Opera At The Library, Nov. 21 • Light Up Lakewood, Dec. 4

LAKEWOOD CBSERVER

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Volume 6, Issue 23, November 16, 2010

Paula Reed Gets Key To City

Mike Summers To Be Lakewood's Mayor



One of Lakewood's finest citizens and volunteers Paula Reed accepts the key to the city from out going mayor Edward FitzGerald.

Mayor's Ball Supports The Arts And Honors Lifelong Volunteer Gingerbread House Tour by Paula Reed that exemplifies Most Creative 14701 Detro

The Downtown Lakewood

Business Alliance wants to

spark the imagination and

creativity of the community!

That's why we are challenging

residents to build a ginger-

bread structure (house or any

other building you would like

to construct) and enter it in

our Gingerbread House Tour.

will be placed in the stores and/

or windows of participating

Downtown merchants where holiday shoppers will be able to

admire them and vote for their favorite in each of three catego-

ries. The gingerbread houses

will go on display December

4th for Light Up Lakewood

and remain in place through

December 23rd. Voting for

the "Fan Favorite" in each cat-

egory will run from December

4th through December 19th;

Downtown Lakewood Business

Alliance's panel of judges will

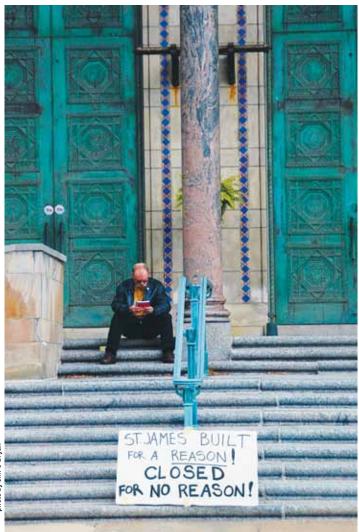
The structures submitted

by Margaret Brinich established to

On Saturday, November 13th, the Fourth Annual Mayor's Ball brought the City out for an evening of who's who in Lakewood and dressed to the nines. The event was originally

established to help support Beck Center for the Arts and the proceeds continue to support this pillar of Lakewood's arts community today.

For their generous supcontinued on page 15



John Dwyer sits on the top step of St. James Church in a cold lonely protest over the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland's, decision to close St. James Parish and inflict so much hardship on this community.

that exemplifies Most Creative Use of Materials and Best Use of a Theme. They will also choose as the grand prize winner an overall Best of Show. Prizes will be awarded on December 21.

Need help getting started? Want a fun family activity? Sign up for one of Chef Rob McGorray's Gingerbread House Workshop, November 20, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. at Lakewood High's Ranger Cafe through the Lakewood Rec Department. Online registration is available at lakewoodrecreation.com. There are also links to recipes and ideas at downtownlakewood.org.

Ballots and entry forms are available online at down-townlakewood.org, at each of the tour stops (participating merchants listed below), and at Main and Madison libraries.

Details: Maximum size of base: 2' x 3', Submissions due by: December 1, 2010, at: LakewoodAlive Office, Lower Level of the INA Building, under Panera,

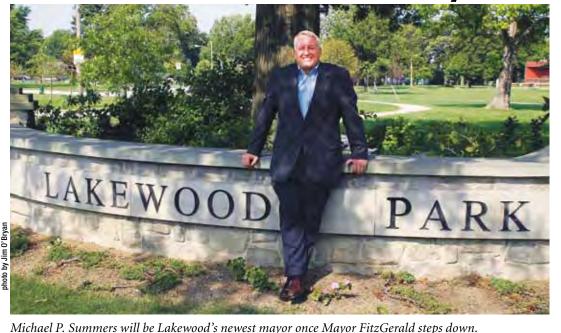
14701 Detroit, Suite LL10

Materials: Sturdy base to allow for transporting safely, Gingerbread structure, Decorations—Use your imagination, but all must be edible

Categories: Business/ Organization Entry, Family Entry, Individual Entry

The following merchants are open till 8:00 on Thursdays, and will be hosting the gingerbread creations submitted by Lakewood residents. Ballots will be available at each location: Boost Mobile, lion and blue, Burger King, Paisley Monkey, Cerny Shoes, Plantation Home, Discount Drug Mart, Robeks, Dramatics Salon, Root Cafe, Empty Nest Resale, Rozi's, Geiger's, Tease Salon, GreenSmartGifts, Tess' Tender Touch, It's A Party, Verizon, Landfall Travel

Designate some time on Thanksgiving weekend for a fun family project—build a gingerbread house to enter in the Gingerbread House Tour!



vilchuei F. Summers wiii de Lukewood's newesi mayor once Mayor FilzGeraid sieps down



A 21-Gun Salute for our veterans on Veteran's Day, November 11 at Lakewood Park.

Calendar Page

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

Wednesday, November 17

Roosevelt School Spirit Night

5:30 - 7:30 PM, 20801 Center Ridge Rd., Rocky River

Come support one of Lakewood's school to promote school spirit by having a fun filled dinner with your family and friends. Proceeds benefit Roosevelt PTA programs.

Bicycle Network Plan Community Workshop #2

6:30 - 8:00 PM, Woman's Club Pavilion, Lakewood Park

The goal of bike planning effort is to improve the bicycling environment in Lakewood by gathering resident input and ideas and incorporating them into a comprehensive plan that addresses five focus areas. The 5 E's, Engineering, Education, Enforcement, Encouragement and Evaluation, will shape a plan that not only recommends physical improvements but also help improve city policies, identify possible funding opportunities and increase overall public awareness of the rules and responsibilities for both motorists and bicyclists. For more information contact Planning and Development at 216.529.6630 or planning@lakewoodoh.net.

First Time Home Buying Seminar

7:00 - 9:00 PM, Harding Middle School, RM 104, 16601 Madison Ave. This seminar can help take the frustration & confussion out of buying your first home. By educating yourself about the home buying process, you will know what to expect and you will be able to make informed decisions. 1 Night. \$10 Resident/Non-Resident. Registration is required. 529-4081 or www.lakewoodrecreation.com.

Friday, November 19 **LCAC Thanksgiving Food Drive**

10 am - 2 pm: Sorting canned goods (inside) 6 pm - 7 pm: Bagging canned goods. Lakewood Masonic Temple (corner of Andrews & Detroit Aves.)

Do you have an hour to spare next weekend to help out our Lakewood neighbors in need? The Lakewood Charitable Assistance Corporation is once again gearing up to distribute 300 bags of food to families and seniors that need our help this holiday season, and we need YOUR help to accomplish this important task! We can use your help during any and all of these times - no need to pre-register; just show up and help out for as long as you are able to join us! Kids are welcome to attend with adults - this is a great opportunity for community service hours or a service project for a Scout troop or other organization. It's also a terrific way to share the holiday and community spirit with your own family! www.lcac.info/

"Jazz You Like It"

7:00 - 10:30 PM, Waterbury Coach House, 13333 Madison Ave. Doris Long - Joe Hunter - Dallas Coffey With Guests Al Fuller Sax & Toby Packard Drums. Playing Traditional Jazz In A Cozy Neighborhood Restaurant & Lounge

Saturday, November 20

LCAC Thanksgiving Food Drive-Distribution

8:30 am - 11:00 am: Bagging perishable goods & making deliveries (outside - dress for the weather!) Lakewood Masonic Temple. See description above.

Gingerbread Workshop with Chef Rob McGorray

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM, Ranger Cafe, Lakewood High School, 14100 Franklin Blvd. Enjoy a day of fun and creativity in the culinary department at the West Shore Career Tech, located in Lakewood High School. The new full service restaurant, classroom and commercial kitchen will get turned into a gingerbread factory! Chefs will demonstrate mixing, icing, piping and and basic gingerbread house assembley. Culinary students will be on hand to assist with all activities, packing, and cleanup. Registration is required. Call (216) 529-4081 or visit www.lakewoodrecreation.com

HIV/AIDS Town hall Meeting: 'Activism beyond Email'

10:30 AM - 2:30 PM, Liberation United Church of Christ, 13714 Madison Ave. See Page 19 for full story and details.

West Side Skates 15 Year Anniversary

11:00 AM - 9:00 PM, West Side Skates, 14047 Madison Ave.

In-store promotions and events include: 10% all regular priced merchandise, giveaways, food and drink, skate videos playing in the theater, 15 year retrospect photos in the art gallery. www.westsideskates.net.

Sacred Hour Massage Open House and Holiday Marketplace!

5:30 - 8:00 PM, 15217 Madison Ave. (located on the corner of Mars Avenue) Proceeds go to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. Looking for a local event to shop and sip some fabulous wine... and still help raise money? Owner of



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

West End Tavern presents: Sunday Brunch"

A 20-Year Lakewood Tradition

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

Sacred Hour, Tabitha Baker, in conjuction with Owner of Bela Dubby, Jill Crino, are hosting a Pink Event at Sacred Hour! Featuring local artists, where you may shop their goods. We will also feature a raffle.WIne and appetizers will be served. Sacred Hour will have massage by the Minute \$1 per minute and you will be able to sample their skincare products. Come out for this event and bring a friend! www.sacredhour.com.

Benefit For Edward D. Smith

6:00 - 10:00 PM, Around The Corner Saloon - Warehouse Room, 18616 Detroit Ave. Edward D. Smith unexpectedly passed away at the age or 43 leaving behind his family, including 3 young children. A benefit will be held with all proceeds going to the family towards funeral costs. Live entertainment will be provided, as well as raffle drawings. Children are welcome. There will be a \$2 cover charge. Tips from purchase of food/ beverages purchased in Warehouse room during this event will also be donated.

Sunday, November 21

Goddess Temple Spaghetti Dinner

4:00 - 7:00 PM, Masonic Temple 15300 Detroit Ave. Adults \$10.00., Children \$5.00. Children under four free. Chinese Raffle to be held at Dinner and all proceeds benefit the Goddess Temple. The Goddess Temple is a not for

profit Temple. Please call 216-221-8755 for more info. www.goddessblessedinc.com. **Lakewood Catholic Acadamy Open House**

12:30 - 3PM, 14808 Lake Ave. See story on Page 11.

Monday, November 22

Harrison Elementary School PTA Holiday Craft Show

10:00 AM - 3:00 PM, Harrison Elemetary School Gymnasium, 2080 Quail Street A collaborative of local vendors will be displaying and selling crafts. You will find a variety of handmade apparel and goods for all ages. Admission is FREE and we are encouraging you to support your local neighborhood community and school and PTA.

Blue Star Mothers Ohio Buckeyes Chapter 26 Meeting

6:00 - 8:00 PM, 3791 West 150th Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44111 (VFW Hall) Mothers of sons and daughters in the military meet to support our military families and do special projects to show our support for the soldiers. This month we are packing boxes for the soldiers on 11/8/10. www.bluestarmothers.org

Tuesday, November 23

Virginia Marti College of Art and Design's Annual Holiday Window Unveiling

7:30 PM Sharp, Virginia Marti College of Art and Design, Detroit & W 117th. Fun for the whole family, please join us for our annual unveiling of our Holiday Window. We will have storytelling for the kids by Lakewood Library, hot cocoa and cookies, and other fun events as we celebrate the beginning of the holiday season in Lakewood! The event is free to the public and fun for all ages. The more the merrier!!!! We want this to be an annual holiday tradition for families in our community! www.vmcad.edu/

More local events & listings at www.lakewoodobserver.com



Your Independent Source for Lakewood News & Opinion

Published biweekly with a current circulation of 10,000+ copies. The paper is made available free of charge and can be found at over 130 business locations within the City of Lakewood and on our website. The views and opinions expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the publisher and staff.. Copyright 2010 • The Lakewood Observer, Inc. All rights reserved. Any reproduction is forbidden without written permission.

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Become an Observer!

As a product of citizen journalism, The Lakewood Observer is looking for people, ages 3-100, to get involved in the paper and the city. We are looking for volunteer writers, photographers, designers, and illustraters to help with the production of the paper. It does not matter if you are a professional or amateur, our editorial staff will be glad to help you through the process.

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

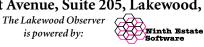
Upcoming Submission Deadline

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Publish Date

Tuesday, November 30 Tuesday, Devember 14

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When To Go To The Emergency Room:

Symptoms You Should Not Ignore

by Anne Kuenzel

You feel a stab of pain in your chest, abdomen, or head that makes you wonder what just happened. Is it a sign that something is wrong? 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.

The specially trained staff at the Lakewood Hospital Emergency Room recommends that you error on the side of caution, especially if the person is elderly or a child. Oftentimes, when an older person becomes ill or falls, they can quickly take a turn for the worst. A child's condition can also become

more life threatening in a shorter amount of time than an adult.

We hope that you never have to visit Lakewood Hospital's ER, but if you do, we want you to know that we're here for you, 24/7.

Our ER treats more than 34,000 patients each year and 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.

So, what symptoms should you not ignore? Here are some top symptoms you should not ignore:



Adults:

- * Chest Pain and/or Shortness of Breath
- * Unexplained Weakness/Numbness
- * Uncontrolled bleeding
- * Headache: migraine, classic or other
- * Coughing/Vomiting Blood
- * Abdominal pain
- * Persistent Fever
- * Extreme case of Vomiting/Diarrhea
- * Seizure
- * Severe pain due to injury

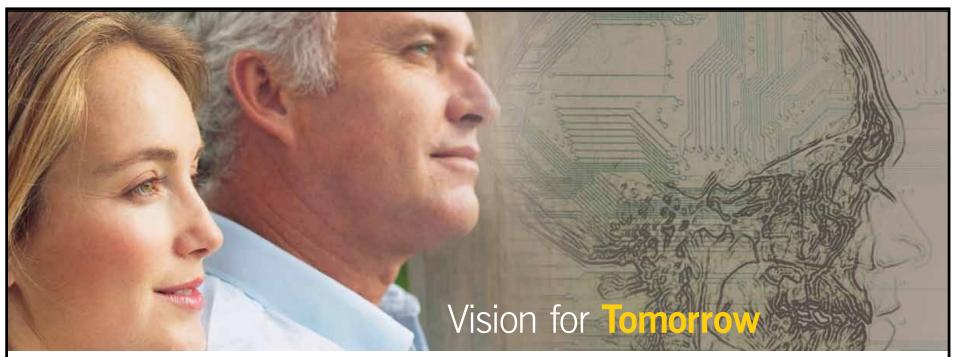
Children:

- * Severe convulsions
- * Coughing or vomiting blood
- * Severe neck stiffness or pain
- * Unusual fussiness
- * Extreme sleepiness, difficulty waking up, or lack of alertness
- * Fever of 105 degrees (40.6°C) or higher 30–60 minutes after giving fever-reducing medicine
- * Any signs of urinary tract infection, ie: frequent and/or pain or burning with urination
- * Signs of severe dehydration: sunken soft spot, no tears, dry diaper, weak
- * Asthma / Respiratory Distress
- * Difficulty breathing

Lakewood Hospital's ER is proud to serve you and your family in any emergency.

For more information or to order a free medication tracking magnet, visit www.lakewoodhospital.org/ER .

You can also download a handout that can help you determine when you or your loved one should go to the ER and what to expect when you arrive.



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Lakewood Hospital offers West Side communities top medical expertise, including a renowned center for neurological care. The Cleveland Clinic Neurological Institute at Lakewood Hospital offers revolutionary advancements to treat highly complex conditions like stroke, epilepsy and multiple sclerosis. With the addition of recognized

physician Dr. Ansevin, our neurological care is stronger than ever.

As part of our Vision for Tomorrow, neurology is just one of many specialties in which Lakewood Hospital is investing heavily to provide a level of expertise and technology like never before.

To make an appointment or referral, please call 216.529.7110. lakewoodhospital.org

Lakewood Hospital
a Cleveland Clinic hospital



C. Daniel Ansevin, M.D.
Specialties: General Neurology, Epilepsy,
Stroke and Vascular Neurology

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

Lakewood City Council

Issues With The Rockport Eyesore

On November 1 the Lakewood City Council met in the City Hall Auditorium with a relatively small crowd on the eve of the 2010 general election. Among the participants were two who would be elected to higher office the following day, Lakewood's Mayor, Ed FitzGerald and Councilwoman Nickie Antonio (At-Large). At 7:32 Council President Kevin Butler called the meeting to order.

Councilman Butler (Ward I) began the meeting by reading a report from the Committee of the Whole (COW) regarding recommendations from the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC). Two meetings previous, the CAC presented Council with a report of its recommendations on how the City should spend funds it is receiving through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Upon reviewing the recommendations, deliberating and discussing them, the COW agreed with them and recommended adoption of an ordinance that would allow the administration to submit a one year action plan to HUD telling them how the City would spend the funds.

After Councilman Butler finished his report on the COW's meeting regarding the CAC's recommendations, Council voted on the ordinance. As the COW is comprised of all members of Council, it is no surprise that



P: 216/521-2100

F: 216/521-3258

Timothy P. Laskey

by Christopher Bindel

Council passed the ordinance.

Next Councilman Mike Summers (Ward III) delivered a report from the Finance Committee regarding changes being considered for Lakewood's tax codes. He stated that the changes being considered are necessary to bring Lakewood's tax codes into compliance with those of the state and the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). There are two other changes being considered that are not part of these compliance changes. The first would allow businesses to off-set some of their losses under certain circumstances. The second has to do with penalties for unpaid taxes, changing the minimum to \$25 dollars or 1% of tax owed. After reviewing the changes and considering the ordinance, the Finance Committee recommended adoption. With Summers' report, Council then voted on the ordinance changes and passed them.

Director of Public Works, Joseph Beno, then gave his six month report to Council regarding the pilot program for walking dogs in Lakewood's parks. Although the Committee to Allow Leashed Dogs in Lakewood's Parks gave their six month report at the previous meeting, and Director Beno added some to that report, Councilman Brian Powers (At-Large) pointed out that the report was to be delivered by the Director of Public Works. Therefore, Director Beno wrote up his report to deliver to Council at this meeting. He stated that it covered mostly the same points that the report at the previous meeting did. With that Council received his report.

Police Chief Malley than asked Council to consider renewing the current lease for the Ward I neighborhood Police office. He said that the current location is a nice visible location in the center of the Ward that fits their needs and asked that they renew the lease for the suggested two year term. Councilman Tom Bullock asked Chief Malley if the Ward I station is the only one for which the City pays. The Chief responded saying that Ward II is actually the only neighborhood office for which there is not a rental fee. Council accepted the Chief's recommendation and submitted it to the Public Safety Committee for consideration.

The last item on the agenda was also presented by Chief Malley. However, he was reporting for Captain Ed Hassing, who was asking Council to accept two safety and education grants from University Hospital and the OVI Taskforce. The grants are aimed to help with enforcement as well as to educate people on the most common causes of injuries and fatalities in vehicle accidents. The grants were made available by funds given to the University Hospitals of Cleveland from the Ohio Department of Public Safety. The first of the grants is in the amount of \$5,347.83 from the OVI Task Force to help with enforcement of OVI laws. The second grant is \$2,528.05 and is to help with seatbelt education. Councilman Butler asked Chief Malley how he thought the OVI funds would be used and the Chief said they would mostly be used for overtime of officers involved in enforcement blitzes. When asked he explained that enforcement blitzes are times when more officers are expected to be needed, like on prom night, the night before Thanksgiving and New Year's Eve.

Seeing no reason to delay the acceptance of these funds by requiring the full three readings on the resolution, Council suspended the rules and passed it on its first reading.

At the end of the agenda a few members of the public spoke during the public comment portion asking that Council and the administration help them with the issues of the Rockport development. Rockport, and its parent company Forest City Enterprises, have slowed their development of the east end of Lakewood due to the poor economy. However, with their lack of development they have also not kept up with the maintenance of their vacant lots, letting them look overgrown and unclean. Members of the neighborhood, predominantly on Beach Avenue, have been fighting with the company and working with the City for quite some time to try and get the company to clean up the area. The neighbors on Beach came in part to ask that the City to perhaps set up another meeting between the neighborhood and Rockport. They hope a second meeting might be more successful than the last one where they felt like the representative of Rockport was very condescending. Councilwoman Mary Louise Madigan (Ward IV) agreed, saying that the previous meeting with

the people of Rockport was almost insulting.

Mayor FitzGerald thanked the neighbors of Beach for their patience and apologized that more has not been accomplished, adding that he himself is losing his patience with Rockport. He continued, saying that his administration has been constantly fighting with the company and have cited them on numerous occasions. He wanted to make sure that they understood that they have not been forgotten and that the City is doing everything they can, within the law, to get Rockport to handle the situation. He also said that if necessary, Lakewood would take the company back to housing court over the issues.

With the completion of the public comment portion of the meeting and with few comments from the administration the meeting was ready to be adjourned only 35 minutes after it began. Council President Butler then adjourned the meeting in record time

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 December 6, 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.

Healthcare For All Ohioans

continued from page 5

Network Ohio (SPAN Ohio) to pass the Health Care For All Ohioans Act (HCFAOA) include health care professionals, unions, faith-based organizations, businesses, and government bodies throughout the state. Local support comes from Ohio Senator Michael Skindell, Ohio State Reps. Nickie Antonio and Michael Foley, Cleveland City Council and Lakewood City Council.

April Stoltz retired early from the U.S. Post Office and has good health insurance coverage, but works for health care for all, as a "civilized and responsible" access solution. She volunteers for Single-Payer Action Network Ohio (SPAN Ohio). www.spanohio.org

Charles Shaughnessy is a longtime resident of Lakewood, Ohio and currently serves as Treasurer of the Lakewood Democratic Club. www. lakewooddemocrats.com



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Lakewood Health News

Healthcare For All Ohioans Would Promote Economic Prosperity

by Charles Shaughnessy

Charles Shaughnessy interviewed April Stoltz on the Health Care For All Ohioans Act (HCFAOA)

Q. April, your picture was on the front page of the Huffington Post last week. What were you protesting so soon after the mid-term elections? Your sign read "Healthcare ..." but it was cut off in the picture.

A. Actually, that was an AP image from a "Medicare for All" protest that occurred in Cleveland in October of 2009. The sign said "Healthcare is a Human Right". The picture is old, but the debate continues. There are nineteen states with single payer healthcare initiatives at various stages. The non-profit organization SPAN Ohio is working to promote a Medicare-for-All style plan known as the Health Care for All Ohioans Act (HCFAOA). SPAN stands for Single-Payer Action Network.

Q. Most people have health insurance and they're generally satisfied with it. Why rock the boat?

A. Premiums will continue to rise. More and more Ohioans will be priced out of the health care market. It's not only a health care crisis, but a major contributor to the economic crisis. Lack of health insurance leads to lack of health care and a less-healthy working population. Ohio needs jobs. If Ohio had a comprehensive health care plan covering all citizens and the costs

were known, prospective employers would be encouraged to start up new businesses or move businesses into Ohio. It's in our economic self-interest.

Q. Is it possible to extend health care to everyone without raising the collective cost?

A. Absolutely. The premiums being paid today by individuals, employers, and taxpayers, and the co-pays being paid for medical service could pay for comparable coverage for all. The savings would come from a number of efficiencies. Administrative costs would decline significantly if there were one Medicaretype system in place of a number of private insurance carriers. There would be no need for multi-million dollar executive salaries. No shareholder dividends to pay out quarterly. No marketing budget. Equipment costs for million-dollar imaging machines would be reduced. Today there are too many MRI machines in some areas, sitting idle, while other parts of the state have a shortage. Emergency departments would no longer be a substitute for a doctor's office. Ohio's population of about 13 million would mean prescription prices could be negotiated downward significantly. As a local example, health insurance savings for the Lakewood School System would exceed \$7 million annually with the passage of the Health Care for All Ohioans Act. Elimination of waste is not possible with the Federal plan, as insurance companies are left to their own devices with no caps on premiums.

Access to medical care for all, including preventive care programs, would lead to a healthier, more productive population. Aside from a better quality of life for all, employees could choose a job or profession based on true interest rather than availability of employer-provided health care coverage. It's been shown for many years that European and Asian countries have enjoyed a higher level of medical care for less cost than in the United States. SPAN Ohio is showing the PBS special "Sick Around the World " Thursday November 18th at 7:00 p.m. at the Shaker Heights Community Bldg. at 3450 Lee Rd. It's free and parking is free.

Q. What about all the workers engaged in claims processing at doctor's offices and insurance companies who would lose their jobs?

A. Fewer workers would be needed to process claims in a Medicare-type single-payer system, but extending coverage would increase the number of workers needed to run the state plan. Those who wouldn't be needed would be protected by a provision of Ohio's proposed plan. They would be paid their previous income, up to \$60,000 annually, for up to two years, while training for new jobs or until they took other jobs.

Q. It seems that many people get upset over discussions of health care issues. Can you explain that?

A. I don't know what others are

thinking, but poling show 85% of the population is in favor of no pre-existing condition restrictions and in favor of extending coverage for children and young adults up to age 26. The biggest complaint about the Federal plan is that many provisions don't take effect until 2014 and that it still leaves the insurance companies in the drivers seat raising costs and cutting coverage.

Q. You have said health care access has become especially important due to the current economic crisis. Please explain.

A. Ohioans know we must have attractive conditions to bring in new job opportunities and that includes having a healthier work force and known health care costs for employers. Ohio is a leader in agricultural production, manufacturing, exports to other countries, and the development and manufacture of climate-friendly sources of energy, yet we're suffering in a few measures, notably high unemployment. Fiscal responsibility is not a partisan issue. The Healthcare for All Ohioans Act (HCFAOA) could make an impact on our state budget and would promote economic prosperity by creating an entrepreneur-friendly environment.

Q. What local entities support this effort?

A. Endorsers of the campaign sponsored by the Single-Payer Action

continued on page 4





Do you know when to go to the ER?

Learn what to look for at lakewoodhospital.org/ER



The Emergency Room at Lakewood Hospital

In an emergency situation, every second counts. Each year, nearly 34,000 people from Cleveland's West Side visit the Emergency Room at Lakewood Hospital, receiving the expert care and treatment they've depended on since 1907.

- Highly regarded emergency care to treat patients of all ages with minor to critical injuries and illnesses, including broken bones, strokes and heart attacks.
- Home to state-of-the-art technology and a team of experts who specialize in neurology, diabetes care, orthopaedic surgery and senior care.
- Board-certified ER physicians and registered nurses specialize in emergency medicine with the latest training and knowledge to respond to any emergency situation.
- Our staff is dedicated to making you comfortable and providing superior care because your life is our life's work.

As part of our Vision for Tomorrow, emergency care is just one of the many specialties in which Lakewood Hospital is investing heavily to provide a level of expertise and technology like never before.

Lakewood Observer

6th Annual West End Halloween Window Walk Winners



Kindergarten - 2nd Grade, Nola Williams-Riseng (Grant Elementary) prize sponsored by Security Hut



3rd - 5th Grade, Logan Ann Snyder (Hayes Elementary), prize sponsored by Hungry Howie's



6th- 8th Grade, Hannah Posedel (Harding Middle School), prize sponsored by Lakewood Furnace

by Valerie Mechenbier

This October marked the 6th year the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce and the Beck Center for the Arts have hosted the West End Halloween Window Walk. A reception was held on Saturday, October 30th to announce the winners in our 6

prize categories.

This event is a great way for the Chamber and the Beck to reach out to the children in the community and helps to promote business in the West End. The event has grow from 64 painters in 2005, to over 200 painters in 2010! Congratulations to all our winners!



9th -12th Grade, Samantha Cross (Lakewood High School), prize sponsored by McCarthy's Ale House



sponsored by Donatos Pizza



Easier Access to Leading Pain Management

Cleveland Clinic Pain Management Now at Fairview Hospital

Treating over 10,000 patients a year, Cleveland Clinic's Pain Management Centers offer some of the nation's most integrated pain management programs, including psychiatry, physical therapy, medication management, surgical intervention and more.

Patients have access to the latest innovative treatments and leading specialists including our newest pain management practitioners who see patients at several West Side locations, including Fairview Hospital.



Emad Daoud, M.D., Ph.D. Back and neck pain, CRPS cancer pain, interventional pain management



George Girgis, D.O. Back pain, neuropathic pain, osteoporosis



Fady Nageeb, M.D. Abdominal pain, back and neck pain, CRPS



Hong Shen, M.D. Acupuncture, muscular skeletal rehab, electrodiagnostic studies, pain management

Same-day appointments available.

Fairview Hospital 18099 Lorain Avenue, Suite 404 216.476.7331

Westlake Pain Management Center 850 Columbia Road, Suite 120 440.835.8233

Other West Side locations include:

Lakewood Hospital 14519 Detroit Avenue 216.529.7246

Lutheran Hospital 1730 W. 25th Street, Suite 4A 216.363.2391



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--Marian Siddall, Resident

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Lakewood Public Library Events

All Events and Programs Are Free And Open To The Public

Wednesday, November 17

MEET THE AUTHOR: JOHN TIDYMAN

Gimme Rewrite, Sweetheart: Tales from the Last Glory Days of Cleveland Newspapers

Back in the days when The Cleveland Press and The Plain Dealer fought tooth and nail for newspaper supremacy, good stories didn't just walk into the newsroom by themselves. Reporters took risks and broke rules, wearing out shoe leather and jamming dimes into payphones. John H. Tidyman, a former Press man himself, recounts outrageous stories of journalists joining the KKK, committing themselves to mental institutions, bribing sources not to talk to the competition and checking their facts at the library—all in the name of a good story. Books will be available for sale and signing at the event.

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

Saturday, November 20

FIVE STAR FILMS: Radio Days (1987)

Directed by Woody Allen Rated PG

The lives of a working-class, Rockaway Beach family serve as the backdrop for Woody Allen's love letter to the Golden Age of Radio. Episodes of everyday life are skillfully interwoven with scenes from popular radio programs, behind the microphone and offstage. Dianne Wiest, Mia Farrow, Julie Kavener and a very young Seth Green star in a film that turns nostalgia for a medium into a meditation on the nature of memories.

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

Sunday, November 21

SUNDAY WITH THE FRIENDS: Opera for Everyone!

Classically-trained soprano Kathleen M. Bosl will perform works from Verdi, Strauss, Offenbach and others to demonstrate that

opera, a stage play set to music, can be fun!

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

Sunday, November 28

SUNDAY WITH THE FRIENDS: Grass: A Nation's Battle for Life (1925)

Directed by Merian C. Cooper, Ernest B. Schoedsack and Marguerite Harrison Not Rated

Join the Bakhtiari in their twice-annual barefoot trek across what is now Iran, through icy waters and over steep mountains in a struggle for survival, unchanged by centuries. The friendships forged by the filmmakers on this adventure inspired their later project, King Kong! This legendary silent documentary, presented here with an Iranian score, has been selected by the Library of Congress for inclusion in the National Film Registry.

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

BOOK GROUPS: Tuesday, November 16 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 is Playing With The Enemy by Gary W. Moore

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

Thursday, November 18

BUSINESS BOOK TALK with Tim Zaun and Friends

Crush It! Why Now Is The Time To Cash In On Your Passion by Gary Vaynerchuk In this book, Wine Library TV host, Gary Vaynerchuk, discusses the importance of developing your personal brand.

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

UPCOMING BOOK SALES: Thursday, December 2

FRIENDS HOLIDAY SALE PREVIEW
Join the Friends and receive entrance to their special,
members-only preview sales.
6:00 p.m. -9:00 p.m.
Friends Book Sale Area on lower level

Saturday, December 4

FRIENDS HOLIDAY BOOK SALE \$3.00 BARGAIN BOOK BAG AND HALF PRICE SALE 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Friends Book Sale Area on lower level

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 NOVEMBER CLASSES:

Tuesday, November 16: SPREADSHEET BASICS @ 7:00 p.m. Saturday, November 20: WEB SEARCHING BASICS @3:00 p.m. Saturday, November 27: E-MAIL BASICS @3:00 p.m.

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

IT'S PUZZLING!

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

Tuesday, September 7 – Friday, May 27

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

STROKES OF GENIUS: For students in second through fourth gradeHear stories and participate in art activities showcasing renowned artists and their works from various eras. To register, please stop in or call (216) 226-8275, ext. 140.

Tuesdays, November 2 – December 14 at 4:00 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room

WRITE TIME: For students in sixth to twelfth gradeThis is a weekly drop-in writing circle. Bring something you're working on, or just come ready to write—be it short stories or a chapter of your new book. This may be the most inspiring hour of your week. No need to register.

Fall Season: September 16 – December 2 ("Open Mike" final on December 9) Thursdays at 4:00 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room

NAMELESS BOOK CLUB: For students in third, fourth, and fifth grades

Meet monthly after school for lively discussions of novels and fun activities. We provide the books and participants provide the name of the club. All students are required to bring a Library card so they can check out the fun. To register, please stop in or call (216) 226-8275, ext. 140.

Wednesdays at 4:00 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose RoomThird grade: December 8, Fourth Grade: December 1, Fifth grade: November 17,

EVENING PROGRAMS:

CRAFTY U: For youth in sixth through twelfth grade

Drop in for our monthly arts-and-crafts time based on elements of your favorite books and those that might be new to you. These are not your usual scissors-and-paste crafts. Have a literary experience while you get your hands dirty! No need to Register. Mark the 1st Tuesday of the month on your calendar now.

Tuesday, December 7: Beading Bonanza

7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. in the Main Library Activity Room

SURVIVAL (**LIBRARY EDITION**): For youth in fifth through eighth grade What would you do if your boat drifted off course and left you shipwrecked on a deserted island? How would you survive if you were separated from your team members on a mountain-climbing expedition? This role-playing adventure is all about facing challenges, both mental and physical, that relate to extreme survival.

about facing challenges, both mental and physical, that relate to extreme survival. To register and receive a list of recommended reading, please stop in or call (216) 226-8275, ext. 140.

Wednesdays, October 6 – November 17

WEEKEND PROGRAMS: FAMILY WEEKEND WONDERS

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

Main Library: Friday: 10:30 a.m., 2:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m.

7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Main Library Multipurpose Room

Lakewood Public Library

A Close-Knit Group Of Book Lovers Creates A Masterpiece

by Martha Wood

The Knit & Lit Book Club is giving back to Lakewood Public Library this year during "Light Up Lakewood" with one amazing raffle item. "Recognizing that state funds had been drastically cut, we felt we needed to attempt to make something pretty spectacular to be used as a fundraising project," Knit & Lit moderator Lynda Tuennerman said.

That's how group member Joanne Heinert came up with the idea of making an afghan as a way to thank the library for all the support they've received. Each group member knit or crocheted a 12" X 12" square which they then pieced together to create the afghan. They recently donated the finished piece to Lakewood Public Library with the idea of it being raffled off.

The afghan squares were made with Vanna's Choice Yarn, which is created so no matter what colors are chosen, they complement each other. Tuennerman explained that group member Nancy Zarzour, aka the "Queen of Crochet," not only crocheted around each square but she put them all together and crocheted the border too. The afghan will be raffled off during the "Light Up Lakewood" festivities at Lakewood Public Library on Saturday, December 4. Tickets are \$5 each or 5 for \$20. Proceeds of the raffle will go to the Friends of Lakewood Public Library.

Knit & Lit is anything but your



run of the mill book group. "It's a book club (please don't think 'Oprah') for fiber artisans," declared Tuennerman. "We're all avid readers (NO ROMANCE NOVELS ALLOWED!) who love to expand their horizons with literary works from every genre." Past authors the group has read include Theodore Dreiser, Willa Cather, Nathan Philbrick, Gabriel Garcia Marquez, Louise Erdrich and Leon Uris. Lynda has also arranged special author visits for the group including Mary Doria Russell, Paul McLain, Michael Hogan and Les Roberts. Tuennerman said Knit & Lit enjoys not just the product of their reading selections but the process as well. Participants engage in a lot of discussion about writing methods and influences. Every member is either a current or retired professional

who gets much joy and a continuing education through reading. In addition, everyone in the group is a talented artist in some sort of fiber medium.

"During discussions you will often hear the measured tempo of knitting needles tapping out the cadence of our thoughts," she said. The idea for 'Knit & Lit' came when Tuennerman started to miss the time she'd spent with her knitting group when she lived in Cheyenne, WY. She belonged to a group of moms who met once a month to knit while their children were in school. The women soon discovered they were not only knitters, but readers as well. They began spending the month between meetings reading books for discussion. "When I moved to Cleveland, I tried in vain to get the program off the ground on my own but was never able, in the

pre-Craig's List world, to find more than a very few like-minded souls," she said.

Tuennerman was checking out her bi-weekly supply of knitting books and literature from Lakewood Public Library when she struck up a conversation with a librarian who asked her if she knew how to knit. Tuennerman shared the story of the Cheyenne knitting group and the librarian suggested presenting the premise to the library to see if they would be interested in hosting such a group. She adds, "They were and it was then that I coined the title 'Knit & Lit,' and I guess you could say the rest is history!"

The group votes on their reading selections for each session of Knit & Lit. They meet the third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Meeting Room at Lakewood Public Library's Main Branch. Their reading choice for the December 21st meeting is The Book Thief by Mark Zusak. Knit & Lit members have become close friends and often plan social events outside of the library such as picnics, movie nights and an annual holiday party.

The library would like to extend its heartfelt thanks to all those who knitted or crocheted the gorgeous squares of the afghan. We appreciate the hard work and craftsmanship that went into creating this work of art. Be sure to join us for "Light Up Lakewood" on Saturday, December 4 for a chance to win Knit & Lit's masterwork.

Opera For Everyone

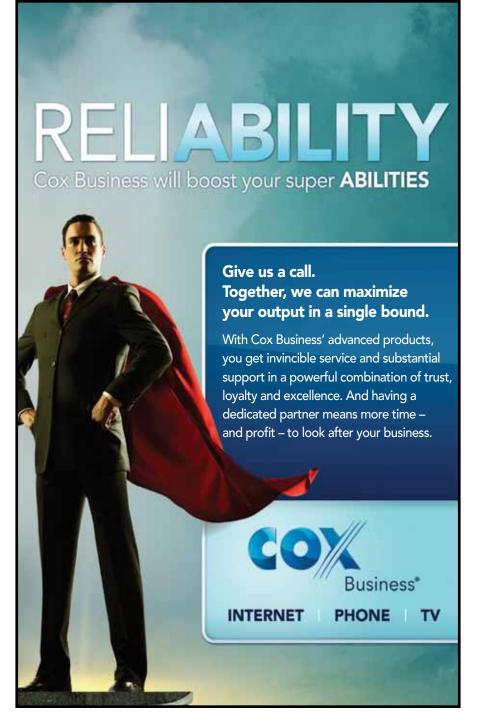
by Andrea Fisher

How much do you love Opera? Classically-trained soprano Kathleen Bosl is setting out to convert casual fans into fanatics at Lakewood Public Library's Sunday with the Friends program Opera for Everyone. On Sunday November 21 at 2:00 p.m., the Main Library's Multipurpose Room will transform into an Opera House as Bosl performs selections from Offenbach, Strauss and Verdi.

Opera is perhaps one of the most complex dramatic art forms, combining singing, acting, orchestral music as well as elaborate costumes and scenery. More so than a spoken play, opera is filled with passion, with the power of song conveying feelings of victory, defeat, love, anger and sadness.

Opera aficionado Kathleen Bosl has performed at the Cleveland Playhouse, the Beck Center and Lorain County Community College. She earned a bachelor's degree in music at Baldwin Wallace College and has performed in Milan, Italy at La Piccola Scala, one of the most famous Opera theatres in the world.

Join us Sunday November 21 and experience firsthand the power of Opera as an accessible and FUN art form. Almost every Sunday, the Friends of the Lakewood Public Library sponsor free concerts, lectures and more to the public. For more information, visit www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.com/friends.





Lakewood Schools

LHS Model UN Team Reaps Conference Awards

by Dr. Chuck Greanoff

The Lakewood High School Model United Nations Club once again turned in a splendid performance at the Cleveland Council on World Affairs Conference, held November 9 and 10. Competing against schools such as Solon, Mayfield, Rocky River, Mentor, Orange, etc..., Lakewood won numerous awards, including three out of eight "gavels." LHS looks like it stands a good chance of being awarded

the trophy for best conference performance for the fourth consecutive time. The best in conference award is given after the Spring Conference later this year.

Students winning the Gavel for best

single delegate in their committees were: Brian Brink representing China on the Economics & Finance Council; Jimmy Matthiesen representing Chile on the Food & Agriculture Committee; and Annie Latsko representing Iran on the UN Children's Fund Committee. Latsko and Maureen McGregor won a Superior Delegation award representing Iran.

Excellent Delegation awards were won by Sabrina Cupach and Samiha Abusharekh representing Iran on the UN Development Fund for Women Committee, and Ryan Cleary and Matt Sims representing China on the UN Development Programme Committee. Honorable Mention was won by Kelsey

Japan on the UN Environmental Programme Committee.

As the Model UN adviser, I am most proud, as always, of the attitude and behavior exhibited by our students.

Solarz and Ian Schultz, representing

and behavior exhibited by our students. They always comport themselves with enthusiasm and dignity. It is an honor and a pleasure to work with them.

Our club would not be as successful without the fine leadership of Co-Presidents Alberto Rodriguez and

Our club would not be as successful without the fine leadership of Co-Presidents Alberto Rodriguez and Sabrina Cupach, Vice President Stacy Sponsler and Secretary Annalisa Perez. Finally, special thanks to Garfield Social Studies Teacher Joshua Thornsberry for volunteering his time and providing invaluable expert training to our students.

School Psychologists Promote Positive Possibilities

by Heather Doyle

The National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) has designated November 8–12, 2010, as National School Psychology Awareness Week. This year's theme, "Today is a good day to ... SHINE," helps our students and school focus on strengthening positive relationships and increasing positive experiences. The program involves a series of resources and activities that school psychologists can use to reach out to school staff, students, and parents to help students feel connected, supported, and ready to achieve their individual goals.

NASP represents more than 26,000 school psychologists who work in schools and other education and health settings. School psychologists work with parents and educators to ensure that every child has the mental health and learning support they need to succeed in school and life. "This year's theme 'Today is a good day to ... SHINE,' expresses the importance of increasing the number of positive experiences students have throughout the school day," says NASP President Kathleen Minke. "Students' school and life successes can be greatly influenced for the better through simple acts that reinforce a positive outlook, such as offering a kind smile, saying 'thank you,' trying something new, or encouraging a classmate."

Additionally, school psychologists will be recognizing students who make significant progress toward their goals through the Student POWER Award program and honoring adult members of the school community who contribute in an outstanding way to improved outcomes for students through the Possibilities in Action Partner program.

"Too often, children focus on what they see as big problems or the things they can't do, rather than what they can do," emphasizes Minke. "We can help shift this perspective by highlighting small steps to making a positive difference, easy actions that are within their control." Positive habits in children's daily lives also can contribute to the overall school community and climate, and promote the kinds of positive interactions and relationships that are critical to school and life success.

After its successful first year, NASP is once again rolling out the Gratitude Works program. An effort to have students around the country write letters of gratitude to someone who has made a difference in their lives or the lives of others, the program seeks to reinforce students' practice of gratitude as one of many prosocial behaviors that can foster individual resilience and well-

Markling Named To State Boards Association Positions

by Christine Gordillo

Lakewood Board of Education Vice President Matthew John Markling, an Executive Member of the Ohio School Boards Association, has been elected to two more posts with the group. At the Northeast Region's Annual Conference held Oct. 6 in Akron, Markling was appointed to the OSBA's Credentials Committee and the Northeast Region's Arrangements and Hospitality Committee.

"It is an honor to be elected by my school board member peers to further serve Ohio's public schools, and it speaks volumes of the excellent reputation the Lakewood City Schools has throughout the State," Markling said.

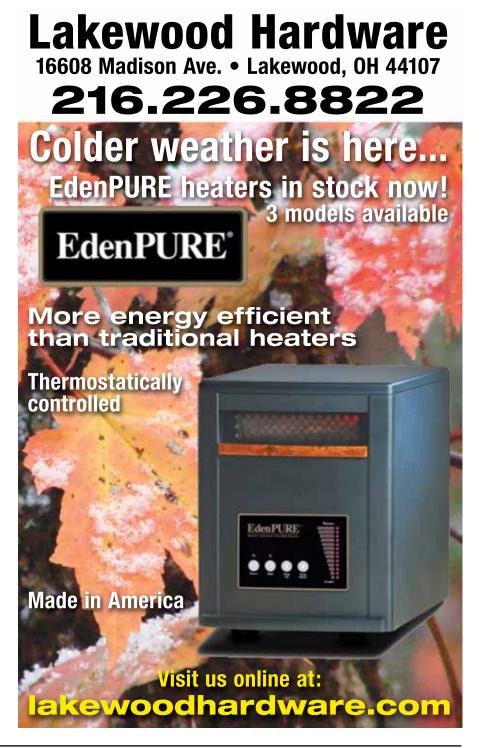
Joining Markling at the OSBA conference were staff members from the West Shore Career-Technical District. West Shore director Linda Thayer accepted a certificate of participation from OSBA recognizing the district for its upcoming involvement in the Student Achievement Fair, one of the more

popular exhibitions held at the OSBA's Capital Conference in Columbus in November. The Student Achievement Fair showcases the many innovative projects and programs districts have created to boost student achievement and engage youngsters in learning and growth. West Shore will be highlighting the district's hands-on learning that takes place in interactive, high-tech classrooms and labs in their state-of-theart facility at Lakewood High School.

"West Shore is excited to showcase our programs and student accomplishments at the Student Achievement Fair," Thayer said. "We look forward to highlighting, to OSBA members, how our focus on continuous improvement has contributed to our student's success at West Shore and post-graduation through performance results that exceed state requirements, increased industry credentialing, and college credit earned. We are honored by this opportunity to participate in a statewide event." being and contribute to overall positive school climate.

School psychologists around the country are working with teachers to help students identify and honor school staff, family members, students, and other educators or community members who contribute to their ability to achieve their best. Some students are choosing to write letters of gratitude to people who they do not know personally, such as military servicemen and women and emergency responders.

As part of National School Psychology Awareness Week, NASP has developed downloadable and adaptable resources to help school psychologists participate in these programs. Further information on these programs, school psychologists, and the contributions they make in guiding student success is available online at http://www.nasponline.org/communications/index.aspx.



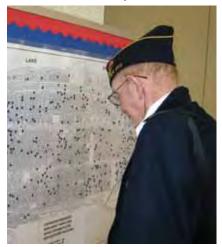
Lakewood Schools

Garfield Goes All Out To Honor Veterans

by Christine Gordillo

Once again, Garfield Middle School staff and students showed their respect and support for our country's veterans during its 14th annual Veterans Day Recognition Program on Tuesday morning, Nov 9. While Principal Mark Walter reminded students that this was, "An opportunity to pause for a moment to say thank you to those who sacrifice their time, family and sometimes their lives," for our freedom, Mayor Ed FitzGerald lauded the school for, "Making it part of your mission to honor our veterans."

The highlight of the program was feature speaker Marine Corporal Gil Fritzsche, a Vietnam War veteran and a former Lakewood City Schools teacher



The "More Than Names" project at Garfield placed stars on the home addresseses of those Lakewoodites lost in World Wars I & II, the Korean and Vietnam wars.

and principal at Emerson and Horace Mann middle schools. Fritzsche told the students, some of whom he said may be, "The veterans of tomorrow," that to serve in the military is, "One of the most meaningful and challenging times in anyone's life." He told them of how he learned as a veteran that, "Heroes are not bigger than life. They come in all shapes sizes and walks of life." And he reminded everyone that Veterans Day is, "A celebration of life and a celebration of the American people and spirit."

The school folds several endeavors into its celebration and commemoration of those who fought for our country's freedom. Each year, led by the efforts of teacher Mary Pat Ellert, items for care packages are collected and sent off to the troops overseas. This year Garfield was able to ship off 47 packages to servicemen or women connected somehow to the Garfield community to share with their units.

There is also a Freedom Wall where pictures and comments about a loved one who is serving are shared by students and staff. Winners of the Patriot's Pen Essay, sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), were also announced. This year's theme was "Does Patriotism Still Matter?" Students in Connie Bellini's Family & Consumer Science classes displayed some of their lap quilts that they are stitching together to provide to veterans at the VA Hospital. And the school's Joseph A. Mazzarella Outstanding Cit-



Gary Rice, left, and father Bob Rice received a Congressional Proclamation from Rep. Kucinich's office during the Veterans Day ceremonies at Garfield Middle School.

izenship Award in honor of World War II veteran Mazzarella was given to 8th grader Sam Baker.

A new feature added to the program this year was the More Than Names project, which teacher Dan Smith spearheaded after he discovered a research project of that name on the Lakewood Public Library web site that listed the names of all the Lakewood service men and women who had sacrificed their lives in World Wars I & II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War. Smith's homebase students spent hours locating the home addresses of the lost war veterans and placing stars on their addresses on a giant city map. "To see so much sacrifice contained in (a city of our size) is utterly staggering," Smith told the audience of the effect of all those stars dotting our city streets.

The map was a draw for students

and veterans alike. One student was taken aback as she scanned the list of addresses accompanying the map and found her home address as the former home of a young man who died in World War II. The sacrifice of our hometown's veterans certainly hit home for this young lady, literally and figuratively.

Wrapping up the program was a Congressional Proclamation from Representative Dennis Kucinich's office honoring longtime Lakewood Schools former band director Bob Rice and his son, Gary, for their dedication and public service to children and their community and for their original composition honoring veterans titled "The American Veterans' Last Salute March." The program closed with a rendition of the original march played by the Garfield Band.

LCA Open House Is Sunday, November 21

by Paul Nickels

It's not too early to start thinking about where your child will attend school in Fall 2011! Lakewood Catholic Academy, located next to Lakewood Park at 14808 Lake Avenue, will hold its first Open House opportunity of the year on Sunday, November 21st, from 12:30 until 3 p.m. Parents are welcome to come and meet LCA teachers in every grade, from our Reggio Emilia-based Early Childhood Program for 3- and 4-year-olds up through the eighth grade.

Teachers will be in their classrooms to answer questions about curriculum, current parents and students will be on hand to provide tours and share their experiences at LCA, and information on financial aid will be available.

Lakewood Catholic Academy accepts students of all faiths! For more information or to learn more about the school, visit our website at lakewood-catholicacademy.com or call Director of Admissions Paul Nickels at 216.521.1384 to arrange a personal tour.

Lakewood City Schools Winter Concerts

by Lakewood Music Boosters

All Concerts: 7:30 pm, Civic Auditorium

Wednesday, December 1 - Middle School Orchestra

Thursday, December 2 LHS - Concert Band and Freshmen Choir

Wednesday, December 8 - Garfield Band/Choir

Thursday, December 9 - LHS Symphonic Band & Wind Ensemble

Monday, December 13 - Harding Choir/Band

Wednesday, December 15 - LHS Winter Choral Concert Thursday, December 16 - LHS Winter Orchestra Concert

Help Music Boosters decorate the stage, pre-order a poinsettia and take it home after the concert! These large plants, with 10+ blooms,

are available for \$15.

Questions: Call Kirsten at 216-226-1947

Order deadlines: November 24 for the December 1 & 2 Concert

December 4 for the remaining concerts

Calvary Preschool & Infant Care Presents Breakfast With Santa

Includes:

Pancake breakfast with side of sausage & fruit, hot & cold beverages. Stress-free visit with Santa. Bring your camera for photo taking. Story telling & adjoining play area for kids.

Saturday, December 4, 2010

Calvary United Methodist Church 16305 Hilliard Rd (at Hilliard Rd. & Madison Ave.), Lakewood, Ohio

Seating times:

nes: Ticket Price: 0:00 am \$7 Adults;

9:00 am – 10:00 am 10:30 am – 11:30am

\$5 children under 12

12 pm – 1 pm

Where to purchase advance tickets:

- Calvary United Methodist Church office.
- Taste of Europe, formerly Lakewood Beverage & Deli, at 15512 Madison Ave.
- $\circ\,$ For more information call Calvary at 216-221-4324.



Cash or check with checks payable to Calvary Community School. Reservations preferred and recommended as seatings may sell out. Specify your seating time preference. Advanced ticket deadline Thursday, December 2nd. Prior notice of special needs helpful. Tickets will be sold at the door day of event for any seating still available on a first-come first-serve basis.

Proceeds from this event will go to Calvary Preschool & Infant Care Program

Lakewood Politics

Mayoral Applicants Talk To Lakewood

by Margaret Brinich

At the time of publication Michael Summers has now been appointed to the office of Mayor. Many thanks to all of the applicants who took the time to submit their names to become a public servant and share their talents with the City of Lakewood. Although the position of Mayor was filled without any interview process by a vote of City Council, two council seats (one at-large and now Ward 3) still need to be filled. Over the next few weeks Council will conduct these interviews and make their decisions at a later date.

The following were the applicants for office of Mayor currently held by County Executive elect, Edward FitzGerald. At the beginning of September, council put out a general call for applications for mayor with an initial deadline of October 1, 2010. Seven names were submitted for this deadline (in bold). After an extension until November 9, 2010, six additional brave, community minded individuals added their names to the list.

David W. Anderson, Michael Holyko, Kyle Krewson, Brian O'Boyle, Jim O'Bryan, John J. Polk, Robert Popp, Daniel Rigney, Jeffrey Sobieraj, Michael Summers and Scott Swisher.

The term of office will begin January 1, 2011 and continue for one calendar year. The selected interim Mayor may choose to run for reelection in November of 2011.

Although City Council has already selected Michael Summers, here at the Lakewood Observer, we wanted to shed some light on what each of these aspiring public servants felt they would bring to the job in question. To do so, we asked each applicant to address the following questions.

You are seeking a twelve month appointment, there is no money, what will you do? Are you planning to run in the Fall?

What civic groups are you affiliated with/what civic involvement do you have in Lakewood?

Kyle Krewson

The top priority for my brief term in office will be to focus on the fiscal budget for Lakewood. Lakewood's taxes are among some of the highest in the region. However, the services that Lakewood is able to offer its residents are unlike those of any other community. The biggest challenge facing the administration is to continue to offer these services while operating under a constricted budget.

One such way for easing the burdens of a smaller budget is to increase revenues to the city by promoting the value of living in Lakewood. We need to reach out to potential new residents to showcase Lakewood as the 'Original Crocker Park'.

Businesses continue to flock to Lakewood to open up shop. LakewoodAlive and other organizations are doing great things in the community that are helping to bring down the retail vacancy. Lakewood administration needs to expand their efforts in cooperating with economic development organizations.

Another challenge for this community is the unique, but aging housing stock that often requires rehabilitation and modernization to remain desirable. I will have our Planning department look at how we are utilizing Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) dollars and see if there are additional creative ways to make these dollars stretch further. For instance, focusing the efforts of the Construction Trade vocational program at Lakewood High School on blighted homes that qualify for funding under NSP would allow the program dollars to be stretched even further. I will also have the planning department explore how to encourage residents to apply the principles of Green Rehabilitation to increase the value and efficiency of their homes.

Lastly, the safety of our residents needs to continue to be a focus. My background in Public Safety will help me to choose how to effectively protect our community.

I do not have large political ambitions and simply want to serve this community that I love. If appointed Mayor, I will seek election next year. I am involved in my block club, and continue to participate in public meetings involving the Parks Master Plan, Bike Planning Meetings, and City Council Meetings.

Jim O'Bryan

The Budget is set by Council and is tight for 2011, so the most important task of the "interim mayor" is making sure services continue in an orderly fashion through January 2012. I am focused on the interim mayor's position, and have not considered running for re-election. This city deserves someone focused more on results than winning the next election.

When Mike Summers stated on the Lakewood Observation Deck in 2007: "Lakewood is at a tipping point," it was time to take steps to grow Lakewood's future. I agreed then, and now, but the current leadership has promoted "business" first and only. I have always said Lakewood's most important "industry" is its housing. Lakewood will thrive if its leadership recognizes our number one asset is being a place to LIVE. Respecting, preserving and rebuilding our housing stock is the way we stabilize and grow, along with making sure our city stays safe, and our school system stays strong.

We need to transparently walk the walk...

This city has taken its eye off the ball on housing. I will be an advocate for living here, working here and helping others understand the possibilities this city offers.

Recently, I was recognized by the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce, I will use my expertise to build upon our strengths: home-based businesses/housing stock, through cutting-edge ideas like "fulfillment-based industry" which will fill our empty storefronts, to plain old practicality. The current leadership has been unable to keep our major streets clean-- there is no better advertisement to attract people to a city than clean streets.

There are ways I have identified, within the budget, of getting much more for less, if existing resources are used properly. Sometimes it takes someone outside the system to see the clearer picture.

I am co-founder and publisher of The Lakewood Observer, which was created to help ALL civic groups get their ideas out to our residents and beyond and has been an incubator of many groups: LEAF, Lakewood Is Art, Bike Lakewood and MAMA. To date over 5,000 residents, businesses and civic groups have participated in this pro-Lakewood, history-making project. **Daniel Rigney**

You may notice I have submissions for the open Mayor's position and City Council. The questions asked of the applicants for these positions by the Lakewood Observer are different however similar. Warren Bennis an American scholar and author put forth a quote that certainly details a Mayors position "Management is doing things right. Leadership is doing the right things." If you would like to know more about Mr. Bennis please visit his web site at warrenbennis.com. All political leaders in government around the world should place this quote on a desk placard facing them to remind their self the responsibility granted them.

The first question asked by the Observer for the Mayor's position is about a nine month appointment, no money, what will you do? In nine months normally a child is conceived and born so miraculous things are possible in nine months. The second part of this question is about the lack of money, if this describes the Lakewood budget then a comprehensive analysis of spending and revenue are needed, balancing the City budget is as vital as balancing a home budget without the resources either can be difficult, negative variances are always problematic issues. If this describes the salary for the temporary appointment of Mayor we definitely need the analysis but this is okay temporarily.

My qualifications are illustrated in the City Council response.

Third part "Are you planning to run in the fall?" If appointed ask me this again in 7 months.

The second question asks about civic involvement, I am not a paid or volunteer member of any distinct civic identity. We the citizens of Lakewood are all a members of a civic group the community of Lakewood known in greater Cleveland, Ohio as an excellent place to live.

Jeff Sobieraj

I am not seeking this office with the intent of running in the fall. My reason for applying to fill this position is very simple: I have a skill set that I have developed over the course of my professional career that I believe can help this city bridge the leadership gap in the interim period between Mr. FitzGerald's departure and the next opportunity for the public to have its voice heard.

In a year period it is hard to envision sweeping change and new paradigms taking hold inside a city the size and scope of Lakewood. In fact, I would find it unfair to the constituency I would represent if I pushed a new agenda as an unelected official. My belief is that the person taking this position should prepare the city for a regime change in the fall. This person will need to manage costs, maintain the forward progress that the city has been making in critical areas such as public safety and continue to invest in assisting neighborhoods in providing to each other the grassroots, person-to-person support that makes Lakewood a superior place to live. I can help the city do this.

I have never served as a public official before. Professionally I have been a salesman and a negotiator during my career. The primary skills used in these professions are those that I find often lacking in government. First is the ability to listen, emphatically, to all parties involved. From there the ability to facilitate decision-making is at the forefront of my day-to- day job duties.

My civic involvement to date has primarily been a leader in the Cleveland Area's Young Professional community for several years. I've held a Board level position with Cleveland Professional 20/30 Club, the area's largest young professional organization, as well as leadership positions with several other organizations in various capacities.

I have little personal agenda here other than that I am looking forward to making myself available to serve my community should the city council decide I can help them move us all forward.

Michael Summers

I seek the appointment of the remaining year of Mayor Fitzgerald's term, and am committed to running for a full four year term in the November 1st 2011 election.

Lakewood has gained financial strength these past three years despite several adverse trends and forces. The objective of this strength is to create increased capacity for investment in our housing, streets, water and sewers, parking, trees, and economic development projects. While there is very little discretionary money available in 2011, there will be some resources to redirect towards these areas. The most pressing of them all is housing quality improvement.

Investments in housing should include more effective inspection compliance, landlord support and nuisance oversight, enforcement, rehabilitation, and redesign options. This is a big list. Advancement can be achieved by making incremental investments that capitalize on market place opportunities and leverage existing resources by creating increased focus and alignment. A particular opportunity is to utilize the upgraded Information System platform to increase information flow that will improve responsiveness to citizens, improve information sharing within and among departments to gain focus on problems and opportunities.

Past civic engagement in Lakewood include the following:

Current member of Lakewood City Council, serving as Chair of the

continued on next page

Lakewood Politics

Council Applicants Talk To Lakewood

The following are the applicants for the soon vacant at-large council seat currently held by State Representative elect, Nickie Antonio. At the beginning of September, council put out a general call for applications with an initial deadline of October 1, 2010. **Ten names were submitted for this deadline (in bold).** With an extension until November 9, 2010, sixteen additional brave, community minded individuals added their names to the list.

Dan Alaimo, **Daniel Bartos**, Bill Call, **Stephen Davis**, Savannah Dugan, **Kenneth Farley**, Hannah Fritzman Belisto, Donald Heckelmoser, David Howard, Tracy Jemison, Shawn Juris*, **Kyle Krewson**, **John Litten**, Carole A. Lohr, **Edward McCartney**, **Gaynel Mellino**, Edward Monroe, Ryan P. Nowlin, Jennifer Overstreet, Aaron M. Purdum, Daniel Rigney, **Bryan Rosser**, Matthew J. Sattler, **Daniel Shields**, David P. Stadler and **Kyle Wiegand**.

The term of office will begin January 1, 2011 and continue for one calendar year. The selected interim council-at-large member may choose to run for reelection in November of 2011.

Although their future colleagues on City Council will select this individual, here at the Lakewood Observer, we wanted to shed some light on what each of these aspiring public servants feel they would bring to the job in question. To do so, we asked each applicant to address the following question in 200 words or less.

What skills do you bring to this position?

We hope their responses, below, will help the citizens of Lakewood to better understand who may soon be representing all of us on City Council.

*Application submitted November 8th for Ward 3 Council seat only.

Dan Alaimo

I am a professional editor/writer/journalist, with significant team-oriented management experience and familiarity with print and online communications. I have been involved in initiatives related to the parks, and have experience with businesses, including entrepreneurs and retailers. After living in Lakewood for 27 years, I am excited about the direction the City is heading in now, although I know the future holds economic, safety and infrastructure challenges. Through creativity and fostering community involvement, I look forward to helping the City meet

those challenges.

Daniel Bartos

I am an attorney whose office is located on Madison Avenue, here in Lakewood. I have been a homeowner in Lakewood for the last 9 years. I have a familiarity with the needs of businesses and property owners in the Lakewood. I am also familiar with pro's and con's of being a rental property owner here in Lakewood.

As an attorney, I have devoted a majority of my practice to representing children and families in multiple capacities including representing the interests of children as a Guardian ad Litem. I am also involved with the Cuyahoga County Guardian ad Litem Project and I am a member of the Cuyahoga County Guardian ad Litem Advisory Board. I am devoted to making Lakewood a safe and enjoyable community for children and families and will continue to work to maintain the distinction bestowed upon the City by Business Week Magazine as "the Best Place to Raise Kids" for 2010.

I previously ran for the Councilat-Large seat in 2009 and since I am an active member of the Lakewood Democratic Club. I presently serve the Lakewood Community as a member of the City of Lakewood, Board of Nuisance Abatement Appeals. Most recently I was elected Precinct Committee Person in Ward 3 and was elected to the City of Lakewood Executive Committee.

I hope to continue serving the community I love as the newly appointed City Council representative. **Bill Call**

I believe my 25 years experience as a CPA will enable me to provide Lakewood City Council with professional assistance in City Finances.

I believe my 15 years experience as a business partner in a medium sized HVAC company employing 30 people will provide council with insight into the needs of business, especially in the operation off the City Building and Development Departments.

Cities have less control over their operations and destinies than people realize. State and Federal mandates and policies have done great damge to Lakewood and other communities. I believe that cities in Cuyahoga County need to form a united front to challenge the State and its budget priorities.

Mayoral Applicants Talk To Lakewood

continued from previous page

Finance Committee and member of the Housing Committee

Eight years as a member of the Lakewood School Board, including two years as President.

Chair of both the Grow Lakewood and Structural Balance task forces, which were strategic planning efforts for our City government.

Chair of State of Ohio's Workforce policy Board. This four year appointment by Governor Taft was charged with complying with the Federal Workforce Investment Act of 1996.

Founding board member and past Chair of the Westside industrial Retention Iniative (WIRE-NET) which focused on preserving and growing industrial jobs

Other engagements include terms as a member of the planning Commission and, Chair of Greater Cleveland's Workforce initiative.

Lastly, I have been on the ballot in Lakewood five times, winning election three times and losing twice. I have chaired or co-chaired five School Levy Campaigns. I have great respect for Lakewood's citizens and their judgment. I like a good argument but I hate a fight. I believe I have the temperment to challenge the status quo in a professional and respectful manner that will enhance the success already achieved by the current administration and council.

I have no other political ambitions and no desire to use this position as a stepping stone or a means to enhance my personal finances. I will be here for the long haul to serve the needs of the community.

Stephen Davis

I have been involved with a variety of businesses, organizations, committees, boards, and commissions.

I am creative and deliberative, and can work apolitically in a group for the greater good.

On two Lakewood Charter Commissions, I not only engaged with our own elected and appointed officials for good government solutions, but went outside to other communities and sources for information and opinions. I was also the biggest advocate for public participation in the charter review process.

I would offer the same respect for citizen input, along with responsible and informed decision making as a councilperson.

Savannah Dugan

Having a BFA in Design from the Cleveland Institute of Art, I have been trained to think creatively to solve a variety of problems. Lakewood needs creativity to grow and prosper.

Having worked in an architectural firm, with planning, urban development, sustainability and historic preservation, I have skills that would be especially helpful in looking at the problems we face in housing, development, streetscapes and parks.

I studied sustainability at the Ecosa Institute and have been certified as a LEED AP. I teach sustainability and LEED at the Cleveland Institute of Art. As an expert in sustainability, I can help make Lakewood more green and at the same time save the city, businesses and taxpayers money.

Working in a small business in Lakewood, I understand the needs of small businesses. I want to help make Lakewood more attractive for the small business environment. I want to bring more living wage jobs to Lakewood.

As a lifelong resident of Lakewood, homeowner and young professional, I want to attract more people to move to Lakewood through marketing and providing needed amenities.

My skills complement the current council and I would like the opportunity to work with them growing and improving Lakewood.

Hannah Fritzman Belisto

As a new home-owner in Lakewood's 4th Ward, I am confident that my passion for Lakewood, combined with my management experience in leadership development within Northeast Ohio's civic community, will allow me to provide strategic insight and a fresh perspective on Lakewood City

Council. Over the last ten years, I have had the opportunity to work with hundreds of Northeast Ohio residents, ensuring they are educated about and engaged with their communities and the region, most notably, in my current role as Director of Cleveland Bridge Builders, a program of the Cleveland Leadership Center. My ability to build relationships across generations has been strengthened through my decade-long work with our region's best communicators, innovators, and leaders. I believe civic engagement that is innovative, inclusive, and intergenerational builds strong communities. I am skilled in communications, innovative program development, budget management, civic engagement, relationship building, group facilitation, event planning, and urban planning. I have a B.A. in Communications/English from John Carroll University and will earn my Masters in Urban Planning, Design and Development with a specialization in Historic Preservation, in May 2011, from Cleveland State University's Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs. I look forward to providing servant leadership as a member of Lakewood City Council.

Donald Heckelmoser

I am currently the Programs Manager for a non-profit Community Development Corporation in the city of Cleveland. I work every day administering home repair and energy efficiency programs, green space initiatives, public right of way projects, code compliance issues and neighborhood event planning. All of these efforts combined improve the quality of life in the neighborhoods in which I work. I will take the knowledge and skills gained through this experience, along with my time on the Lakewood Alive housing committee, the City of Lakewood Citizens Advisory Committee and the City of Lakewood Housing committee to improve the quality of life within the city of Lakewood.

I am currently a state and nationally certified housewarming inspector and energy auditor. In turn, I have a strong working knowledge of buildings and the science that makes them work. Due to Lakewood's aging housing stock, it is imperative to maintain the existing high quality housing and work to improve upon what will soon become a large amount of second century homes. If chosen for Lakewood City Council, I will bring my existing knowledge and skills to continue to learn and keep Lakewood the wonderful city that it is.

David Howard

1. Twenty years of local government experience repsonsible for working with the planning commission, city council and county commission (Charlotte, NC). This experience has given me the knowledge to understand how elected bodies work, and the competing values they must mitigate in the community. 2. Proven skills in short and long range planning in such areas as urban design, transportation, parks and recreation, **continued on next page**

Lakewood Politics

Council Applicants Talk To Lakewood cont.

historic preservation, land use, and public works. 3. Leadership roles in local and national Boards in the areas of education, faith, justice, environment, and neighborhood revitalization. 4. Extensive experience in working with and facilitating group processes, including strategic planning and visioning. 5. Past/present membership: Lakewood Democratic Club, Community Relations Committee, Winterhurst Study group, Lakewood Stonewall Democrats plus volunteer experience at the Lakewood Christian Service Center. 6. Restoring Lakewood home. developed/ restored business property for retail use. 7. Will represent constituencies not

continued from previous page

I am a strong advocate for liveable spaces and good design. I strongly support diversity in the community but realize extra vigilance is needed to make it work. I advocate greater usage of retail and second plus floor residential opportunities on major streets.

presently on the Council: east end single

family residential, LGBT community,

seniors, human services. 8. Extensive

experience working with the develop-

ment and business community.

Tracy A. Jemison II

In the various leadership roles that I have been involved with in the community, I have proven myself to be an objective, deliberative and analytical decision maker. I am able to see multiple sides of an issue and help facilitate an appropriate resolution. This consensus building mind-set will be critical as Council continue's to face tough issues that will need to balance the impact on the residents/services and Lakewood's financial condition.

Perhaps the most important skill I would bring to Council is my financial background and expertise. Like the State and County, Lakewood is constrained from a revenue standpoint. Due to the high tax burden on our residents the City can not increase revenue by raising taxes. This is going to require the City to explore ways to provide a level of services that allows Lakewood to grow and thrive but in a more cost efficient manner.

I believe that collaboration with the new County government and neighboring cities is going to be critical for the future of Lakewood. This will require a pragmatic, consensus builder with a strong vision on how decisions will impact the City's finances.

Kyle Krewson

The top priority for my brief term in office will be to focus on the fiscal budget for Lakewood. Lakewood's taxes are among some of the highest in the region. However, the services that Lakewood is able to offer its residents are unlike those of any other community. The biggest challenge facing the administration is to continue to offer these services while operating under a constricted budget.

One such way for easing the burdens of a smaller budget is to increase revenues to the city by promoting the value of living in Lakewood. We need to reach out to potential new residents to showcase Lakewood as the 'Original Crocker Park'.

Businesses continue to flock to Lakewood to open up shop. LakewoodAlive and other organizations are doing great things in the community that are helping to bring down the retail vacancy. Lakewood administration needs to expand their efforts in cooperating with economic development organizations.

Another challenge for this community is the unique, but aging housing stock that often requires rehabilitation and modernization to remain desirable. I will have our Planning department look at how we are utilizing Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) dollars and see if there are additional creative ways to make these dollars stretch further. For instance, focusing the efforts of the Construction Trade vocational program at Lakewood High School on blighted homes that qualify for funding under NSP would allow the program dollars to be stretched even further. I will also have the planning department explore how to encourage residents to apply the principles of Green Rehabilitation to increase the value and efficiency of their homes.

Lastly, the safety of our residents needs to continue to be a focus. My background in Public Safety will help me to choose how to effectively protect our community.

I do not have large political ambitions and simply want to serve this community that I love. If appointed Mayor, I will seek election next year. I am

involved in my block club, and continue to participate in public meetings involving the Parks Master Plan, Bike Planning Meetings, and City Council Meetings.

John Litten

Experience and Expertise - As Director of Camp Christopher, a 165 acre Catholic educational, recreational and community building organization, I manage a \$1.2 million budget, hire and supervise 100 employees, and market our year-round programs and facilities to families, youth, people with disabilities and seniors throughout the region.

Community Values and Involvement - As a father, husband, homeowner and citizen, I am committed to our city's future through giving back. I have a deep respect for the environment, for civic involvement, civil debate and our community's diverse and engaged citizens. I serve on the Keep Lakewood Beautiful Board, the Lakewood Citizens Advisory Committee and on St. Luke Parish Council. Through KLB, I proposed a tree giveaway at "Meet the Trucks" Day in June. We distributed over 100 trees, along with ways to "live the green life" in Lakewood.

Continued Growth - As a resident of the southeastern quadrant of our community, I see the positive impact arts, culture, and entrepreneurship have on our neighborhoods. I have always been a collaborator, and understand that Lakewood has survived difficulties because Council and the Mayor have worked together. There are more challenges ahead and this form of professional discourse will be of continued importance should I be appointed to Council.

Gaynel Mellino

Thank you for the opportunity to answer the question of what skills I would bring to the position of councilwoman for the City of Lakewood. I am an attorney and worked for a major national developer before I started a family. My legal background has trained me to gather information, analyze data, and draft legislation/ contracts that address problems and achieve the goal. In a city with a \$75 million dollar budget, attention to detail yet grasping the whole picture are crucial to economic development and growth, two of the most important goals for a community to thrive.

I have spent many years involved in the community as a volunteer. Church and school activities, Adopt-A-Spot, community meals and more. These activities not only provided a necessary or enriching service to Lakewood but also enriched me. However, in these hard economic times, Lakewood is depending more and more on volunteers for services that the city previously provided. Council would benefit from someone who recognizes what and why these volunteers contribute. Besides our diversity, volunteerism and community activism are probably the top resources of our community and need to be appreciated, nurtured and capitalized on. I am the best can-

didate for that role. **Edward Monroe**

I grew up in Lakewood. I attended McKinley Elementary, Horace Mann Middle School and Lakewood High School. I'm proud to call Lakewood my hometown. I decided to seek the soon vacant at-large council seat, because as I wrap up a four year term-of-service in the Ohio Secretary of State's office, I feel I've learned how public representatives can, and should be, an asset for the constituents they serve. Two skills I'd like to highlight that I feel I bring to the position is my knowledge of government and also ability to work collaboratively. With my knowledge of government, I feel I know realistically what might fall under the jurisdiction of city council. With this, I think I can work on the issues that improve the quality of life for the citizens of Lakewood. Whether it's focusing on funding for police, or making sure roads are repaired, or providing services for our seniors, these are all issues that I'd be committed to working on. I also know the importance of working collaboratively to get things done. As a councilperson, I'd always remember it's about working in the best interest of the residents and finding the win-wins that benefit them.

Ryan P. Nowlin

I was born and raised in Lakewood. I am proud to live in this community, and it would be a privilege to serve on our City Council. As Co-Chair of the Citizens Advisory Committee and as a member of the Board of Zoning Appeals, I have had the chance to give back to my hometown. I hope to have the opportunity to do more for Lakewood.

In my law practice, I help resolve many different types of disputes, which is a skill that would aid in my representation of Lakewood's citizens. As a homeowner, I am keenly aware of the important issues affecting Lakewood's greatest asset: its housing stock. As a father, I am committed to keeping Lakewood safe and family-friendly. I understand the importance of economic development in our city, and I will work to help Lakewood remain a great place to grow a business. Finally, as the Chair of the Branch Advisory Board of the Lakewood YMCA, I understand and appreciate the role that Lakewood's non-profit organizations play in serving our community's less fortunate citizens.

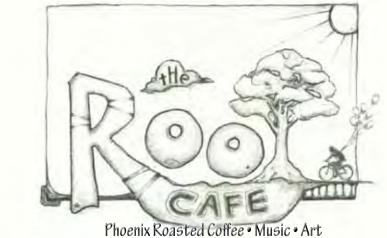
As the newest member of City Council, I will ensure that each one of our citizens has a voice in our city government.

Jennifer Overstreet

My creativity is vital to problem solving and generating new ideas for keeping Lakewood residents employed, safe, healthy and happy. Among some of the issues facing Lakewood, we have unfunded federal mandates and an estimated decrease in population that will require creative strategies to avoid additional taxes.

Throughout my education and work experiences, I have been a strong

continued on page 22



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Looking Good

CDC Urges Activity To Stave Off Holiday Weight Gain

by Liz Donnelly

Lakewood moms focus on indoor activity for colder months

With more than half of Greater Cleveland adults being overweight, it's important to do what you can to avoid

Be Scentsational With **Fragrances**

by Carol Mason

Fragrances make a scent-sational wardrobe accessory. Fragrances can be elegant, casual or nurturing, whether it's your outfit or your mood you are accessorizing.

As you would collect fine wines to complement your dinner, so you can collect fragrances befitting your outfit or mood. Like wines, fragrances are put together in a delicate balance and the notes measure the performance of the fragrance. The top note, its identity, is the very first impression one receives. It evaporates, but never altogether disappears. Instead, it softens. This is the brightest note of the fragrance. The middle note is the heart of the fragrance, and after blending with your body chemistry, reaches its deepest intensity in about 10 minutes. It is the essence of the fragrance. The bottom note is the final stage, when the fragrance is the most harmonious. It is the point when all of the notes have melded gently together. Understanding the music of fragrance gives you a plethora of scents to harmonize.

Etiquette in wearing fragrance is important. Close encounters at work, school and church would suggest that you not wear a full-bodied perfume, but go with a lighter, more delicate scent, with more appeal to a citrus or vanilla heart. Consider the seasons of the year when wearing fragrances: humid weather can make a perfume bloom, causing a very heavy scent, while wintry, dry skin does not hold fragrance as long. Hydrating with your fragrance's lotion or body butter will help give longer wear to your scent. These ancillary products have less essential oils, making them a good choice when lighter is better, and they can save you money, since you are not continually applying the perfume.

Find an expert who can help develop your fragrance personality and give you more of the finer points of choosing a fragrance so that you can be scent-savvy. And, like a gift of fine wine, a fragrance gift is thoughtful and/or romantic.

Carol Leigh Mason is an Ind. Sales Director with Mary Kay Cosmetics

holiday weight gain. Statistics show between 1 and 10 pounds of weight gain between Thanksgiving and the New Year. Even one extra pound gained yearly is what many experts warn is the real the threat. (Picture an average 20-year-old storing 20 pounds of body fat by age 40.)

Northeast Ohioans can prevent this "slow creep", says the CDC, by practicing at least 2-1/2 hours of weekly physical

activity spread throughout the week and staying indoors, if necessary, to perform their exercise. Planning meals during the holiday season and saying, "No thank-you," to extra portions and highfat foods will also prevent weight gain.

Although the CDC recommends 2-1/2 hours weekly for adults, even 1-1/2 hours weekly is sufficient, if performed with trained supervision, for adults to not only get an edge on fat loss but also cope with holiday stress. I work with many busy moms to help them get strong and lean. Cutting fitness during the busy holiday season is a big no-no. This the time when people need it the most to help reduce stress and the waistline.

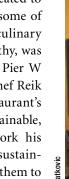
For moms who are tempted to let their fitness and nutrition go to pot during the holidays, call 216-263-4734 or visit TrainingByLiz.com.

Mayor's Ball Supports The Arts **And Honors Lifelong Volunteer**

continued from page 1

port of the arts, guests were treated to a variety of food from across some of Lakewood's most well known culinary venues. Perhaps most noteworthy, was the star of the VIP pre-party, Pier W Executive Chef Regan Reik. Chef Reik spoke excitedly about the restaurant's goal to become 100% sustainable, while guests watched him work his culinary magic in preparing a sustainably harvested salmon dish for them to sample.

For the duration of the evening performers from the Beck Center itself could be heard echoing through the halls, including Beck Café owner Paul Sykes. But the true highlight of the evening was the presentation of the key to the City of Lakewood by Mayor (and County Executive elect) FitzGerald to long time resident and community volunteer, Paula Reed. Mayor FitzGerald spoke glowing of his chosen honoree's accomplishments and dedication to the community all evening long. Reed was accompanied by her husband, daughter, son and daughter-in-law.



CEO of Lakewood's fabulous The Beck Center for the Arts welcomes everyone.

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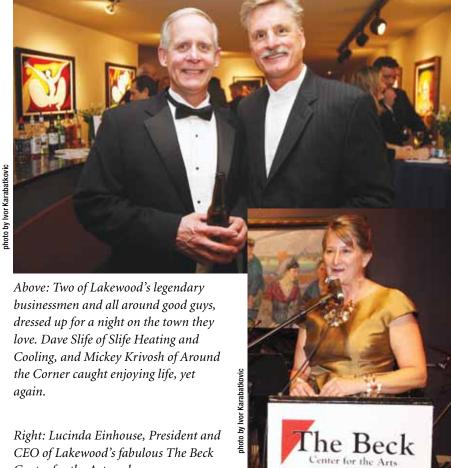
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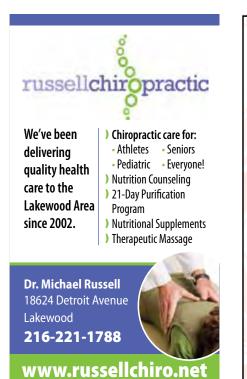
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Downtown

The Tradition Returns:

Fourth Annual Light Up Lakewood

by Shannon Strachan

You're Invited! On December 4th come kick off your holidays with Light Up Lakewood. Festivities will begin at Lakewood Hospital at 5:45 p.m. with the beat of the St. Edward Trash Talkers, and while your toes are still tapping, you are in for a treat with the arrival of Santa, Buddy the Elf and the Grinch. Joining Santa will be the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce's "Why I Love Lakewood" 4th grade essay contest winner to help Santa in

Iight Up Lakewood

some holiday carols. Then Santa will be whisked off in the fire truck, parading down Detroit Avenue to the Lakewood Public Library where he will welcome boys and girls for visits and photos.

As you stroll down closed Detroit Avenue you might pick up Lolley the Trolley and join riders to sing some holiday carols, or continue your walk and stop and listen to the strolling Peddlers of Mirth or watch the Lakewood Barnstormers depict holiday scenes – in the "living windows" at various merchant locations.

Of course we cannot start the holidays without the sweet voice of children. This year several venues will be hosting entertainers, singers and dancers. We hope you will visit them all. Lakewood Center North will host several singing groups from the Beck Center, Lakewood High School and elementary schools.

The Panera Bread stage will play host to Nutcracker dancers who will be available for photos along with various holiday characters. Moving on down to Lakewood City Center Park is the traditional "ice carver" who will be joined by the St. Ignatius Circus Performers and their juggling act. As we move down Detroit Avenue the Masonic Temple will be hosting more school singing groups and dancers from Silhouette Dance and Fine Arts. You won't want to miss the original

song created by Lakewood resident Bill Knittle who is joined by the Lincoln Singers to kick off the Masonic Temple festivities.

Finally, a visit to the library is in order. You will be greeted by the sounds of the Lakewood Catholic Academy choir and band and the Lakewood High School Strings. Children can visit the H2O "Twigby-Style", then enjoy some crafts with the library staff and of course a visit with Santa – don't forget to bring your camera!

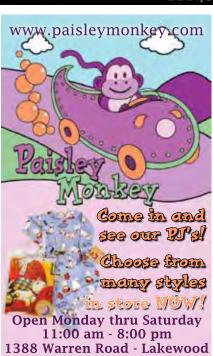
Light Up Lakewood is a commu-

nity event brought to you by Downtown Lakewood, the Main Street™ program of LakewoodAlive, in collaboration with the City of Lakewood, Lakewood City Schools, Lakewood Public Library, Masonic Temple, H2O and the Chamber of Commerce and sponsored by Lakewood Hospital, Panera Bread, The Coral Company, Target, Giant Eagle and Kidd Productions.

LakewoodAlive is a 501(c)(3) economic development organization focused on the revitalization of Lakewood's historic downtown district.











Lakewood Business

Lakewood Chamber Recognizes 2010 Bright Star Award

by Valerie Mechenbier

The Chamber Bright Stars for 2010 were recognized on October 28th at the 15th Anniversary Celebration of the Northern Ohio Area Chambers of Commerce (NOACC) at the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo.

Almost 50 Chambers of commerce across northern Ohio nominated a person from their chamber as their "Bright Star," to recognize a chamber member who has, "Made a significant impact on the chamber through membership, retention, sponsorship, economic development, operations and/or education." Each Bright Star is an active chamber member and is likely to be an unsung hero or a dedicated behind-the-scenes volunteer: someone who has given freely of his/her time, working hard for their chambers without any expectations.

The Lakewood Chamber of Com-

Did You Know?

The Lakewood Chamber of Commerce will celebrate its 100th anniversary in 2011.

merce is proud to name Mr. Bruce R. McNabb, Director of Operations for O'Neill Management as the Lakewood Chamber's Bright Star 2010. Bruce has been an active member of our Board of Directors for over four years. He is a member of the Chamber's Marketing Task Force and Taste of Lakewood committee.

Bruce consistently attends meetings and chamber functions. He is a welcoming presence at all of our meetings, offering to sell raffle tickets, greet new members and to set up or tear down after events.

Bruce is one of the Lakewood Chamber's greatest champions. He encourages new businesses to join our chamber, encourages existing members to take advantage of benefit programs and networking events, and is a great ambassador in the Lakewood community. Congratulations, Bruce!

Locally owned and managed by the John O'Neill family, O'Neill Management has been serving seniors in the West Shore area since 1962. O'Neill Management operates Lakewood Senior Health Campus, a Continuum of Care Retirement Community which provides skilled nursing, rehabilitative care, assisted living and independent living.



Wayne Lawrence of NOACC, Patty Ryan of the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce, Bruce McNabb, and Maureen Kyle of WKYC-TV

Chamber Business Spotlight: Brennan's Catering & Banquet Center

Brennan's Catering & Banquet Center is family owned and operated and has been serving our area for over 26 years. Planning a holiday party or a special event? Whether you need a delivery, a pick-up or our full service catering Brennan's is the perfect choice for any office or family gathering. Check us out on line at www.Bren-

nansCatering.com or call one of our event planners at 216-251-2131. Mention you saw us in the Observer and get 10% off your order.

Brennan's Catering & Banquet Center has been a member of the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce since 2002. Sean Brennan served as Chamber Board President in 2006-2007.

Cox Partners With Bloomberg Television To Bring Marketing Expert To Local Chamber Event

by Katie Sheridan

Cox Business is partnering with Bloomberg Television to bring Steve Cone, author of Powerlines and Steal These Ideas, to speak to local entrepreneurs on Friday, November 19 as part of the Cox Business Speaker Series.

The event will be held as part of a joint luncheon with the Rocky River and Lakewood Chambers of Commerce, but is open to the public with a reservation. Registration and networking begins at 11:15 a.m. at the Westwood Country Club in Rocky River. The luncheon begins at 12:00 p.m.

With more than 35 years in the marketing profession, Cone will speak about proven marketing principles. Cone is the chief marketing officer for Epsilon. He has experience working with clients and companies including Citigroup, American Express, Apple, AARP, United Airlines, as well as many other global media companies, environmental groups, and presidential campaigns for both major parties.

A question and answer period will follow. The event is \$18 for Chamber members and \$23 for non-members.

"As a provider of advanced telecom solutions, Cox Business is engaged with local businesses on a daily basis. We have the same interest in the economy as our local

business partners so we are pleased to use our resources to bring an economic expert to the community," said Dan Carney, vice president of Cox Business in the Cleveland market. "When our customers succeed, we succeed. Partnering with Bloomberg Television and the Rocky River and Lakewood Chambers on this event is a natural fit and benefit for local businesses."

Cox Business partnered with Bloomberg Television to develop the "Cox Business Speaker Series" to bring high profile authors to local communities and encourage engaging discussion on some of the hottest business topics of the day impacting

Lakewood Chamber of Commerce Upcoming Events

November 19 - Friday 11:30am *Joint Lunch Meeting with Rocky River Chamber*

December 6 - Monday 8:00pm 2nd Annual Holiday Bid & Buy Online Auction Ends

January 21 - Friday 7:30am

Breakfast Meeting: Health Care Reform Brennan's Catering & Banquet Center

For more info, go to www.lakewoodchamber.org.

businesses and their customers.

Westwood Country Club

"When we're looking for presenters we think about how they might benefit businesses in the local communities. Steve Cone has vast experience effectively marketing companies. His insights can help us all better understand how to reach clients in this difficult economy," said, Dave Nogureol, vice president,

distribution at Bloomberg Television.

Individuals interested in registering for the event can visit the Rocky River Chamber of Commerce at www.rockyriverchamber.com or the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce at www.lakewoodchamber.org.





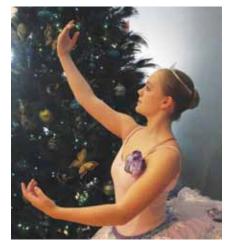
Out And About

Beck Center's Dance Alliance Hosts Holiday High Tea

by Fran Storch

The Dance Alliance of the Beck Center (DABC) will host a Holiday High Tea Party on Sunday, December 5 at 1 p.m. and 4 p.m., with a preview on Saturday, December 4 at 4 p.m. and 7 p.m., in the Beck Center Music-Armory Building. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$8 for children (11 and under). Preview tickets are \$8. To purchase tickets, visit www. beckcenter.org or call 216.521.2540 x10. All proceeds from the event benefit the Beck Center's Dance Department.

Under the direction of Melanie Szucs, company members from the



A pretty sugarplum fairy poses Beck Center Dance Workshop and selected Beck Center student danc-

ers will perform excerpts from Act II of The Nutcracker, with original choreography by Melanie Szucs. In addition to the performance, the Holiday High Tea will include fruit punch, baked goods, sandwiches, fresh vegetables, and tea.

Melanie Szucs is the associate director of Dance Education and artistic director of the Beck Center's Dance Workshop. She is a former Miss Dance of Michigan and soloist with Dance Detroit. Szucs has studied with George Zorich and was on scholarship with School of Cleveland

The Dance Alliance of the Beck

Center is the volunteer support group for the Dance Department at the Beck Center. Beck Center is located at 17801 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood. The Music-Armory Building is located at the rear of the campus behind the Main Building.

Beck Center for the Arts is a notfor-profit 501(c)3 organization that offers professional theater productions on two stages, 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.

Eagle Scout Candidate Helps Beck Center To Shine

by Fran Storch

The Beck Center for the Arts has eye-catching new signage overlooking its rear entrance thanks to the help of Eagle Scout candidate Scott Legeza and a multitude of volunteers. Students, patrons, and visitors are now greeted with the center's name in bold silver lettering against a brilliant red background. Legeza coordinated this renovation at the Beck Center for his Eagle Scout project. The new signage was unveiled in mid October.

As a past Beck Center student, Legeza chose the arts center for his Eagle Scout project as his way to "give back to the Beck" after nine years of involvement there. He started at Beck in theater classes at the early age of five and has performed in several youth productions including The Wizard of Oz and Honk! Jr., as well as with the Chamber Choir.

A freshman at St. Ignatius High School, Legeza has been involved in scouting since he joined Tiger Cubs in first grade. He is a member of Boy Scout Troop #575, which meets at St. Barnabas Church in Northfield. Over the past eight years Legeza has earned many merit badges and acquired the skills and experience necessary to attain the "Life" rank, which qualifies him as a candidate for Eagle Scout.

Legeza began his initial work on this project back in March of this year when he met with Beck's Director of



Eagle Scout candidate, Scott Legeza paints the town red

Business Operations Larry Goodpaster to discuss potential community service opportunities. "Scott had many great ideas. We wanted to choose a project that was lasting and made a visible impact on the Beck," says Goodpaster. "Updating our primary entrance for students and patrons seemed the perfect fit. We are grateful for Scott's lasting gift to the Beck and the support of his troop, friends, and family."

To raise the money needed to buy the supplies for the job, Legeza organized a car wash in the parking lot of a local business. Then, after months

of planning, he recruited more than 50 volunteers, including fellow Boy Scouts, Beck staff and students, family, and friends, to work on the project over several weekends in September and October.

With the project now completed, Legeza says the most valuable lesson he has learned from this experience is how to organize and lead a large group of volunteers. Soon Legeza will begin planning a special ceremony with his scoutmaster for the presentation of his Eagle Scout award. He plans to continue with scouting throughout high school and is considering applying to the U.S. Air Force Academy upon graduation.

Located at 17801 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood, the 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. For more information about the Beck Center, visit www.beckcenter.org, or call 216.521.2540 x10.





216.521.4413 • www.atccafe.com



Out And About

World AIDS Day Events

by Jim Ebbenga

It is 2010, and the AIDS pandemic still continues in Cleveland, the United States and around the world. And even though great strides have been made during the last 30 years, the weakened economy in the United States has led to cutbacks in HIV/AIDS treatment and awareness programs. Many Ohioans living with HIV/AIDS still struggle to find resources for medications and support services, and many service providers face difficulties as they strive to keep up with the basic needs of AIDS clients and their families.

December 1 is designated as World AIDS Day and this year's theme is "Universal Access and Human Rights." With this in mind, the Liberation Center for Spiritual Enrichment, the Ohio AIDS Coalition, and Affirm Equality are partnering with other community service providers and individuals to present two events to raise awareness of current needs, energize advocacy efforts, and remember those infected with and affected by this disease.

The HIV/AIDS Town Hall Meeting: "Activism Beyond Email", on Saturday, November 20th from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., is intended to provide a venue for area HIV/AIDS service providers and advocates to discuss recent initiatives in AIDS medication funding and to renew advocacy efforts. The day will include a keynote speaker and a panel of community members living with HIV/AIDS, and will conclude

with an advocacy session targeting new strategies for activism in the electronic age. Lunch will be provided. Everyone is invited to participate in this event; please RSVP by phone at (216) 521-5556 or by email to info@liberationucc.org.

A second program, to be offered on Human Rights Day (Friday, December 10th) at 7:30pm, is A Community Gathering of Remembrance and Hope. The evening will feature world music/jazz by the Oîkos Ensemble in a musical remembrance of those affected by HIV/AIDS and in the hope of the human spirit in the face of adversity. Grammy winner Paul Winter, of the





Paul Winter Consort, has said, "I salute the Oîkos Ensemble for their inspired music and mission. They are serving the world with their song." Area religious leaders, activists, and people living with HIV/AIDS will offer words of inspiration for the struggle against the AIDS pandemic and will lead those in attendance in a candle-lighting ritual of remembrance. A free-will offering will be taken to benefit area

HIV/AIDS organizations. Attendees are also asked to bring non-perishable food items for the Pantry of the AIDS Task Force of Greater Cleveland.

Both events will be held at Liberation United Church of Christ, 13714 Madison Avenue. Free parking is available at Madison Park, 6 blocks east of the church. Shuttle service will be provided for 30 minutes before and after each event.

Loretta Paganini Spices Up League Event

by Joan Hirsh

You are invited to hear world-renown chef and cooking school founder Loretta Paganini at the League of Women Voters' "First Thursdays" speaker series on Thursday, December 2, 2010, 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm, at Trinity Commons at Trinity Cathedral, 2230 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland. Chef Paganini's talk is titled, "A Woman's Place is Running the Kitchen." The public is invited to attend at no charge, with free parking behind the Cathedral off Prospect Avenue.

Loretta Paganini's passion for food and training chefs has resulted in an extraordinary career that covers the globe. Born in Bologna, Italy, she began her culinary career in the family "Pasticceria" (confectionery shop). She then studied at several cooking schools

in Italy and the Cordon Bleu in Paris. In 1989, she opened The Loretta Paganini School of Cooking in Chesterland, Ohio and brought culinary education to hundreds of recreational students. In 2004, she purchased additional property in Chesterland and built a 12,000 square foot culinary center with a staff of thirty. It has been named the "Best Cooking School" by CLEVE-LAND Magazine. Recipient of many prestigious awards, Loretta Paganini is a tour de force in the culinary world. For more information on her cooking school, visit www.lpscinc.com. For more information on the December 2nd event, visit www.LWVCuyahog-

Program funding is provided by the League of Women Voters Cuyahoga Area Education Fund, Inc.









Make Fridays Your "Do Everything" Day.

(Ride the Lakewood/Cleveland Shopper Shuttle.)



- Giant Eagle on Bunts
- Winton Place/Carlyle (at RTA shelter)
- Corner of W. 115th & Clifton (PNC Bank)
- Walgreens (on W. 117th at RTA shelter)
- Giant Eagle/Target on W. 117th
- Fedor Manor/Lakewood Senior Center East
- Nature's Bin (stop on Sloane)
- Rocky River Loop
- Library/Discount Drug Mart/CVS (Detroit & Mars)
- Lakewood Hospital (ER Entrance)
- Southwesterly Towers (Detroit & Lincoln)

Now getting your errands done is easy with the Lakewood/ Cleveland Shopper Shuttle. And not only can you get everywhere, but you can do it for a one-way fare of just \$2.25 or just \$1.00 with a senior/disabled card.

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www.riderta.com



Lakewood Cares

Train To Change Your Life,

Raise Funds To Change The Lives Of Others!

by Holly Coughlin

Some people do it just to get off the couch and improve their health. Some people do it because their life has been touched by a blood cancer and want to make a difference. And, some people do it for the camaraderie and the fun of being with others! For whatever reason, when you join Team in Training it gets us all closer to a world without cancer.

Team In Training is an endurance training program that prepares participants for walking or running half-marathons (13.1 miles), marathons (26.2 miles), century cycle rides (100 miles), and triathlons. TNT coaches tailor training for everyone from beginners to experienced athletes so each can achieve their individual goal.

People make the most of their training by raising funds to help people with blood cancers live better and longer lives!

An amazing story

Ernie Lewis, one if TNT's coaches, lost several friends to cancer and was inspired enough to get involved and help others. He wasn't the most experienced runner, but he had participated in a few local events. When he put his mind to it, he definitely made a big impact. He chose a marathon in Anchorage, Alaska for his first with TNT. He decided he had "to put himself out there" if he was to make a real difference in the cause to raise funds to help cure cancer.

Ernie doesn't just dedicate each race to one honoree who has been diagnosed with Leukemia or Lymphoma. He asks each person who contributes toward his goal the name and story of the person they are honoring and he races for the entire group. His last event was dedicated to 117 people battling a blood cancer. Not only does he change the lives of those with cancer by



Ernie and a young honoree that inspires him to run for Team In Training. raising money for research and patient services, but his life has been truly impacted and he is now an inspiration to others.

How do I sign up?

Come to one of our Information Meetings and hear past participants and coaches tell their experiences and get the details on how to join a team. It's a great chance for anyone who has wanted to complete a marathon or an endurance event, or travel to a different part of the country. There are upcoming spring and summer event opportunities in St. Petersburg, Florida; Vancouver, British Columbia; Lake Tahoe, Nevada; and San Diego, California. If you would rather stay close to home, sign up for the Rite Aid Cleveland Marathon or the Greater Cleveland Triathlon.

Local meeting:

* Wednesday, November 3rd, 6:30pm- Rocky River Second Sole-19341 Detroit Ave.

Bring a friend, encourage your book club or walking, cycling or running buddies to join us and learn how you can make a difference.

Check out our website at www. TeamInTraining.org/noh or, call us at (216) 910-1245.

TOGETHER WE TRAIN TO BEAT CANCER

decorations and winter apparel.



216-521-7424 www.coveumc.org

Pulse Of The City

Thanksgiving In Lakewood...

Perhaps For Some, Perhaps For All...

by Gary Rice

There are certain holidays that come around each year that are frankly uncomfortable for some people. See, there are some facts of life and points of view that just will not go away, no matter how much time passes. Let's face it, you just can't please everyone, can you?

Many Protestant churches, for example, celebrate "Reformation Sunday" when, in their view at least, the Christian Church was reformed for the better. Of course, Catholics have historically held a vastly different point of view about that issue. Christmas too is a time of joyous celebration for many in America, yet at the same time there are many who do not celebrate that holiday. Religious issues also arise at Easter, and again at Halloween and Thanksgiving, with many in disagreement as to the extent and nature of how, and even whether, these holidays should be celebrated.

In addition to the religious questions, these kinds of holiday discussions have even entered into the political spectrum. Thanksgiving at its best, for example, is not a bad idea at all, and you might think that it would not be all that controversial. In one form or another, a fall harvest feast of thanksgiving has been celebrated in this land at least since 1621, with that famous (or infamous) first feast between Pilgrims and Native Americans (although Native Americans reportedly held similar harvest celebrations previously on their own).

First officially proposed to be celebrated as a national November holiday by George Washington, Abraham Lincoln revived that November commemoration time in 1863 (to be held on the last Thursday) in the midst of a terrible Civil War. Lincoln's reminder that Americans needed to give simple



thanks to the Creator for all provided blessings was a heartfelt attempt to bring an appreciation of higher values to a society in sore need of healing and higher purpose. As was evidenced a few months earlier by his "Gettysburg Address," Lincoln was good at those "higher purpose" speeches and actions. (Although again, some of my Southern ancestors might not agree even with that simple statement!)

In 1939, President Franklin Roosevelt, reportedly in a nod to some business people wanting to recover from the Great Depression, wanted Thanksgiving to be moved back a week earlier in order to create a longer shopping season before Christmas. At that time, however, many Republicans disagreed with Roosevelt, as they wanted to honor President Lincoln's commemoration date. Anyway, as a result, the holiday was celebrated on different dates, depending on your politics! Finally, a compromise was reached, and in December, 1941, a national holiday of Thanksgiving was proclaimed to always fall on the 4th Thursday in

Movember from that time forward.

November from that time forward. (That compromise somewhat satisfied both Democrats and Republicans, since, once in awhile, the 4th Thursday would be the last one of the month, and sometimes it wouldn't!)

Thanksgiving as well as Columbus Day are uncomfortable holidays for many people of Native American heritage, since those two occasions introduced a litany of circumstances resulting in the decimation of many nations of native peoples by disease and slavery, as well as through deception, thievery, and wars of attrition.

With more and more knowledge available these days about our history, there are indeed differing views concerning controversial holidays affecting people of certain backgrounds, with some groups advocating remembrance activities, and others saying that people need to forgive and forget and then move on with their lives. Some feel that we need to continue to feel a collective national guilt for past perceived injustices, while others feel that contemporary Americans don't owe

anyone an apology for anything.

When I grew up, Americans were immersed in this "melting pot" mentality, where we all were supposed to suppress our heritage and "become Americans" through and through. At that time, the nation was facing the perceived threat of "World Communism," and so unity of purpose was paramount in the minds of our national leadership. In the past 20 years or so, our culture has embraced diversity more and more, so now our individual differences are once again "cool."

The only problem is, those differences can and do bring baggage, do they not? It's an uncomfortable dichotomy, isn't it? On the one hand, we want to be proud of our individual heritage and family backgrounds. The internet has made it more and more possible for us to trace our ancestry to places never dreamed of a few short years ago. DNA testing can put us in touch with long-lost relatives in places that we never could have imagined, and bring to our lives a greater and greater sense of community.

And yet there's that baggage question. We all despise injustice, and to some extent at least, virtually all of us have a soft spot for the underdogs of history. It probably would also be safe to say that if we knew the whole story of our individual ancestries, our own bloodlines would probably be peppered with the persecutors and the persecuted of history. In fact, there's a good case to be made, at least mathematically, that we all are probably related to each other, if we went back far enough in time.

Perhaps with that thought in mind, I think we can all be thankful that, for whatever reason, we all ended up here in Lakewood, and at least for the moment, we all are, at least "relatively" speaking, at peace with each other. If that's not reason enough to be thankful, I don't know what else would be.

Satisfying My Craving For Lame Duck

by Bret Callentine

So, where do we go from here? The election is over and, for better or worse, our mayor is off to tackle bigger and scarier problems. But that still leaves us with a lot of work to do. Sure, Lakewood has been named a great suburb, with nationally acclaimed restaurants, top quality schools, a superb library, and a growing arts scene. But there's always a budget crisis looming and the burst of the housing bubble has left us trying to squeeze blood from a turnip when it comes to property taxes.

Similarly, the national election scene has produced sweeping changes in our governmental leadership. And while the United States is still a pretty impressive place, we've got plenty of problems to solve. We're still living in a land of opportunity, ingenuity, and creativity. But the problem, be it on a national, state or local level, is somewhat the same. We're suffering from deficit spending, crushing unemployment, and an apparent lack of a clear direction.

But like in a game of Go Fish, I approached this election cycle with only one hope, and I think I got what I asked for: governmental gridlock. But it's not because I'm a pessimist, and it's not because I'm for chaos or anarchy. Just the opposite--I believe that the single greatest problem facing this country is a lack of self-confidence, and more importantly, self-sufficiency.

In my opinion, the possibility of a lame duck session leading to a government shutdown could be just the kick in the pants we need. Society is getting far too comfortable handing its problems over to a government too far removed from the situation to really know how to solve it. We keep hearing about how social programs are supposed to offer a "hand-up", not a "hand-out", but when you're doing nothing but issuing checks from an office thousands of miles away, how can you make that claim?

I'm not proposing we go "cold turkey" on government spending, but I suspect the first product of a stalemate in Washington will be a rejuvenated state and local governmental base. I strongly believe that after the initial shock, people will eventually figure out that we don't need to cycle our taxes through the federal grinder to provide the local services we desire.

We don't need new federal guidelines to help revitalize our housing stock. We don't need the government to take our money, only to give it to some bank in the hopes that they will lend it back to us. We need banks that are willing to recognize the benefits of no longer flooding the market with surplus through sheriff's auctions. Just because you CAN foreclose, doesn't mean it's the best thing for your bottom line. The more you sell, the more the prices drop, the more you lose money on your investment. It's the local banks that get creative in their refinancing and keep their investment intact that stand to make the most as the market turns around.

But that takes personal responsibility, knowing your clientele, and

believing in your neighborhood, something that cannot be achieved over the phone or from a corporate headquarters on the other side of the world.

We also don't need new federal government restrictions on credit cards. We need people to go back to living within their means. We need people to realize the benefit of savings, investment, and putting some money away for a rainy day. But we also need our state and local regulators to get more involved in tracking down the truly criminal. We need to stop beating up honest businessmen, root out the real predatory lenders, and prosecute them to the fullest extent of the law.

But that takes a commitment to the community, and a personal knowledge of an individual's honor and reputation, something you cannot legislate from an isolated office or decide upon at a national level.

We need to cut our dependence on federal programs, be it farm subsidies,

continued on page 23

Lakewood Living

Council Applicants Talk To Lakewood

continued from page 14

researcher. My open-mindedness and research into sustainable solutions will guide me in making decisions about economic, social and environmental challenges.

My current work on federally funded contracts has given me great insight into how the government spends money. My business experience will be invaluable when working with the council to keep Lakewood's budget in check.

I intend to take all stakeholders' needs into account before making any decision for Lakewood's future. I am empathetic to the needs of my fellow residents and I will stay that way.

Aaron M. Purdum

My name is Aaron Purdum and I am an applicant for the At-Large City Council position here in Lakewood. I have a military background serving in the U.S. Air Force from 1991-1999 and am currently an Operations Manger with FedEx Express. I have lived and worked across the United States and South Korea allowing me to gain life experience and a broad and varied perspective. I moved to Lakewood from Seattle in 2005 with my family, and we have all come to love this city. I believe the business and management experience along with the leadership qualities developed in the USAF will provide a solid foundation for serving in this position.

As a father of 3 (with one on the way), I want to ensure that the city in which my family resides is a safe, economically stablecommunity that celebrates art and diversity while providing an opportunity for all of its citizens to grow and flourish. The skill set that I bring along with my desire to make Lakewood a better place for its residents will positively impact the direction of the city.

Daniel Rigney

First I would like to thank the Lakewood Observer for an opportunity to communicate freely with the citizens of Lakewood Ohio. The question presented City Council applicants to answer is "what skills do you bring to this position"? City Council members do what? Represent all the citizens providing a resource ensuring each individual receives quality services and assistance solving problems. District council members focus attention on their constituents respectively. Skills I bring to council are a mixture of white collar and blue collar ability. My experience includes numerous years of management in the private sector and military service working with budget analysis, revision, and development. I have also been in the ditches digging the dirt understanding what it means to sweat and earn a living; I recognize how citizens feel when their hard earned tax money seems to disappear into oblivion. City council requires a team of varied personalities and experience with a minimum of backgrounds in finance, law, construction, public service, and security. Council members foremost are to be listeners citizens provide the thought and members interact to generate viable results. The community is the foundation my experience is the contribution.

Daniel Shields

Council members should have three attributes: 1. They should be strong advocates for their community. 2. They must be able to work collaboratively with others, especially fellow council members and members of the local business and volunteer communities. 3. They must have a clear vision of their goals and how to accomplish them.

As an attorney I have represented thousands of individuals, families, and small businesses throughout Northeast Ohio. Much of my experience is with helping create and develop businesses that are bringing jobs and economic development to Lakewood. I will continue to work with banks, businesses, and homeowners to keep the city progressing financially.

I am a long-time Lakewood resident and have volunteered and served as Trustee with various community organizations, such as Lakewood Youth Soccer, Lakewood City Schools, Rotary Club, the Ohio Canal Corridor, and Interfaith Hospitality Network. I was also a member of the 2005 Lakewood Charter Review Commission. Thus, I would bring to council a demonstrated ability to work with others to make the decisions that will move Lakewood forward.

I believe that Lakewood must develop housing and attract more small businesses to grow and thrive.



David P. Stadler

In response to your inquiry, I believe that my professional, civic, and personal experiences have afforded me skills that can be translated into my successful representation of the people of Lakewood. As an attorney I am utilizing skills of advocacy, mediation and negotiation, and counsel on a daily basis. These skills allow me to develop the personal relationships necessary to effectively manage and resolve disputes.

I have served as a mayoral appointee to the Citizen's Advisory Committee and am currently an elected officer to the Council of Trinity Lutheran Church. These positions demand the ability to actively listen and understand issues, advocate positions, and most importantly, work with others of sometimes vastly varying backgrounds and viewpoints to achieve solutions for the well being of the community.

If given the opportunity I would utilize these skills and others to serve the people of Lakewood to the best of my ability.

Kyle Weigand

As a lifelong Lakewoodite, homeowner and active community participant, I believe I would bring many positive attributes to an already well-rounded City Council.

What sets me apart from other applicants for this seat is my broad knowledge of the city's finances. I was part of the bond finance group with outside legal counsel for the three years that the firm was bond counsel for the city. In that time I was able to study the budgets, finances and projections of the city, assist with drafting Bond Resolutions and Annual Information Statements and work with current city councilors and administration. I have an intimate understanding of municipal finance matters, which, in this time of fiscal oversight and general eco-

nomic unrest, is imperative.

My conviction for helping guide Lakewood down the positive path that it has been traveling on of late is strong. I see storefronts occupied, newly paved roads, new schools and fresh and innovative ideas leading to our city to national recognition as hip, fun, safe, walkable and green. Being a leader and member of organizations like Lakewood Democratic Club, Community Relations Advisory Commission, Lakewood Alive and the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce proves my desire to be involved with all-things-Lakewood.

That being said, I am not naïve to think that we will not face challenges in the coming months and year(s). Shrinking state and federal budgets, high rates of unemployment and general economic uncertainty is embedded in our current reality. Now is the time, however, to work together with a new administration to continue to attract new residents while taking care of the ones we have, improve our aging (and incredibly unique) housing stock and bolster business already invested while attracting new ones to invest.

The opportunity to serve the city and my fellow residents on city council would be my pleasure.







Lakewod Living

On Kiwanis

"Growing Healthy" With Kiwanis

by John Mumma

Past President, Lakewood Kiwanis

The Lakewood Kiwanis Club is committed to programs in early childhood development in our community. An example of this is a program in the kindergarten called "Growing Healthy Together" which is co-sponsored by the Lakewood Kiwanis Club, the Lakewood Department of Human Services Division of Aging, the Lakewood Foundation and the Lakewood Schools.

This program consists of thirty lessons that are taught once a week by two grandmas and two grandpas who are all volunteers. At present we have eighteen volunteers (nine Kiwanians) teaching five kindergarten classes at Harrison and Grant schools. I'm Grandpa John in Ms. Kathy Keane's and Ms. Sheri Tovtin's classes at Grant Elementary School.

The overall message to the children is that they are a special gift and they are able to make healthy choices about their bodies and lives. To achieve this goal the grandparents use plays with scripts, posters, puppets, songs and hands on activities. At the close of each lesson the children are given a small gift that reinforces the message taught. In addition, a letter is sent home with the children explaining the nature of the program presented that week with suggestions for how the parents can reinforce the message.

Now in its 19th year, this program is funded by a donation of \$4500.00 yearly by Kiwanis from profits generated by your support of our various fund raisers and we thank you all sincerely for that support.

Satisfying My Craving For Lame Duck

continued from page 23

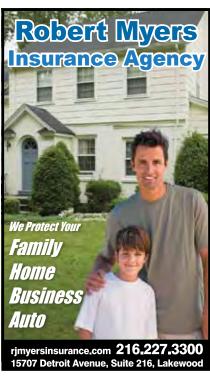
manufacturing stimulus programs, or "shovel ready" construction jobs. If we want a bullet train to Columbus, then let's raise the money and build it ourselves, instead of hitting up the federal government for funds like a teenager asking for the car keys on a Friday night. There was a time when each state took pride in setting itself apart, and private businesses didn't wait for government assistance to fill a societal

But that will require a people to become truly passionate about big projects. They will have to sacrifice directly, take necessary risks, and stand by every decision. We will have to know what we want, decide what we need and stop settling for what politicians decide to give us.

Lyndon Johnson declared war on poverty back in the 1960s, but after nearly 50 years of creating one federal program after another, we're not really any closer to living in that "Great Society". It's not for a lack of spending, it's because we've forgotten one basic principle that goes against everything established in our current welfare state: the government cannot care for people, only PEOPLE can care for people. And the further you remove that responsibility from each of us, the worse off all of us will be.

That's why I'm happy with the results of this election. I suspect that a Congress that does nothing will quickly result in a society that can do almost anything by itself.







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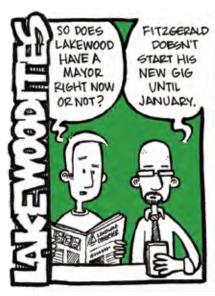


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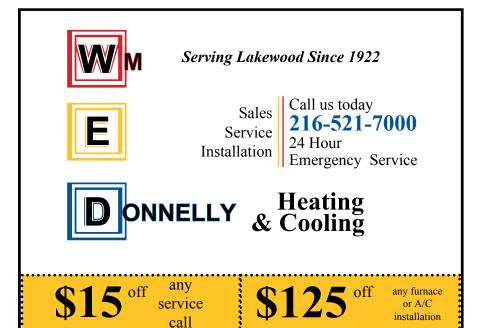
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