take half the pot, with the other half's proceeds to go directly towards the Leukemia and

Lymphoma Society's annual Light the Night Walk (LTN) campaign.

Around the Corner Café will have a \$5.00 food menu and \$2.25 Pabst Blue Ribbon beer throughout the evening. Karaoke music and services provided by Karen and Ron of Karaoke Korner of Elyria. The event is sponsored by AIIA (pronounced A-Two-A) Entertainment, Avon, Cleveland Improv Comedy Club and Restaurant, Garland Williams Photography - Toledo, K. Vaughn Designs - Philadephia, Radio One Cleveland, The Cleveland Cavaliers, The Cleveland Indians, and Walmart.

A Stage IIIA Hodgkin's disease survivor, Charmaine aims to raise at least \$500 as an individual LTN walk participant and at least \$2,000 along with her team, "Faith Without Limits," to enable LLS efforts to cure blood cancers (leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease and myeloma). She has been an active member of the LLS Northern Ohio Chapter (which includes the Toledo, Cleveland and Akron areas) since June 2009.

"To celebrate my company's [AIIA Entertainment] one year anniversary, I chose to do a karaoke fundraiser because of my love and passion of singing. To express yourself creatively encourages others to do the same – in this way, we help each other grow and to be better people! It also looks to raise awareness to further this organization's work to fund research to help find cures for blood cancers. I feel blessed to have the opportunity to give back to the organization that helped me fight the good fight and beat my Hodgkin's two years ago!"

Sheri Kellner, Light the Night Campaign Manager for LLS's Northern Ohio chapter, believes that events

The Daily Circulator needs your help in its struggle to restore the very much needed daily Lakewood Circulator. Please call Riders To Bring Back The Daily Circulator at (216) 221-2724 to like this are great for the community in bringing greater awareness about blood cancers and how to help find cures. "Charmaine is an inspiration to us at LLS, giving back to her community. We appreciate her using her talents to raise money for such a great cause!"

The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society (LLS) is the world's largest voluntary health organization dedicated to funding blood cancer research and providing education and patient services. Founded in 1949, LLS is relentless in pursuit of their mission: Cure leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease and myeloma, and improve the quality of life of patients and their families.

An estimated 912,938 people in the United States are living with, or are in remission from, leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease and myeloma. Every four minutes, someone new is diagnosed with blood cancer. Every 10 minutes, someone dies.

Leukemia causes more deaths than any other cancer among children under the age of 20. Lymphomas are the most common blood cancers and incidence increases with age. The survival rate for myeloma is only 37.1 percent. Incidence is nearly twice as high among African-Americans as for all other races.

The Light the Night Walk is LLS's annual fundraising walk and the nation's night to pay tribute and bring hope to people battling cancer. In 2009, the walk raised more than \$39 million nationally for research and patient services.

This event will be fun for everyone! If you have any questions about the event, please contact Charmaine J. Davis at (216) 370-7855 or charmaine@ AIIAEnt.com. If you cannot make the event and would like to donate to Charmaine's team, log on to http://pages. lightthenight.org/noh/Clevelnd10/ CDavis to make a secured payment.

For more information on LLS, contact Sheri Kellner at (216) 910-1217 or visit www.lls.org/noh. Register your LTN Walk team today at www.lightthenight.org/noh.

Business Bits

by Maggie Fraley

Happy 5 year Anniversary to FITNESS EDGE. Owner, Marty Velasco offers many new program options for every level of fitness ... Happy 2 Year Anniversary to PUMA YOGA offering beginner classes through advanced, yoga for kids and even Mom & baby classes! ... Speaking of kids, it was already time for the New Teacher's Luncheon held by the **CHAMBER OF COMMERCE** where each of the 15 new teachers in Lakewood received a gift donated by our local businesses ... THE **HEIRLOOM HOME** will be opening soon in the building at the SW corner of West Clifton and Detroit. This building owner's dream is to open a shop that will accept household donations for resale and then donate 100% of the profits to scholarships for children's classes in the arts. Watch for more details soon! ... Starting in September also watch for more Business and Chamber news when The LO starts our new LAKEWOOD BUSINESS PAGE ... A bit of non-profit news is THE TRIN-ITY LAKEWOOD COMMUNITY OUTREACH (TLCO) - "Pastor Paula" Maeder Connor shares some of their current projects such as the backpack and school supply collection, youth theatre group, and an ongoing fundraiser at 56 WEST. Yes! Another good cause that Don Farrone, one of the owners, is supporting! Enjoy a delicious and unique 56 West menu item on Sunday and 15% of your bill will go to support the many fine projects of TLCO. Also, see what other non-profits will benefit each month from regular fundraisers on Mondays ... And if you're interested in another style of delicious food in our ever-diverse Lakewood, why not visit NIKO'S - reopened on Detroit- for authentic Greek cuisine. Variety and community involvement in both non and for-profit businesses make Lakewood a delightful place to think globally and support our business neighbors locally!

County Executive Candidates Forum August 30, 2010

by Ziggy Rein

Riders To Bring Back The Daily Lakewood Circulator is sponsoring a Candidates Forum on Monday, August 30, at 7pm. The forum will be held in the Multi-Purpose Room of the Main Branch of the Lakewood Public Library at 15425 Detroit Avenue.

All Cuyahoga County Executive candidates have been invited to discuss and answer questions on how they would improve the Cleveland Regional Transit System (RTA) and whether the medical mart slated to be built in downtown Cleveland is a questionable or even unacceptable deal that should be cancelled to free up the county sales tax earmarked for its erection. And whether some of that county sales tax freed up should be used to restore RTA bus service and lower bus fares.

RTA now runs a much reduced Lakewood Circulator bus, which is subsidized by the City of Lakewood. This Circulator runs only on Friday afternoons, just every 90 minutes, one direction only, and does not stop at all RTA bus stops. Since it has been designed to accommodate everyone it is so inconvenient that it really does not serve anyone properly, thus very few people ride it.

What is really needed is a sevenday Lakewood Circulator running at least every hour in both directions as it had been before RTA eliminated it without any consideration to its ridership. Riders To Bring Back The Daily Circulator has been and still is fighting hard to have the daily Circulator brought back. Riders To Bring Back







Out And About

Graduates Remember St. Clement 40 Years Later

by Tom Fahey

St. Clement Grade School Reunion

On Saturday August 7 nearly 100 alumni and their spouses attended the first reunion for the elementary school classes of 1968, 1969 and 1970 at the St. Clement Church Hall on Madison Avenue. Even though the school itself closed a few years ago, these baby boomers showed they still have some of the same school spirit they had over 40 years ago. The event was organized by myself, Tom Fahey, of Lakewood; Dennis Dancak of Fairview Park; Nancy

McMurtrey of North Ridgeville; and John McNally of Bay Village.

The school closed in 2005 and records were hard to come by. We relied on an old tattered yearbook and memory to come up with a list of potential attendees. The women were particularly hard to track down as many of them had changed their names in marriage. Plus the number of Thomas Gallaghers, Tim Hogans and James Watsons there are in the just the state of Ohio made it a real challenge. Face-Book was a real help. Word of mouth spread and the turnout was gratifying. There were probably another fifty people who were unable to attend but sent

their best wishes.

People from as far away as Virginia, Tennessee, Texas and Wisconsin attended. The attraction for everyone was to see people they hadn't seen in years, some we hadn't seen since we graduated over 40 years ago. Of course the topics of conversations ranged from what we have been doing in the past four decades to how our retirement plans have taken a beating in this recession. Photos of children and grandchildren were passed around. Most of the talk, though, centered on the childhood that we shared - the city co-championship CYO football team, sneaking a smoke behind Oscar's Barbershop, and king of the hill battles fought on the snow piles in the playground during the winter. And the teachers - lay men and women, nuns and priests who taught us, and the things we tried to do to get over on them.

People who hadn't seen each other in ages felt as comfortable as they did when they were kids. One person said that when we were young and in school during the 1960s we hadn't developed the facades that we learned in our teen years, working life, marriage and parenthood. That night we were the same children that once trudged to the school at the corner of Madison and Lincoln. We knew we all came from the same place and that was all that mattered.

As the night ended Mary Ellen Fitzgerald, the first girl I ever kissed, asked me to dance. We rocked to Neil Diamond's Kentucky Woman. At the end of the song she knelt down in front of my wheelchair and gave me a kiss. I glanced at my wife, who smiled, not at me, but at the little boy I was way back then.

The afternoon of the reunion I wrote the poem that is in the online version at http://lakewoodobserver.com.













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Lakewood Cares

Brake 4 Kids

by Caitlin Magner

Lakewood Early Childhood PTA's Brake 4 Kids™ Speed Awareness Program

Pedestrian motor vehicle incidents are a problem since more than 80 kids are hit by cars in the US every day. Lakewood Early Childhood PTA (LECPTA) is sponsoring its 8th consecutive year with our annual speed awareness program entitled Brake 4 Kids™. This program aims to remind drivers to slow down now that school has resumed as they observe the Brake 4 Kids™ tree lawn signs posted on our city streets by residents and businesses, and especially those near schools. The city of Lakewood has seen a reduced

number of pedestrian motor vehicle injuries since the inception of Brake 4 Kids™. We believe the Brake 4 Kids™ signs have contributed significantly to this decrease.

Where can I get my sign?

The signs are free and can be obtained starting August 25th at our three major sponsor locations: Geiger's Clothing and Sports (14710 Detroit), First Federal of Lakewood (14806 Detroit), and Steve Barry Buick (16000 Detroit). Signs will also be available outside all Lakewood elementary and middle schools Friday, August 27 from 2:30-3:05, and at the Lakewood Community Festival at Madison Park on

Saturday, September 11 from 11:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

When & where should I post my sign?
Brake 4 Kids™ signs can be posted
on your tree lawn beginning on the first
day of school (August 25th) and remain
there for the entire month of September thanks to City Council Resolution
#7782-03 declaring the month of September as "Speed Awareness Month for
the City of Lakewood." After that time,
please remove the signs from your tree
lawn. You may continue to display the
signs on your lawn proper, or save and
recycle your sign to use next year.

This program is made possible by LECPTA and Lakewood Council of PTAs. Many thanks to our generous sponsor donations from First Federal of Lakewood; Steve Barry Buick; Geiger's; Brinkman-Dress Funeral Home; Jordan's Family Foundation; Five Guys Burgers and Fries; Ed Favre, Lakewood School Board; Matthew John Markling, Lakewood School Board Vice-President; Michael Summers, Lakewood City Council; Brian Powers, Lakewood City Council; Nickie J. Antonio, Lakewood City Council; Hayes Elementary School PTO; Grant PTA Elementary School; Horace Mann Elementary School PTA; Harding Middle School PTSA, Lakewood High School PTA

Tax deductible donations to Brake 4 Kids™-LECPTA are greatly appreciated. For further information, contact LECPTA Health, Safety, and Welfare Chair Julie Sweany at brakeforkids@gmail.com or visit our website at www. LECPTA.com

Junior Women's Club Supports Help To Others (H2O)

by Margaret Wetzler

Lakewood's Junior Women's Club (JWCL) continued its support of the City of Lakewood's H2O (Help to Others) program with a donation of \$2,000, as Margaret Wetzler, president of JWCL, presented a check to Celia Dorsch, director of H2O, at the End of Summer party on August 12. JWCL is a long-time supporter of H2O, and has committed to an annual contribution to the group since 2007.

The H2O End of Summer party celebrated the accomplishments of more than 200 campers, leaders, volunteers and speakers who participated in this year's program, and recognized partnerships with local civic organizations and service agencies.

According to Ms. Wetzler, JWCL is proud to support the work of H2O because its mission so closely mirrors that of the Junior Women's Club: to provide a philanthropic organization for women who are interested in serving their community while enjoying programming and social events geared toward fun and friendship. H2O Summer Camp is a service learning program for middle and high school students dedicated to strengthening and enriching the community by

engaging its young people as community builders. It was evident from the campers who spoke on behalf of the group that they learned that there isn't a dichotomy between fun and service; you can smile, laugh and goof around while also serving your community and helping those in need.

In addition to monetary support of H2O, JWCL "gifted" its long-standing Breakfast with the Bunny program to H2O in 2010. The breakfast, held at Lakewood Park's Woman's Pavilion before Easter, has become an annual tradition for many families and features a visit from the Easter Bunny. With the help of JWCL members, the program was transitioned to H2O and the well-

known event will continue to welcome families and serve the community.

JWCL has served the Lakewood community since 1962, by awarding college scholarships to Lakewood women, providing holiday food baskets for Lakewood families in need, financially supporting Lakewood nonprofits, and actively participating in the Lakewood Arts Festival, the Lakewood Historical Society's Tour of Homes and the Mayor's Ball. In addition to H2O, JWCL will provide financial support for Live Well Lakewood and Joyful Noise in 2010-11.

For information on membership, please email lakewoodjuniors@gmail.com.

Lakewood Guitar Consort Invites New Members

by Diane Konyk

Lakewood Guitar Consort, in residence at the Beck Center for the Arts, is currently seeking new members. All ability levels are welcome, on either nylon or acoustic steel-string guitars. Repertoire ranges from Renaissance to 21st Century. Music is in standard note format, not tabbed. Lakewood Guitar Consort was founded to offer an ensemble playing experience for area guitarists and as an outreach to the community by providing concerts at local venues. Rehearsals are Saturdays 1:30- 3:00 P.M. at the Beck Center for the Arts in Lakewood. Contact Chris Ellicott, director, at (216) 398-1401 or email at elkkit@aol.com for more information.



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H2O Campers Receive the Donation from JWCL









County Council

Tom Jordan County Council Interview

Interview by Kristine Pagsuyoin



1. Please tell us your name, age, where you live, and how you make your living.

Tom Jordan, 45, Cleveland (Westpark), Community Development Director for the City of North Royalton, married to Mary Ellen Jordan (a licensed social worker and Lakewood Middle School track coach). Together we have four children, ages 4 through 9 years.





2. Describe for us the duties of a member of the County Council.

As a new entity, the most important duty is to reestablish the public trust and ensure that all of the responsibilities are executed in an open and honest manner through a new standard of ethics. The charter prescribes a wide range of responsibilities, from establishing budgets to reorganizing departments. It provides a check and balance for the new county executive to ensure that District 2 of the county is fairly represented. Most importantly, the council should try and integrate the vision of communities in collaborative efforts that reduce our tax burden.

3. Why do you want to serve on County Council?

My parents immigrated here from Ireland to find opportunity and raise their seven children. Currently, Cuyahoga County is at a crossroads. However, if the trends are not reversed, my four children, who were born and raised in Cleveland, will probably not remain here. They may be forced to find work in their chosen professions elsewhere. We have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to embrace the true spirit of reform, install new leadership, and

reinvigorate a county that continues to lose jobs and population.

4. What qualifications to you bring that make you the most qualified?

I have served as the Planning and Development Director for the City of Lakewood where I have a proven track record of creating jobs and investments. I supported and initiated incentive programs that helped sustain our schools, promoted home ownership, and created new housing. I am aware of the challenges and strengths of the core city and the inner ring suburbs. I have senior government experience without the baggage of 30 years in elective office.

5. What will you do in your first weeks? Please describe in detail, to give our readers and idea of what this position will actually be like.

I would get to work creating private sector jobs. I would focus available county resources into programs and projects that attract business investments such as green energy and health science jobs. Instead of spreading limited resources over a broad number of programs, I would narrow the funds to these two job-producing fields. Through utilizing tax incentives or providing loans

and grants, we must establish the county as a major destination for companies in these select fields. Additionally, we will need to streamline and consolidate departments through shared technology across different units of government. We must also find the resources to provide quality health and human services that promote self-sustainability.

6. How, specifically, will we know that you are doing a good job?

How well the council members respond to the challenge of balancing the budget, providing quality services, and creating jobs will be a measure of the council's success. Getting to work on these issues will be a standard by which voters can gauge whether or not we are moving forward. The public and our regional partners need to be assured that real reform has occurred. Over time, the voters will be able to judge the success of county council through a decline in unemployment, a rise in home sales, and a creation of an innovative economic development plan. To truly demonstrate success and growth, the operations, focus, and image of the county need to be rebranded in order to restore public trust and move forward.

Dale Miller County Council Interview

Interview by Kristine Pagsuyoin

1. Please tell us your name, age, where you live, and how you make your living.

Dale Miller; Age 60; Address: The West Park area in Cleveland; Employment: Ohio State Senator

2. Describe for us the duties of a member of the County Council.

The duties of County Council are to assist in development and implementation of a plan to create more good jobs; review, amend, and approve the budget; create an ethics policy; adopt rules regarding hiring and contracting; advise and consent on appointments by the County Executive; provide checks and balances to the power of the Executive; help constituents with inquiries regarding County government.

3. Why do you want to serve on County Council?

I have extensive and diverse economic development experience and want to serve to help create jobs and get our economy moving forward. I particularly want to focus on developing our potential to be suppliers for the wind and solar industries and to build on our successes at the Beck Center and Gordon Square Arts District to create centers of arts and culture on the county's west side.

4. What qualifications to you bring that make you the most qualified?

In addition to my extensive economic development experience, I have three important qualifications that my opponent cannot match. First, having served on Cleveland City Council, the Ohio House, and the Ohio Senate, I know the legislative procedures on three different legislative bodies. This would be very helpful in setting up a totally new legislative system for the county.

Second, I have strong public budgeting experience, having served on the Finance Committee at Cleveland City Council and as the Ranking Democrat on the Finance Committee for three different state budgets. With Cuyahoga County facing a \$19 million deficit in 2011, we need the strongest possible budgeting expertise on County Council.

Third, my state experience and contacts will be helpful in getting us the best possible support and cooperation from state government.

5. What will you do in your first weeks? Please describe in detail, to give our readers and idea of what this position will actually be like.

My focus in the first few weeks will be on putting strategies and ideas together for inclusion in the county's economic development plan; reviewing the budget for 2011 that will have been just passed by the outgoing commissioners to see if improvements can be made; starting work on ethics, contracting, and hiring policy; continuing efforts already started before taking



office to review the recommendations of the transition committees; working to develop a good working relationship with the County Executive, my County Council colleagues, and other community leaders, particularly those in my district. I will also set up a system where any interested consituents can sign up to receive email reports on the progress of the new county government.

6. How, specifically, will we know that you are doing a good job?

You will know that I've done a good job if we do what Summit County could not and get the new government working well right from the start. There will be some transitional glitches, but if we have the Executive and Council working together, are developing and implementing better job creation plans; have the budget under control, are saving money through collaboration, and are cleaning up the corruption, then we are doing well.

County Council

John Zappala County Council Interview

Interview by Kristine Pagsuyoin

1. Please tell us your name, age, where you live, and how you make your living.

My Name is John Zappala. I am 51 years old. I was born in Lakewood Hospital at a very young age and have lived in Lakewood my entire life. I am a product of Lakewood Schools both Parochial and public. After seven years at Cleveland State University I graduated with A Bachelors degree in communications. I have run my own business for 35 years. I started off in the painting business and found out there is more than just color. The substrate and structure must be sound and of good integrity to support the color palate. That is why I have learned all aspects of home restoration and building. I have enjoyed great success in my business and have not had to print a business card for over 25 years. I have three children and have been happily married to my wife Holly for twenty three years.

2. Describe for us the duties of a member of the County Council.

It will be quite the event to watch, eleven different representatives with their own agenda's for their district and an executive who can hopefully lead the way. I believe that as a Council member my foremost responsibility is to the voters who elect me; to be representative of and guardian to the funds they entrust to the county. I will be there to remind the council members to be a good steward with the people's money. The other duty is to be a voice of common sense and accountability in the entrusting of providing the services and duties to all the people of the County. My background in my own business and my own household provides me with the skills and common sense to always make the correct decision and to live within the means the budget allows for. The test is demonstrated by the accountability of the dollars spent to the one that provide the funds, the taxpayers of the County.

3. Why do you want to serve on **County Council?**

I stepped off the sideline and



into this race because I want to see Cuyahoga County prosper. I want my neighbors to live in communities that are full of opportunities both economic and social. I want every parent's dream - that their children can have a better life. I am also tired of being lied to and demanded of. I don't want to see the deck re-shuffled. That ends up with the same game as before. It is time for a new deck and a new game that the people can win with!

4. What qualifications to you bring that make you the most qualified?

For the past thirty-five years I have owned a successful home restoration business. This gives me a unique perspective because my clients are both the "boss" and the "consumer." Public employees should conduct themselves in the same manner. In my business I must evaluate the situation and develop the proper course of action to restore the property to its intended use for many years to come. Ihave a proven record of assessing proper planning to eliminate wasteful spending while providing the maximum benefits. I am also a leader and the biggest cheerleader that all of us need. It is imperative to have convictions and a winning attitude. Sitting in a garage will not make you a car. I have the wisdom and the proper judgment to build the garage to house the car that one who works for it can obtain.

5. What will you do in your first weeks? Please describe in detail, to give our readers and idea of what this position will actually be like.

Unfortunately the climate in our county has been very negative. The poor behavior of a few has discredited the



many county workers that diligently care for the county's needs. The first agenda item needed is to restore the public trust. That trust can only be restored by hard work, high ethical standards, and by

respecting the tax payer's wallet. The first weeks will be a roller coaster ride as the truth comes out about the budget and direction for the county is realized in the light of day. Difficult decisions will be required. I will be voice of reason and common sense to all those entrusted with this monumental task. The work will not be easy but it is simple. "Don't forget who we work for."

6. How, specifically, will we know that you are doing a good job?

You will know that I am doing a good job when businesses and families choose to locate in our county. There should be a Quarterly report card to the people evaluating the achievement toward the goals the new County Council should outline at its beginning. When the people believe they are getting their money's worth and the services they are due, then the new county council has been successful!





end the summer with? The Lakewood His- wonderful home. Stroll through the lovely gar-Tour Patron Party on the Saturday night before the Sunday Home & Garden Tour.

This year's Patron Party house is an elegant brick Tudor with spectacular lake views. This stunning private residence is not on Sunday's tour. Tickets are \$75 for a regular Patron attendee or you can become a Golden Patron for \$100. Your Patron Party ticket purchases include a a portion of your purchase is tax-deductible.



torical Society invites you to the House dens and the pool house. Treat yourself to a fabulous selection of hor's d'oeuvres and desserts. Sip a glass of wine or an ice-cold beer while enjoying the evening's live musical entertainment. Take in the view of a stunning sunset over Lake Erie. Mingle under the stars with friends and fellow supporters of the Society.

There will also be a silent auction and the winner of the "Instant Wine Cel-Sunday House Tour ticket valued at \$15 and lar" raffle will be drawn during the evening.

Patron Party tickets can be purchased: online at www.lakewoodmuseumstore.com; by calling 216-221-7343; or in person at The Old Stone House Museum.

Home & Garden Tour Sunday, September 12, 1 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Tour tickets are again at the low price of \$15 each in advance. You can purchase tickets at Lakewood retail outlets: Beck Center for the Arts, Local Girl Gallery, Rozi's Wine House, First Federal of Lakewood, Geiger's Clothing & Sports, and the Oldest Stone House Museum. You may also purchase online at www. lakewoodmuseumstore.com. On Facebook? Visit "Vintage Lakewood Ohio."

A Lakewoodites Perspective

Bret Callentine Gives The Answers He'd Hoped To Hear To

The Observer County Executive Questions

1.) If elected to the position of County Executive, what three or four goals would top the list of things that you'd hope to accomplish during your term in office?

Anyone elected should take a lesson from the NFL, NBA, or any other professional sports league. The goal of an administration should be that of any good referee: make sure the rules are applied evenly and never take over the game. The best official is the one you rarely see, and one that is always honest and fair. Government, on any level is no different.

2.) What do you regard as the major challenges that must be met in order for the new system of county government to succeed?

The major challenge isn't getting the system to work, it's just in figuring out how the system is supposed to work. Check out the county website and you'll see a long list of departments, boards and initiatives. Any candidate who suggests that they have a clear vision for the direction of the County Government isn't being honest, because nothing in government is clear. There are overlapping fields of responsibility, job redundancies, hundreds of cracks to fall through, and thousands of loopholes to hide behind.

3.) How do you define good government?

The best government is minimally invasive, modernly efficient, and maximally effective. But, since the next time that is accomplished it will also be the first, how 'bout we just start with something that is completely deficit neutral: financially, intelligently, and, given what we've been living with for the past couple of decades, especially morally and criminally.

4.) Do you believe the new County Executive/Council structure can put an end to the corruption and patronage that have dominated news headlines for the past several years?

Systems aren't corrupt, people are corrupt. The real problem is that society doesn't see the violation of public trust for what it really is: treason. When you abuse the office you've been elected to, you subvert its authority and deteriorate its ability to affectively govern for years to come. You've not only broken the law, but weakened the sovereignty of the law. If the goal is ending corruption, forget about setting up new government oversight structures, and just bring back public executions.

5.) Under the new charter, several top county officials who in the past were directly elected by the voters will now be appointees chosen and approved by the new Executive County Council. Do you see that as a positive step?

No, I see it as a meaningless one.

by Bret Callentine

I could care less how they get the job. I only care about what they do to keep it. If making those people appointees means that it's easier to fire someone when they prove to be completely inept, then I'm all for it. Whether you are elected or not means nothing in proving your ability to get the job done once you're there.

6.) What approach would you take to working with the new County Council to keep lines of communication open in order to achieve consensus on major county wide objectives?

With all due respect, real leadership rarely comes out of a committee and even less often is the result of a 'consensus'. As long as the door is always open for creative solutions and constructive criticism, I want an executive that doesn't worry about political posturing and pompous pride.

7.) When will Cuyahoga County voters know if the new government structure is working as envisioned and how will they know?

They won't. Or at least, anyone who has a life outside of politics won't. The way we'll know our government is

working is if we no longer hear about it in the evening news. What's good for the County is what's bad for any career politician: obscurity. If, by the next election you don't even know who your County Executive is, and better yet, you have no reason to know, then he or she should probably be given another term.

8.) Do you believe the new structure has the potential to spark economic growth and job creation in Northeast Ohio? If so, how might that happen?

Only if that is not its mission. The role of government is to set the rules, not determine the outcome. And nothing stifles industry more than politicians constantly tweeking the system in hopes of spurring its growth.

9.) There has been much talk about "regionalization" as a mechanism to improve government efficiency and hopefully, reduce the tax burden on the citizens of Cuyahoga County. Do you view the new government structure as a positive step toward achieving these goals?

If anything can increase services and lower taxes I'm all for it, but

when's the last time ANY government entity accomplished that task? I fear that 'regionalization' will only become a method for local officials to hide their inadequacies in a much larger pool of public failure.

10.) In your analysis of Issue 6 the charter amendment that ushered in the sweeping changes in county government, what did you find to be its strong points? And what, if any, weaknesses did you detect?

I once lost a lot of money to a kid hustling me at pool with a house cue. It's not the stick, it's the person wielding it. The trick is to know the person's strengths and weaknesses before they take all our money.

11.) Do you see a need for further "tinkering" with the County Charter to improve prospects for a successful transition? If so, what changes would you hope to see incorporated?

The success or failure of this county will never be dependent on the wording of any charter, or for that matter, the response to any interview question. It has only the collective strength, perseverance, knowledge, wisdom, honor, and faith of its people on which to depend.

Ministerial Musings: Teach Your Children

by John Tamilio, III

"How can young people keep their way pure? By guarding it according to your word." ~ Psalm 119:9, NRSV

Psalm 119 is the longest of the Psalms: 176 verses long. It is filled with rays of light that speak of God's commandments, precepts, ordinances, and laws as guiding our path. "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path" (Ps. 119:105, KJV). Amy Grant and Michael W. Smith wrote a beautiful piece of music based on that verse.

Other nuggets are nestled in this Psalm. Recently, I have been reflecting on verse nine cited above. In some respects, it calls to mind the Proverb which declares, "Train children in the right way, and when old, they will not stray" (22:6).

This verse from the Psalms speaks to an issue I hear echoing in many quarters. It usually begins, "Kids these days," and leads into a statement about not being respectful or not having any values. Of course that is a generalization, which is neither fair nor fully accurate. There are some great kids out there behaving in ways that many adults do not. I see it among my own children and their friends.

That said, we all need guidance — and adults have a responsibility of molding the generation that follows them. Teachers shape the minds of

children, coaches inculcate them with good sportsmanship, and the Church is often looked upon to instill good moral values in our youth.

On the one hand, that is a role I take quite seriously. On the other hand, I have a knee-jerk reaction to the word "values"? Whose values are we talking about? Are we talking conservative values, liberal values, or something totally different? I am going with the latter. Regardless of what pundits on the right and the left say, God's word stands strong. The same Psalm on which we're reflecting declares, "Your word is firmly fixed in heaven" (vs. 89b).

So what does God's word say? What message does Scripture have for the young to keep their way pure?

Of course, The Bible says many things. Jesus, however, said that the greatest commandment was to love God wholeheartedly and that a second command was like it: to love one's neighbor as one's self. Jesus said, "On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets" (Mt. 22:40). In Jesus' day the law and the prophets was another way of saying The Bible. There was no New Testament yet and along with the poetical Writings, the Law and the Prophets comprised the Hebrew Bible (what came to be known as the Old Testament). In other words, Jesus is saying that all of Scripture — everything it says, everything it dictates — is summed up



under these two commandments: love God and love others.

Loving one another — do we actually do this? What would the world look like if we did? Better yet, what if we really taught our youth to do this? What world would they carve out of the future?

Jesus wasn't the only historical personage to offer such a command. Similar dictums appear in the writings and teachings of Zoroaster, Confucius, Vardhamana Mahavira, Siddhartha Gautama, Hillel, Mohammed, Immanuel Kant, Baha'ullah, and Sotarsan. Apparently, loving others is a universal maxim.

Let's teach our children well, as the old Crosby, Stills, Nash, and Young song declares. Let's teach them to truly love others in order for their lives to be pure. And may they learn from our actions as opposed to just our words.

John Tamilio III (JT3) is the Senior Pastor of Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ. A nationally published author and musician, JT3 lives in Lakewood. He is the religion columnist for The Lakewood Observer.

Lakewood Is Art

Art Film Slovakia

by Robert Buckeye

Films are about voyages. They take us to far-away lands, to people and places we don't know, and perhaps reveal dreams we did not realize we had. Or they return us closer to home, to lives just down the street, or across the tracks, or the street we have never gone down although we pass it every day. The image on the screen may stop us - we have seen it before, talked about it, heard of it, read it, dreamt it. Or the image is so foreign none of its language makes any sense, but we cannot look away. "The movies are life," Gerard Depardieu commented when he was honored by Art Film.

Art Film Slovakia, in Trencianiske Teplice, a quiet spa town two hours from Bratislava, Czechoslovakia, offers guilty pleasures of one kind or another. It offers films of interest to cinephiles who see film as art, but also films of

Got Green?

continued from page 1

that had been made and were planned for Madison Park.

In October 2009, LCSC volunteers and students from St. Edward High School amended the garden soil with SweetPeet donated by Urban Organics and left the garden to "winter." At LCSC we put out sign-up sheets for interested families and ended up with 52! Using a lottery, we selected the 10 client families who each got a 4' x 20' raised bed.

As the mom of an LHS grad, I approached Dr. Bill Wagner, Principal, to see if there would be any interest in involving students. His response was an immediate yes. Mike Dow and his West Shore Career-Technical District Construction Trades students built the garden fence from re-purposed 70-year-old bleachers the city removed from Madison Park. Science teacher Mark Rathge had his horticulture students propagate all the plants from seeds as part of their curriculum. Not only did this support save us a lot of money, but also engaged the students in this community project. Our goal was to use as much repurposed mateinterest of the general viewer, often grouped around themes. This year Art Film focused on comedies such as 'City Lights', 'Ninotchka', and 'Gentlemen Prefer Blondes'. Last year it was dance films, football films (to commemorate the World Cup), children's films and Asian films. In addition, Art Film presents classic films of the past like 'Five Easy Pieces,' 'The Manchurian Candidate,' and 'A Fistful of Dynamite', and always screens films from Eastern Europe, particularly Slovak ones (film festivals in Toronto and Montreal always reserve a place for Canadian films). This year the festival screened 'War Games' and 'The Man Who Stopped Them,' which was privately screened at CIA headquarters.

Film festivals the size of Art Film Slovakia are always international in scope, and after watching a number of films one comes away convinced the differences between the First and

rial as possible in the garden. With a grant from OSU Extension we were able to buy 500 linear feet of 2'x10' boards from deconstructed homes for the raised beds from A Piece of Cleveland. And artist and metalworker Paul Hadley of Classic Metal Studio created the garden gate from found metal.

LCSC has not had a fundraising event since 2007 because we have been spending our time on our move, revamping our staff, recruiting new volunteers, creating and improving our programs and converting all client files into electronic records. We decided the time was right for 2010 and the community garden would be a great location for the event. And got green? was created.

With sustainability an objective in our garden, who better than Jonathon Sawyer, chef/owner of the Greenhouse Tavern on E. 4th for our celebrity chef? I approached him through his special events and PR manager, Kyla Gala, and he quickly agreed to not only bring his staff to cook at the event and do a live demo, but also to use produce grown by LCSC clients in our garden. In the "small world" category, Kyla happens to be an LHS grad herself and her par-

Third Worlds are at once obvious and less obvious than one thought. Ann Hui's Hong Kong film about wife abuse, 'Night and Fog,' seems little different from stories here. They may not be us, but their problems are as much ours as theirs.

There were surprising and unsettling voyages in Trencianske Teplice. Koji Wakamatsu's 'Caterpillar' is a powerful, if understated, protest against war, this one of the Japanese during WWII, but played out in the homeland after a soldier without limbs or voice is returned to his village. He is hailed as a conquering hero and villagers ritually mouth nationalistic pieties. Obviously he can no longer be the chauvinist (and wife-beater) he was. His wife becomes head of the household and assumes the role of proud hero's wife for the War God, as villagers dub him. Collaboration may take many forms and does not stop at the top. 'Caterpillar' does

ents still live in the historic Birdtown neighborhood! One of our client gardeners has provided heirloom tomatoes that the Greenhouse Tavern chefs are using on their menu!! Plans are underway for us to grow additional products for them next year.

West Shore senior culinary arts students will serve as assistants and line cooks to the Greenhouse Tavern chefs at the September 10th event. And while on the subject of green, Great Lakes Brewing Company has generously donated all the beer for the event. Kristine Jackson and KJ Blues will entertain. Kristine has donated back a portion of her performance fee to support LCSC. In keeping with the theme, local artists have created garden benches from 100% repurposed materials to be auctioned that night. Mayor Ed FitzGerald and Dr. Bill Wagner are honorary chairs of this great event - without the support of the City of Lakewood and Lakewood High School; our community garden would not be

Ticket sales will benefit LCSC's programs and services at a time of community need never seen before. We are currently serving 750 families a month with food (94% of whom are Lakewood residents). This staggering number represents a 42% increase over last year. Between 30 and 40 Lakewood households are applying for homeless prevention assistance in the form of help with rent and/or utilities each week. Funds from got green? will help us continue to offer an important safety net to our fellow community members in these very tough times.

Tickets are \$50 (\$20 tax deductible) and are available by clicking the got green? icon on our website, www. lcsclakewood.org or at the Center, 14230 Madison Avenue every day from 10am through 4pm.

Please help us help our community!

not want Japan to forget its guilt.

'Lebanon' is also about war does to men, this one Israel's first Lebanon War in 1982. Filmed almost entirely inside an Israeli tank, the film does not let us leave the tank any more than the crew can. The crew sees the world outside -- the Syrian commandos they fight -- only dimly through the gun sights and the periscope. The tank is less a weapon for them than their prison. We see how disorienting and frightening their struggle is to understand what is going on through the camera, which jerks back and forth and fades out of focus, while the soundtrack is a hail of bullets and rockets, steel against steel, and the grinding sounds of the tank engine. War is hell, if not madness, says director Samuel Maoz, who served in a tank himself during the first Lebanon war.

'Teheran,' an Iranian film, is an intricate, neorealist take on a Teheran underworld of child smugglers, prostitutes, thieves and those who struggle to earn a living however they can. Children are money and pass hand to hand, but no one gets ahead. The spiral is increasingly downward. The despair of its people is palpable and irrevocable.

John Frankenheimer's 'The Manchurian Candidate' took me back to an earlier and seemingly more innocent time in America, but which was, nevertheless, a sign of today. And while watching 'Metropia,' an animated feature about a bleak future akin to '1984,' I wondered what the younger audience members thought, and also what they might have thought of me, the only one in the audience over 50. In its dystopia, I saw overtones of Metropolis, Eraserhead, Brazil. I did not know what the film brought to mind for the young. I was no more than a tourist in their world.

There were also Roman Polans-ki's 'The Ghost Writer,' Atom Egoyan's 'Chloe,' Todd Solondoz's 'Life During Wartime,' and Michael Winterbottom's 'The Killer Inside Me,' which have been screened at other festivals and written about extensively.

For me the films of Art Film were not the only voyages. Trencianske Teplice itself took me back home and returned me to my childhood. The poppy seed roll at breakfast, brynskove halusky for lunch. Stoda babas on the street, those wizened, old women in black I saw on the streets of birdtown in Lakewood, Ohio. And there was the Slovak woman I met at my hotel, born in Trencianske Teplice and now living in California, who returns every summer for the festival. But you do not need to be Slovak-American to make the trip here and experience the satisfaction of films and the ambience of Trencianske Teplice.

Unlike some other film festivals, which are sometimes confusing and answers to questions are not found, Art Film is well-organized and its staff always helpful. It screens more than 200 films over nine days and can be as demanding as you make it.

community project. Our goal "small world" category, Kyla ha use as much repurposed mateto be an LHS grad herself and he

Letter To The Editor Surprise, Surprise!

by Gloria Hoeringer

Who are you trying to kid? We, the riders of the Circulator, knew before the Shopper Shuttle started that it was set up to fail. Once day a week from noon to 6pm is not sufficient time for those who work and need bus service in the evening. Special pick-up and dropoff stops set many blocks apart are not compatible to successful ridership. Forcing us to use the #26 Detroit bus is not a good alternative to the Circulator. We cannot get to where we need to go

without the Circulator. Especially since RTA also cut the North-South line #70 Bunts Rd. bus, as well as the weekend and evening services of the #25 Madison bus. We are left stranded!

Come on powers that be- wake up! RTA is more interested in special traffic lights and pretty bus shelters than they are in getting people to their destinations. How can RTA possibly think that cutting service will increase ridership elsewhere?

Give us back our Circulator!

Pulse Of The City

Back To School! (It's That Time Again!)

by Gary Rice

Hopefully, dear reader, by now you've already seen those dreaded three words a few times. If not, I'm sure the shock will not last too long for you. Deep within our souls, even years after our graduations, those words can cause deep and sometimes traumatic triggers to our collective psyches.

Still, back-to-school time really was fun for the most part, wasn't it? Oh come on now, it really was... just a little, right? Remember those new starched shirts that rubbed your collars raw, and the new pants that took ten washings so that you didn't start getting those uncontrollable itching spasms in your legs by the start of third period? Or how 'bout when Johnny sneezed that really wet one in class one day, and three days later, a third of the class (including the teacher) was home in bed?

Ah, the good old days...

And what about your shoes? These days, kids have such a bewildering array of choices. Back in our time, the choice was much simpler: black, brown or saddle. Gym shoes were, well, gym shoes, and you did not DARE walk across the Sacred Gym Floor with your street shoes on, or Coach would have you on your hands and knees after school rubbing your heel marks off that floor.

Ah, the good old days...

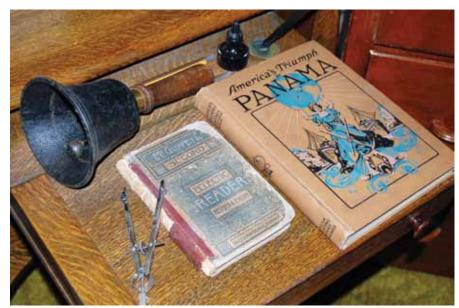
In those "good old" days, there was also a paddle hanging in virtually every classroom, and it was hanging there for a reason (however unreasonable we might feel that reason could be, these days). Actually, in twenty states, paddling is still allowed as a disciplinary measure. Ohio only last year banned corporal punishment from its public schools.

Some of the really draconian punishments, like kneeling on yardsticks and duck walks, had disappeared by the time I started school, but we did recite The Lord's Prayer in the Pennsylvania public school where I attended for my first year. I suppose some people these days might even think that to be a punishment, but I digress.

Remember that light beige paper that you wrote your first words on? You had to write neatly around those big brown wood chips in the paper. And how many of you had just completed your work, and then in your attempt to tear the paper from the notebook, neatly ripped it in half? Remember the teacher's two simple dreaded words, red-penned on your well-prepared essay, after that? Do over.

then there were times like this: I must remember to spell "Washington" correctly, or I promise not to pull Suzy's pig tails, or I promise to pull Suzy's pig tails (oops....). Do over....100 more times, please.

Ah, the good old days. Nowadays, they don't even like



"Good Old" school days? That would be the question...

teachers to use red ink to correct student papers. Too traumatic on the sensitive young minds, some might say. Correct the papers using soft pastels...it will soothe their self-esteem.

Times change. Back then, when we were kids, if Billy pushed you down the stairs, there was a good possibility that you got back up and walloped him one, and that would have been the end of it. These days, do that, and you're both assigned to the psychologist, after you both come back from being suspended, even if you didn't start the fight.

Times change. Back then, they even had gun clubs in the Lakewood schools, and it was nothing to see a kid toting a .22 rifle into the gym for target practice. These days, draw a stick picture of a gun on your notebook and it's off to the psychologist again (as well as to your local law enforcement agency).

Times change. Back then, in the days before boys' hair had gotten too long and girls' skirts had gotten too short, times seemed a whole lot simpler. They weren't, of course. There were civil defense drills, because any moment a Soviet bomber could be overhead dropping an atom bomb down the chimney at Madison School. At least we were taught to get under our desks for protection, though, so that we would supposedly be safe.

Times change. We had standardized tests back then too. Every year, in fact... and teachers were supposed to use those results to HELP us with our weak areas. Nowadays, failure to pass those tests might mean that one could not move to the next grade, or even graduate with one's peers.

Times change. Back then, there were all kinds of music, art, shop, and vocational choices for the kids who liked to express themselves, create stuff, fix things, or work with their hands. Back then, there were plenty of trades and service job opportunities as well waiting outside the schoolhouse door for those kids. These days, it seems as if everyone has to go through the same academic cattle chute....or else (and by the way, just what job IS

waiting for them after they get out of school these days?)

Times change. Back then, all of our classwork was printed using purple ink. Woe unto us if it fell into the toilet, or we got sweat on it, because that purple ink smeared everywhere, especially on our white pants, and if you were a lefty, you could be virtually assured of having a blue hand for the rest of your life. Nowadays, little fingers rattle across those keyboards, basking in the glow of those everprompting computer screens, as kids struggle to finish a project before the power goes out on them.

Times change. Once, you were rewarded in school for individual achievement and personal initiative. Nowadays, it seems as if they want everyone to be in uniform doing beehive-like group work, and they seem to be on the lookout for anyone who dares to achieve too far above or below some artificial government-or-politically inspired "norm." In my day, however, "Norm" was just a really cool kid who played the guitar.

Times change. Still, back then, as now, school continues to offer unlimited opportunities for people of all ages to improve their lot in life. A diploma continues to make a respectable statement...of survival at least, if nothing else....and of course, as good old Mark Twain reportedly wrote, one should never let schooling interfere with one's education.

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Home, Garden And Hobby

A Gift Shop With A Tender Touch

by Thealexa Becker

If you are looking for a unique, local gift store that offers a wide variety of hand-painted items and other gift-giving essentials, look no further than Tess' Tender Touch.

Its owner and founder, Theresa Ferline-Carr, a life-long Lakewood resident and part-time Lakewood Hospital employee, knowing how much customers love hand-made items, developed an interest in starting a gift shop.

"A unique thing about the store is the hand-painted bottles from recycled glass," said Theresa. The store also offers painted wine bottles and the increasingly popular plant feeders, which provide plant lovers a colorful and decorative way to care for their plants. Additionally, Tess' Tender Touch supplies other gift-giving essentials, like candles and candleholders, as well as cards and jewelry.

"I have a jeweler, Denise Gill, who uses semi-precious stones, sterling silver and Swarovski crystals," said Theresa about her efforts to make her store a one-stop shop, adding that all items leave the store in a gift bag. "I also have a card-maker, Beth Taylor, who does greeting cards, gift tags, notepads, gift boxes, and CD clocks. Pat Loose also makes walker bags."

Theresa also offers custom designing. Her most recent example was a full set of toasting glasses for a wedding, along with favors and centerpieces that were designed to the couple's wishes to match the invitation.

"I would like to try to reach the bridal audience," said Theresa about her customer base. "I just did an anniversary party and I do birthday parties as well. [The client] can custom design something. I'll do whatever anyone asks me to do."

She also offers gift baskets for a variety of occasions, but makes it clear that everything in her store is reasonably priced and very afford-



Theresa and Theo.

able. Her inventory boasts wine and martini glasses, beer mugs, tea cups, vases and tea toppers, just to name a few. She can even paint furniture, ornaments, interior walls, or kids' rooms.

Theresa is currently promoting her hostess program, inspired by her days selling Mary Kay and Party Light products. She offers customers the chance to host an event at her store, and for every person that attends, the hostess gets \$1 store credit, as well as 10% of the sales. If anyone from that party books a subsequent event, the host recieves \$5 store credit.

"Potentially somebody has an opportunity to earn \$50 to spend," said Theresa. "They can bring their own hors d'oeuvres and do their shopping."

All of the glassware at Tess' Tender Touch goes through a baking process, making it not only dishwasher safe, but allowing the designs to last much longer. Theresa also uses Libbey glassware to increase the quality of the products so that they are durable as well as beautiful and can be used, not just displayed.

Some of her glassware is donated, such as the Sunday cups contributed when Theresa was moving.

"I like painting the wine bottles and jars the best," Theresa said.
"That to me is just fun because they can become anything. But there is always something to look at. Everything I do will have a "TTT" on it and something painted on base of the [wine] glass."

Theresa uses the Donna Dewberry one-stroke technique, which is a double-paint-loaded brush that adds dimension to the image on the glass. "The first thing I even did I just winged it," said Theresa about her early painting style, "with Donna Dewberry's technique, it makes it so things just flow onto the glass a little bit better."

Theresa creates her own designs and enjoys painting flowers and animals the most. When she first dabbled in painting glassware while making hostess' gifts for her mother's party, she found herself painting every empty bit of glass in the house.

"It was fun to be creative," she said. "I had a couple of weeks off work for the holidays and I just went crazy and started painting all this stuff. My grandmother and sister even brought over stuff they weren't using. I had this table full of [painted glassware] and my mother was asking me what I was gonna do with it."

She took her wares to the St.

Mary's craft show and came home with only four pieces. Now that people were aware of her talents, Theresa was getting requests for her work. After more craft shows, she built up a steady clientele and decided to start a business.

"We went looking for storefronts," said Theresa. "We happened to be walking down Madison and saw a sign and found out how much it was. We decided to bite the bullet and just do it. It wasn't really planned and it was one of those things I thought 'just give it a try'."

Tess' Tender Touch moved from their Madison Avenue location to their current location on Detroit at the end of June. "The reason was foot traffic," said Theresa of the switch. "I was surviving but just on existing customers." Since her move she has seen a 300% increase in business in just the first month.

"Every person that comes in is thrilled that there is local, handmade stuff like this," she said. "People are excited I think and everyone who comes in here is happy to have a [gift shop to go to]. This is a locally handmade [product], which I think sets us apart. I do the work here in the store."

With a successful relocation celebration in July that featured a viola player from the Lakewood Project, Theresa promises lots of special events in the future to bring people into her store.

Theresa has been surprised by the amount of support from people in her relocation. "I have a lot of support from Theo, my right-hand man," she said. "My family is very supportive. It's amazing how many people just kinda want to help you move, do things, or even volunteer to help run the store. It's so nice, the amount of people out there who want to see a small business owner succeed, even the people that just walk through the doors."

Tess' Tender Touch is located at 14419 Detroit Avenue and at www. tesstendertouch.com.

The Cleveland Foundation Supports Housing Outreach

by Mary Anne Crampton

The Cleveland Foundation has notified LakewoodAlive that it will be the recipient of a one-time, 24-month \$44,000 grant award to expand its housing outreach service capacity. The program provides outreach to low-moderate income household for assistance in exterior house maintenance. The grant award will fund the balance of a full-time staff position and support efforts to bring volunteer resources to homeowners in need.

"The condition of Lakewood's housing stock correlates with property values, city services, retail viability and demand for social and safety services. We are most grateful for The Cleveland Foundation's recognition of housing

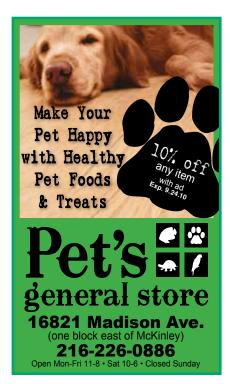
issues as the linchpin of Lakewood's economic stability," said Mary Anne Crampton, Executive Director.

Nelson Beckford, program officer for The Cleveland Foundation reports, "The Foundation applauds the City of Lakewood's efforts to stay ahead of the curve with regard to housing issues. [This] program is unique to the inner ring suburbs. Through collaboration with city departments, other nonprofits, and municipal court, LakewoodAlive leverages modest financial resources for maximum community benefit."

Housing outreach services to low-moderate income residents were launched in July, 2009. The program

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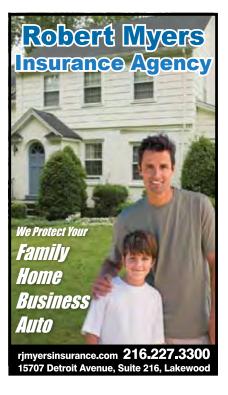
Home, Garden And Hobby

First Federal Of Lakewood To Offer Insurance

by Natalie Farinacci

First Federal of Lakewood, a Lakewood, Ohio-based financial institution, has announced it will begin offering its customers a full line of personal and commercial insurance products, through the establishment of FFL Insurance Agency, LLC. The new agency began operations on Tuesday, Aug. 3, 2010.

Gary R. Fix, president and CEO of First Federal of Lakewood, said



that the creation of the insurance agency enables First Federal to be the one source for financial and insurance services in the communities it serves, combined with the highest level of customer service, strength and stability that families and businesses have relied on since 1935.

"Creating FFL Insurance Agency, LLC, gives us the opportunity to provide our customers a full-service insurance agency, offering a wide variety of products from leading carriers" noted Fix. "This structure allows First Federal to develop customized insurance solutions to meet the unique needs of each customer, protect their assets and be their trusted partner for all of their financial services."

About First Federal of Lakewood First Federal of Lakewood offers a full array of retail and business products through 13 full-service branch locations in Northeast Ohio and five First Federal Lending offices throughout Ohio, with total assets exceeding \$1.2 billion. Founded in 1935, First Federal of Lakewood is a community savings and loan institution with a deep-rooted tradition of financial strength, stability and integrity. Visit www.FFL.net for additional information.







Wind In The Trees

by Gerri Joecken

Having been born and raised in Lakewood, I have always appreciated the City of Trees! However, now that many of those beautiful oaks, maples, sycamores and yes, a few elms have grown old, we are sadly forced to have them cut down. It seems that almost every day you can hear the sound of the chain saws and chippers on any Lakewood street.

We were faced with that very decision this summer when our 200 year old pin oak was declared a hazard and we made arrangements to have it removed. My husband, Jeff, and the four kids and I were saddened to be losing an old friend who sheltered our front porch, was leaned upon by many a child counted to ten during a game of hide-and-seek and was often bruised by a soup can during

a riotous game of kick-the-can.

How to best save those memories? Having attended a chain saw carving festival in Pennsylvania a few years ago, I made it my mission to find a carver who would come to Lakewood and make the tree stump into something permanent. After searching the net, Pat and Jack from Sugar Ridge Carving in Kidron, Ohio, arrived to carve the stump into a tree with a wind-spirit face. We are happy to say that it is now complete and is a source of interest for all who pass by. But more than that, it allows us to still enjoy our oak. Maybe this is our small way of "going green," saving part of our natural heritage of old trees.

For anyone interested in seeing the carving, just drive by on Fischer Rd. Don't honk or even say anything...just enjoy!

A Gem On Lake Avenue

by Marcia Creagan Coleman

Dear Editor,

Stroll down Lake Avenue at 12037 Lake Ave. Lakewood, Ohio and do notice the bright and vibrant organic vegetable garden crowned with beautiful flowers. It is a treasure to behold on a warm summer day.

Sit in one of our lawn chairs with a tall refreshing ice-cold lemonade... and...here you are for all purposes in the country!

Vicki Aaron and Linda O'Malley and others, have started this garden to foster community and to demonstrate how easy it is to bring beauty anywhere you live.

Our council woman Mary Lou-

ise Madigan drove by (on her bike) and was wonderfully surprised and delighted by what she did see.

Rows and rows of lush tomato plants, squash, peppers, onions, herbs, lettuce and would you believe catnip!

All this made possible by the generosity of "Mr. Tire" who allowed us to use their land to plant. All this growing under beautiful oak trees...coming soon will be a pumpkin patch.

Is anything impossible to God who can make green trees with black trunks, cast blue shadows on white snow... followed by summer gardens... and pumpkin patches.

Marcia Creagan Coleman Lakewood, Ohio

The Cleveland Foundation

continued from previous page

connects financially vulnerable property owners to resources that can assist in maintaining the exterior condition of a home. In collaboration with Neighborhood Housing Services of Cleveland, the program provides foreclosure prevention financial counseling in Lakewood. Other collaborations include the administering of the newly re-established "paint" program for the City of Lakewood, which provides reimbursement of up to \$400 in exterior house paint costs to eligible residents.

Residents can contact Hilary Schickler, Housing Outreach Director at 216-521-1554 for free outreach services.

Established in 1914, the Cleveland Foundation is the world's first community foundation and the nation's third-largest today, with assets of \$1.6 billion and 2008 grants nearing \$85 million. The foundation improves the lives of Greater Clevelanders by building community endowment, addressing needs through grantmaking, and providing leadership on vital issues.



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