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Volume 6, Issue 20, October 5, 2010

Social Security Office Opens With Much Fanfare



The LEAF Community Harvest Festival has become a great way to celebrate the harvest and fall with friends and family.

LEAF Announces Fourth Annual Harvest Festival

by Heather Ramsey

Come celebrate the bounty of the harvest at Lakewood Earth & Food (LEAF) Community's 4th Annual Harvest Festival. The event will be held on Wednesday, October 20th, from 5:30-8:30 p.m. on the front porch of the Lakewood Public Library (15425 Detroit Avenue), extending out into Mars Avenue. Come join the celebration, and don't forget to bring your pre-carved jack-o-lantern for the Pumpkin Carving Contest, pies for the Pie Bake-off, and the whole family for the games, activities, music, vendors, and, of course, locally grown and made food and drink.

The Pumpkin Carving Contest will include prizes for Most Original, Scariest, Happiest, LEAF-iest, and Most Impressive. To enter, bring a carved and scraped-out pumpkin or other gourd with a safe lighting source (like a tealight) and your name clearly marked to the entrance table by 5:30 p.m., with the entry fee of \$2.

The Pie Bake-off will include

prizes for Best Crust, Most Original, Best Taste, and Best Use of Vegetables. Entries should be dropped off by 5:30 and should include 2 pies (one for judging and one for guest tasting) and the recipe or list of ingredients for your pie, with the \$2 entrance fee. The contest will feature Celebrity Guest Judges from WRUW's Maximum Consumption.

The Root Cafe will be selling coffee and hot chocolate, along with our regular local vendors of produce, cheese, and poultry, and volunteers will be making a variety of dishes with locally grown fruits and vegetables. In addition to apple bobbing, face painting, and other children's activities, Foster Brown, well-known for his family-friendly, educational naturalist-themed shows, will perform.

Come enjoy the food, the entertainment, and the company of your neighbors!

For more information, or to volunteer, contact LEAF at leafcommunity@gmail.com or (216) 367-2834.



Kathleen Pepera, District Manager of the Lakewood Social Security Office, Congressman Dennis Kucinich and Mayor Ed Fitzgerald. Story on page 4.

Flu Shot Clinics To Begin October 21st

by Melissa Garrett

The Lakewood Department of Human Services-Division of Aging and the Cuyahoga County Board of Health will be offering seasonal flu shots on the following dates:

*** Thursday, October 21, 2010**

1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Woman's Club Pavilion, Lakewood Park

*** Tuesday, October 26, 2010**

9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Fedor Manor, 12400 Madison Ave.

*** Thursday, November 4, 2010**

2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Woman's Club Pavilion, Lakewood Park

Reservations are recommended for all clinics. Beginning October 4, 2010, individuals may call (216) 226-0611 between 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday to make a reservation.

The cost of the flu shot is \$30 for those without Medicare Part B or

for those enrolled in a Medicare HMO. Insurance reimbursement forms will be available for individuals with a Medicare HMO or other private insurance. Reimbursement depends on your individual coverage benefits. Please bring all medical insurance cards or other documentation to the flu shot clinic.

There will be separate pediatric flu shot clinics for individuals under the age of 18. Please call the Cuyahoga County Board of Health at 216-201-2041 for more information on these clinics.

Schools To Hold “Community Conversations” Sessions

by Christine Gordillo

The Lakewood City Schools invites all Lakewood residents to attend one of its “Schools: A Community Conversation”

sessions to be held later this month. The first gathering will be on Tuesday, Oct. 12 at 7 p.m. in Horace Mann Elementary School's Cafetorium at 1251 West Clifton Blvd. The second one will take place on Wednesday, Oct. 20 at 7 p.m. at Emerson Elementary's Cafetorium, 13439 Clifton Blvd.

For these past many months, the district has been stressing the importance of fiscal restraint and trying to educate the community of the forces beyond its control that are challenging its budget and planning. Because of the state's dire budget situation and the decline in local tax revenue,

the district is faced with many difficult challenges ahead, challenges that can only be met with the help of the community. That is why we hope many citizens will be able to attend one of the two sessions.

Part one of the evening will focus on the district's financial status and how it plans to move forward ensuring quality programming for all students in the face of challenging economic realities. In the second half, district officials will invite the community to share its thoughts and concerns. Our schools are only as strong as the community behind them.

A Garden For Pig, A Harvest For Families In Need: October 9th

by Dan Slife

Join Children's illustrator and Lakewood resident Lindsay Ward as she reads *A Garden For Pig* in the Madison Branch Learning Garden. The book, authored by Kathryn Thurman and illustrated by Ward herself, offers a hilarious chronicle of one Pig's quest to build a garden and grow his very own veggies. *A Garden for Pig* is sure to have your little one laughing while providing fertile soil for conversations about healthy food and ecology.

Following the reading, you and your children will be invited to help harvest the last of the Learning Garden's produce and prepare it for donation to the Lakewood Christian Services Center. Join us at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, October 9th at the Madison Branch Learning Garden.

The Learning Garden is made possible by generous support of the Institute of Museum and Library Services, LEAF Community, and the Lakewood Public Library.

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

Tuesday, October 5

Lakewood Bikeway Planning Community Workshop
6:30 - 8:00 PM, Main Library Auditorium, 15425 Detroit Ave.
Hosted by the City of Lakewood, Department of Planning and Development
See Page 13 for details.

Thursday, October 7

United We Dine Weekend Events - Celebrity Bartending
5:00 - 9:00 PM, Around the Corner, 18616 Detroit Ave.
United Way volunteers will bartend and donate their tips to United Way of Greater Cleveland. Around the Corner will also donate 10% of all food sales during the event.
www.unitedwaycleveland.org.
Makerspaces: The New DIY Revolution
7:00 PM, Main Library Auditorium 15425 Detroit Ave.
See details on Library Calendar Page 6.

County Executive Candidate Forum at Baldwin-Wallace
8- 10 PM, Baldwin-Wallace College, Strosacker Hall (College Union), 120 E. Grand Street, Berea.
The League of Women Voters will hold another nonpartisan candidate forum in partnership with Baldwin-Wallace College, at Strosacker Hall. For more information, call the League office at 216 781-0555 or visit www.LWVCuyahogaArea.org.

Friday, October 8

Psychic Fair
5:00 - 8:00 PM, The Root Cafe, 15118 Detroit Ave.
Tarot readings, palm readings, etc with psychics.

My Fair Lady Musical
8:00 PM, Mackey Main Stage, Beck Center for the Arts, 17801 Detroit Ave.
Shows Friday, Saturday at 8PM; Sunday at 3 PM. Call 521-2540 or visit beckcenter.org
Wings by Arthur Kopit
Beck Center for the Arts, Studio Theater, 17801 Detroit Avenue
Show times: 8 pm Fridays & Saturdays and 3 pm Sundays. Wings is on stage in the Studio Theater, October 8 through November 7, 2010. To reserve tickets, call the Beck Center box office at 216.521.2540, ext. 10, or purchase seats online at www.beckcenter.org. See Page 12 for full details.

Get Hep Swing Dance
8:00 PM - 12:00 AM, Lakewood Masonic Temple, 15300 Detroit Ave.
Every 2nd Friday of the month Get Hep Swing brings a swing dance to the Lakewood Masonic Temple. Live music and social dancing starts at 9pm. Pre-dance lesson in beginning Jitterbug from 8 to 9pm. For more information visit www.GetHepSwing.com or call Valerie at 216.374.1927.

Check out the Lakewood Observer online calendar for live musical performances held at Waterbury Coach House, Winchester Music Hall, Root Cafe, and more!

United We Dine Weekend Events - Benefit Concert
9:00 PM - 1:00 AM , PJ McIntyre’s Irish Pub, 17119 Lorain Road in West Park
Bands Dave Conner and the Midnight Slander & 70 Lewis will play a benefit concert. PJ McIntyre’s will donate 20% of all sales during the concert.

Saturday, October 9

National Chess Day Tournament
8:30 AM, West Side United Church of Christ, 3800 Bridge Ave., Cleveland
In 1976 President Gerald Ford declared Oct.9th National Chess Day, what better way to celebrate than with a game? The Lakewood Chess Club is sponsoring a four round swiss style tournament at the West Side United Church of Christ. Registration begins at 8:30a.m., with the first game starting at 9:30. Prizes will be awarded in five rating sections and for top unrated player. Entry fee is \$20 in advance or \$25 on site. US Chess Federation membership is required. Non-members are encouraged to join online. Players of all ages are welcome. To register contact: Thomas Graske at 440-734-3916, tom.g44126@yahoo.com
Lakewood Early Childhood PTA’s Baby Bargain Bonanza!
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM, Emerson Elementary School, 13439 Clifton Boulevard
Gently used baby and children items sale. \$5 admission 9 to 10am; \$1 after 10am.
Western Reserve Herb Society - 65th Annual Herb Fair
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM, Cleveland Botanical Garden, 11030 East Boulevard, Cleveland.

18514 Detroit Avenue,
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phone: 216-521-7684
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United We Dine Weekend Events- Family Day for United Way
11:00 AM - 4:00 PM, Five Guys Burgers and Fries, 15008 Detroit Ave.
Five Guys will donate 25% of all sales during event to United Way.

Tuesday, October 12

The Art of Self Care
7:00 - 8:30 PM, Lakewood Public Library, Multipurpose Room
Create balance in your life, no matter how busy you are, with this effective philosophy that brings together the 8 essential areas of wellness.
Schools: A Community Conversation
7:00 PM, Horace Mann Elementary School, 1251 W. Clifton Blvd.
Hosted by the Lakewood City Schools. See Front Page for more details.

Saturday, October 16

Holiday Harvest Bazaar at Lakewood Baptist Church
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM, 14321 Detroit Ave., 14321 Detroit Ave.
Will include handmade crafts, baked goods, a silent auction, books, jewelry, a cafe, and The Almost New Corner. Sponsored by the American Baptist Women’s Ministry of Lakewood Baptist Church. 216-221-4005. See Page 16 for more details.
Keep Lakewood Beautiful Fall Humus Sale
9:00 AM - 12:30 PM, Old Stone House Parking Lot, Lakewood Park, 14532 Lake Ave.
While supplies last so come early.

Spooky Pooch Parade
12:30 PM, Downtown Lakewood. See Page 12 for details.

Monday, October 18

Zumba-Parent & Child
6:00 - 7:00 PM, Gymnasium, Harrison Elementary School, 2080 Quail Ave.
Parent/Child Zumba is a combination of fun & fitness. This class combines high energy, motivating music with easy to follow kid-friendly moves. For children 4-14 yrs-old. Session #1 begins 10/18 and ends on 11/15. For more information or to register please contact the Lakewood Recreation Department at (216)529-4081.

Zumba
7:30 - 8:30 PM, Gymnasium, Harrison Elementary School, 2080 Quail Ave.
Zumba fuses hypnotic Latin rythms and easy to follow moves to create a dynamic fitness program that will blow you away. Sessions end on 11/15. See register info above.

Lakewood City Council Meeting
7:30 - 9:30 PM, Lakewood City Hall Auditorium, 12650 Detroit Ave.
For meeting agenda visit www.onelakewood.com.

*Many more events & local
entertainment listings at*
www.lakewoodobserver.com

THE LAKEWOOD OBSERVER

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 illustrators to help with the production of the paper. It does not matter if you are a professional or amateur, our editorial staff will be glad to help you through the process.

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

Upcoming Submission Deadline	Publish Date
Sunday, October 10	Tuesday, October 19
Sunday, October 24	Tuesday, November 2

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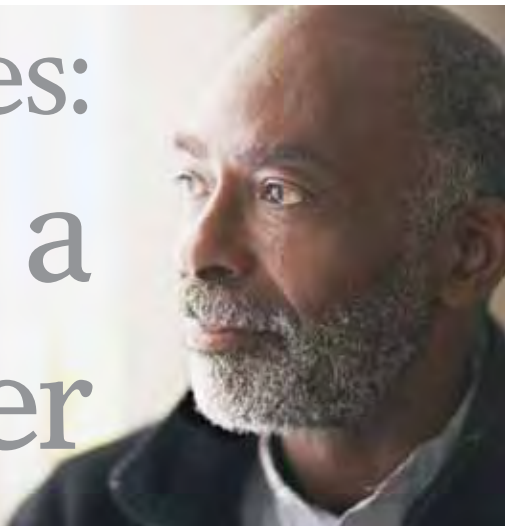
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Advertising Feature

Focus on Healthy Living



Type 2 Diabetes: Stopping a Silent Killer



Long before you would ever suspect, type 2 diabetes could be damaging your blood vessels. “Most people have no idea about the damage that’s being done until it’s too late,” says Kevin Borst, D.O., an endocrinologist in Lakewood Hospital’s Diabetes and Endocrine Center. “Signs and symptoms of type 2 diabetes can be present for as long 10 years before the disease is ever diagnosed.” Risk factors for type 2 diabetes include:

- Blood pressure higher than 130 over 80.

- Waistline bigger than 35 inches in women, and 40 inches in men.
 - HDL or “good” cholesterol less than 40 in women, and 50 in men.
 - Triglyceride levels over 200.
 - Fasting glucose over 100.
- There are ways to rid your body of pre-diabetes or type 2 diabetes, says Dr. Borst. These include exercising at least 30 minutes at a time, five days a week, losing weight, and talking to your doctor about ways to lower your triglycerides and LDL cholesterol.

“Knowing how important it is to aggressively treat risk factors through meal planning, physical activity and medication will help curb the problem and give the patient a chance at a longer, healthier life,” he says.

For more information on the Lakewood Hospital Diabetes and Endocrine Center or to make an appointment with Dr. Borst, call 216.529.5300. Visit lakewoodhospital.org/diabetes to order a free diabetes resource kit.

The Neurologist Will See You Now

You have a headache that is disrupting your life. Your physician is worried about your symptoms, so what’s next? Chances are you will be referred to a neurologist, a specialist in disorders of the nervous system. “The nervous system – including our central, peripheral and autonomic nervous systems, blood vessels and muscles – is vital to keeping our bodies working like an amazing instrument,” says C. Daniel Ansevin, MD, board-certified neurologist at the Cleveland Clinic Neurological Institute at Lakewood Hospital. “Your nervous system and cardiovascular system are the two most important things keeping you alive.” But when things start going wrong, we want to make sure it’s nothing serious. Most of us know it’s time to see a cardiologist when our heart’s not working right, but when is it time to call in the neurologist?

The answer isn’t simple, but there are some specific instances when you need to make the call. “Oftentimes a headache is the earliest sign of a neurological problem,” explains Dr. Ansevin. If you find your headaches are frequent and become almost unbearable, and you have no previous history of migraines, there may be something wrong. It’s time to call your doctor. It’s also time to call your doctor if you start having vision or hearing problems. Ringing in the ears is often nothing more than an annoyance, but in conjunction with serious headaches, it could be a sign of a blood clot that has developed in the brain. This needs prompt medical attention by a neurologist. Any trauma to the head – even if it seems minor – will typically require a trip to a neurologist. Hitting your head can easily lead to a brain injury, which can immediately or gradually cause memory loss, mo-

tor function impairment, paralysis, or even death. You may also be referred to a neurologist if you have a change in bowel or bladder function, change in mental status, difficulty swallowing, dizziness, double vision, fainting, forgetfulness, numbness, pain in the neck or back, seizures, slurred speech, tingling or weakness. Make an appointment with your physician, and ask whether a visit to a neurologist is warranted.

The Cleveland Clinic Neurological Institute at Lakewood Hospital offers expert neurologists who specialize in a wide range of diseases, including stroke, multiple sclerosis, epilepsy and Parkinson’s disease. To make an appointment, call 216.529.7110. For more information, visit lakewoodhospital.org/neuro

When to Go to the Emergency Room: Symptoms You Should Not Ignore

You feel a stab of pain in your chest, abdomen, or head that makes you wonder what just happened. Is it serious? Should you ignore it, or go to the nearest ER? For many of us, deciding when to go the ER can be a difficult decision. We hope that you never have to visit an ER, but if you do, we want you to know that Lakewood Hospital is here for you, 24/7. Our ER is always staffed with highly trained ER doctors, registered nurses and paramedics who treat patients of all ages with medical issues ranging from broken bones to strokes and heart attack. Do not ignore the following symptoms – go to the closest Emergency Department:

- Adults:**
 1. Chest Pain and/or Shortness of Breath
 2. Unexplained Weakness/Numbness
 3. Uncontrolled bleeding
 4. Headache: migraine, classic or other
 5. Coughing/Vomiting Blood
 6. Abdominal pain
 7. Persistent Fever
 8. Extreme case of Vomiting/Diarrhea
 9. Seizure
 10. Severe pain due to injury
- Children:**
 1. Severe convulsions
 2. Coughing or vomiting blood
 3. Severe neck stiffness or pain
 4. Unusual fussiness
 5. Extreme sleepiness, difficulty waking up, or lack of alertness
 6. Fever of 105 degrees (40.6°C) or higher 30–60 minutes after giving fever-reducing medicine
 7. Any signs of urinary tract infection, ie: frequent and/or pain or burning with urination
 8. Signs of severe dehydration: sunken soft spot, no tears, dry diaper, weak
 9. Asthma / Respiratory Distress
 10. Difficulty breathing

Visit lakewoodhospital.org/ER to order a free medication tracking magnet or download a handout that can help you determine when you or your loved one should go to the ER and learn what to expect when arriving at our ER.



Lakewood City News

City Could Expand Nuisance Abatement To Businesses

Council President Kevin Butler called the September 20, 2010 meeting of Council to order at 7:31 P.M. The first order of business was to excuse Councilman Brian Powers (At-Large) who was absent do to an emergency business meeting. Council voted and agreed to excuse him.

Next, Council began reviewing old business, which consists of items that had been introduced in previous meetings. Reports from the various committees that had discussed the items were given and then Council voted on whether to pass the items or refer them back to committee for further consideration. Some of the items passed included an ordinance allowing finances to be transferred to cover third quarter costs, an ordinance to allow the police department to trade in equipment for credit towards new equipment and an ordinance changing the current zoning rules allowing a restaurant to move back into the location left behind by Swingos. Also passed, was an ordinance introduced by Councilman Tom Bullock (Ward II) that removes the

requirement for residents to receive permission from the City engineer before they can detach their down spouts from the storm drain system. As Lakewood is at a critical point in trying to fall into compliance with the Federal EPA standards for storm and sewer management this is one step in helping to relieve the current issues.

Moving onto the new business for the night, Councilman Michael Summers (Ward III) read a communication asking Council to consider creating or modifying existing nuisance ordinances that apply to commercial establishments. He said after seeing how well the current program for neighborhoods has worked, he thought it was time to consider creating a similar program for businesses. The reason he believes this is necessary is due to the small number of businesses which have become chronic violators of several ordinances and see the fines posed on them as a “cost of doing business.” It also

by Christopher Bindel

appears that the behavior of these business is unchanged by these penalties. Therefore, Councilman Summers would like to review Lakewood’s current process for handling these situations, as well as those of other cities, to see if there is a way for Lakewood to improve its success at modifying unacceptable business practices.

Council received the communication and referred it to the Housing Committee for consideration.

Next, Fire Chief Lawrence Mroz asked Council to consider an ordinance that would allow the Fire Department to hire people laterally. Lateral entry is a process that allows safety forces to hire people who are already trained and properly certified through other means, besides the City’s own training. This might sound familiar, since last year the administration introduced a similar ordinance for the Lakewood Police Department, which did pass. Cheif Mroz said that the ordinance

that he was submitting had been developed and agreed upon by the Lakewood Civil Service Commission with the help of the the Lakewood Division of Fire and reviewed by the Lakewood Association of Fire Fighters. Council received the ordinance and referred it to the Public Safety Committee for consideration.

Then Mayor Ed FitzGerald asked Council to declare Sunday, October 3rd as Fallen Fire Fighter Day in the city. He said that the day would be highlighted by Lakewood’s annual ceremony at the Fallen Fire Fighter Memorial in front of Fire Station #1 on Madison Avenue. In addition, the Mayor asked Council to proclaim the week of October 4-8th as Fire Prevention Week in Lakewood, joining countless other communities across the country. Council suspended the rules requiring three readings on both resolutions and passing them.

Police Chief Tim Malley then asked Council to pass a resolution accepting grant funds to help in investigation of prescription drugs in the City. The City had applied for a grant with the Ohio Department of Criminal Justice for help with a confidential investigation involving prescription drugs and was recently awarded \$15,000 dollars. Unlike many grants the City applies for, this one does not require any matching funds on the part of the city. Of the money that would be received, \$12,000 dollars would go towards the overtime of the officers involved in the investigation and prosecution, while the remaining \$3,000 dollars would pay for expenses associated with the investigation itself. As the awarding of the funds came on such short notice, Chief Malley asked that Council consider the resolution an emergency and pass it on first reading. Council agreed and passed the measure.

After a fairly concise meeting Council President Butler adjourned the meeting a 8:30 P.M.

Council meetings are held every first and third Monday of the month at 7:30 P.M. in the City Hall Auditorium. The next regularly scheduled council meeting will be held on October 18, 2010. For a copy of the agenda or for any other information regarding the Lakewood City Council, you can find it at onelakewood.com/citygovern_council.html.

Lakewood Social Security Office Opens

by Melissa Garrett

On September 27, the new Social Security Office in Lakewood hosted an Open House to showcase its new building. Mayor Ed FitzGerald and Congressman Dennis Kucinich were in attendance to help celebrate the occasion. In July, the Social Security Office moved to the newly constructed building located at 17512 Detroit Avenue.

In March of 2009, Mayor FitzGerald and Congressman Kucinich announced that the Social Security Administration (SSA) Office stay in Lakewood after the office announced a regional search. Congressman Kucinich and Mayor FitzGerald strongly advocated for them to stay in Lakewood, and worked with federal administrators and developers to find

a site in Lakewood.

Their advocacy retained more than 100 jobs and keeps the \$4.4 Million payroll in Lakewood, with plans to expand the local workforce. In addition, the sale of the former church site turned this non-taxable property into a taxable property. Lakewood will gain from more than \$120,000 in new property tax for the city and the schools.

“This is a good day for Lakewood,” stated Mayor Ed FitzGerald. “We worked hard to keep the Social Security Office here in Lakewood and it paid off. Keeping the Social Security Office in Lakewood meant keeping good-paying jobs in Lakewood – those are our constituents and paying customers to area businesses. The schools benefit too, by turning this once-untaxed property into

a site that helps to fund our schools.”

In 2002, the Social Security Administration announced that they would be seeking a new location to meet their needs and they would be searching the entire west side of Cleveland. Congressman Kucinich persuaded the Social Security Administration to strictly adhere to Executive Order 12072, giving local officials greater influence in locating federal offices, and limiting their search to Lakewood. They searched for 7 years to find a suitable location in Lakewood and were having difficulty finding a location to meet all of their needs. In early 2008, the City of Lakewood’s Planning and Development Department made it a priority to find the Social Security Office a new home within Lakewood. Within six months, the City found three potential sites which met the needs of the Social Security Administration and would be beneficial for Lakewood.

The new Lakewood Social Security Office is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

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Lakewood City News

District 2 County Council Debate

by Ed Monroe

The League of Women Voters, Cuyahoga Area Education Fund held a debate in Lakewood for the newly created District 2 County Council seat on Wednesday, September 29th. The County Council seat was created last year when voters approved reform measures to county government which created the positions of county executive and eleven county council seats. District 2 consists of the cities of Lakewood, Brook Park, and Cleveland Wards 18 and 19. The candidates for the council seat are Steve Bozsa running as an Independent, Lynn Graham running as an Independent, Edward McCarthy running as an Independent, Dale Miller running as a Democrat, and John Zappala running as a Republican. The debate featured opening remarks of two minutes, 60 minutes of questions and answers from the audience, and then closing remarks of one minute. Approximately 40 people attended the debate. The structure of the debate definitely gave voters an opportunity to get to know each candidate. From their opening remarks clear distinctions could be made between them.

Steve Bozsa, was the first to give opening remarks. In his opening statement he stated he feels he can bring a new perspective to county government. He said he is running as an Independent, because he feels the political

parties cannot be trusted. In his opening statement he stressed a theme that voters should trust a neighbor to be their County Council Representative. He outlined four priorities he would like to implement if he was elected. The first would be to do a financial audit. The Second would be to review all contracts. The third would be to pass a balanced budget and the fourth priority would be to bank any savings to withstand any budget short falls in the future.

Lynn Graham was the next to give an opening statement. She stated she is a long time West Park resident. In the past she has been an advocate for Citizens for a Safer Cleveland, for public service, and believes that government should be responsible to the people. Similar to Mr. Bozsa, she said she is tired of the political parties and that is why she is running as an Independent. She feels that her Independent status should make her appealing to voters, because she will not be beholden at any party. She is a businesswoman who runs a tanning business and stressed that if elected to this seat she would serve ethically and with integrity.

Edward McCarthy then gave his opening remarks. Mr. McCarthy's opening comments centered around his concern that the new county charter does not contain any scripture and that mankind has moved away from the word of God. He stressed his con-

cern that there is a lack of scripture at all levels of government including in Supreme Court decisions.

Dale Miller gave his opening remarks stating that he supported Issue 6 even though it was unpopular with his own party. He stressed his 30 years of government experience and highlighted his legislative experience. He said that if elected he would like to review contracts carefully, work with the county executive, develop an economic development plan, pay special attention to the human services that are offered by county government and clean up corruption and the culture that creates it.

John Zappala was the final candidate to give opening remarks. Mr. Zappala stated that he is not a career politician. He said he is a businessman and has successfully been in business for many years. He stated to the audience that, "I am who you are." He said he is concerned about foreclosures in the area. He also said that he is a problem solver and if elected he'll be fiscally responsible. He said that if elected he would like to do a cost benefit analysis of all departments in county government to ensure that the taxpayers are getting what they are paying for.

In total there were eleven questions asked during the debate. As the candidates answered the questions their answers reflected how they defined themselves during their opening state-

ments. The candidates were sincere in their answers and all seemed impassioned at the opportunity to be part of a new government and to improve things in the county. Whoever is elected to this position will face an incredibly important task. They will be an advocate for a government body that oversees a giant budget that funds safety issues with the County Sheriffs, roads and infrastructure with the County Engineers, property taxes with the County Auditor, health issues with Metro Health Systems and much, much more.

LASKEY CPA

Timothy P. Laskey

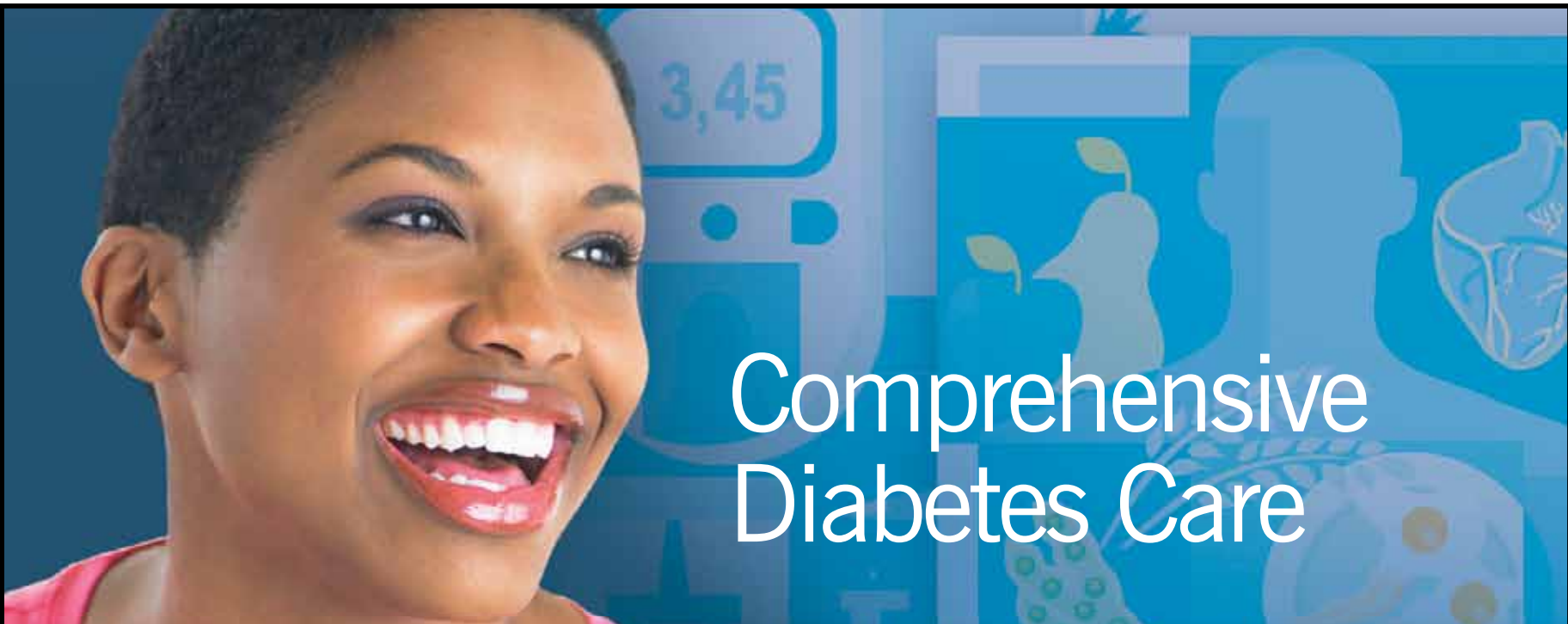
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Comprehensive Diabetes Care

Lakewood Hospital Diabetes and Endocrine Center

Lakewood Hospital is the only hospital on Cleveland's West Side that offers a variety of diabetes specialists, treatment and management options all in one convenient location. With an expert staff of endocrinologists, dietitians, diabetes educators and podiatrists, patients have access to a full spectrum of expert services and high-level care available nowhere else in the area.

Learn more about diabetes prevention and management at our diabetes symposium, hosted by Lakewood Hospital and Fairview Hospital.

To register, visit lakewoodhospital.org or fairviewhospital.org and click on the symposium link to register online, or call toll-free 1.877.234.FITT (3488).



You're invited to:

Living Well
with
Diabetes

Wednesday, November 3
4 - 8 p.m.
LaCentre Conference
and Banquet Facility
25777 Detroit Avenue, Westlake



Lakewood Public Library Events

All Events and Programs Are Free And Open To The Public

Wednesday, October 6

MEET THE AUTHOR: Deanna R. Adams
Cleveland's Rock and Roll Roots
Rock'n'Roll and the Cleveland Connection

After spending an hour with Deanna Adams, you won't wonder why the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame is in Cleveland—you'll wonder how it took so long to get here! Lake Erie audiences were the first to embrace the music and, with raucous cheering, Clevelanders kicked off the careers of one legend after another. In the good old days, even cool guys like Bowie loved the city (in a non-ironic way) simply because it was so much fun to play. With great music and wild stories from the musicians and disc jockeys who made it all happen, Adams will reignite the rock and roll in your soul. Books will be available for sale and signing at the event.

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

Thursday, October 7

MAKERSPACES: The New DIY Revolution

In the good old days, consumers had the right and the know-how to modify the products they purchased for any need they saw necessary. Although the concept seems lost, a new generation of innovators is rediscovering the do-it-yourself spirit and pushing it to the next level with mind-blowing technologies undreamt of ten years ago. Justin Walker will recount the origins and layout the opportunities of what Wired magazine is calling, "the next Industrial Revolution."

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

Saturday, October 9

THE LAKEWOOD PUBLIC CINEMA: Tarzan and His Mate (1934)
Directed by Cedric Gibbons Not Rated

The greatest Tarzan film ever made snuck into theaters just before the notorious Hays code took all the fun out of leaving civilization behind. Greedy hunters on the prowl for ivory want to take Jane back to the world of men. Tarzan no like. Johnny Weismuller and Maureen O'Sullivan sizzle and swing in a jungle picture like no other!

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

Sunday, October 10

SUNDAY WITH THE FRIENDS: The Strength, Courage and Confidence of Eleanor Roosevelt

Linda Laronge portrays a champion of domestic social reform, economic justice and human rights in this riveting one-woman show about the most broadly effective, dynamic and controversial First Lady in American history.

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

Monday, October 11

The Color Advantage

Between temporary, semi, demi, permanent and organic hair coloring, we suggest you bring your questions about flattering color to Bonnie Fencel of the Carabel Beauty Salon. See what samples she has for you!

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

Tuesday, October 12

CLEVELAND'S GOLDEN AGE OF PRINT: The Indians Swing

With memories as sharp as a stiff Lake Erie breeze, the frontline witnesses of Cleveland history reflect on the things they did to get the story. Featuring interviews with legendary reporter Doris O'Donnell, the author of Front Page Girl, this series of short documentaries chronicles a bygone era with ink-stained anecdotes from O'Donnell's friends, colleagues and collaborators. Originally produced by Storytellers Media Group in conjunction with the Cleveland Police Historical Society & Museum, as part of the Emmy Award winning PBS series, Doris O'Donnell's Cleveland, these episodes are now available on DVD and will be available for sale at each screening.

While covering the '56 Indians, our favorite girl reporter has ball getting kicked out of every ballpark press box on the Eastern seaboard.

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

Wednesday, October 13

LAKEWOOD HISTORICAL SOCIETY presents: Early Lake Avenue Homes

Turn of the century Lake Avenue was where the wealthiest Lakewoodites established large estates and elaborate summer cottages. Mazie Adams, Executive Director of the Lakewood Historical Society, will guide you along Lake Avenue, from Edgewater Park to Clifton Park, with rare photographs and illustrations. See these elegant properties before they were diminished by subdivisions, Edgewater Drive and the Gold Coast. As an added bonus, the interiors of several outstanding homes will also be included.

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

Thursday, October 14

BOOKED FOR MURDER BOOK CLUB: New York City

The Poisoner's Handbook: Murder and the Birth of Forensic Medicine in Jazz Age New York by Deborah Blum

It used to be that poisoners could get away with murder. In this gripping true crime tale, New York City's first medical examiner and the first toxicologist are cast as detectives in search of the poisons responsible for so many bodies in the city's morgue. Each chapter tells the story of another murder, then details the methods devised that would forever change the relationship between science and crime.

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

Saturday, October 16

FIVE STAR FILMS: The Prestige (2006)

Directed by Christopher Nolan Rated PG-13

Now you see it, now you don't. A close friendship between turn-of-the-century magicians Hugh Jackman and Christian Bale becomes a bitter rivalry when an illusion turns deadly. Mystery and suspense abound as their acts grow increasingly daring. Michael Caine and Scarlett Johansson also star.

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

Sunday, October 17

SUNDAY WITH THE FRIENDS: Swinging the Great American Songbook

Joe Hunter celebrates the special relationship between jazz music and the Great American Songbook. With a gentle touch on the piano, he'll share a stirring vision of the United States, discovered through a careful selection of old favorites.

This special program will be held at 2:00 p.m. in the Multipurpose Room.

Monday, October 18

FINANCE 101: How to Raise Financially Responsible Children

After thirty years of helping her clients save and protect their hard-earned assets, Sandra Anderson knows a thing or two about instilling the habits and teaching the skills young people need to become financially responsible adults.

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

BOOK GROUPS:

Thursday, October 14

BOOKED FOR MURDER BOOK CLUB: New York City

The Poisoner's Handbook: Murder and the Birth of Forensic Medicine in Jazz Age New York
by Deborah Blum

It used to be that poisoners could get away with murder. In this gripping true crime tale, New York City's first medical examiner and the first toxicologist are cast as detectives in search of the poisons responsible for so many bodies in the city's morgue. Each chapter tells the story of another murder, then details the methods devised that would forever change the relationship between science and crime.

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

Tuesday, October 19

KNIT & LIT BOOK CLUB

Lynda Tuennerman hosts a social club for multitaskers—a combination book club and stitchery group. She's looking for readers who can enjoy intense discussion of modern classics while relaxing with their latest stitching project. Come share your passion for great literature and show off your knitting, crocheting, counted cross-stitch, embroidery and quilting works-in-progress. At each meeting, the group decides what will be read next. Call (216) 226-8275, ext. 127 or visit www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.com/bookclubs to learn more. Tonight's book discussion is about Mister Pip by Lloyd Jones:

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

BOOK SALES:

Thursday, October 21

FRIENDS FALL BOOK SALE PREVIEW

6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Join the Friends and receive entrance to their special, members-only preview sales.
Friends Book Sale Area on lower level

Saturday, October 23

FRIENDS FALL BOOK SALE

9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Friends Book Sale Area on lower level

SPECIAL EVENTS:

Thursday, November 11, 2010

AN EVENING WITH LISA BLACK

benefiting the Lakewood Public Library Foundation

6:30 - 8:30 p.m. (Doors open at 6 PM)

Lake Erie Screw Building

13000 Athens Ave

Lakewood, Ohio 44107

General Admission \$35.00

(\$10 of each ticket price is tax deductible)

Free Parking

Tickets can be purchased in person at Lakewood Public Library locations, and at <http://www.lkwdpl.org/foundation/events/lisablack/>

Lakewood Library

SWTF Presents Kristine Jackson: Roots and Blues

by Joan Rubenking

Kristine Jackson will bring her exceptional talents to Lakewood Public Library on Sunday, October 24th, at 2 p.m. in the Main Auditorium, and if you love the original, howling spirit of the blues, make a point of attending this performance. Though Jackson is young in years, she is already recognized as the real deal. Jim Henke, Cleveland Rock and Roll Hall of Fame curator, says Jackson's, "Soulful vocals and fiery guitar playing mark her as a true original." Jackson is skilled in several instruments, most notably the trumpet, guitar and bass. Her forte is original music and traditional tunes covered with emotion.

Jackson started her musical career when she was just 19 years old, back in 1999, as a freelance trumpet player. By 2004, she was able to make a full-time living as a singer/songwriter, guitarist, bassist and leader of her own band, KJBlues. In short order, Jackson and her band began racking up the accolades. In 2006, Jackson was nominated by the Cleveland Free Press as "Best Horn Player", and in 2007, the Free Press did give her its "Best Blues Band

Horn Player" award. KJBlues won the Mahoning River Blues Festival prize in 2007 as well. In 2008-2009 competitions, Cleveland Scene Magazine nominated KJBlues as a Best Band and Kristine Jackson as Best Horn Player, and Jackson and cohorts were semi-finalists in the Solo/Duo category at the International Blues Challenge (IBC). Cleveland Business Connect Magazine named the group Best Entertainer[s] of 2009, and in 2010, KJBlues were once again finalists, ranked in the top 11 bands, at the IBC.

Jackson has opened for or performed with some of the biggest names in blues music, including Robert Lockwood, Jr., Sue Foley, Buddy Guy, and Lonnie Brooks. Jackson and the band have appeared at many different festivals over the past few years. You may have seen her at the Mahoning River Blues Fest, the Kalamazoo Blues Festival, the Northwest Ohio Rib Cook Off, the Sahanna Creekside Blues and Jazz Festival, the Burning River Festival, or the Traditional Acoustic Blues Fest in Columbus. Just this past July, Jackson was jamming with Bryan Lee at the Charlie West Blues Festival.

Those who know her know that Jackson is truly devoted to using music as a healing force. She is the Co-Founder and President of Kickin' the Cancer Blues, a non-profit organization for Hodgkin's Lymphoma Support. The non-profit came into being when Jackson's cousin, Liz Bohman, was diagnosed with the disease, and Jackson organized her first fund raising concert to support Liz's treatment. Because Liz fell into the "forgotten five percent," those whose cancer did not respond to conventional treatments, the organization found its purpose. Now, through Jackson's unfailing efforts, along with concerts and fund

raising events and corporate sponsorship, Kickin' the Cancer Blues raises money for all those facing the same challenge, as well as for general Hodgkin's Lymphoma research. Jackson takes a spiritual approach to sharing her musical gifts; she says, "Ultimately, I pray my music helps those in need of some comfort."

Join us at the Lakewood Public Library on October 24th, to witness the soulful, powerful blues talent that is Kristine Jackson. This concert is generously funded by the Friends of Lakewood Public Library and is free and open to the public.

Cleveland's Golden Age Of Print: The Indians Swing

by Martha Wood

When Cleveland newspaper reporter Doris O'Donnell covered the Cleveland Indians on their swing of the eastern seaboard in 1957 she raised a few eyebrows. Find out why on Tuesday, October 12 at 7 p.m. when Mark Wade Stone presents part two of his series, Cleveland's Golden Age of Print, in the Main Library Auditorium at Lakewood Public Library.

Throughout Doris O'Donnell's 58-year career as a journalist, she was always willing to take on more challenging assignments than the ones women were traditionally given. She wanted to do more than cover society and fashion. While traveling with the Cleveland Indians she made national headlines when she battled those who said the press box at a baseball game was no place for a woman. She was voted out of the all-male press box by the Cleveland Sports Writers in Baltimore, Boston and Washington, D.C. In Boston, gruff baseball superstar Ted Williams advised her to, "Go on up there. Don't let them push you around."



Doris O'Donnell and Ted Williams

Stone, a Lakewood resident, is the Emmy awarding winning producer/director of the series, Doris O'Donnell's Cleveland. The O'Donnell series is recipient of four regional Emmy awards, winning two years in a row for best Arts/Entertainment Program. Originally produced by Storytellers Media Group in conjunction with the Cleveland Police Historical Society and Museum, these episodes are available on DVD and will be for sale at each of the programs in the series.

Swinging The Great American Songbook

by Leana Donofrio

On any given night, it is likely that Tri-C JazzFest favorite Joe Hunter can be found coaxing American song classics and Jazz favorites from the piano's keys. He will be performing right here at Lakewood Public Library at 2 p.m. on Oct. 17. This special Sunday with the Friends program will be held in the Main Library's Multipurpose Room.

Hunter's "Swinging the Great American Songbook" is a stirring vision of the United States through a careful selection of old musical favorites, including works by Gershwin, Porter, Rodgers and many other important American composers.

After experimenting with a wide variety of styles of Jazz music, Hunter

has found his rhythm in the standards: "I like toe tapping music," he told WMV Web News Cleveland.

Hunter began playing piano when just 9-years-old and went on to perform with the CSU Jazz Ensemble while a college student. As an exchange student in Brazil he fell in love with the rhythms of Latin Jazz. He has performed with many national artists, including Conti Condoli, David "Fathead" Newman, Tito Puente, Eddie Henderson and Scott Hamilton. He has taught music at Capital University in Columbus and at Cuyahoga Community College. Hunter has produced two CDs, "East of the Sun" and "From This Moment On."

Lakewood Public Library Events

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 OCTOBER CLASSES:

- Saturday, October 9: WORD PROCESSING BASICS @ 3:00 p.m.
- Thursday, October 14: JOB HUNTING WORKSHOP @ 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
- Saturday, October 16: WEB SEARCHING BASICS @ 3:00 p.m.
- Saturday, October 23: 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 26

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

Monday – Thursday, 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. at the Madison Branch

WEEKEND PROGRAMS:

FAMILY WEEKEND WONDERS MADISON BRANCH:

THE LEARNING GARDEN: For the whole family

A garden where families can read, learn and enjoy together! This garden, a collaboration between the Lakewood Public Library, LEAF Community, H2O, and the City of Lakewood, is located in Madison Park behind the Madison Branch parking lot. Special programs are offered this fall, and there is no need to register in advance.

Saturday, October 9 – Harvest Story Time

Lakewood Schools

LHS' Lakewood Times Turns 90 Years Old, Debuts Online Version

by Christine Gordillo

This is shaping up to be a big year for the venerable Lakewood Times as the student-produced, award-winning newsmagazine at Lakewood High brings in the new and embraces the old.

Earlier this month, the Times joined the digital age as it debuted its online version of the newsmagazine, www.lakewoodtimes.net. At the same time, the staff and faculty adviser Karen Ballash are planning a number of events to be held throughout the year to celebrate 90 years of publishing from the halls of LHS.

The online newsmagazine was something Ballash had wanted the kids to be able to do for a few years now, but funding was a problem. With help from a \$600 grant awarded to Ballash this year from the Lakewood Alumni Foundation's Margaret Warner Educational Grants Fund, her wish became a reality. Startup costs include designing the site and subscribing to a web service company that provides content management systems and templates for scholastic publications. Subsequent year costs will be much lower.

According to Ballash, the new web site has infused new enthusiasm into the staff and drawn more curious students to come and see what joining the Times' staff is all about. The Times is put together by a combination of stu-



Co-editor-in-chief Fiza Shah displays The Lakewood Times' online publication, which the newsmagazine launched in late September.

dents who take Ballash's journalism class and The Lakewood Times extra-curricular club. While Ballash said the class "has been thriving" the last few years, the club had been struggling a bit. "Now, it seems club members are more excited and more are showing up after school," she said.

As all of her journalism students are required to write content for the paper, Ballash often found it difficult to fit everyone's work into the printed

product, which comes out approximately every six weeks. Now with the web site, there is another vehicle for the students' work and as Ballash says, "it's providing a forum for kids outside (of her journalism) classes."

"It's been a positive after positive all the way around," an enthusiastic Ballash said.

The new site offers features such as movie and restaurant reviews, video clips, sports updates, opinion pieces,

photo galleries and an events calendar.

The site also gives students a chance to learn new skills such as podcasting and producing sound slides and videos that will be added to the site in the future. It's all still a work in progress as the students get used to this new medium.

"We're still experimenting with the format and content," Ballash said. There will be some overlap between the print edition and the online version, she said.

Added Fiza Shah, co-editor-in-chief of the Times: "We have to retrain ourselves to think more like a news organization and get used to stricter deadlines." But that hasn't dampened the enthusiasm for the new venture, Shah said.

"We want (the Times' web site) to be the place to go for students, teachers and staff to find out what's going on at Lakewood High," Shah said.

The 90th anniversary celebration is also on the minds of the Times staff. Right now, the group is planning special events each month to mark the occasion. In August, a display case in the school's entrance hallway chronicled the Times through the years and in September, the online newsmagazine debut served as the celebratory event. A gala for later in the year is in the works where Ballash hopes to bring back alumni to join the celebration.

LHS Student Spotlight:

Ritter Reaches Rare Heights In Arts And Academics

by Christine Gordillo

If September for Kevin Ritter is any indication, this young man's senior year at Lakewood High is destined to be a doozy. In a span of a couple weeks, Kevin moved the audience with his poetry at a prestigious literary awards ceremony, whose past winners included Oprah Winfrey, and learned that he was named a National Merit Semifinalist, an honored bestowed upon a highly selective group of students based on their PSAT scores.

The National Merit honor makes Kevin eligible to be considered as a Finalist in the National Merit Scholarship Competition. Finalists vie for approximately 8,200 scholarships to be awarded next spring.

The poetry reading took place at the 75th Anisfield-Wolf Book Awards, which are sponsored by the Cleveland Foundation and recognize authors of books that have made important contributions to our understanding of racism and appreciation of the rich diversity of human cultures. For the past two years, the Cleveland Foundation has had a young elementary student do a reading at the ceremony, held this year on Sept. 14 at Severance Hall. This year, however, the foundation wanted something a little different for its 75th anniversary program.

As Cleveland Foundation's Kathleen Cerveny describes in her Arts

& Culture blog: "We wanted something special. We found it in a gem of a young poet that we discovered through Young Audiences of Northeast Ohio's ArtWorks program." Young Audiences recommended Kevin based on his work with them at ArtWorks, an arts-based job training program for aspiring young artists where Kevin studied theater and writing.

Kevin, who had the honor of opening the awards ceremony, gave an impassioned reading of his poem, which he wrote specifically for the occasion. The audience responded with enthusiastic applause to the performance and the poem, titled 11:9 after the verse in the Bible where the Tower of Babel story appears. The poem focused on language, miscommunication and understanding. For Kevin, the experience was "amazing and inspiring" and a bit overwhelming.

While the Anisfield-Wolf performance highlighted his talents as a poet, Kevin has an interest in many art forms and is thankful that Lakewood High has enabled him explore all of them: poetry, theater, music and literature.

"I'm really appreciative of the attention given to the arts (at LHS)," he said. "It's allowed me to pursue all my interests ... and helped me really flourish at LHS."

And Kevin certainly takes advantage of those opportunities. He nurtures



photo by Christine Stephens

his poetic side through the Poetry Slam club at LHS, where he's been runner-up in the past two Slams. He hones his acting skills with the Barnstormers and their professional-quality productions each fall and spring, (he'll be playing the role of Felix in the upcoming "The Odd Couple") and he perfects his musical talent by singing in the Symphonic Mixed Choir and playing violin in the Chamber Orchestra.

Kevin carries all of this off, in addition to a courseload full of rigorous classes, and remains a down-to-earth, kind and polite young man.

"Kevin's known to be nice to everyone," said Kathy Baylog, coor-

dinator of the gifted program for the district, including the high school, and advisor to the National Honor Society. In fact, they both believe it's one of the reasons his peers selected Kevin out of a number of candidates to be this year's president of the National Honor Society.

As far as his future beyond LHS, Kevin will continue to pursue the arts in college and plans to focus on the theater with the hope of becoming a playwright. He is currently considering nine colleges, all of which have excellent writing programs. Right now, his top contenders are Vassar College and Kalamazoo College.

And although the college application season piled on top of demanding school obligations can be a pressure-cooker for seniors, Kevin still finds time to relax and unwind in his unique way. "I've bought myself a ukulele and I've been playing around with composing unusual songs, seeing how silly I can get with it," he said.

Sounds like he's found the right mix of being serious about school and his future without being too serious about himself.

To read more about Kevin's Anisfield-Wolf experience and to read his poem, you can go to <http://blog.anisfield-wolf.org>. A video of his performance is available at <http://www.wviz.org/anisfieldwolf>.

Lakewood Schools

Butterfly Release Day At Grant School



Mrs. Barry’s class releases their butterflies while, Grant Principal Roxanne Ramsey Mrs. Straun-Allanson, and parents look on and sing.
by Emily Kompier

Mrs. Berry, my second grade teacher at Grant, got us some caterpillars so we could learn the life cycle by watching them grow into butterflies.

We each had our own caterpillars; mine was named Sierra. They each had their own little box filled with food. Their food is mallow leaves. They only eat the leaves they were born on. First they stood on the lid of the box and put some little silken strings on the bottom of the lid and then started to go down them headfirst. Then they curled their heads up halfway and turned into J shapes. About two days later they were in their cocoons but really they are called chrysalises, because cocoons are only for moths. Moths are fuzzy; butterflies are not.

Two days after all of the butterflies were in their chrysalises we got these butterfly cages, with metal bars covered with fabric, with nets in the bottom. We put our chrysalises in there close to the bottom so if they fell it wouldn’t hurt them.

A few days after that, they started to come out of their chrysalises and it was time to let them loose.

We got to hold them for a second to take pictures. They were very soft.

Mine wouldn’t open its wings until it landed on my fuzzy pants.

Mrs. Berry and Mrs. Straun-Allanson waited for a really warm day to have our butterfly release day, so they could go free to lay their eggs. Butterfly eggs are as small as a pinhead.

We had a ceremony to set them free and wore special butterfly hats that we made of the whole life-cycle of the butterfly in a circle: eggs, tiny caterpillar, caterpillar, caterpillar in a J shape, chrysalis, and then there is the butterfly. We also sang songs. Here is one that we sang, you sing it to the tune of “Itsy Bitsy Spider”:

“The fuzzy caterpillar
Curled up on a leaf
Spun her little chrysalis
And then fell fast asleep
While she was sleeping,
She dreamed she could fly,
And later when she woke up
She was a butterfly.”

Then we let them go.

My friend Reese from my class named his butterfly Devil Snare. Afterwards he said, “I’m a daddy now. They grow up so fast.”

My friend Ben from my class said, “I named mine Harry and Snape. The whole thing was just awesome but I really kind of miss them.”

Lakewood Resident Becomes Student Fellow At Baldwin-Wallace College

by Joyce DeGirolamo

Klevis Bakiaj of Lakewood been selected as a Center for Innovation and Growth (CIG) Student Fellow. He will join 29 other students in the yearlong course, BUS-220: CIG Student Fellow Innovation Seminar.

Bakiaj, the son of Dervish and Sado Bakiaj, is a senior at B-W majoring in criminal justice. He is a member of Pi Gamma Mu, the International Honor Society in Social Sciences. He is also a member of Criminal Justice Club. He graduated from Lakewood High School in 2008.

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Lakewood Schools

Middle Schools Begin Yearlong Anti-Bullying Program

by Mark Walter

September kicked off the first month of the Lakewood middle schools' year-long program on bullying prevention. Made possible by a generous donation from the Lakewood Alumni Foundation, the program is administered by the organization Campus Impact, which will be visiting both Garfield and Harding throughout the year with targeted messages to students and staff.

The visits are meant to build upon each previous visit, so the first one estab-



Lakewood High School varsity football fans William Tobin and Daniel Harrington (l-r) celebrate Friday, Sept. 17, after a convincing 17 - 0 Rangers victory at home over Valley Forge.

lished a foundation of identifying exactly what bullying is and what roles are played in bullying scenarios. The first visit to the schools, held during students' language arts class, focused on getting the students engaged in a giant board game that helped them identify the roles beyond the bully and the victim that contribute to a bullying environment.

For the game, players work in teams and advance along a game board peppered with spaces that mimic the game "Life". For example, one space reads, "You tell an inappropriate joke during homeroom. Lose a turn." Or, with a nod to "Monopoly" a Chance-like card reads, "A friend at lunch says something hurtful and untrue about another student. You don't say anything then but tell others the rumor later. Lose \$50." The students learn through the game and video clips of scenarios the different parts that they may unwittingly be playing in bullying at their school.

For example, the student on the card who spread the rumor would be a "supporter," or someone who encourages the bullying behavior by laughing, drawing attention to the situation or gossiping about the bullying later. Other less-familiar roles discussed include "quiet supporters," who don't show any outward emotion toward the bullying but will not say anything about it either; "disengaged



onlookers," who don't like the bullying behavior but just try to blend in to the environment; and "possible defenders," who don't like the bullying but don't know what to do to help.

The students in grades 6-8 at Garfield and Harding played the game with enthusiasm and enjoyed working as teams. The emphasis behind the Campus Impact visits is to engage the students in discussion and provide them with hands-on activities that help illuminate the problems with and solutions to bullying.

The Campus Impact program is based on the Olweus Bullying Prevention program created by Dr. Dan Olweus, a bullying prevention pioneer. His program is designed to:

- * Reduce existing bully/victim problems among students
- * Prevent the development of new bully/victim problems

* Improve peer relations at school by creating conditions that encourage students to respect each other and function better while on or off school grounds

Topics covered in the program include respect, responsibility, bullying prevention, cyber-bullying, sexting, Internet safety and diversity. Discussions on the topic will take place over seven Campus Impact visits to the schools during the year.

This is the third year that Garfield has had a formal anti-bullying program and the second year for Harding. Both middle schools also promote positive school climate using Positive Behavior Supports to set up routines and procedures to encourage kindness and appropriate behavior throughout the school day.

Mark Walter is principal of Garfield Middle School.

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Kid's Corner

What We Did On Our Summer Vacation:
Visiting The Lego Museum

by John Kompier

Two weeks before school started, I went to the Plastic Toy and Brick Museum (it's official name) in Bellaire, Ohio, with my family. We happened to go during the three days where visitors could help build sections of the world record building being put together there. Let me tell you some more about it:

First, the world record being built: When it's done, it will be the tallest Lego building in the world. It will have beaten the previous record of 98 feet—at 102 feet. Dan Brown, the man working on it while we were there, was constructing it in the elevator shaft of the museum, which was once a school. Every visitor got to have a chance to put together parts that would eventually become part of the overall construction, and sign a paper that said they had participated in creating the world record. My friend Mike asked how they were going to get the Lego building out of the elevator shaft and Mr. Brown pointed up to show us that a hole had been cut in the roof of the school.

My sister Emily will now take over telling this story:

My favorite part of the Brick Museum was the robot band, a human-sized band of robots made of legos who actually sang and played instruments



The Toy and Plastic Brick Museum.

on a stage, in front of a floor you could dance on. You pushed a button on the wall and it started to play by itself. It was in the school's auditorium and they put on a show for everyone there.

My least favorite part was an actual-size Battle Droid from Star Wars that hissed and groaned when it stood up in front of you like it was going to come out from behind the glass and get you. It was so noisy you couldn't talk, this is because it was controlled by hydraulics they said. My brother loved

this and kept making it stand up.

Now I will tell you my little sister's favorite part: there was a Dora, a Diego and Boots the monkey built as big as she was so she could look at them face to face. Actually this was her second favorite part, she loved dancing to the robot band best and did not want to leave.

Back to me, John, now: The Museum has more Guinness Book of



Posing with the official museum greeter.

world record constructions in it, and rooms dedicated to aliens and space, Star Wars, trains, churches, Mt. Rushmore, and a huge store full of things that you would never see anywhere else.

It is three hours from Lakewood, heading South on I-70 and is eight dollars for adults, six dollars for students. We loved it.

Recess Rocks Lakewood Park

by Corey Rosen

Thank you to the community for helping Recess ROCKS! be a huge success in its initial event- we plan to do this for years to come!

There were a few key players that really made the event shine, and I would like to thank them by name:

Rick Berdine - Lakewood City Schools; Holly Lauch - City of Lakewood, Mayor's Office; Joe Beno - Lakewood Public Works Department; Kurt Matej - Lakewood Division of Parks; Jim O'Bryan - Lakewood Observer; Erin Fach - Lakewood Board of Recreation; John Stalzer - Reminger & Reminger Law Offices - and Volunteer Extraordinaire; Grant Schiefferle - Volunteer Extraordinary; Kara Goeller - My wife who thought I was crazy for taking this on solo and for supporting my every idea (well, almost every idea).

Also, I would like to thank the incredible teachers, principals and school administrators for their enthusiasm and support of the event. A very special thank you to this list of dunk tank victims on a very cold day (with not-so-clean water none-the-less):

Lynn Eckert, Sean McGuan (foolishly bravely went in the tank twice), Genni Lach, Rachel Karcher, Roxann Ramsey, Jessie Holland, Jen Johnson, Sarah Andrzejewski, Carrie Weber, Robert Curtain, Terry Selby, Laura Strauss, Keith Ahearn, Mark Walter, Mr. Maxhimer, Mrs. Pesta, William Wagner, Mitch Robita, and Matt Markling (1 hour in the tank!)

Also, a huge thank you to all of the volunteers for their time and support and efforts to make the event go smoothly and very enjoyable for all of the guests.

Thank you all again, and we hope you join the fun again next year for the 2nd Annual Recess ROCKS! presented by Jordan's Family Foundation!



Great day with things to do everywhere for children and their parents.



Cavs were there working with the kids.



Declan Markling dunks his dad while no one was looking.

Written By Kids For Kids (And Big Kids Too)

The Lakewood Observer will periodically devote a corner of the paper to sharing the work of Lakewood kids. Lakewood residents, ages 2-14, can submit stories, jokes, poems, photographs, comics, drawings or images of three-dimensional items for publication here.

To get things started we challenge you to capture a piece of Lakewood in your submissions. Perhaps you could take a photo of a Lakewood sunset, build a model of Lakewood Public Library using Legos or write a story about what kids are doing in your neighborhood.

Pieces should be submitted via the Member Center at <http://www.lakewoodobserver.com> or if necessary by mail to: Lakewood Observer Kids Korner 14900 Detroit Avenue #205 Lakewood, OH 44107.

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Events

‘Wings’ Takes Flight In Newly Renovated Studio Theater At Beck Center

by Fran Storch

Beck Center for the Arts proudly presents its production of American playwright Arthur Kopit’s inspiring drama *Wings*, in the Studio Theater, October 8 through November 7, 2010. Show times are 8:00 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 3:00 p.m. Sundays.

Step inside the brain of Emily Stilson as she experiences a potentially life-shattering stroke. Experience her journey as she draws on the strength and courage of her early years as an aviatrix and wing-walker to soar to a triumphant recovery. *Wings* is thrilling, funny, and imaginative, everything that audiences can expect from a Kopit play.

Cleveland theater legend Dorothy Silver returns to the Beck Center in the leading role of Emily Stilson. The production also features Equity actress Derdriu Ring as Amy, Stilson’s therapist.

Three talk-back sessions with stroke experts from the Cleveland area’s top medical institutions, including Lakewood Hospital, will take place after the following performances: October 17, October 23, and November 5. Patrons can also view a special exhibition in Beck’s lobby on women in aviation, organized by the International Women’s Air & Space Museum.

Wings is the first professional theater production in the newly renovated Studio Theater, made possible by the

generous support of the Beck Center Women’s Board.

“Cleveland audiences are in for a treat as exciting, thought-provoking theater returns to Beck’s Studio Theater,” says Director Sarah May. “This play, about courage and life, is a chance to see Dorothy Silver soar in one of the greatest roles ever written for a mature actress. She is supported by Derdriu Ring and an ensemble of some of Cleveland’s best actors in this uplifting tribute to the amazing brain and its ability to heal.”

Tickets are \$28 for adults, \$25 for seniors (65 and older), \$17 for students (with valid ID), and \$10 for children (12 and under). An additional \$3 service fee per ticket is applied at the time of purchase. Preview night on Thursday, October 7, is \$10 with general admission seating. Group discounts

are available for parties of 13 or more.

For tickets, call the Beck Center box office at 216.521.2540, ext. 10, or purchase seats online at www.beckcenter.org. Beck Center is located at 17801 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood, just ten minutes west of downtown Cleveland. Free onsite parking is available.

Beck Center’s production of *Wings* is presented by special arrangement with Samuel French Inc. and is sponsored by Lakewood Hospital, Cox Communications, Ohio Arts Council, and Cuyahoga Arts and Culture.

Beck Center for the Arts is a not-for-profit 501(c)3 organization that offers professional theater productions, arts education programming in dance, music, theater, visual arts, early childhood, and creative arts therapies for special needs students, and gallery exhibits featuring regional artists.

Chocolate Walk 2010

by Rachel Anzalone

“There are four basic food groups: milk chocolate, dark chocolate, white chocolate, and chocolate truffles.” – Anonymous.

Lakewood’s 2nd Annual Downtown Lakewood Chocolate Walk is just around the corner! You won’t want to miss this decadent and delectable night all about Chocolate!

After a raved about inaugural event in 2009, Chocolate Walk returns on Thursday, October 28, 2010, presented by the Downtown Lakewood Merchants. Chocoholics will be walking Downtown Lakewood browsing the shops, sampling treats and collecting delectable bites in their Chocolate Walk goodie bag which they can take home to enjoy later. The many offerings from 30+ Downtown Lakewood Merchants will be unique and different. Last year’s treats included truffles, brownies, pastries, a hot fudge sundae, and chocolate soup (yum!). What delicious goodies will the merchants offer this year??? You’ll have to be there find out!

The event will be held from 5:30pm until 9:00pm and tickets

are just \$20. This is an “adult only” event; the kids get their treats just a few days later! There are only 250 tickets for this event and they are almost sold out! Any remaining tickets may be purchased online at www.downtownlakewood.com or in person at Plantation Home and Tess’ Tender Touch. Get your tickets now... they are going fast!

In addition, Chocolate Walk will be the kick off for Late Night Thursdays in Downtown Lakewood. For your convenience, many Downtown merchants will remain open until 9pm on Thursdays through the holiday season. Discover all the great things Downtown Lakewood merchants have to offer, including several new businesses that offer unique, personal gifts, all with the convenience of shopping in Lakewood.

All proceeds from Chocolate Walk benefit the Downtown Lakewood Business Alliance, a program of Downtown Lakewood and LakewoodAlive, dedicated to the revitalization of Lakewood’s historic downtown district. LakewoodAlive is a 501(c)(3) economic development organization.

Eaters Of Lakewood At Pepper’s Restaurant

by Kristen Dutton

Eaters of Lakewood welcomed Pepper’s Restaurant as their 9th event on Saturday, September 25th. Pepper’s Restaurant is a neighborhood corner family Italian restaurant. Pepper’s Restaurant has been open on the corner of Ridgewood and Detroit since 1999, and was bought by Bob Buck on Christmas Eve, 2008. Bob and his wife run the restaurant together in a high energy fashion, stopping to flirtatiously smile to one another while making sure that everyone is taken care of. The restaurant itself is the size of one Lakewood storefront with 12-15 tables, plus a side patio along Ridgewood with 4 tables, lattice, and twinkle lights. The décor seems a little cheesy, but it cre-

ates a home-like atmosphere. You feel as if grandma is making spaghetti and meatballs in the kitchen while you laugh and share wine with family and friends. All that the Lakewood Eaters heard coming from the tables of Pepper’s were laughter and “mmm”s.

The extensive Italian menu features classic’s like Chicken and Veal Parmesan, Picatta, Rigatoni and Meatballs, Italian Sub’s, fish, and pizza’s. The fall’s special feature is a grape pie, which left everyone melting into their seats with every delicious, warm, gooey bite.

This Eater’s Of Lakewood proved to be one of the best and well-attended events to date. Join Eaters of Lakewood at Dewey’s Pizza on Saturday, October 23rd, from 5-9pm.

“Woof, Woof” Spooky Pooches Return!

by Lacy Hoffman

Woof Woof! On October 16th Downtown Lakewood will be filled with pirates, ghosts, and pumpkins. Don’t be frightened... friendly dogs will be dressed up in their Halloween costumes for the 3rd annual Spooky Pooch Parade. The festivities begin at 12:30PM with vendors, music, and registration. Then the parade, led by V107.3 Cleveland’s on-air personality Brad Hanson and Cleveland’s most famous dog- Cleveland Brown’s CHOMPS, steps off at 2:00PM. Registration is only \$10 in advance or \$15 the day of the parade. To register for the parade visit www.downtownlakewood.org or pickup a form at the Lakewood Public Library.

Spectators are encouraged to come join the fun and watch along the parade route which runs from Detroit Avenue between St. Charles and Arthur. The Spooky Pooch Parade fun begins and ends at the St. Charles Green, located just North of 14600 Detroit Avenue. No one will leave without a smile!

Celebrity Judges will be looking for the best costumes in the following categories: Best in show, Most Spooky, Kid & Dog, Adult & Dog, and Best non-motorized float. Award Ceremony will begin at 3:00 p.m.

A coloring contest in conjunction with the Spooky Pooch Parade invites children (ages 4-12) to participate by coloring their very own Spooky Pooch. Coloring sheets and rules may be found online at www.downtownlakewood.org or pick up information at the Lakewood Public Library, Pet’s General or Pet-Tique.

Would you and your dog love to have free dog food for a year? Raffle tickets are on sale for \$5 and may be purchased at Pet’s General, Pet-Tique, and the Blue Onion. Bring your raffle ticket stub to the Spooky Pooch Parade



and you will receive 3 free raffle tickets that may be entered to win some amazing general raffle baskets. General raffle tickets will be on sale the day of and you will be able to enter to win raffle baskets and gift cards. Raffle tickets will be sold for \$1 each or 6 for \$5.

All are welcome to come down and visit with sponsors and vendors beginning at 12:30PM on October 16th. Spooky Pooch Parade sponsors include: Pet’s General, Pet-Tique, Inn the Dog House, Pawsitive Influence, Steve Berry Buick, Panera Bread, Lakewood Hospital, City of Lakewood, Cox Communications and V107.3 Cleveland. Table vendors include the Greyhound and Golden Retriever (GRIN) rescue groups and many other vendors of dog related food, products and services, including the new store Pet-People, great organizations like Citizens’ Committee for Lakewood Animal Shelter and many more. Please come meet and support these great vendors. Opportunities for sponsorship and vendors are still available. Call LakewoodAlive at 216-521-0655 or visit www.downtownlakewood.org.

Spooky Pooch Parade is presented by LakewoodAlive a 501-3(c) economic development corporation whose mission is to improve the quality of life of residents. Proceeds from the Spooky Pooch Parade benefit downtown revitalization and the Lakewood Animal Shelter.

Sustainable Green Lakewood

A Green Reintroduction To The Area

by Frances Killea

Cleveland sports a familiar grey this morning, and I'm watching an infinitesimal drizzle from a downtown café. After an uncommonly sunny summer, the return of sluggish skies and disintegrating temperatures feels a little like a post-vacation let down. The street offers an unflattering vantage point as the hems of my jeans soak up dirty water; every building wears the same blank stare against the gray, and behind the rain-specked lenses of my glasses, it doesn't really matter how the skyline looks anyway. Sometimes somber weather diffuses the glow of the good things about this town, but even as rain collects on the trees lining the sidewalks outside, I'm feeling rather fond – perhaps even proud of – where I'm from.

There is a growing interest amongst Clevelanders in their hometown. More and more people are asking about its history, brainstorming about its future, and reveling in the offerings of its present-day entrepreneurs, artists, musicians, farmers, and chefs. The glamour of an imported product seems to be dimming in the excitement over the term "home-grown," and this enthusiasm has affected our perception of this oft-drizzly city in some striking ways. Known widely for the industrial landscape of the flats or for the blighted, abandoned warehouses and homes scattered throughout the county, Cleveland is beginning to add some splashes of green to its concrete jungle.

Farmer's markets have grown in popularity and number. More people boast memberships to Community Supported Agriculture programs,



photo by Frances Killea

bringing home weekly prizes of fresh produce from the farm they've signed up with. Area restaurateurs are forging relationships with growers to bring in the freshest food, producing dining of the absolute best quality- the words "local" and "seasonal" can be found on menus all over greater Cleveland. Urban gardens are popping up almost as fast as local foods are finding their ways into the city's kitchens. From multiple-acre fields to modest rooftop plots, plants are taking root

in places once known only for brick walls and sidewalks- and people from all walks have access to the fruit of these city plots through programs like Lakewood's LEAF (Lakewood Earth And Food) Community or via partnerships between WIC (Women, Infants & Children) and the North Union Farm-

er's Market.

Veteran market goers and new shoppers alike get to enjoy Northeast Ohio in a particular way. The excitement over new spring crops might be the most telling indication of the city shedding its winter coat: last year's storage crops give way to bright greens, tender brassicas, and stalks of rhubarb; garlic scapes and strawberries follow. As the season picks up heat, snap peas and blueberries animate urban shoppers right into the advent of summer's prize: peaches. Today, Clevelanders have bid farewell to soft summer fruit and now begin to tote home hearty winter squash, piquant concord grapes, and apples with names and flavors unheard of in any supermarket.

Autumn is coming in, invited or not, and this morning it's caught the Erie lakefront under a soggy quilt of clouds. My shoes are soaked and my shape is barely discernible underneath fall layers. Still, however discouraging, the spitting rain hasn't interrupted the steady current of anticipation I feel for the next farmer's market. Reminders of failed industry and faulty planning are interspersed now with hints of a new kind of development, and those bright little flashes of green are igniting a curiosity in Cleveland as an agricultural contender. The excitement can only grow as people learn just what our land can do- replacing steelyards with cropland will cultivate not only produce, but pride.

Lakewood Bikeway Planning Community Workshop

by Dru Siley

Hosted by the City of Lakewood Department of Planning and Development

Tuesday October 5th, 6:30-8:00
Main Library Auditorium
15425 Detroit Avenue

Help us make our city a great place to ride!

This workshop will be the first opportunity for residents to share their input and ideas about commuter and recreational bicycling in Lakewood.

Bicycling promotes efficient land use, promotes efficient use of road space, promotes equitable transportation, supports buying local, promotes health and fitness, reduces air and noise pollution, reduces traffic congestion, reduces taxpayer burden, reduces parking demand, reduces energy use, and is an integral part of a progressive community.

Lakewood has a significant bicycling population of both transportation and recreational riders.

Most of the City is flat, densely-populated and was developed around streetcar lines creating a compact layout that offers relatively short distances between schools, parks, residential areas and commercial centers. Most vehicle trips inside the City are less than five miles round trip and because of Lakewood's layout could potentially be accomplished on a bicycle. However, the City currently lacks the coordinated infrastructure that supports bicycling in taking full advantage of that potential.

In the interest of improving the cycling environment, the bicycle plan's purpose will be to identify and then direct the implementation of a continuous network of cross-town routes and facilities. Such a network will promote safe and convenient bicycle travel throughout the community for riders of all abilities, skills and objectives.

For more information contact Dru Siley in Planning and Development at 216.529.6630 or planning@lakewoodoh.net.

Wellness Watch

Northwesterly Assisted Living Community

Now Under New Ownership

by Annette Kelly

Recently, Northwesterly Assisted Living Community, located in Lakewood, Ohio, changed ownership and became a Bloomfield Senior Living community. The Bloomfield Senior Living team has over 40 years of experience as a family company owning and operating seniors housing communities.

A Family Gem In Lakewood

by Anne Gomez

Last year after living in Lakewood for 7 years, I found the best hidden gem in Lakewood: Lakewood Family Room. My daughter Cecilia was about 15 months when I walked through the Family Room doors. There I found a whole new community. I found mothers, fathers, nannies, grandmothers, and grandfathers all gathered around talking with each other and interacting with the children. I saw children laughing and playing with one another. They shared the vast amount of toys and books. Some children were sitting at the long table investigating the different learning stations (stringing beads onto a pipe cleaner, finger painting, etc), which is part of the Learn Through Play Program.

Like any newcomer, I was nervous

Northwesterly is a vibrant assisted living community sitting on a private setting in the heart of Lakewood. Its luxurious interior design, state-of-the-art amenities, comprehensive supportive services, personalized assistance, resident centered health care and warm atmosphere make it Ohio's premier senior living community. Our residents experience the privacy

at first but as time went by I began to realize that this place was becoming my second home. It has been a great support system for me as a new mother. I have met wonderful people at the Family Room and I enjoy seeing them when I am out and about in Lakewood.

If you have a child or children from birth to five years old, please stop by the Lakewood Family Room (17400 Northwood Avenue or 12400 Madison Avenue) and check this gem out. I guarantee you that you will not be disappointed.

Check out the website for more information:

<http://onelakewood.com/HumanServices/EarlyChildhood/DropIns.aspx>.

of home combined with the security and convenience of assistance and a maintenance free environment. Northwesterly is designed for senior adults who wish to maintain their independence, but may require assistance with daily living or simply want comfort knowing that someone is available 24-hours a day.

Northwesterly offers affordable month-to-month private apartment rentals – a smart financial choice considering there are no buy-in fees or long term leases. Northwesterly provides a wide variety of personalized services, life enrichment activities and wellness, cultural and educational programs administered by its highly trained and devoted staff. The Bloomfield Senior Living team stated, "We will upgrade the community and provide additional services enabling our residents to continue enjoying their lifestyle. We are committed to enhancing the lives of our staff and residents, and making Autumn Glen an even better home. In fact, we are in the process of complet-

ing a nearly \$1 million remodel." The Northwesterly family works extremely hard every day to create a lifestyle for its residents by ensuring that their tailored personal needs are met, while maintaining the highest level of choice, autonomy, dignity, privacy and respect. Bloomfield Senior Living is thrilled to bring over 4 decades of experience and success to the Northwesterly.

About Bloomfield Senior Living
Bloomfield Senior Living is family owned and operated. The Bloomfield Senior Living family has been providing personalized service and platinum care to seniors since 1965. We presently own and operate a diversified, growing portfolio of senior housing communities in select markets throughout the United States. We offer a full continuum of personalized senior living services, including independent and assisted living, memory care, rehabilitative and skilled nursing. Our strong and long-standing professional relationships, consistently maintained high occupancy rates, reputation, high standards of care and revolutionized health care programs have become the hallmarks of our success over the past 4 decades. For additional information, please visit: www.bloomfieldseniorliving.com.

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Join the Discussion at: www.lakewoodobserver.com

Wellness Watch

Ripple Effect - A Spark Of Hope Gift Boutique Fundraiser

by Angela Woodman

Join us in the fight against pediatric cancers at A Spark of Hope Gift Boutique on Sunday, October 10, 2010 at the Holiday Inn in Independence, Ohio. The Boutique will open at 10:00 am until 4:00 pm and is located at 6001 Rockside Road, Independence, OH 44131.

Shoppers can expect quality goods and gifts including handbags, jewelry, clothing and accessories, housewares, prints, and other one-of-a-kind curiosities. We have selected local artists and vendors including award winning photography by Mary Sandmann, children's accessories by Sunshine Couture, Lake Glass by Carla Brant, hand woven jewelry by Linda O....Oh Linda. We will feature musicians and fash-

ion by A La Mode Boutique & Furs in the afternoon along with raffle prizes. Admission is a \$5.00 donation going directly to A Spark of Hope as well as proceeds from the benefit. Event sponsored by Innovative Fundraising and Holiday Inn-Independence.

A Spark of Hope is a non-profit organization founded by Dyana Fimiani and Donna Sparkman whose mission is to support families of children with pediatric blood cancers and raise public awareness of these diseases. Please visit www.asparkofhope.org to learn more about their mission and upcoming fundraiser event on October 22, "Keeping Dreams Alive".

For additional information please contact Angela Woodman at 440-220-0687 or via email innovative-fundraising@ymail.com. You may also visit our event website at www.fundraising-foracause.info/events.html.

The Ripple Effect-Cleveland is a professional women's social club designed to host networking and special events. We create a specific fundraising avenue for Cleveland non-profit organizations to raise funds as well as increase awareness about their causes.

Ratatouille, An Autumn Delight

by Dr. Meg Gerba Perry & LiveWell Lakewood
137 calories, 17 g carbohydrates, 3 g protein, 7.5 g fat


- ¼ cup olive oil
- 2 large onions, sliced
- 3 minced garlic cloves
- 1 medium eggplant, cut into 1" cubes
- 2 green peppers, chopped
- 3 zucchini, cut into ½" slices
- 1 28-oz. can tomatoes, drained
(fresh, ripe tomatoes may be substituted when available)
- 1 tsp. salt
- ¼ tsp. pepper
- 1 tsp. oregano
- ½ tsp. thyme

In a 6-quart pot, sauté onion and garlic in 1 tbsp oil for 3 minutes. Add 1 tbsp oil and eggplant and stir-fry for 5 minutes. Add another tbsp. oil and the peppers and cook 5 minutes. Add the last tbsp oil and the zucchini, cook for 5 more minutes. Then add seasonings and tomatoes; cover and simmer for 30 minutes. Use to top pasta or as a vegetable side dish.

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For more information to register contact:
lakewoodjuniors@gmail.com

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LUNCH & LEARN



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Diabetes Program Development Coordinator
Lakewood Hospital Diabetes Center

presents

"Managing Diabetes During the Holiday Season"

Thursday, October 21, 2010
at 11:30 a.m.



Assisted Living Building
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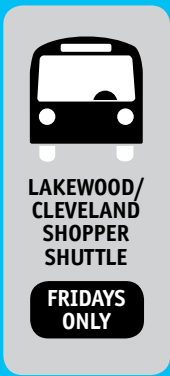
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Lakewood Cares

On Kiwanis

by Gordon Brumm

If you walk straight ahead through the entrance to the weekly Kiwanis meeting in the Masonic Temple, you will find Pete’s Table on your right, offering a selection of candy bars and snacks, yard bags, and American flags for sale, with all proceeds benefiting the Club.

Pete’s Table gets its name from Pete McGrew, the Kiwanian who presided over the enterprise for longer than anyone can remember, until his death three years ago. At that time, the Table was taken over by Ron Lewis and Leo Sonenson.

Pete was of a generation earlier than that of almost any present member of the Club, though the difference was not so much in age as in experience. He was a Marine during World War II and fought in the battle for Iwo Jima. He never talked about Iwo Jima without mentioning that he was certain he would be killed.

But he survived, and he became a member of Lakewood Kiwanis in 1951. He served his term as Club President

and managed more than 50 years of perfect attendance. More importantly, he was always one of that small group of people who carry the ball for the Club’s fund-raising projects.

Pete always seemed to exemplify the quintessential Kiwanian, in his constant and steady dedication to Kiwanis and through Kiwanis to the community.

He is a reminder that I am in an organization together with those of different ages, with those of different political viewpoints, and with those of different racial or ethnic backgrounds (though we still have a way to go in that respect). A reminder that behind all these differences, we are all united in pursuing the same goal, to improve Lakewood and especially the lives of its children.

In future issues, I and perhaps other Kiwanians will look further into the various activities of Lakewood Kiwanis and the people who are responsible for them.

The next special event is the traditional and classic Donut Sale, taking place on October 27th. Stay tuned.

Holiday Harvest Bazaar

by Heather Ramsey

Lakewood Baptist Church will be having its annual Holiday Harvest Bazaar on October 16th, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The bazaar will feature handmade crafts, baked goods, books, jewelry, a cafe, the Almost New section, and, a perennial favorite, the silent auction. The bazaar is sponsored by the American Baptist Women’s Ministry of the church.

The crafts section will include a variety of new items created by women of the church. Baked goods like cookies, breads, and cakes will be a part of the ever-popular Bake Sale, while other snacks and lunch will be available in the cafe. A wide selection of previously owned jewelry of all types will be available for very affordable prices. And, the Almost New section will be stocked with household items like kitchenware, decorations, nicknacks, small appliances, and electronics.

Some items will be new or never-used, but the majority will be used and priced to sell. So, come check out the

goods, have some food and relax in the cafe, and mingle with your neighbors.

Lakewood Baptist Church is located at 14321 Detroit Avenue. For more information, call 216-221-4005.

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County Politics

Green Party Candidate David Ellison Answers Observer County Executive Questions

by David Ellison

Questions developed by John Sheridan, courtesy of the Euclid Observer

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?

A. An energy upgrade on all county-owned buildings to make them more energy-efficient with procedures for evaluation.

B. A county-wide land use and management plan that successfully engages all the municipalities.

C. A Laborers and Artisan Corps of suburban and inner city youth, 16-60 resulting in tangible, ecologically sensitive capital improvements to our built environment.

D. A state chartered Bank of Cuyahoga County, dedicated to investing in the county, prohibited from selling mortgages, trading in derivatives and committing usury.

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

We have to be able to communicate with each other. We have to respect each other and the good work that we each bring to the table to solve problems. We have to leave egos and petty politics at the door and work together in a civil way.

3.) How do you define good government?

Consistent application of the law. Fairness in its treatment of citizens. Swift justice. Open meetings and transparency of government functions. A culture of honesty and ethical behavior in service to the community. Fair elections and election process, public debates.

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?

It depends on who is elected. The structure by itself has no power to end the corruption and patronage. Scrambling the lines of accountability and giving more unbridled power to an already corrupt system may be a mistake. The Council will need to figure out who it is and figure out how to work with the Executive to provide effective accountability, collaboration, checks and balances – the Charter as written is extremely weak in this area and does not provide for easy, effective citizen participation.

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 and County Council. Do you see that as a positive step?

Yes.

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?

The door to my office will always be open to any Council member who wants to come talk to me. The Executive is not included in the Council's proceedings. The Council can ratify the Executive's decisions, appointments and recommendations, or it can try to fight the Executive's decisions. My approach will be to do the job the Charter sets out for the Executive in a way that includes the Council's recommendations when appropriate. I will present my executive decisions to the Council in a way that is clearly justified and understandable.

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

I envision the new structure being conducive to collaborative problem-solving. I want the wisdom of each of

the council members and appointees and interested citizens to contribute to the decision-making process of the new government. The new structure will work when it balances its budgets, provides necessary and expected services and regains the confidence of the public. The ultimate success of the new government structure will be measured in how it fulfills the stated goals of prosperity for all county residents.

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?

It's possible if we stop sending our money away and utilize strategies for keeping more of our money circulating in the local economy. We need to build our capabilities for self-reliance. We need to utilize the land, buildings, natural resources and human resources of Cuyahoga County for the benefit of Cuyahoga County and its residents. We need to find ways for people to gain more financial independence.

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?

Only in as far as it enables the citizens and government officials of the county and its municipalities to consider themselves as part of a larger community.

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?

Strong point: Consolidation of responsibilities.

Weak point: Inappropriate concentration of power without adequate checks and balances.

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?

I'd like to see the council chosen at large in a system of preferential or "Instant runoff voting, where even if your first choice didn't win a seat, your second choice might. Candidates would be elected if they received a "modicum of support".

David Ellison's Bio

by David Ellison

I'm a registered architect. I live in Cleveland with a loyal companion named Rolf, who has long floppy ears and a tail. I own a house in Ohio City and I've maintained my architectural practice on the near west side since 1998. I moved here in 1987 after attending college at The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art in New York City on a 5-year, full-tuition, merit-based, academic scholarship where I earned my professional degree. When I first graduated, I pursued a long-term interest in cars and became a certified automobile mechanic before returning to architecture and becoming licensed.

I'm running for County Executive because I want to help guide the re-building of Cuyahoga County. As an architect, I'm a problem-solver and consensus-builder. I'm able to visualize things that don't yet exist and I'm able to administer complicated projects, keep them on budget, and get them built. I think my experience is right for the job. I am not beholden to any entrenched special interests or dogmatic thinking. I'll work for widespread agreement and respectful deliberations toward better, inclusive and thoughtful decision-making.

I am a citizen activist. The public may be familiar with some of my work—I was active on the Ameritrust fiasco and the ill-conceived plan to consolidate county administration offices to E. 9th

and Euclid. Most recently, my neighbors and I stopped a human crematorium from being permitted next to an organic garden and a day-care center in Ohio City. The Cleveland Health Department confirmed that there was no way of telling how much mercury would end up on the ground immediately around the smokestack, but almost any unnecessary exposure was too high, especially for children. We continue to face a daunting variety of environmental problems here in Cuyahoga County. They affect human health and potential. We have a lot of work to do to fulfill the promise in Chapter 7 of the new charter: "To promote and enhance the well-being and prosperity of the County and all of its residents".



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County Politics

Independent Candidate For County Executive, Ken Lanci Answers Observer Questions

by Ken Lanci

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?

The top priority is to create jobs for the people in Cuyahoga County. I have been creating good jobs for 40 years. I will not only strengthen existing businesses but will go out and aggressively market our region to bring new jobs here. I will develop the www.CuyahogaJobs.us website which will be a database of the county's physical assets (land, commercial property, etc.) and a database of the county's human resources, listing all of the unemployed and underemployed and their skill sets.

Restoring integrity to county government is extremely important. I will restore the people's trust in their public servants, first leading by example. I will also establish the Commission on Public Integrity to root out corruption and incompetence. The commission will develop and implement a strong code of ethics for public and elected officials. I will overhaul the appraisal process to make sure property taxes are fair. Only qualified professionals (appraisers, real estate professionals) will be involved in making sure valuations are fair and accurate. Of course, a major function of county government is providing health and human services. I will fight to make sure the safety net is working effectively and efficiently.

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

We are starting a completely new form of government and will be creating and defining along the way. Fortunately, I have extensive experience with startups and understand the challenges. I know that you must go in to the nooks and crannies of the departments and understand how they work and know the strengths and weaknesses. I have already visited 60 of the agencies and met with more than two dozen mayors so I have a very good working knowledge of county government and what's needed. I will be able to hit the ground running on day one.

3.) How do you define good government?

It's very simple but the politicians, who have made a career out of public service instead of actually serving, seem to have forgotten this. Good government exists for the greater good of all the people, not the parties or the politically connected.

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?

The new structure is a good start

but it will take more than just a new structure. It will take the right leadership. It will take a leader like me who will set the tone on my first day in office. I will create an environment of integrity and responsibility. We will make sure the people in position are qualified and competent. An important point too is that I am not owned by anyone. I have instituted my own campaign finance reform by limiting contributions to \$250 and not accepting money from corporations or PACs. When I take office, I won't owe anyone any favors. My only obligation will be to work for the greater good of all the people.

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 and County Council. Do you see that as a positive step?

This is a positive step. It is much more efficient and those appointees will now be selected based on their qualifications and ability to do the job.

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?

I will do what I have always done as a manager and CEO. I will have an open door policy and be accessible. I will involve them in the processes so they will have a good understanding of what's going on and they will be well-informed when it comes time to make decisions.

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

Their lives will be better. They will

Ken Lanci Bio

by Ken Lanci

Ken Lanci is the REAL Independent candidate for Cuyahoga County Executive. He has spent 40 years as a jobs creator and turn-around expert in Greater Cleveland and will use that experience to create jobs and improve the economy of Cuyahoga County.

Ken Lanci spent the first years of his life in a housing project on the east side of Cleveland with his family, who were on public assistance. He was industrious at an early age, working odd jobs to help make ends meet. When he was just 19, he rescued the family print shop from bankruptcy. Lanci had no formal business training, but learned quickly to listen to his business mentor and other experts. He benefited greatly from their knowledge and wisdom.

As a turn-around expert, Lanci has invested in dozens of companies over the years. His successful efforts have saved hundreds of jobs and added

have better job opportunities. They will be paying fair property taxes. They will look around and see the billions of dollars of economic development. Young people will choose to stay in their hometown because they will have opportunities to succeed. There will be less of a strain on the safety net because the people of Cuyahoga County will be working again and able to contribute. Voters will experience the excitement of living in a county undergoing a renaissance. They will see that Greater Cleveland is once again "The Best Location in the Nation."

The structure is definitely more business-friendly. It has the potential to spark economic growth and job creation if the right person is executive. I have 40 years of experience in business working out mergers, acquisitions and turnarounds. These skills are exactly what the new county executive needs. The structure allows the executive to negotiate with businesses and work out deals and contracts which can be brought before the council for approval. It takes a business person to understand business needs. I will go out and market Cuyahoga County to the rest of the world to bring new business and development here.

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?

There are many opportunities for collaboration. I will develop a comprehensive joint procurement and purchasing program involving county government, all municipalities, school districts, independent boards and

commissions, and non-profit institutions. This program will save these entities millions of dollars.

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?

Just having a charter and scrapping a dysfunctional form of government is the greatest strength of our new charter. Forcing the county to have a strong economic development policy was very smart. Combining the auditor, recorder and treasurer into a chief fiscal officer was crucial to re-establishing quality government.

Some of the weaknesses are not having a strong campaign finance component and not adequately defining the role of County Council. Also, the salaries for County Executive and County Council members are way too high.

I look forward to working with council to amend the charter once we see the pluses and minuses. We'll ask the people to vote accordingly.

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?

Not yet. The charter sets us on a positive course. I know Mayor Fitzgerald wanted to keep things the way they were. But I supported the charter and believe this will get us where we need to go. I have been doing mergers and acquisitions my entire career, and am confident in my ability to make this work for the people. I can't wait to get to work for all of the people.

Questions developed by John Sheridan, courtesy of the Euclid Observer



periodicals, and was honored by the State of Ohio and the City of Cleveland.

Ken and Linda are lead sponsors of One Sight, an organization which provides the gift of sight to Cleveland school children. They are also active with Project Love. The Lancis support dozens of local charities and non-profits to give back to a community that has been good to them.

Ken is running for county executive as a hands-on turn-around expert. He offers leadership that will completely reform county government, set a new ethical standard, deliver high-value services at lower cost, make property tax evaluation more fair and honest, and create jobs. It's something Ken has done for four decades.

County Politics

Independent Candidate For County Executive, Tim McCormack Answers Observer Questions

by Tim McCormack

Questions developed by John Sheridan, courtesy of the Euclid Observer

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?

My primary objectives would include advances in the following three areas:

Code of Ethics: With the now pervasive admissions of guilt throughout our regional public agencies, it is clear that 1) formation 2) adoption and 3) strict enforcement of the nation's most effective public Code of Ethics must be the first priority of this transformed county government. It must be first because, no matter how vital human services and economic development are in our scheme, all will fail if we cannot trust those spending our money.

Jobs: Government is most helpful when it performs its vital public functions so efficiently as to create the sense and reality of well-being within the community. When there is good government in a community it serves as one of the major incentives for people who want to work and live there. Good government wisely utilizes its resources in concert with private and non-profit entities. It works in supportive ways to encourage starting up and maintaining employment.

Education: It's imperative that we see that every child succeeds. We must embrace the regimen that every child born into this community be provided with the encouragement and tools to live up to their highest potential. It is humanity's highest responsibility. When any child falls short of his or her potential, we all lose. Cuyahoga County's infant and early childhood education approach is a promising beginning that needs to be expanded upon in every space where a child's future is being shaped.

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 new Cuyahoga County government should lead the way by inviting economic development leaders, our colleges, regional government leaders, organized labor, and our non-profit foundations to go back to "school" together. As a full community, we need to think through and answer the question, "What private-public investment strategy would work best to create jobs in Greater Cleveland?" We then need to act upon it as a team. That challenge has not been taken up in a united way by our community. We have moved from one bricks-and-mortar savior project to the next, seemingly one every 10 years. To survive, we need a long-term strategy to build our new sustainable economy.

If we invite in new people and



their new ideas and apply them to old problems we will be well on our way to much-sought-after reform.

3) Your campaign emphasizes the need for "good government." How do you define good government?

Good government means that public people do not take things that are not entitled to them to do their jobs. Good government establishes a Cuyahoga County government whose sole reason for being is service to the public for the public good. Good government innovatively responds to our critical economic and human development challenges.

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?

Yes, I do, but avoiding corruption and bad governing requires reporting in each day, scrutinizing all pending business, adopting best practices, and being on the lookout for abuses of process. It all stems from intent to do the right thing.

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 and County Council. Do you see that as a positive step?

There is absolutely no need to elect all separate offices of Coroner, Engineer, Clerk, Sheriff, Treasurer, Recorder, Auditor, and Prosecutor. We should vote for one office charged with the criminal law function as that office involves life and death decisions. While many other people would support an appointed fiscal and tax officer, I have suggested strong consideration be given to electing the community's "money person." The functions of the Auditor, Treasurer, and Recorder could well be combined into one office. I like the idea of having the person who reports to us on the county's money issues accountable to the voters. Spending on a convention center, Gateway, Playhouse Square, Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, business loans, taxes, and real property valuations are multi-million dollar county spending

and auditing issues. A county-appointed fiscal "employee" would have no direct accountability to the voters. Moreover, he or she would probably be fired for telling the public an "inconvenient truth."

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?

Establishing friendly relations now during the campaign—and holding full, open, weekly caucuses to review policy, as well as daily contact with council as needed. Ultimately, I would travel their districts with them and let them explain their priorities on a regular basis.

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

It will become clear soon based on the tone set, adoption of the Code of Ethics, and Volunteer Councils continuing their work.

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?

Jobs are created and maintained in the largest part by private initiative. Private creativity remains our best hope for our future financial security. Government's role as a positive partner in this equation is vital. Government on its own cannot replace private entities in performing the vital function of job creation, but it can and should be an essential partner in the equation.

It is exciting to see so many good people who are dedicated to remaking our 200-year-old system of governing ourselves. Issue 6 mandates economic development as the top priority. However, Justice-related issues make up the largest single item in the county budget; and the primary focus of Cuyahoga County for decades has been human services. Each of these subject areas would benefit from a fresh-air approach. People thrive when they are able to be self sufficient. Economic development, human services, and justice affairs work best when we recognize their interdependence.

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?

When the Indians, Browns, and Cavs are doing well, you see their insignias in Erie, New Philadelphia, Youngstown, Sandusky, Ashton and for more than 100 miles in all directions. That to me is our region. Just as these teams do, our ports, airports, shore

lines, businesses, and governments must also take that 100-mile view of our future.

Where can we cooperate? Consolidate? Co-fund? Rededicate? Take advantage of the vast strengths and attractions of our vast region. If this new reformed government does not lead us in that direction, I will view it as an abject 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?

The single most important reason to fundamentally reform the over \$1 billion, 9,000-employee, Cuyahoga County government is to prove to ourselves and the outside world that we will change when needed. Comprehensive reform of the Cuyahoga County government has the potential to be a catalyst--the first major step to inspire necessary additional reforms within public and private institutions.

We would be best served by having one highly valued person elected as a single county administrator. He or she would, in effect, serve as the County's "mayor," with the authority and responsibility we normally associate with city mayors. That person would then need to step up and take charge.

Please trust me when I point out that having three separate people in charge attempting to set a unified course too often is painful for the community. It is also often painful for the unfortunate commissioners. The antiquated three-person system too often results in a form of paralysis by inaction. It adversely affects our regional initiatives. Imagine three quarterbacks in the huddle calling signals, three people playing the same poker hand, or three people with one steering wheel but three different plans as to the best way to get home.

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?

Do you know that when you include the judges we elect in Cuyahoga County, 56 countywide officials are elected within our county alone--3 commissioners, 7 other elected officials, and a total of 46 judges. Wow! How many elected officials do we really need to work well?

How about reducing Cuyahoga County elected offices to the fewest number essential to ensure the best government? There are three great reasons to do this. The first is to bring us good government. The second is to save vital resources. The third reason is to successfully win a vote to adopt the plan of a smaller, less expensive, consolidated Cuyahoga County government.

Lakewood Perspectives



by John Tamilio III

I am against war for a sundry of reasons. Aside from the fact that warfare leaves incalculable, innocent victims in its wake (including children), I also believe that just about all armed conflicts

Ministerial Musings: “War Is Not The Answer”

are perpetrated by elected officials and business moguls in order to maintain political power and economic dominance. War enables the upper echelon of elites to amass prodigious amounts of wealth while many a lower or middle class nineteen year old ends up dead or in a veteran’s hospital being fitted with prosthetic limbs, all for some propagandized purpose.

Do I think that there is such a thing as Just War? Sure - if someone invades your country you have a right to defend yourself with force if need be.

Do I support our troops? One hundred percent! In fact, I support our

troops so much that I think they should be called upon to sacrifice themselves only in the most extreme, dire circumstances. The problem is that most armed confrontations do not fit that criterion.

Am I patriotic? “Right down to my red, white, and blue socks,” as Arthur Fonzarelli once said, but I do not subscribe to Nationalism. In other words, I do not believe that our country is right no matter what actions we take. I agree with Thomas Jefferson: “Dissent is the highest form of patriotism.”

We are taught to think otherwise, though. We are taught to believe that all wars are justified and if we oppose them

we are traitorous.

An intelligent man once said, “Of course the people don’t want war. But after all, it’s the leaders of the country who determine the policy, and it’s always a simple matter to drag the people along whether it’s a democracy, a fascist dictatorship, or a parliament, or a communist dictatorship. Voice or no voice, the people can always be brought to the bidding of the leaders. That is easy. All you have to do is tell them they are being attacked, and denounce the pacifists for lack of patriotism, and exposing the country to greater danger.”

Who was that wise man? Hermann Wilhelm Göring, a leading member of the Nazi party during the Third Reich.

But I think President Dwight D. Eisenhower was wiser. Eisenhower once said, “Every gun that is made, every warship launched, every rocket fired signifies, in the final sense, a theft from those who hunger and are not fed, those who are cold and not clothed.”

Humankind has been around for a long time now. We have evolved from being primitive, savage Neanderthals to intelligent, civilized human beings, haven’t we? I wonder if that is what God thinks.

Well, I do know that Jesus taught a message of love and, to me, Jesus is God incarnate. I am pretty sure that when Jesus told us to love our enemies, he did not mean that we should kill them.

Love your neighbor (which includes your enemy) as you love yourself. Treat others as you want to be treated. We teach such biblical maxims to our children. It is high time that we start heeding them ourselves.

John Tamilio III, a resident of Lakewood, is the religion columnist for The Lakewood Observer and is the Senior Pastor of Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ in the Tremont neighborhood: a Just-Peace congregation.

Bret’s Time By Callentine

The Drive, The Shot And Red Right 2010

by Bret Callentine

I’m not sure why the media haven’t sent any political analysts to Cleveland. If they want a true read on the upcoming election, they should stop trying to predict a winner and instead come to the one place on the planet that has more experience than anyone in something just as handy: spotting a loser. It’s like watching a Browns game. It’s a crucial drive and the Browns are facing third and long on their own side of the field. While the defensive coordinator is struggling to figure out what coverage to call, thousands of fans across Northeast Ohio already know what’s coming. It’s 3rd and 14... here comes the draw play for a gain of six yards.

Baseball is no different. It’s the bottom of the ninth, we’re down by one, the bases are loaded with one out, and everyone can see the game-ending double-play before it’s even hit. It’s not that we’re pessimists, it’s that decade after decade we’ve watched team after team come up short, so we can see the outcome just by the look in the players’ eyes. It’s not obvious to everyone, but to those with the gift of spotting failure, it’s as plain as the grimace on Craig Ehlo’s face. It’s seeing John Elway take the field with 5:32 left in the game, down by 7 and 98 yards away from the endzone, and confidently knowing, we’ve already lost.

We know the feeling well; it’s a talent sadly developed after years of pain and suffering. We can spot defeat from a mile away, and right now we’re seeing it in the eye of nearly every politician in Washington.

Recently, a couple of events caught my eye that really drive home the point. First, it was Ohio’s own John Boehner rolling out the “Pledge to America”. On the surface it sounded good, but I’m guessing that most Clevelanders saw this for what it really was: Carlos Baerga popping out to center to end game six of the World Series. Constantly ridiculed by the left as the “party of no”, and now getting hammered by the Tea Party as not being conservative enough, the Republicans essentially are just throwing the bat at the ball to see if they can make contact.

Let’s face it, promising to adhere to the Constitution, support small businesses and cut spending back to 2008 levels isn’t exactly swinging for the fences. With the game on the line, they’re not trying to hit a home run, they’re just hoping not to strike out.

Second was the decision, or lack thereof, by Nancy Pelosi and the Democrats on whether or not to let the Bush tax cuts expire. In the middle of what we’re constantly reminded is the biggest financial crisis since the Great Depression, Congressional Democrats are facing an almost no-win situation: They can let them expire, which might continue financial stagnation, extend them which might lead to even bigger deficits, or fight for some middle ground, which won’t make anyone happy. Tied at 14 and facing fourth and one at the opponents’ 35 yard line, Pelosi is neither going for it or attempting the long field goal, but rather, she’s letting the clock expire, hoping things will go better in over-time. That’s right, when the going gets tough, the tough apparently call an early adjournment to the session.

In both cases, I don’t see real leadership; I see political positioning and posturing. I see people who are so afraid to make the wrong decision that they’re doing everything they can to avoid making any decision. And I don’t think I’m alone. Ask any Clevelander and, regardless of their bias, if they’re honest, they’ll tell you the same thing. When they look in the eyes of any incumbent politician they see the same look as when Jose Mesa took the mound in ’97 against the Marlins. There was no confidence, there was no command, there was only a man, praying to God that the ball would somehow find its way into a teammate’s glove.

Winning takes courage, and great success is not possible without the risk of even greater failure. But that’s not what we’re seeing out of our elected leaders right now. Forget the budget, the biggest deficit we’re facing is a shortage of leaders with a spine. Like picking a team by judging who looks best in their uniform, we seem to be electing bureaucrats based on their

ability to straddle a fence and avoid any possible confrontation by really committing to an issue.

I’ve gotten to the point where I almost don’t care which side wins the argument anymore, I just want to see someone passionately defending their beliefs, willing to risk re-election simply by sticking to their guns on what they feel is right and wrong.

This city has never failed to support our teams, even when they came up short, as long as they put forth their best effort. And, while we might not know the fundamentals of a proper free throw, the mechanics of a good curve ball or the first thing about the “cover-two” defense, Cleveland knows the difference between the look of a winner and the look of those trying not to lose. I just hope we all start using that expertise in the voting booth, because I think it’s the only way we’ll ever see our nation champions again.

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Pulse Of The City

As Marching Band Alumni Again Take The Field

The Lakewood Schools Music Program, A Study In Excellence...

You say that you don't play the drums?

We don't care, that's cool!
We just want you all to know,
That Ranger drummers rule!
OK, so now the truth can come out. Yes, it was I who composed that poem some years ago.

The fact remains that the Lakewood Ranger Drum Line is a very special unit of highly talented young people who are a crucial part of the equally talented Lakewood High School Ranger Marching Band.

It would also be a significant affront were I not to mention the considerable and eclectic talents of orchestra string members, as well as the outstanding Lakewood Project, an electric string ensemble always on the cutting edge of musical creativity....and did we discuss the choirs and the other bands?

All of this commentary has, thus far, only mentioned the high school music programs. The elementary and middle school music programs of the Lakewood City School District also produce outstanding musicianship in every way.

I must, however, reveal my personal bias to you. I was once a part of the Lakewood Ranger Drum Line. Still am, as a matter of fact, but this time as a Lakewood Schools volunteer. Dad (Robert Rice, a former Lakewood band, orchestra, and choral direc-



Gary and Robert Rice recently met William (Bill) Ludwig III, grandson of the founder of the Ludwig Drum Company. Bill is holding a special drum, made by his grandfather, while Gary is holding his newly restored "Ranger" drum. (Photo courtesy of Joe Partridge)

tor) and I continue to volunteer with the Lakewood middle school band students of our district under the direction of Julie Tabaj (Garfield) and Brian Griebel (Harding).

Lakewood music programs are amazing. The tradition of fine music in Lakewood goes back many years in our community. Visionary instructors like Lovia Thomas and Martha Taylor, as well as Arthur Jewell, Evelyn Sabol, and T.R. Evans, insured that a groundwork for exemplary instrumental and choral instruction would be laid in our city

that would simply be the best. Others who followed, like Richard Strang, Fred Schaufle, B.Neil Davis, Ulah Gilmore, Ron Lucien, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Selby, Lorraine Compeau, Lenny Gutkowski, Robert Dugan, Glen Schnittke, my dad Robert Rice, and so many other fine music teachers all made sure that the stellar music programs of the Lakewood Schools would continue.

The present music instructional staff of the Lakewood schools maintains this fine tradition that contributes so much to the reason why we can continue to talk in positive terms regarding the pulse of this city. Whether on the football field or on the stage, the talented students of the Lakewood music programs have, time and again, been ambassadors for Lakewood both here and abroad.

Additionally, the alumni of these Lakewood music programs, like those of Lakewood's academic and athletic programs, continue to contribute their time and their talents, helping to insure that musical success continues to be a part of the Lakewood schools. Every year, as just one example, alumni of the Lakewood Ranger Marching Band reassemble out on the football field to play the Alma Mater yet again. As those stirring tones waft through-

out the stadium and over the bleachers to the wider community beyond, the tradition of Lakewood Ranger musical excellence continues.

This year, the alumni band members will be playing with the Ranger Marching Band during the Lakewood vs. Cuyahoga Falls game on Friday, October 15th. If you were a member of the Lakewood High School Ranger Marching Band, you are invited to return to the field to help celebrate the continuing musical legacy of excellence that is the Lakewood Schools. Dust off that old horn and oil it up. Your services are once again needed and appreciated!

Current LHS band director Brian Maskow invites you to assemble in the LHS choir room, next to the band room, by 5:30 p.m. that evening for the 7:00 p.m. starting time of the game. The uniform will be jeans or khaki pants and a Lakewood top. There will be an official LHS marching band alumni shirt available for a donation. A reception in the choir room will follow, post-game. Alumni band members will march up to the game with the rest of the LHS band and will be admitted to the game free of charge. Other friends and family members will need to purchase their own tickets and enter through the spectator gates. If you have any questions, or you plan to attend and perform, you'll want to notify Director Maskow at the LHS band office at 216-227-5980. People needing to borrow a Lakewood Schools band instrument should also check with the Director for availability.

As for me? I just rescued, and completely restored, a vintage Ludwig field drum to 1950's-'60's Lakewood High School specifications. Like my "famous" restored Ludwig bass drum, it too was found languishing in a music store, ready for the trash heap. My personal dilemma will be whether to use my new field drum or that classic bass drum on that evening. I suppose that decision may depend on how the old back will be feeling at the moment. One way or another, I hope to see many of you out there supporting our schools!

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Lakewood Real Estate

Real Estate Reality

by Eric Lowrey

In a market like this who loves their realtor?

I suppose the real question should be “In any market who loves their realtor?” We realtors are not a beloved bunch. Annually ranking near or on the bottom of polls showing trust and respect for professions, we duke it out with car sales people and stockbrokers as the most loathsome of all professionals. Sometimes I think slugs and mole rats get more love. And I don’t blame the public. They can’t be wrong all the time.

How can realtors gain a measure of respect and feel the love? Three words

rarely seen in public in this day and age for any profession, let alone realtors, Honesty, Respect, and Integrity, are the key to feeling the love.

Is your realtor honest with you? Do they present the information to you so you can make an informed decision? Are you aware of the source of this information? A realtor cannot know the answers to all questions but they should be able to point you to a source to find the answers. A realtor should also be honest enough to say, “I don’t know. Let me find out and I will get back to you”.

Does your realtor respect your time and commitment to the home buying

or selling process? Do they respond in a reasonable amount of time to voice mail or emails? Does your realtor respect you enough to be honest with you? Sometimes realtors have to bring information that is not what you want to hear but you may need to hear it.

Integrity is a quality that is lived. Is your realtor consistent? Do they treat everyone with the same demeanor and respect? Is their focus on you and your needs not just a quick sale?

With someone you can trust and respect what’s not to love?

Eric Lowrey is a licensed Realtor at Prudential Lucien Realty.

Lakewood First Time Home Buyer Program

by Maria Scalish

Dreams of owning a home? Tired of renting? The Lakewood HOME Program could be the answer you are looking for.

Qualified first time home buyers interested in purchasing a home in Lakewood can take advantage of a deferred payment zero percent interest no monthly payment second mortgage used to assist with both down payment and closing costs. The second mortgage can be used towards condominiums, single family properties and two family properties with forgiveness schedule.

You may be asking yourself what is a forgiveness schedule? Those that purchase a two family property are eligible for loan forgiveness. Fifty percent will be forgiven after the fifth year of owning and occupying the property, twenty percent each year thereafter until one hundred percent forgiven.

Do we have your attention yet? Wondering if you are eligible? The following is the criteria to meet. Homebuyer must either be a displaced homemaker, single parent, or person who has not owned a home in 3yrs, provide a minimum of 1.5% of the sale price from personal funds, use the property as their principal residence, meet credit standards of participating lending, and participate in pre-purchase counseling program provided by the lender. In addition, the monthly payment of principle, interest, taxes, and insurance should not exceed 33% of Homebuyers gross month income. Finally, homebuyer must meet federal income requirements for household.

For more information and to see if you meet income guidelines log onto onelakewood.com.

Maria M. Scalish is a Licensed Realtor at Prudential Lucien Realty

Housing Choices In Lakewood

by Sunny Updegrave

In these days of tough economic times, a two-family home may be an excellent housing option. Rental income assists the owner with a monthly mortgage payment and

residents can enjoy flexible living situations. Closer proximity to friends or family members who are able to live in the same house, one-floor living and preference for friends to co-mingle without cohabitating are a few reasons

people choose two-family homes.

Lakewood’s doubles come in every style, size and price range imaginable. Currently, the Multiple Listing Service reports 131 doubles (and triples) available for sale from \$39,900 (a fixer upper!) to \$250,000 (beautifully appointed and ready to move in). The charm and character of many architectural styles can be found, from the steadfast construction in Birdtown to the elegant edifices of Lake Avenue.

A first-time buyer or a couple meeting the income limits of Lakewood’s HOME Program, should race to apply for this \$14,000 bonanza. The City offers TOTAL FORGIVENESS of this \$14,000 if the property remains owner occupied for nine years. WOW!! That is FREE MONEY.

For mortgage qualification purposes, most lenders allow 75 percent of the rental income from the second (and third) suite to be applied to the buyer’s qualifying income. This extra income allows the buyer to qualify for a higher mortgage amount on a multi family house than on a single family house purchase.

There are many reasons, financial and personal, to consider multi-family ownership. Talk to a qualified professional and review all the options available when making your next housing decision. Lakewood has choices!

Remember --- Lakewood IS a great place to call home!

Sunny Updegrave is a licensed Realtor with Howard Hanna

LEAF’s Third Thursday Speaker Series: Home Efficiency

by Heather Ramsey

The growing season is nearing its end, and cold weather has started to creep in. Though we may not want to think about it, it’s time to consider sealing up our homes to keep out the cold. With this in mind, the Lakewood Earth & Food (LEAF) Community will be holding its last Third Thursday Speaker Series event for the year on October 21st at 6pm in the Lakewood Public Library Auditorium. Our guest this month will be Kerrington Adams, Senior Historic Preservation Specialist from the Cleveland Restoration Society. In accordance with its mission to use historic preservation to revitalize our communities,

strengthen the economy, and enhance the quality of life in northeastern Ohio, the Restoration Society will be discussing how to keep our older Lakewood homes as efficient as possible. Come learn how to keep your home in tip-top shape by spotting problems early and making it more energy efficient at a reasonable price.

Third Thursday Speaker Series events are free and open to the public.

For more information about LEAF or the Third Thursday Speaker Series, or to volunteer with LEAF, check out the website at leafcommunity.org, contact leafcommunity@gmail.com, or call (216) 367-2834.

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Real Estate

It's A Buyers' Market
For Real Estate Investors, Too

by Andreas Tabor

Turn on any financial news program and at some point you'll hear the experts extolling the virtues of diversification. Real estate, even through the market downturn, has long been considered a conservative, long-term strategy to growing wealth.

In fact, that very downturn has created a historic buying opportunity for potential homebuyers and investors alike. The combination of lower home prices across American and historically low mortgage rates, two essential factors that usually don't trend in the same direction, have triggered a buyer's market in many areas of the country. For real estate investors who want to rent their properties, this can make the difference in achieving positive cash flow sooner or right off the bat.

While some seasoned real estate investors make it look easy, to be successful, beginners should follow some basic principles.

* Learn all you can. Before committing your cash, you should have a fundamental understanding of real estate. For example, be aware that, in general, investment properties are not liquid investments. Barring exceptional circumstances, real estate does not sell at a moment's notice. It could take days or months to sell a property, depending on the strength of the market in a particular region.

* Consider cash flow. You'll need to have enough capital on hand to cover any short-term losses due to vacancies between tenants.

* Start small. Look into buying a condominium, single-family home or a duplex. Leave large apartment buildings and commercial properties to the pros.

* Inquire at the local Chamber of Commerce about companies relocating into or out of the area. Company movement is one indicator of demand for rental and/or office space.

* Find a property that will be in demand. Look for a moderately priced home with three or four bedrooms, two bathrooms, and a garage that sits on a quiet street.

* Research the property. The most common way first-time investors lose is by failing to investigate a property thoroughly. Look beyond the front door. Investigate the reputation of the school district, the crime rate, and plans for expanding a nearby highway or developing vacant land. Ask a local real estate professional about the area, its history, and how fast (or slow) properties are moving.

* Inspect the home you're considering for signs of water damage, such as stains on the ceiling and crinkling or gathering wallpaper; open and close every door and window; and check all electrical sockets by plugging in an appliance. Get an independent home inspection, roof inspection and termite inspection. Unexpected repair costs can eat away your cash flow. Because even the best inspection can't always predict problems, try to set aside some of the rental income for unexpected repairs.

* Spend time driving the streets of the neighborhood noting the condition of other properties. Are lawns maintained? Are roofs in good shape? Are homes kept up?

* Be ready to make fixes quickly and respond to the renter's needs. If you're not prepared to be a hands-on landlord, consider hiring a property management firm.

* See your tax advisor for related planning and laws that can affect your investment decisions.

Remember, investing in a property is much different than living in one, and while emotion and attachment can be prime motivators when it comes to homes, it is return on investment that counts when investing in real estate.

Andy Tabor is a Licensed Realtor at Prudential Lucien Realty

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