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Volume 7, Issue 2, January 25, 2011

Lakewood Shares More Talent With County

An Update With The Mayor
by Ed Monroe

The election of Ed Fitzgerald to County Executive signaled that there were to be some changes in Lakewood City government. Changes not only in the elected office holders, but also in the administration were to be expected.

The Lakewood Observer caught up with the new Mayor, Mike Summers, who succeeded Ed Fitzgerald, to discuss these changes and some of things residents can expect in the near future. Starting with the first and most obvious question, the Observer requested Mayor Summers to comment

on the departure of Nate Kelly, who headed the Planning and Development Department.

Mayor Summers stated that the departure of Nate Kelly is both a positive and negative. It's a positive in that Nate is leaving for a much bigger role in economic development at the county level, but a negative in that the city is losing a very talented individual. Summers was quick to point out that the Planning and Development Department is staffed with many capable individuals

and that they remain with their institutional knowledge. He explained this is important is, because the work with complying with stimulus funds, housing and urban development grants, and block grants can be very complex. There are strict parameters the city must follow to make sure it is in compliance with these funds. The staff does an excellent job navigating the city through these issues and the work continues unimpeded. The overall vision for the development in

the City has been put into flux though, and this is something the Mayor will be actively working on in the next few months.

Another high profile move was Nora Hurley, the City's Law Director, who is also moving over to the county. The move brought a quick appointment of Kevin Butler, who was the City Councilman for Ward 1 and also City Council President to replace her. The official timeline for the change will make **continued on page 5**

Awake Through Transparent And Accountable Leadership

by Matthew John Markling,
Lakewood School Board President

In his 1964 Nobel Peace Prize Lecture entitled, "The Quest for Peace and Justice", Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. warned that:

"One of the great liabilities of history is that all too many people fail to remain awake through great periods of social change. Every society has its protectors of the status quo and its fraternities of the indifferent who are notorious for sleeping through revolutions. But today our very survival depends on our ability to stay awake, to adjust to new ideas, to remain vigilant and to face the challenge of change."



Lakewood School Board President Matthew John Markling

Are we awake to the educational and financial changes facing our children in 2011 in spite of overwhelming community support for our most recent operating levy?

Are we awake to the status quo and its fraternities who are constantly focusing us on their own self-interests and relentlessly lulling us into indifference with respect to the real educational and financial challenges facing our children in 2011?

Are we awake and prepared to adjust to new ideas, to remain vigilant, and to face the challenges of educational and financial changes head-on in 2011 rather than daydreaming of a twentieth-century image of Lakewood?

Yes, we are awake. And we will **continued on page 9**

Making the Most Of Winter Weather



The Germaine Family's "Blue Caterpillar" won for "Most Creative Snowman" in the St. Charles/Onondaga Snowman Contest.

Full story on page 18

LHS Artists Win Top Regional Awards

by Christine Gordillo

Two Lakewood High art students have been selected to move on to the national competition of the prestigious Scholastic Art & Writing Awards presented by the Alliance for Young Artists & Writers and their regional affiliates.

Seniors Peter Barlow and Danielle Curran were chosen as Gold Key winners in the Cuyahoga County Art Region. A Gold Key is the highest level one can achieve in the regional competition and works chosen as Gold Key winners move on for national review in New York City in February. Barlow won the Gold Key for his film titled "Last Hope" and Curran won the award for her painting titled "Purple Hart." Curran's painting was also recognized with the Sue Wall Award for best painting.

The more than 165,000 works submitted across the country were reviewed by professionals in visual and literary arts and judged on the following criteria: originality, technical skill and emergence of personal vision or voice.

Barlow also was named a Silver Key winner for the region for his self portrait face in cut paper titled "Me, Myself and Eye."

A number of other LHS artists were awarded Honorable Mentions for artistic potential. Those recognized for Honorable Mention are:

- Barlow for his print, "My



Senior Danielle Curran won a Golden Key Award in the Scholastic Art & Writing regional competition for this painting titled "Purple Hart." The painting also won the Sue Wall Award for best painting in the competition.

little teapot"

- Curran for her acrylic painting "Galactic Vomit"

- Emily Haire for her watercolor painting "Floral Surprise"

- Maggie Latham for her mixed media painting "They Must Protect Themselves"

- Maureen MacGregor for her thumbprint drawing in black ink titled "Fingerprint Self Portrait"

- Jazmyn Paoli for her drawing "Tangerine Afternoon"

The Scholastic Awards were founded in 1923 to offer recognition and scholarships for students for their artistic talents. Congratulations to all of Lakewood High's talented artists and good luck to Peter Barlow and Danielle Curran as they move on to national judging.

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, January 26

Division of Aging January in Australia Party

10:00 AM - 1:00 PM, Woman’s Club Pavilion, Lakewood Park, 14532 Lake Ave. We will enjoy summertime foods and play lawn games (inside of course). Pull out those shorts and flip flops if you dare. In the afternoon, we will gather up all the cards, chips and other supplies from Center West so we can play bingo and the bingo machine. \$4.00 per person. For more info, call the Activities Office at 216.529.5005.

Local Animal Shelter Benefit with Dick Goddard

1:30 - 3:00 PM, Aristocrat West 4387 West 150th St. Cleveland
Dick Goddard will be at Aristocrat West Rehabilitation and Healthcare to sell and sign calendars for \$10. Proceeds go to local animal shelters. Besides this fund-raiser, Aristocrat West will be committed to assisting local shelters by being a collection site for needed items for shelters. Refreshments, giveaways. Also, you can meet our facility dog, Ruby, who brings joy to the residents, family members, staff and guests. For more information call (216) 252-7730.

Embroiderers’ Guild of America North Coast Chapter

6:30 - 9:00 PM, North Olmsted Library, 27403 Lorain Rd, (west of Dover Center Rd) Meets on the 4th Wednesday of each month (except Nov and Dec). Featured this month is the art of Tatting. All stitchers welcome. For more info call (440) 871-8828.

U.S. Coast Guard Aux. Boating Classes (Jan. 26 - March 23)

7:00 - 9:30 PM, Garfield Middle School, 13114 Detroit Ave.
1. Boating Skills & Seamanship and 2. Sailing Skills & Seamanship. Both courses are NASBLA approved. Call 216-226-7221 for more information.

Annual Meeting of the Rocky River Watershed Council

7:00 - 9:00 PM, Cleveland Metroparks Rocky River Nature Center, 24000 Valley Parkway (in the Rocky River Reservation), North Olmsted.
All are invited. Guest speaker Harvey Webster from the Cleveland Museum of Natural History will give his “Romancing the Eagle” presentation, discussing Bald Eagle recovery in Ohio—including our own nesting pair in the Rocky River Watershed.

Thursday, January 27

Informational Session at Hard Hatted Women

6:00 - 7:00 PM, 4220 Prospect Ave., Cleveland
To introduce women to the concept of looking into Non-Traditional jobs. Hard Hatted Women have been around since 1979 and have taken great pride in their mission to help women step into a job that will pay more and sustain a higher level of living. Our goal is to bring diversity into the workplace that has been traditionally occupied by men. Sessions every 4th Thursday of the month. Please Call Linette Eady to get registered 216-861-6500 ext 23. <http://hardhattedwomen.org>.

Community Diversity Potluck

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM, Woman’s Club Pavilion, Lakewood Park, 14532 Lake Avenue
The Lakewood Community Relations Advisory Commission presents “The World Lives in Lakewood” Diversity Potluck. Meet and Greet 6:00 PM, Dinner 6:15-8:00 PM; Join us as we break bread and have a casual conversation about Lakewood’s youth. Please bring a dish (vegetarian or meat) for about six people which represents your family, cultural or ethnic background!

Tuesday, February 1

Job Seeker Tuesdays In February Series

9:30 AM - 12:30 PM, Lakewood Public Library, Main Branch
Resumes That Get Results. Purpose of a resume, how to develop an elective resume and review the general guidelines and parts of a “resume that WILL get results.” Workshops & Coaching are free. See ad on Page 13 for more details.

Income Tax Preparation Clinic

12:00 PM - 3:30 PM, Lawther Center, 16024 Madison Avenue
Hosted by The City of Lakewood-Division of Aging and AARP. Open to anyone filing uncomplicated tax returns, regardless of age, residency, and income or whether they are AARP members. AARP Tax Preparation volunteers will meet individually with interested participants to assist with the completion of the year’s tax returns. Clinics will be held at Lawther Center (West) on Mondays and Tuesdays from 12:00 P.M. through 3:30 P.M. Appointments are by reservation only. To make a reservation, call 216-521-1515 between the hours of 10:30 A.M. and 2:30 P.M., Monday through Friday.

Parenting for the New Year and Beyond Seminar

6:00 PM - 7:30 PM, Horace Mann Elementary School.

The Lakewood Department of Human Services/Early Childhood is sponsoring an interactive parenting experience that is beneficial and fun. This seminar will increase a parent’s understanding of child development, assist to improve parenting skills, help build a supportive network, find ways to nurture both parent and child, offer a balance to parent’s responsibilities; at home at work, and in the community. The seminar’s goal is to reduce stress and increase the joys of parenting. There will be four seminars. Remaining dates are Tuesdays: February 1st, 8th, and 15th. A light meal and childcare are provided at no charge. Please call to reserve a space, 216.529.5018.

After School Golf Junior Golf Academy (4 week class)

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM, Lincoln Elementary School, 15615 Clifton Blvd.
All equipment is provided. Registration is required. Grades K-8th. For more info or to register (216) 529-4081 or online at www.lakewoodrecreation.com.

Belly Dancing (8 Week Class)

6:15 PM - 7:15 PM, Hayes Elementary School, 16401 Delaware Ave.
Learn the ancient art of belly dancing and enjoy the side effects of feeling leaner, sleeker and stronger. Improve your posture & energize your body. Registration required. For more info/to register (216) 529-4081 or visit www.lakewoodrecreation.com.

Mad Science Crazy Chemworks (6 Week Program)

7:00 PM - 8:00 PM, Garfield Middle School, 13114 Detroit Ave.
Students will become lab scientists-in-training in this whirlwind program on laboratory techniques. Students will also continue their lab training with their Take-Home Graduated Gear kit. Registration required. For more information or to register (216) 529-4081 or www.lakewoodrecreation.com.

LO Outreach & Development Community Conversations

7 - 9 PM, Beck Cafe, Detroit Ave. See Page 18 for details.

Thursday, February 3

Westshore Tea Party / Town Hall

7:00 - 9:00 PM, Gemini Center 21225 Lorain Road, Fairview Park
We are having citizen activists speak on Education, School Boards, School curriculum and our joint efforts to get the Constitution read, taught, and discussed. What does it take to become a member of the school board? What do they do? All the ins and outs of becoming citizen activists. Click here for more information

Lakewood High Barnstormers’ Production, “Class Action”

8:00 PM, Showing Thursday, Friday, & Saturday, LHS’ Tryout Theater
The high school’s drama club performs the play by Brad Slaughter. See Page 8.

Friday, February 4

Personal Career Coaching On Fridays

1:00 - 4:00 PM, Lakewood Public Library, Main Branch
As part of the Job Seeker Tuesdays in February, professionals from Cuyahoga Community College Career Development and Transition Services, will be offering personal career coaching on Fridays in February. See ad Page 13.

Monday, February 7

Income Tax Preparation Clinic

7:00 PM, Lawther Center, 16024 Madison Ave. See info above under Tuesday, Feb. 1.

More listings at www.lakewoodobserver.com



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

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

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

Upcoming Submission Deadline

Sunday, January 30
Sunday, February 13

Publish Date

Tuesday, January 25
Tuesday, February 22

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Lakewood Health News

Dress Up Your Heart

by Elizabeth Dauber

As part of the American Heart Association's "Go Red For Women" campaign, The Lakewood "Open Your Heart Committee" is sponsoring their annual fundraiser entitled "DRESS UP YOUR HEART" to help raise awareness of the #1 killer of women in the U.S. - Heart Disease. This year's event will be a reception and fashion show featuring Valerie Mayen, owner and designer of

YELLOWCAKE. Valerie, who may be better known as a former contestant on Lifetime's PROJECT RUNWAY, wowed a packed house during New York's Fashion Week this past September at Lincoln Center with her 10-piece collection. Her talent promises to be equally exciting for this event.

The Event will be held at Around The Corner Cafe, 18616 Detroit Avenue, on Saturday, February 5th from 7:00 PM

to 9:00 PM. Tickets are \$30.00 Pre-sale and can be purchased at Sweet Designs Chocolatier and Rozi's Wine House, both in Lakewood; from committee members; or by calling (216) 374-8724. Ticket includes appetizers, wine & beer. Join the fun and WEAR RED!

If you cannot attend the event but would like to support this critical mission with a donation, email the committee at dressupyourheart@yahoo.com.



Wanted: Emergency Response Team Volunteers

by Tricia Granfors

Would you know how to help your family and neighbors in the event of a disaster or emergency? The Westshore Regional Community Emergency Response Team (WSC) is offering free classes on topics such as disaster preparedness, basic injury assessment and medical treatment, search and rescue procedures, fire suppression, disaster psychology, and much more. The 20-hour adult FEMA course is conducted by local safety professionals. Westshore residents who are US citizens, successfully complete training and pass a background check are eligible for team membership.

Do your part to keep our region safe and prepared. To register for the free classes or for more information



Instructor Tim Brown teaches first aid

contact WSC Coordinator Tricia Granfors at (440) 716-4135 or granforst@north-olmsted.com. Space is limited.

Training begins Saturday, February 19, 2011. The five consecutive Saturday morning classes will be held at St. John Medical Center, 29000 Center Ridge Road and the City of Westlake Service Center, 741 Bassett Road, from at 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

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Lakewood News

Nine Month Moratorium On Solid Fuel Heating Units

by Christopher Bindel

On January 18, 2011, Council President Kevin Butler called the Lakewood City Council to order at 7:41 P.M. The first order of business was to excuse Councilwoman Monique Smith (At-Large), who was absent due to a family emergency.

Next, Councilman Shawn Juris (Ward III) read a communication introducing a resolution sponsored by both him and Councilman Ryan Nowlin (At-Large). The resolution recognizes First Federal of Lakewood for their recent achievement of acquiring Century Bank and becoming the third largest bank in the region. Council voted and passed the resolution. Dave Shaw of first Federal of Lakewood was present at the meeting and thanked Council for the honor and recognition.

The next item on the agenda was a resolution presented by Councilman Tom Bullock (Ward II). The resolution expresses Lakewood's support for the Ohio Historic Preservation Tax Credit (OHPTC), and urges the Ohio General Assembly to renew it. As a city of a hundred years, with many buildings older than that, the OHPTC can be an important tool to help building owners rehab their properties and make them available for new use. Councilman Bullock said that the OHPTC is offset by the taxes collected from construction jobs and from businesses or tenants that would have otherwise not been in the building. He continued, saying that the chair of the Heritage Advisory board stated that the taxes

collected after a project is completed usually multiplied several times of the initial tax credit.

Councilman Bullock said that Lakewood Alive had also shown their support and asked that Council pass the resolution. The Executive Director of Lakewood Alive, Mary Anne Crampton, was present and said a few words. She said that although the "feel good" part of the resolution, and the tax credit, are about preservation, she didn't want people to forget that it is also about creating a revenue generator for the state, as well as economic development.

With no further comments, Council decided to vote on the matter. They first voted to suspend the rules requiring three readings of the resolution before passage. Having voted to allow it to be voted on upon its first reading, Council then did so, and passed it.

Mayor Mike Summers then introduced an ordinance, along with Councilman Juris, proposing a nine month moratorium on the approval of installing solid fuel source burning appliances to the central heating systems in Lakewood homes. These units heat homes by burning wood or pellets, and there are currently three in Lakewood homes. The city has received numerous complaints from residents and neighbors that live in the vicinity of the homes that have these units. Currently, there are no codes on

the books regulating the use or installations of these units in Lakewood.

The nine month moratorium was proposed so that the city can gain further understanding of the technical, environmental, and nuisance impact of the units. Mayor Summers said that the initial analysis of the issues surrounding the units raised more questions than answers. Some of the questions regarded the storage of the burning supplies, soot impact on surrounding structures, how weather would affect the smoke, and the impact on clean air and health of those in the neighborhood of the units.

Councilman Bullock made the point that Council and the administration should look at the EPA and state regulations to see if they have any guidelines that might help Lakewood in deciding how to handle the situation.

Fire Chief Scott Gilman made the comment that Lakewood's ordinances used to include extensive codes regulating smoke. He said there even used to be a position in the fire department of a smoke inspector. However, all that code was removed when the EPA forced the removal of most of the incinerators in the city and most coal furnaces were replaced. Chief Gilman also wanted to make it clear that the big difference between these units and a home's fireplace is that these units are used for whole house heating and are made to burn 24 hours a day- unlike a fireplace, which is just burned for a few hours for pleasure, not out of necessity.

Council decided to refer the matter to the Committee of Public safety for further consideration.

Next, delivering a communication for Public Works Director, Joe Beno, Mr. Corrigan asked Council to consider a resolution that would move the proposed Civil War Monument boulder from a position near the opening of Lakewood Park, to over by the rest of the war memorials. In order to do this, the memorial boulder for Mayor Wiegand would have to be moved. The new proposed spot for the Civil War memorial is in the place of the Mayor Wiegand memorial, therefore, Public Works suggested the two locations be swapped, moving the Weigand bolder to the entrance of Lakewood Park. Council agreed. Councilman Bullock requested Council suspend the rules and pass the resolution on its first reading. Councilman Kevin Butler (Ward I) seconded the motion and Council passed the resolution.

Mr. Corrigan then read a communication asking Council to allow the City to enter into an agreement with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) to start the third phase of the Detroit traffic signal replacement project. The total cost of the project will be \$3.1 million dollars with 80% of it being covered by NOACA's Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) funds. Twelve of the fifteen signals are eligible for replacement by CMAQ, the other three were not deemed necessary. The three intersections that didn't qualify are Granger Avenue, Hall Avenue, and Lakeland Avenue. Granger is the only intersection that is being retained of the three, due to the skewed alignment of the intersection. Because it did not qualify for CMAQ replacement, it will have to be covered in full by Lakewood. There will be a light added at Spring Garden due to the addition of the Social Security building that was recently built there.

Council referred the matter to the Public Works Committee to be discussed further.

Coming to the end of the agenda items, there was the very rare situation where no one from either the community, Council, or the administration had any additional questions or statements. Therefore, Council President Butler motioned to adjourn and the meeting ended at 8:34 P.M.

Council meetings are held every first and third Monday of the month at 7:30 P.M. in the City Hall Auditorium. The next regularly scheduled council meeting will be held on February 7, 2011. 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.

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County Politics

A Closer Look At The New County Council

by Margaret Brinich

Over the past several years, Cuyahoga County Government has been in constant turmoil. Even with the new county structure in place, the drama, the accusations, the confrontation continues- such is the nature of the beast that is politics and mass media. But stepping back from the fray, at least for a moment, let's see what substantive progress this new government that we voted into existence is actually making. What progress have our County Council members and new County Executive made in really operationalizing the tenents laid out in the County Charter?

A simple enough question, but one that the second district's county councilman Dale Miller points out, is a far more daunting to answer than many may think. As an experienced legislator himself, Miller offered a detailed explanation of what it means to start over and help build a new government



Cuyahoga County Councilman District 2, Dale Miller, talks with Observers Margaret Brinich and Betsy Voinovich at the Root Café in Lakewood.

Lakewood Shares More Talent With County



Lakewood's Planning Director, Nate Kelly is following Ed FitzGerald to the county.
continued from page 1

the transition much easier. Nora Hurley won't officially depart until February 28, making Kevin Butler's first official day March 1st. This will give the incoming law director plenty of time to get up to speed on legal matters facing the city. "This is a friendly transition", the Mayor said.

With these two high profile moves it was naturally asked if there were other possible changes in the works. The Mayor responded that additional city employees have applied with the county, but feels it could take some time for more transitions to be complete. Some of the top appointments at the county have been made, but it could be months before all the positions in the county are filled.

The Mayor then gave an update on some of his goals. He outlined four starting with his main one which is housing. Maintaining a strong housing stock will be a priority of the Mayor who sees the many economic advantages in doing so. He also wants to focus on the financial strength of the city and implementing effective cost management policies. He wants to work on

from the ground up.

Although Miller and the rest of his County Council colleagues took office on January 3, 2011, the real work began even before they were sworn in. In order to function as a legislative body, Council needed to have a formal set of "operating rules." By pulling from various sources, including Transition Committee recommendations, Summit County's Charter, and the operating rule of Cleveland City Council and the Ohio Senate, they hoped to craft a set of rules that capitalize on the strengths and avoid the weaknesses of these documents. Miller stressed the intensive, public editing process that was used in order to arrive at the 20 page document that was approved on the Council's first day as an active legislative body. Other items passed on their first day of business were primarily temporary in nature and will be reviewed again prior to being made permanent.

Another primary focus of the Council has been appointing the standing committees. Miller spoke at length about the work of the Rules, Ethics and Council Operations committee, of which he is vice-chair. Given the recent history of Cuyahoga County Government, extra care is being taken to examine conflict of interest and contracting policies. Many of these policies are already spelled out in State Law, but in order to improve turnaround time for ethics related consultations and probes, the Ethics Committee is formulating the County's

the economic development challenges in the city and deal with commercial vacancies. He said that in looking to begin a search for a new economic development director, he needs to further define what exactly he'll expect of the person, and then create a job profile from there. Once that is done he'll begin his search for a director. Finally, the Mayor said that he wants the city government to, "find efficiencies in the work we do." For example, the city recently switched over from a Novell computer network server to a Microsoft one. The Mayor believes there are many new computer applications that can be used with the Microsoft network that can help streamline the work of the city.

Looking out at the political landscape the Mayor reflected on some of the changes. One of the main things to remember he said is, "We're all still here." He included Nickie Antonio, recently elected to the Ohio House of Representatives and made reference that while some of the seats may have changed, everyone is still charged with serving Lakewood in some way. "We're all still here" he said. "We're all still on the bus."

own Ethics Board. The Board will be made up of approximately 5 uncompensated members of the public and will be available to hear both formal and informal ethics related inquiries.

Contracting policies will fall primarily under the purview of the Public Works Procurement and Contracting Committee. A contracting model similar to the suggestion submitted by the Transition Committee is likely to be adopted. Miller explained that by creating a "Board of Control," made up of 4-5 directors of various executive departments and 1 or 2 council members, they hoped to guarantee a Board that is both efficient and knowledgeable. Council will still be asked to formally review contracts of \$500K or more and will be able to rely on the expertise of the department directors to whom the contracts are most relevant for those that fall below that threshold.

Budgetary constraints are also high on the list of items to address for the new Council. With new faces in leadership roles in Columbus and the potential for eight billion dollars in budget cuts at the state level, Miller expects a challenging series of public budgetary hearings. In an effort to increase transparency, the entire budgetary process will be open to the public. Miller hopes that although this decision will create a more challenging process initially, it will ultimately lead to a final budget document that has been fully vetted by the public as well as by Council. Although the County is pursuing several initiatives to improve its efficiency, e.g. a single IT system, Miller noted that these types of system-wide improvements must be implemented over time. Therefore, their benefits, in terms of financial savings, will not be reflected on the balance sheet drafted for the 2011 budget.

When pressed about the most challenging aspect of his new elected office thus far, Miller's response was simple. "I thought from the start that creating a new government from scratch would be a huge undertaking. Turned out to be even bigger than I expected." Despite this, throughout the interview Miller remained excited and optimistic about the current state of the County Government of which he is a part.

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Lakewood Public Library Events

All Events and Programs Are Free And Open To The Public

Tuesday, January 25

HEALTH AND BEAUTY: Active Release Technique
Dr. Allison Norris, a certified practitioner of this patented soft tissue technique, suggests wearing some comfortable clothes if you plan on participating in the demonstration.
7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

Sunday, January 30

SUNDAY WITH THE FRIENDS: Dolley Madison
Actress Carol Starre-Kmiecik plays the First Lady who set the tone for all those who followed. In addition to serving in her husband’s administration, she filled in as First Lady for the widowed Thomas Jefferson, furnished the brand new White House and saved democracy once or twice.
2:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

Tuesday, February 1

CLEVELAND’S GOLDEN AGE OF PRINT: Law of the Land
With memories as sharp as a stiff Lake Erie breeze, the frontline witnesses of Cleveland history reflect on the things they did to get the story. Featuring interviews with legendary reporter Doris O’Donnell, the author of Front Page Girl, this series of short documentaries chronicles a bygone era with ink-stained anecdotes from O’Donnell’s friends, colleagues and collaborators. Originally produced by Storytellers Media Group in conjunction with the Cleveland Police Historical Society & Museum, as part of the Emmy Award winning PBS series, Doris O’Donnell’s Cleveland, these episodes are now available on DVD and will be available for sale at each screening.
Back in the day, Doris knew all the top cops, including police chief George Matowitz, torso murder detective Peter Merylo, homicide chief David Kerr and prosecutor John T. Corrigan.
7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

Saturday, February 5

FALL GUYS AND FEMME FATALES: Film Noir in the Forties
Gun Crazy (1949)
Directed by Joseph Lewis Not Rated
John Dahl has loved guns since he was a kid. After World War II, he returns home where he and his pals attend a carnival sideshow featuring Peggy Cummins, a sharpshooting blonde whose love of guns equals his own. They marry, but Annie is not satisfied with small-town life and craves money and excitement. Reluctantly he joins her on a crime spree that would make Bonnie and Clyde envious. The law is never far behind—and they have guns, too.
6:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

Monday, February 7

You Have Been Named Executor – Now What?
With three decades of financial experience at her disposal, Sandra Anderson helps prospective executors understand the legal process, address immediate concerns, and decide whether probate proceedings are necessary to settle an estate efficiently. She will also provide information that will help people get their own affairs in order.
7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

BOOK GROUPS: Thursday, February 10

BOOKED FOR MURDER BOOK CLUB: New York City
The Leavenworth Case by Anna Katharine GreenLong before Sherlock Holmes, there was Ebenezer Gryce. America’s first detective series was also one of the first mysteries written by a woman. Wealthy merchant Horatio Leavenworth is murdered in his 5th Avenue mansion, and his beloved nieces are the prime suspects. The determined yet humble Gryce works tirelessly to solve this case, despite surprises at every turn.
7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Meeting Room

Tuesday, February 15

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

LEARNING LAB CLASSES:

Reservations for computer instruction classes begin the first of each month.
To register, please stop in or call (216) 226-8275, ext. 127. We ask that all students come to class with a working knowledge of the mouse. If you need help, visit the Technology Center and ask the staff to set you up on our Mouse Training Pro-

gram. 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 FEBRUARY CLASSES: (Class sign-ups begin on Tuesday, February 1)
Saturday, February 5: INTERNET BASICS @ 3:00 p.m.
Saturday, February 12: WORD PROCESSING BASICS @ 3:00 p.m.
Thursday, February 17: JOB HUNTING WORKSHOP 10:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m.
Saturday, February 19: WEB SEARCHING BASICS @ 3:00 p.m.
Saturday, February 26: 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

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 Room
Third Grade: February 9, Fourth Grade: February 2, Fifth grade: January 26

WRITE TIME: For students in sixth to twelfth grade
This 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.
Winter Season: January 13 - February 17 (Open Mike” final on February 24)
Thursdays at 4:00 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room

C.O.M.I.C.S. (Create Original Manuscripts Illustrated Completely Series): For students in sixth through twelfth grade
Do you like to tell stories? Can you visualize your tales and want to get them on paper? Sign up to create your own graphic novel and tell a fantastic story! We will supply the tools, you supply the ideas. To register, please stop in or call (216) 226-8275, ext. 140.
Tuesdays, January 11 – February 15 from 4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room
Grand Finale Presentation: Tuesday, February 22 at 4:00 p.m.

EVENING PROGRAMS:

STORYBOOK CHALLENGE: For the whole family
Inspired by the classic game show Hollywood Squares, this weekly battle of wits will test your knowledge of books, nursery rhymes and fairy tales. Can you beat the Library Staff at their own game? To register, please stop in or call (216) 226-8275, ext. 140.
Choose One Preliminary Round: January 25 or February 8
Final Round: February 15
Tuesdays, 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room

PICTURE BOOK AWARD COMMITTEE: For children in second through fourth grades
Become a book expert as you experience and evaluate new picture books. Choose the stories and pictures that you like the best, name the award you will give the winners, and help plan an award ceremony. To register, please stop in or call (216) 226-8275, ext. 140.
Mondays, January 10 - February 7 from 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room

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 scis-

Lakewood Schools

LHS Pair Chosen For Cleveland Leadership Program

by Christine Gordillo

One day a month until school is out, Lakewood High School juniors Hanna Gallovic and Nick Stadler will take a break from their familiar high school world and immerse themselves in a program designed to open their eyes to what it is that makes Cleveland, Cleveland. Along the way, they'll also learn about the importance of leadership, citizenship and working together with peers from a variety of backgrounds.

Gallovic and Stadler are two of 53 Northeast Ohio juniors that have been chosen to participate in this year's Look Up to Cleveland leadership program. More than 85 high school students representing public, private, charter and parochial schools in Cuyahoga County applied for the program, and this is the first year Lakewood High School has had two student selected for the program.

Now in its 24th year, Look Up to Cleveland is a high school leadership development and diversity awareness program for Greater Cleveland's outstanding high school leaders administered by the Cleveland Leadership Center.

The goal of Look Up To Cleveland is to develop and enhance student leadership skills while fostering an appreciation for the Northeast Ohio community in which they live. The program helps prepare students for

responsible citizenship. Participants benefit from team projects and unique opportunities to hear and converse with high-level business, government and community leaders throughout the year.

The class is designed to include a balance of gender, race, school type, geographic location and socio-economic status. The diversity aspect of the program has already made an impression on Gallovic, who enjoyed meeting so many new people at the welcome retreat held over a December weekend.

"It's really cool to be in the atmosphere with all sorts of different kids," she said. "Everyone was really friendly and open to meeting everyone else."

The first theme day, centered around entrepreneurship, has already accomplished one of the missions of the program by making the young leaders aware of the economic potential Cleveland holds.

Stadler said it was particularly nice to hear about the positive side of Cleveland for a change. "They are teaching us about the 'ups' of Cleveland and how we can contribute to the 'up' in the future," he said.

The program was developed with an eye toward convincing young people who graduate from Cleveland-area schools that Cleveland is a viable place for them to build a career after college.

"The (program) teaches them



Juniors Nick Stadler and Hanna Gallovic are part of Look Up to Cleveland's Class of 2011.

about Cleveland and what Cleveland has to offer with the goal of keeping bright, young people invested in Cleveland," said Kathy Baylog, the gifted and talented coordinator at the high school and the teacher who recommended Gallovic and Stadler for the program.

For the next six months, Gallovic and Stadler will spend a day each month delving into one of six themes that will be covered in the program. January's topic was Cleveland's Econ-

omy and Entrepreneurism. The class spent time at JumpStart, a nonprofit that provides venture capital and other resources for startup companies. Other topics covered include Arts & Culture, Government in Our Region and Neighborhoods.

Only one month into the program, and Gallovic and Stadler are already seeing the possibilities for their future in a new light. "It's really opening different doors for me," said Stadler.

Barnstormers Staging "Class Action" Feb. 3-5

by Christine Gordillo

The Lakewood High School Barnstormers will be putting on their winter play production the first weekend of February, and it's a performance most everyone can relate to in some way.

The play, "Class Action" by Brad Slight, will be performed in the LHS Tryout Theater Feb. 3 - 5 at 8 p.m. The following is how Barnstormers Director David Gannon explains what "Class Action" is about:

What images does the word "school" conjure up for most people? Is it images of children sitting in desks and obediently taking notes or doing other school work? Is it images of teachers standing in front of a class of eager young faces, while leading their young pupils in an important lesson or activity? Obviously, the images that come to mind will depend upon who is doing the reminiscing. However, if a group of people at a 20-year high school reunion are asked to talk about their most enduring images from high school, a vast majority of those memories will be culled from moments and events that took place outside the classroom.

For that reason, in the 1990's playwright Brad Slight was commissioned to create a play that dealt with situations and moments that take place outside the classroom. The author felt that

since most people's memories of high school tend to be from non-classroom situations, his play should reflect that. The resulting play, "Class Action," is a collection of monologues and vignettes that deal with some of the most important experiences young people deal with in high school. In short, whether joyous or painful, young people learn a lot in high school that is not directly tied to teachers and the curriculum.

Tickets for the show will be sold for \$3.00 in advance and \$5.00 at the door. For more information, or to place an order for tickets, call Director Gannon at 529-4162.

Learning Computers Made Simple And Down To Earth

by Mitchell Robida

The Lakewood City Schools Community Recreation and Education Department would like to introduce our computer instructor Matt Godlaski. Matt has been involved in computer training for over a decade. His early professional years were spent teaching computers to individuals working in the manufacturing industry and then, in 2006, he began instructing students in the use of the personal computer. He has been working with computers for over 25 years. His first experience, in the early 1980's, was operating and programming a Commodore 64 home

computer. Since that time, Matt has had experience with nearly every Windows operating system. Motivated by his interest in the internet and computer gaming, he began building his own computer systems in 1996 and then designing websites in 1997.

Matt has always enjoyed taking complex concepts and breaking them down to their simplest components. He has a gift for analyzing and explaining ideas using simple down-to-earth language. His teaching style has been called "easy to understand," "logical," "patient," and "wonderful." He takes great pleasure in helping people take control of their

campus and meet the community of teachers, current parents, faculty and staff. There will also be information about applying for financial aid, and representatives of the Unity Catholic Credit Union will be on hand to answer questions about financing a Catholic education.

No reservations are necessary to attend the Open House.

For more information, visit the LCA website at www.lakewoodcatholicacademy.com or contact Director of Marketing & Admissions Paul Nickels at 216.521.0559 or by email at pnickels@lakewoodcatholicacademy.com.

Lakewood Catholic Academy Open House Is January 30th

by Paul Nickels

Lakewood Catholic Academy (LCA), a pre-K through eighth grade Catholic elementary school in Lakewood serving families across the West Shore, will hold an Open House for prospective families on Sunday, January 30th from 12:30 until 3:00 p.m. at its campus at 14808 Lake Avenue. The Open House, which kicks off Catholic Schools Week, also marks the beginning of open registration for the 2011-12 school year.

Visitors will receive information about the LCA curriculum, have the opportunity to tour the lakefront

computers and technology. He believes that learning computers takes practice and patience. This learning process can be a fun and enjoyable experience.

Matt offers a wide array of computer classes through the Lakewood City Schools Recreation Department, from basic computing to Microsoft Word to Microsoft Excel. For more information or to register for one of Matt's or any other class we may offer, please call (216) 529-4081 or visit www.lakewoodrecreation.com for a complete listing of all we have to offer.

Lakewood Schools

Will We Be Awake In Time For Our Children?

by Kristine Pagsuyoin

Last Tuesday’s Lakewood Board of Education meeting marked the beginning of some changes to the way the Board will be conducting business—at least on the surface. There were changes to the way they sat, a change intended to facilitate discussion among members, and a return to how members will be reporting Board business. Mr. Matt Markling, newly elected President, opened communication with personal comments, an annual tradition that is allotted to the incoming Board president. Mr. Markling decided to build upon the spirit of the recent Martin Luther King holiday and read a portion of a lecture given by Dr. King entitled, The Quest for Peace and Justice, (Mr. Markling’s comments were posted on the Lakewood Observation Deck and are in this issue of the Observer).

I understood Mr. Markling’s sentiments, and believe that overall, he has done his best job to keep our Board of Education transparent and accountable to the community. In other words, I think Mr. Markling is “awake.” However, I wonder if the rest of the Board shares Mr. Markling’s enthusiasm to be interested in what the community, especially families with children in the Lakewood Schools, wants or

values in education. Mr. Markling answered questions about awake-fulness with an emphatic ‘yes.’ “Yes, we are awake. And we will remain wakeful only through transparent and accountable leadership.”

It seems to me we ought to be asking the rest of the Board of Education, “Really? Will you wake up?” More importantly, maybe we ought to be asking ourselves if we will wake up. This fall there will be three seats up for re-election on the Board of Education. Lakewood voters will have the opportunity to decide if our Board is awake and consider if our current Board members are really connected and understand the typical experience of the average family living in Lakewood. Families, the economy, education, and how we live in Lakewood have changed significantly since most of our members began to serve on the Board. Ohio schools are facing financial challenges and uncertainty like in no other time in recent history.

We have a choice to be bold and to vote for candidates who can prove that they understand the challenges that Lakewood’s young families are facing, and that they value what Lakewood’s parents of today have to say. We need representatives on our School Board who don’t just want to put out

fires today, but who look toward the future with long-term planning that is visionary and takes into account the kind of education our kids will require, far into the 21st century.

We all should be awake and asking ourselves if we are willing to support a Board that puts self-interest and special interests before the interests of average families and the educational needs of our children. In the last Board of Education election all of the incumbents ran unopposed. Are we really going to tolerate that again?

I believe that many in our community will view Mr. Markling’s comments as a positive signal that he wants to lead the Board in the right direction, and I for one, commend him and wish him luck on his new journey.

The question remains, will the rest of the Board members follow? Will the Lakewood Board of Education’s business really be conducted

in the light of day? Will families and parents be consulted on important decisions? Will there be an effort made even to find out what families most value, before decisions are made FOR them, with their own tax dollars? Will the Board commit to improving education for all of our students including students with special needs? Will there be oversight in regard to financial and school-closing decisions?

Who knows, maybe by fall we will have some clarity before we go to the polls. For now, you know the saying, “You can lead a Board to transparency by having them face each other during the meeting, but can you make them transparent?”

Mr. Markling needs and deserves all of our support as he takes over the presidency of the Board. Our children need and deserve us to be AWAKE way before the elections roll around in the fall.

Awake Through Transparent And Accountable Leadership

continued from page 1

remain wakeful only through transparent and accountable leadership.

We are awake through transparent and accountable leadership that improves upon the academic integrity of the Lakewood City Schools.

We are awake through transparent and accountable leadership that continues to improve upon the benchmarks of student achievement mandated by state and federal laws.

We are awake through transparent and accountable leadership that continues to develop the skills of our faculty, staff, administrators, and board members which are necessary to improve student instruction.

Most importantly, we are awake through transparent and accountable

leadership that continues to build upon the trust and support of the Community, including our parents and students.

While the temptation to slumber is always present, we are indeed awake. And I look forward to remaining awake through what will be a great period of change for the Lakewood City Schools in 2011.

It is customary for the President of Lakewood City School District Board of Education to provide incoming comments after being elected to the position by members of the school board. The above comments were delivered by School Board President Matthew John Markling during the January 18, 2011 regular school board meeting of the Lakewood City School District Board of Education.

LHS Key Club Brings Cheer To Families In Need

by Christine Gordillo

Two Lakewood Schools families were on the receiving end recently of the generosity of a group of LHS students who truly understand the meaning of community spirit. Each year the Key Club at Lakewood High sells carnations on Sweetest Day in October to raise money to give to a local charities. This year, however, the club members expanded their giving to include two Lakewood Schools families in need.

According to Key Club adviser Kathy Gabriel, one of her club members had read in Emerson’s “Chalk Talk” newsletter about the sibling of an Emerson student who was in need of a liver transplant and whose family had been devastated by medical bills. It was brought to the attention to the rest of the club and together, the members decided that they would donate the proceeds to that family and another family in need rather than keep the profits with the club. “They came to this decision completely on their own,” said Gabriel.

In addition to the family with the child awaiting a liver transplant, another Emerson family whose father was struggling with severe Crohn’s Disease also received help from the Key Club. Each family received \$150 grocery gift cards that were delivered right in time for the holidays.

“It was a welcome relief,” said Ken McCloskey of the generous donation from the Key Club. “It came at a real good time, and to know that a group of high school students went out of their way to give to us was real special,” he said. McCloskey, who has been in and out of the hospital due to his Crohn’s, had lost his job recently.

For Yolanda Ferguson, the mother of the 6th grader awaiting a liver transplant and four other children, the gift card gave her family a little relief from the agony of watching a daughter or sister suffer from a life-threatening condition.

“Even my kids felt thankful,” Ferguson said. “We were just like, ‘wow’ when we heard that a group of high school kids would do this for us.”

Ferguson’s daughter, Koiya, was born with a liver condition that necessitated that she undergo a liver transplant at 15 months old. Ferguson was the donor. Koiya’s body began rejecting that liver in June and she has been waiting for a new one ever since then. Because she has a rare B+ blood type, the doctors can’t say how long it could be before she receives one.

As of Jan. 11, there were more than 110,000 people waiting for organ donations, according to the Organ Procurement and Transplant Network. To find out more about organ donation, you can visit www.organdonor.gov on the web.

AARP Tax-Aide Site Has Moved

The Lakewood Senior Center, 16024 Madison has replaced the Lakewood Main Library as the AARP Tax-Aide Site. The Tax-Aide program is staffed by volunteers who assist taxpayers free of charge with low and moderate income with special attention to those age 60 and older. Tax help is by appointment Monday and Tuesday afternoons 12 PM to 3:30 PM. February 1 through April 15. To make an appointment please call 216-521-1515

The volunteers do taxes elsewhere in Lakewood at the library’s Madison Branch, phone 216-228-7428 and at Barton Center, phone 216-221-3400.

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Lakewood Sports

Miracle On Ice 2? Team Of Hockey Beginners Overcomes All Odds In Final Three Minutes To Win Championship

by John Litten

When the Winterhurst Hockey Association put together teams for the 2010-2011 Season, they ended up with four “Mite” (ages 5-8) teams. The fourth team, called “Mite White” within the Association, was comprised of just two boys who had ever played competitively before. So it goes without saying that this was a team of beginners. After their first regular season game, they showed it, losing 11-0 by mercy rule. To some, this might have been an indication of the entire season ahead. The team and parents could take solace in knowing that they would learn and improve a great deal, despite what the score might show.

The team would gradually improve their current fourth place spot in the CSHL Mite B Division standings. Then, in early January, the opportunity arose to be a part of the Raymond A. Robinson Memorial Tournament, sponsored by Cleveland Heights Hockey. This would be an opportunity to get more games under their belt late in the season. Quickly, it became something more...

They won game one on Friday, January 14 by a score of 5-3, coming back from a 3-0 deficit against Shaker Hts. Saturday brought two games, both wins, both 5-0 shutouts - the first two of the season - for goalie #30 Jacob Fovozzo, over Cleveland Hts. and Parma. This insured a spot in Sunday’s champion-



The team posing for a photo following their unbelievable comeback. Front row L to R: Anthony Fovozzo, Zach Pejeau, Gabe Frost, Logan Cox, Ben Lishing and Sean Stroh. Second Row L to R: Nolan Borowy, Omar Khaled, Jacob Fovozzo, Luke McCann and Josh Litten. Back Row: Coaches Ron and Pat McCann. Not Pictured: Josh Wachs.

ship game, and the best was yet to come. In the championship game, the team came out quickly, with #1 Ben Lishing scoring first for the Winterhurst Warriors. The first period would end with the score tied 1-1.

The second period would not be as kind, ending with Shaker Hts. holding a comfortable 4-2 lead. Nolan Borowy, #10, scored the only goal of the period for the Warriors.

Most of the third period was equally as frustrating, with Shaker Hts. extending its lead to 5-2 with just a few minutes left to play. It appeared that an incredible weekend of hockey success was coming to a close. With three minutes to play, the score remained 5-2.

Again, the best was yet to come. With 2:15, Ben Lishing broke free again to make the score 5-3. They were making it respectable. Soon thereafter, a penalty would put Winterhurst on a power play. It didn’t take long for #34 Zach Pejeau to take advantage, making the score 5-4 with 1:19 left in the game. Despair had given way to hope. Now confidence took over. Fans from the lobby were starting to stream in to watch. Fans in the stands were on their feet. The final minute saw several shots go wide. Then, after a face off in the Shaker zone, Lishing completed his hat trick with 35 seconds left. Regulation play ended with the score tied 5-5. Still, the best was yet to come.

The overtime format is somewhat

different, putting just four skaters (plus a goalie) on the ice. This makes for quick play and often times, a quick overtime. The first team to score wins. After a few minutes, Nolan Borowy completed an unbelievable comeback,

scoring his second goal to give a team of hockey beginners a victory expected of seasoned veterans. The players piled onto each other on the ice, then lined up to shake hands and receive individual trophies. The team also received a team championship trophy to bring back to Lakewood. “The players will all have a chance to take the trophy home for a few days,” said coach Pat McCann. Then it will take its rightful place amongst the many trophies and banners at Serpentine Arena.

The season is still not over either! If you would like to enjoy more youth hockey right here in Lakewood, come and see the annual WHA Presidents Day weekend tournament at Winterhurst (and Brooklyn Arena), February 18-21. For more information on the Winterhurst Hockey Association, visit <http://www.leagueathletics.com/?org=warriorhockey.com>. You can even sign up your youngster to be a mini-warrior! Five of the players on this team got their start there and so can your hockey-loving youth!

Youth Baseball Has New Team Formation Policy

by Erin Fach

The Lakewood Recreation Department rolls out a new team formation policy that is in effect for the 2011 summer in-house baseball season.

Players may register as a complete team, partial team or individually. Resident teams must have a majority of Lakewood residents. Any team with a majority of non-Lakewood residents will be considered a non-resident team. Non-resident teams will not be accepted until after the deadline and may only be accepted based on availability.

Head coaches must submit a completed roster form one week prior to the registration deadline. All players must register individually and are guaranteed placement on the team if their registration is received prior to the deadline. Roster forms will only be accepted from coaches that have completed all coaching requirements; i.e. application, background check, etc.

Roster forms must be submitted one week prior to the registration deadline. Forms submitted after the deadline may not be accepted. All requests received at the time of registration prior to the deadline are honored to the best of our ability and on a first come, first served basis. Registrations received by the deadline are guaranteed placement on a team. Individual players will be randomly placed.

Parents may request their child to play up one division. Parents must complete a request form at the time of registration. Players are permitted to play in any one division a maximum of two years.

Roster forms are part of a coach’s packet available at the Recreation Department, 1456 Warren Road.

T-Ball and In-House Baseball avail-

able for boys and girls ages 4-15 in the following divisions: T-Ball 4 year olds only, T-Ball 5-6 year olds, Rookie Staff Pitch 7-8 year olds, Minors 9-10 year olds, Majors 11-12 year olds and new this year Ripken Prep for players ages 13-15.

All players must have a birth certificate on file at the time of registration. Players 10 years of age and older must have a current physical on file at the time of registration. The physical must specifically clear the player to participate in sports. The physical must be current for the duration of the season. Children turning 10 during the season must submit a current physical on or before their birth date.

Youth baseball and T-Ball registration deadline is March 31. Register prior to March 1 and receive a \$10 discount per child.

For more information please contact the Recreation Department at 216-529-4081 or visit us online at www.lakewoodrecreation.com.



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Plain	\$6.25	\$7.75	\$10.25	\$11.25
1 Item	\$6.75	\$8.50	\$11.25	\$12.75
2 Items	\$7.25	\$9.25	\$12.25	\$14.25
3 Items	\$7.75	\$10.00	\$13.25	\$15.75
4 Items	\$8.25	\$10.75	\$14.25	\$17.25
Deluxe	\$8.75	\$11.50	\$15.25	\$18.75
Extra Items	\$0.50	\$0.75	\$1.00	\$1.50
Extra Cheese	\$0.75	\$1.25	\$1.75	\$2.50

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Out And About

Greater Cleveland Healthcare Leader Speaks At League Event

by Joan Hirsh

Healthcare community leader Janice G. Murphy, RN, BSN, MSN, FACHE, President of Fairview and Lakewood Hospitals, is the featured speaker at the League of Women Voters' "First Thursdays" meeting series. Titled "Simply Wonderful/Simply Women" her talk is set for Thursday, February 3, 2011, 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm, at Trinity Commons at Trinity Cathedral, 2230 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland. The public is invited to attend free of charge, with free parking behind the Cathedral off Prospect.

Ms. Murphy began her career at Fairview Hospital as a bedside nurse in Oncology. She has served as President of Fairview Hospital since May, 2007 and was appointed by the Cleveland Clinic to her dual role as Lakewood Hospital President on January 1, 2010. The two hospitals have more than 3,800 employees. Murphy is involved in many leadership roles in the Greater Cleveland healthcare community. She brings a diverse background in both clinical and administrative settings and a first-hand understanding of patient, physician and employee needs to her leadership.

Among her many accomplishments, Murphy successfully led Fairview Hospital to Magnet status. A Magnet hospital offers open communication between nurses and other healthcare team members. Lakewood Hospital has just achieved Pathway to Excellence designation by the American Nurses Credentialing Center – the first hospital in the state of Ohio to receive this distinction. She has been recognized in 2010 with awards, including: Business Person of the Year from the Fairview Park Chamber of Commerce; Distinguished Alumni, University of Akron; Baldwin Wallace Healthcare Leadership Award and YWCA Woman of Achievement Award.

The theme of this season's "First Thursdays" speaker series is Women Who Know Their Place. Each of the five public meetings features a woman who has achieved a high degree of success in her field. For more information visit www.LWVCuyahogaArea.org or call 216 781-0555. Program funding is provided by the Rocky River Chapter of the LWV Cuyahoga Area and the LWV Cuyahoga Area Education Fund, Inc.



Creative Writing Workshop

The Root Writing Workshop meets weekly on Saturdays from 9-11am. Shelly Wotowiec, a graduate student at Cleveland State University, started the workshop in April 2010: "I wanted to meet local writers and was anxious to see what they were writing about. In the past months, we've had the pleasure of reading the work of dozens of talented people. Our group has critiqued work in every genre: poetry, fiction, nonfiction, humor, play writing..." The goal of the workshop is to help local writers thrive in their work. The group discusses different writing competitions and calls for submissions. If you're a writer, or just interested in reading and critiquing the fresh work of others, contact Shelly at mwotowie@kent.edu for more information.

Rock 'N Roll Yoga

by Aryn Youngless

Yoga is a fast growing means of exercise in America, but part of the appeal is the revolutionary spirit behind yoga. Capturing the essence of yogis and yoginis past, we find in today's culture the freedoms of yoga are still very important.

Rock 'n Roll took the world by storm over 60 years ago. Revolutionizing the way people heard and looked at music and changing the ideas of what music could be in relation to who we are.

Two ways of life coming together this February at the 5 O'clock Lounge, in Lakewood. Monday, February 7 marks the beginning of Rock 'n Roll Yoga at the 5 O'clock Lounge created to blend the traditional spirit of yoga with the energy of Rock 'n Roll.

Each Monday from 6:30-7:30 pm, join Aryn Youngless, certified yoga instructor for 60 minutes of rockin' yoga asanas and stay to hear live music from 8:30-9:30 pm.

Classes are \$10 per person or \$45 for a 5-class pass!

Aryn Youngless has been teaching since January 2010. Prior to becoming a yoga instructor she played in multiple rock bands in the Cleveland area. The 5 O'clock Lounge has been a corner stone in Lakewood as a real bar for real people. Together they are looking to bring yoga to those who may have otherwise walked on by. For more information, contact Aryn Youngless at email Aryn-Youngless@gmail.com.

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For the latest about **Eat Well Lakewood**, go to LiveWellLakewood.org or call 216.529.7695.

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Lakewood Cares

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Of Service

by Emmie Hutchison

Lakewood students honored the legacy of Dr. King on Monday, January 17th by volunteering time on their day off of school and sharing lunch and reflections about the meaning of the holiday. The service sites were arranged in advance by H2O coordinator Celia Dorsh and the wonderfully accommodating organizations who provided meaningful work and background information for the kids.

In addition, several adult volunteers made the community service part of the day a success by accompanying student volunteers to their sites. Lynn Foran and Nora Steele took a group of students to the Ronald McDonald House (RMH) and toured the facility. They helped organize the pop-tab collection (a fundraiser for RMH), cleaned toys, and helped serve food to the guests.

Louise Gorman and her group went to Crestmont Nursing Home to play bingo and socialize with the



residents. Students who went to the Lakewood Alive office were treated to great hospitality and a PowerPoint presentation about LA. They helped with some office tasks and created Valentines to be sent to U.S. soldiers serving abroad.

At Hospice of the Western Reserve,

large tables were set up with wonderful craft supplies so the volunteers could make sun-catchers and handmade cards to be given to cancer patients. The volunteer coordinator told the students about the work of Hospice, allowing them to reflect on the kindness of making something beautiful for someone who has cancer.

Our last service project was done in two parts: last week students went door-to-door and left notes explaining that H2O would be collecting donations of toiletries to be given to North Coast Health Ministry for distribution to their clients. On Monday, another group re-traced their steps and, thanks to the generosity of residents surrounding Lakewood Park, over 300 items were collected! Additional donations have been collected in boxes at Lakewood High School and The Root Café.

Dr. King truly believed in the ability of every individual to distinguish him or herself through service and he spoke eloquently about the collective power of community. There is no better way to cultivate community than by sharing food, and that was the next part of the day. Student and adult volunteers met at the Woman's Pavilion in Lakewood Park to enjoy an outstanding lunch. Students who volunteered as site leaders brought dishes for a potluck, as they did last year. This time, however, we reached out to some businesses and were just thrilled by their response--generous donations were made by Deagan's Kitchen, Aladdin's Eatery, and Angelo's Pizza. H2O



is truly grateful to these restaurants. The food was not only a nice reward for the good work of volunteers, but more importantly it was a chance to really celebrate the unique and diverse culture of Lakewood and its amazing young people.

The final portion of the program was a presentation made by Mr. Joe Loboizzo and students from a Lakewood High School group he advises, Race and Diversity (RAD). Mr. Loboizzo teaches Social Studies at LHS and actively engages students in thinking about diversity and acting on ways to improve cultural relationships, both within his classes and outside of school. RAD showed a video made last year that included quotes by Dr. King, moving images and music, and interviews with students and staff asking difficult questions about race and the progress of acceptance in our society. The final activity challenged everyone in the room to reflect on their past year and improvements that can be made in the next year. This was a great ending to the day, leading us to look forward to another great Day of Service next year!

H2O would like to extend our gratitude once again to our supportive community: Deagan's Kitchen, Aladdin's Eatery, and Angelo's Pizza; adult volunteers Diane Herman, Lynn Foran, Nora Steele, and Louise Gorman; all of our service sites; and those who have donated toiletries. Finally, special thanks to our amazing student volunteers who initiated the project, helped plan and promote it, recruited others, brought food, and enriched Lakewood with their service. It was a great day for Lakewood to be proud!

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Lakewood Cares

Lakewood Youth Learn Firsthand What It's Like To Be Homeless

by Vicki Smigelski

Some people think the word “hero” is overused, but that’s exactly the word used to describe members of the youth group at Lakewood Congregational Church.

Members of the congregation attended an informational meeting on January 9th to plan the church’s seventh annual Homeless Awareness Sleep-Out (HASO). The event is a ministry of the youth group who want to call attention to the plight of people who are homeless by spending the night in cardboard boxes in front of the church building. InterAct Cleveland, a local group working with the homeless community, brought a guest speaker named Don to the meeting to talk to the youth about his experiences on the streets of Cleveland. It was during one of the first HASO events that Don heard about what the church youth were doing. Living at a homeless shelter at the time, Don said he remembered thinking how special the kids must be to help people they didn’t even know. He called them heroes and kept using the word “unconditional” to describe the youth’s commitment to strangers while asking for nothing in return.

For eighteen hours, our youth group found out first hand what it feels like to be homeless, without warm shelter on a cold winter night.

Participating youth gathered at the

church located at the corner of West Clifton and Detroit starting at 6 p.m. on Saturday, January 22nd, spending the night in boxes at the front of the church without food unless it was provided by donation. They were roused from their shelters at 6 a.m. on Sunday after a night spent asking for money from passersby’s and being without the comforts they are used to. Proceeds will be donated to the Homeless Stand-down sponsored by InterAct Cleveland (more information at interactcleveland.org) and to help defray the cost of the youth’s mission trip to Chicago this summer. Socks and underwear collected by church members will also be donated to the Standdown.

St. Peter’s Episcopal Church, located at 18001 Detroit in Lakewood, again participated in this ministry with their own sleepout on their church grounds.

The youth share their reality check with the community while making a powerful statement about poverty housing. For too many of God’s children, there is no room at the inn. We look forward to spending this time together each year.

For more information on the sleep-out or to make a donation, call Vicki Smigelski, Youth Group Advisor for Lakewood Congregational, at 216-789-5020. Visit the church website at www.lcc-church.org to find out more about LCC and the United Church of Christ.



Kids at The Pilgrim St. Paul Lutheran Church sleeping outside to raise money, awareness and understanding of the homeless.



More kids at Lakewood Congregational Church raising money stopping cars, and also spending the night outside on one of the coldest nights of the year.

Rotary Club Sends Shelter Boxes To Haiti

by Larry Faulhaber

Due to the one-year anniversary of the Haitian disaster, there have been several newspaper stories, and TV Network visits to Haiti to check on the relief efforts over the past year. The Sunrise Rotary Club of Lakewood/Rocky River is proud of its sponsorship of the Shelter box Box USA program, which has sent over 18,000 shelter boxes to Haiti in 2010. Each year the Club raises money for one shelter box and in 2010, extra funds were contributed to provide two shelter boxes, due to the many needs during a year which also saw earthquakes in Mexico, and China, tropical storms, and flooding in Guatemala, Pakistan, and Brazil, and landslides in Uganda and Chili.

The standard shelterbox weighs 110 pounds and is about 2 feet three inches, by one foot four inches and is 11 inches wide. It contains a ten person tent; vinyl insulated floor mats, light weight thermal blankets, two 2.1 gallon collapsible water carriers, water purification tablets, a trenching tool, rope, mosquito netting, toolkit, cook stove, eating utensils, and a children’s school supply kit.

Many of the Rotary Clubs around the world support Shelter box USA. Within three days after the earthquake

in Haiti arrangements had been made to receive and distribute the shelter boxes that were provided to the Haitian families. In June, 1,900 shelterboxes went to Pakistan, and by the end of June more than 3,000 were distributed to disaster areas around the world.

The Sunrise Rotary Club has an annual auction of items donated by local businesses, individual members and friends of Rotary raises money to contribute to the Shelter box program. The club members through their dues contribute to Rotary International projects including Polio Plus that has reduced all but about 1% of polio cases world wide. RI projects are also dedicated to provide other health related services, as well as clean water in countries where it is needed.

The Rotary Motto is Service above Self and the theme for 2010/2011 is Building Communities – Bridging Continents. This is especially appropriate for the Shelter box project.

The Sunrise Rotary Club of Lakewood/Rocky River meets every Wednesday morning at 7:15am, at Umerley Civic Center, behind Rocky River City Hall.

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FEBRUARY 15TH – NETWORKING...GET WITH IT
Learn how to “Use the Grapevine” to get your message out – to get referrals and gain insight into your target market.

FEBRUARY 22ND – ACE THAT INTERVIEW
Practice your interviewing and receive valuable feedback. Basic Guidelines, Traditional Questions, Behavioral Based Questions and Telephone Interviews.

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

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Lakewood Business

Lakewood Chamber Of Commerce Celebrates 100 Years Of Serving The Business Community

by Valerie Mechenbier,
The Lakewood Chamber of Commerce turns 100 Years old in 2011. To celebrate this important milestone, the Chamber will be hosting The Centennial Gala, to be held on April 9, 2011 at The Beck Center for the Arts. With support from our Centennial Sponsor Cox Business and in partnership with The Lakewood Historical Society, the theme of the event is “100 Years of Business in Lakewood.” Do you or does your family run a business in Lakewood? Do you have fond memories of businesses that have been around for many years –

Chamber Business Spotlight:
Lakewood Hospital

Lakewood Hospital, one of the oldest businesses in Lakewood, was established in 1907 when Lakewood was a rural outpost of Cleveland. The nearest hospital to this small but growing community was an hour away by horse-drawn wagon. Dr. C. Lee Graber and his wife Belle mortgaged their own home to finance the construction of the first hospital building, and they built it so that it could easily be converted into a 2-family home if the hospital was unsuccessful. With 15 beds and 3 doctors on staff, Lakewood Hospital began a long proud

including businesses that may no longer exist? Do you have a favorite new business that you hope will be around for the next 100 years? Help the Chamber tell the history of business in Lakewood. The Chamber will be writing articles for the local papers, posting stories on FaceBook and on the Chamber website, and producing a video for the Gala that celebrates 100 years of business in the Lakewood community. If you have a great story to tell, contact the Chamber at info@lakewoodchamber.org or call 216-226-2900.



Lakewood Hospital, 1921
history of serving the community.
Lakewood Hospital has been a member of the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce since 1921.



What was The Drink Cafe is now Booth's MidTown Tavern. Nicely cleaned up with some good people running it.



Lakewood Chamber Of Commerce Raffle Proceeds To Benefit Lakewood Historical Society Ohio Chautauqua

by Valerie Mechenbier
This beautiful Ladies Estate Platinum and Diamond ring, donated by Broestl & Wallis Fine Jewelers, will be awarded to the winning raffle ticket holder at the celebration of The Chamber of Commerce's 100th birthday - The Centennial Gala - on April 9th at The Beck Center for the Arts. The ring contains twelve round single-cut dia-



monds weighing .02 carats each, and features three bezel-set diamonds in the center (two weigh .08 carats each, center weighs .15 carats). Value: \$2000.
Tickets are \$10 each, or 3 for \$25. Tickets are available at www.lakewood-museumstore.com, the Oldest Stone House Museum (14710 Lake Avenue) and The Lakewood Chamber of Commerce (16017 Detroit Avenue).

Lakewood Chamber
of Commerce
Upcoming Events
January, 27 -

Thursday 5:30pm
Business After Hours
Deagan's Kitchen & Bar
February, 18
Friday 11:30am
Lunch Meeting - 5th Annual Work Ethic Awards
Lakewood Park Women's Pavilion
For more info, go to www.lakewood-chamber.org.

Did You Know?

Frank L. Thurber of the Prudential Insurance Company was the first President of the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce in 1911.



Meanwhile a block east, Panini's/Rivera has become The Plank Road Tavern, named after Detroit Ave. when it was a plank road.

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Wellness Watch

Questions About Your Child's Fever?

By Dr. Fred Pearlman,
DO, MetroHealth Lakewood
Health Center

Children have fevers for many reasons. More often than not, they are treatable by over-the-counter medications and don't require extensive medical intervention. And while self-help books may offer calming advice, parents can be fearful when their child has a fever, worrying that it may signal something more than a common viral infection.

The number one call that pediatricians get is fever. When a child has a fever, and parents are worried, I prefer that they call me. A lot of times, a simple two- to five-minute talk with the parents can save them from having to go to the emergency room -- where they could spend most of their night and be saddled with high medical bills

afterward. Fever is the body's reaction to an infection, which causes the body to reset the temperature to a higher level to help fight the infection. I counsel parents to not panic when there is a fever. Instead, be prepared by having some tools at hand.

It's important that parents have a thermometer at home, one that beeps within a minute and can perform an under-arm temperature. Also, don't rely on feeling the head to determine what the fever is because you can't. In addition, before taking the temperature, be certain that the child isn't dressed too warmly or over-covered. There should be no more than one layer of clothing.

The accepted definition of low-grade, middle-grade and high-grade fevers depends on the age of the patient. Also important are any accompany-

ing symptoms, such as a runny nose, a harsh cough, nausea and vomiting, a sore throat, a rash or rapid breathing. While parenting books and medical Web sites offer some advice on what to do, nothing is more comforting to a worried parent than speaking directly with their child's doctor. We help parents take the guesswork out of treating fevers at home.

I often suggest parents try Motrin or Tylenol to bring down fevers. Parents also need to keep an eye on whether or not the child is becoming dehydrated, particularly if there is diarrhea

involved. If the child is drinking okay, is wetting their diaper (or going to the bathroom if older) and their tongue is moist, parents don't need to push liquids. And if the child is vomiting, wait about one hour before trying clear liquids. For a child under 1 year, you can try products like Pedialyte; for those older, something such as a clear juice or flat ginger ale.

It's always good for parents to then follow up with their pediatrician the next day to update them on how their child is doing.



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Opinion

Human Trafficking Month

by Alice Bocchicchio

On December 22, 2010 President Obama declared January 2011 as National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month, and called upon all of us to recognize the vital role we can play in ending modern slavery and to observe the month with appropriate programs and activities.

On January 8th, I attended a seminar for social workers and counselors presented by the Collaborative Initiative to End Human Trafficking (440-356-2254). It was a clear over-

view of what human trafficking (HT) is, who the people involved in it are, federal and state laws, issues of victims, and what we can do.

Approximately 800,000 victims are trafficked across international borders world wide, about 18,000 into the US; 60%-80% are women and children. This does not include the number of US citizens trafficked within our borders. They are forced to work in many areas: commercial sex (porn, prostitution, strip clubs, etc.), domestic servitude, restaurants or jan-

itorial, factory or agricultural work.

HT rivals the illegal drug and arms trades as the worlds fastest growing criminal industry at approximately 32 billion dollars per year. Drug dealers are expanding to and switching to HT, partly because the 'product' can be sold and resold and because it has been harder to prosecute the traffickers.

Human trafficking is modern day slavery. It is the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor, services or commercial sex through the use of force, fraud or coercion for the purpose of involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, slavery or a commercial sex act. If the person is under 18 years old, it is automatically trafficking.

The crime is the exploitation of the victim; physical movement is not a requisite. The person need not be beaten or physically restrained to be a victim. Fraud can be false, deceptive offers of employment, marriage or a better life. Force can be beatings, rape, confinement, or addiction to drugs. Coercion can be threatening to harm or restrain the victim or their loved ones, or exposing their activities to family or legal authorities.

The law allows for victims who participated in illegal activities (prostitution, immigration fraud, etc.) to be protected rather than punished. They may be fearful, ashamed and reluctant to talk, set off easily by 'triggers', have either overwhelming or numb emotions, or an inability to think and respond clearly and effectively. They may have had to collaborate with their traffickers to survive. Visas are available for immigrant victims.

What can we do? BE AWARE. Human Trafficking is actively happening in Ohio. Notice people in restaurants, cleaning services, lawn care, nail salons, hotel workers, private homes. Cases have been successfully developed after brothel customers and strip club patrons were confided in and they sought help.

Some things to look for are: evidence of the person being controlled, inability to relocate or to leave job, bruises or evidence of physical abuse, fear/depression, not speaking on their own behalf, no passport or identification.

Educate yourself. Check out web sites (google HT). The book "Not for Sale" by David Batstone has world wide examples, stories and information about organizations and their work to end the slave trade. Talk about it!

Question - if you're an investor - whether corporations you hold stock in have HT policies and what they are.

Buy fair trade, whenever possible. Ask questions if you don't know.

Notice something? A situation that made you uneasy or concerned? Call the National Human Trafficking Resource Center: 1-888-3737-888. They'll be happy to talk to you about it and advise you.

After this wonderful seminar there was a speaker, Mr. Jewel Woods (MA,MSW,LSW), the co-chair of the End

Demand Sub-Committee of the Ohio Trafficking in Persons Study Commission. He is an author and gender analyst whose views have been featured on national news, TV, radio talk programs and multiple publications, and is working on his PhD. in Social Work with a specialization in men's issues. Jewel is founder and executive director of the Renaissance Male Project, a non-profit advocacy and accountability organization for men and boys (www.renaissancemaleproject.com). The RMP believes men are complicit in creating the demand by allowing others to exploit women and children for profit, and that men must play an active role in ending this form of modern day slavery. He spoke on 'Ten Things Men and Boys Can Do To Stop Human Trafficking' and has a pamphlet available with this information.

In his lecture he asked us all to be aware of, talk about, and fight myths. The early abolitionists debunked myths such as slavery being "civilizing" and having benefits for the slaves by talking about the tragedies and costs. Back then, whites as a class benefited from slavery, so white abolitionists spoke out. Now, men must speak out. An example of a current myth is that prostitution is 'the oldest profession' and a victimless crime.

He said we're uneasy talking about men and boys as a political reality. Who are they? They can be predators and pastors. No boy was ever born to be a traffickers or a 'john'. The realities of HT are driven by demand - for cheap labor and sex on demand as a right. Porn targets men, enticing them to look at young girls, to be virtual 'johns', and manipulates and twists something natural. It alienates men from their bodies and reduces them to body parts. Men have privileges, but at what cost? The 'seasoning' to become a man comes with violence and pressures and without integrity, compassion and grace. We need to change our standards and treat men as subjects and not objects. Engage men by education, talk about their hopes and dreams and hold them accountable. Banish 'boys will be boys' from our vocabulary. There's a difference between critiquing men for what they do and condemning them for who they are. Men are both oppressed and privileged. Woods called for more awareness, participation and conversation about the potential for what men and boys can truly be in the world.

This weekend I heard that HT is a 'consequence of social issues' and that 'oppression poisons every life'. I want to personally thank all the people and organizations that made this weekend possible. I received a lot of information and hope.

This was all presented by the West Shore Allies Against Human Trafficking (WAAHT), a volunteer group whose mission statement is "Educate to Eradicate". We show films quarterly (next one in February) with discussion and snacks afterward. WAAHT meets on the first Wednesday of the month at the Unitarian Universalist church at 20401 Hilliard and would welcome your interest.

Anti-Semitism Or Lack Of Proofreading?

The Lakewood Observer appreciates Mr. Edelstein's letter and shares all proper concern over any anti-Semitic implications suggested by a typographical error that needlessly foregrounds gentile rather than genteel. In Volume 3, Issue 3 of the Lakewood Observer, Herbert Gold brought to the front page with "Lakewood, Ohio, 1930s" the difficult history that Lakewood's gentile imagination can uncharitably impose on Jewish neighbors.

Having recently moved to Lakewood, I sent my 84-year-old mother a copy of the Lakewood Observer to give her a flavor of my new community. Imagine my surprise when she phoned to tell me that I need to move immediately before something terrible happens to me and my family at the hands of "the anti-Semites".

After I calmed her, she read aloud from the article "Another Accolade for Lakewood" (LO, Vol. 6, Issue 25). Of special concern was the "special feeling of warmth and welcoming atmosphere and the richness of a diversified neighborhood teeming with the gentile activities of daily life" (emphasis added). No matter how hard I tried to convince her otherwise, she is convinced that Lakewood is proudly promoting itself as a non-Jewish community, with shades of Nazi Germany leading up to and during the war. She was shocked at the brazenness of the statement. The last time she saw teeming gentiles, they were wearing jackboots.

Yes, the writing is somewhat dif-

ficult to follow, but I cannot for the life of me understand how such a sentiment can be acceptable in a supposedly "tolerant" community. I hope this is just a misuse of the word "gentile". Perhaps the writer might have simply referenced "teeming with religious activities" instead, however awkward the sentence. At least it would not offend Jews, who are far too few in number to "teem".

Please excuse both my mother and me if we seem overly sensitive on this issue.

Thank you.
Aaron Edelstein

Mr Edelstein
Please forgive our error.

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Opinion

Happy Birthday, City of Lakewood! (You're 100 Years Young!)

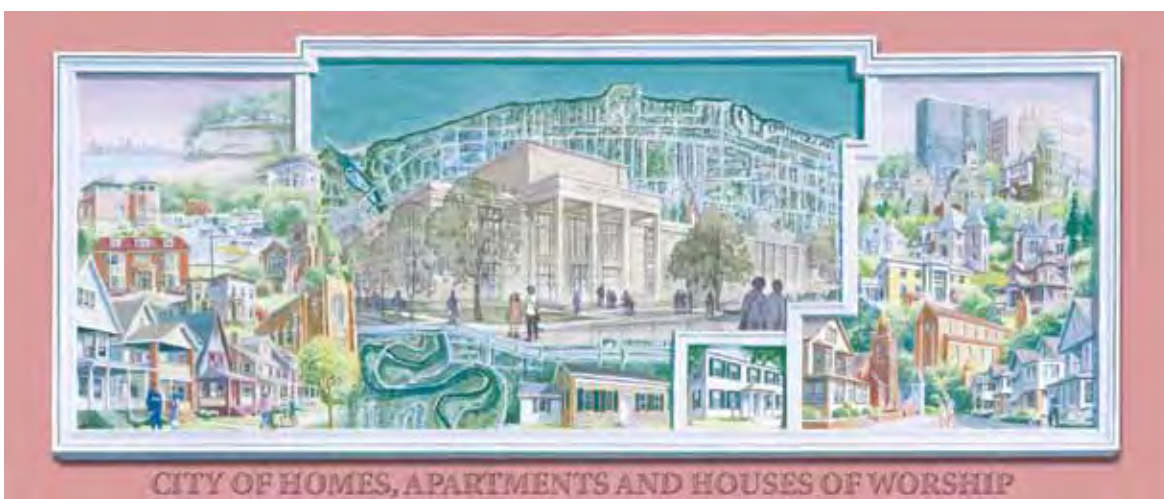
by Gary Rice

Here's something that, if I've heard it once, I've heard it more times than I can remember... I'll be talking with some Lakewood expatriate who is presently living in some expensive outer-ring suburb, with an expensive, acre-sized, professionally landscaped lawn, along with a beautiful expensive palace, with that obligatory 20 foot high, expensive cathedral ceiling in their equally expensive great room. Although I expect to hear them talking about their expensive in-ground pool and their gorgeous, expensive kitchen counter tops, both the conversation, and their memories, inevitably turn fondly back to Lakewood.

People really seem to miss living here. Don't get me wrong, moving "up and out" has historically been an integral part of the so-called "American Dream," and yet, moving "up and out" often begs the questions "where and why?" (particularly in the present economy). Three of the biggest reasons why I think people have left our city for the outer 'burbs were a) cheap credit, b) a desire for another bedroom, den, or bigger shop or garage, and c) a desire to get away from the intimacy required of residents in an inner-ring suburb. I believe that for these and perhaps other reasons, Lakewood did indeed lose a fair percentage of its population in the last 20 years or so.

No doubt about it, Lakewood's a fairly old town, with older housing and the usual contemporary urban issues. At the same time, Lakewood remains an incredibly pleasant place to live, with eclectic housing stock ranging from apartments and doubles, to well-built starter homes, to fine lakefront properties. The construction materials (bricks and timbers) used in Lakewood homes are probably as fine as have been used anywhere. Those old timbers in my basement, for example, will scarcely let me drive a nail into them. Older plaster and lathe walls and ceilings do have their problems from time to time, but at the same time, repairs can also be relatively simple for many of the problems that do crop up (or was that "crack up"?).

Some people are concerned with some of the materials used in older homes, but let's face it, not too long ago, there were concerned stories about some of those newer building materials as well. I suppose that it all boils down to exercising common sense precautions wherever one lives. Those of you fortunate enough to have original Lakewood woodwork that has not been painted over, certainly appreciate the gorgeous attention to beauty and detail that the carpenters finished off for you, sometimes a century or more ago. Other Lakewood homes have other surprises, like "secret stash" hiding places for valuables or for that once-illegal booze during the times of Prohibition. Some homes sit on, or



One of two murals in the new Lakewood Public Library by Richard Haas. These murals convey the history of the City of Lakewood, as well as the new library itself showcasing the modernization.

over, the remains of tunnels that may well have carried slaves to freedom in the years before the Civil War.

Lakewood's business district is presently considered to be so cool and trendy that modern shopping centers all over the country are modeling faux city streets and small shop facades like ours while we continue to enjoy the real thing. Any number of newer planned communities attempt to recreate the front porch ambiance of our many Victorian neighborhoods. Our local businesses continue to be eclectic and interesting places, while a myriad of family restaurants and upscale eateries here attract people from around the world.

Perhaps best of all, we have a great assortment of business people, civic leaders, and wonderful citizens living here who have the desire, as well as the determination, to simply make things work, and work well too.

Lakewood's fine hospital, exemplary school district, and superb library system all contribute to the great quality of life around here, as do our exemplary police, fire, and city services.

It's when the holiday times arrive, however, that Lakewood really begins to shine. Perhaps it's my own age creeping up on me, but there seems to be a wave of real nostalgia sweeping this country, particularly since our nation's financial world started to shake up a few short years back. See, Lakewood is exactly the type of community so many people grew up in way back when. Quaint front porches and quiet, tree-lined streets, friendly neighbors and apple pies cooling on kitchen sills...all of those things evoke precious times--both then and now to so many of Lakewood's families. True, that pie might be microwaved these days, but you get the point, don't you? Our 4th of July's are REAL 4th of July's! Our Veterans Day celebrations will bring tears to your eyes. Spooky Pooch? Meet the Trucks? You name it, our holiday and special event lists can go on and on.

Truly though, it's the Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons that so many people seem to remember best when they are thinking about Lakewood's past. Oh, certainly, these days, we'd want to be sure to include Chanukkah, Kwanza, and other holidays from other faiths and traditions in these discussions, but it's that tradi-

occupants, have weathered many such winters, and I suspect that they'll weather many more.

When the talk turns to that time of year leading up to Christmas, however? Pure magic. There are tales upon tales told and retold about Lakewood's past Christmases. Once, Bailey's Department Store, at the corner of Warren and Detroit Avenues, was a magnet attracting all to the hustle and bustle of our little big city's central core. Those who might have been unwilling to brave the crowds and travel time involved going to downtown Cleveland had plenty of shopping right here in Lakewood to content themselves with. Even so, many great stores continue to be located in Lakewood, including a number of establishments that are still around from the old days. With the many new small businesses that have recently come to town, there's still plenty of shopping (and eating!) to do in Lakewood these days!

As Lakewood's centennial as an incorporated city has now arrived, Lakewoodites have much to be satisfied about. We have a very special, eclectic, and easy-to-get-around community here, that has been a comfortable home base for thousands of people for a great many years.

Happy Birthday, Lakewood! It's good to be home with you.

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Lakewood Living

Slife And Shiekh Tie The Knot!

by Margaret Brinich

Two well known Lakewood families were joined together at 4:30 pm on Friday, January 14 as Daniel Slife and Natalie Shiekh were married at Lakewood City Hall. Judge Patrick Carroll presided over the marriage rites. Dan, age 29, and Natalie, age 24, were accompanied only by their parents at the small, informal ceremony.

Natalie's familiar face is perhaps most well known from her years as a barista at Root Cafe (formerly Phoenix Coffee) as well as from Lion and Blue. Aside from working at Lakewood Public Library, Dan can often be found

volunteering at Lakewood Earth And Food Community events or writing and editing for the LO.

Despite their deep roots in Lakewood, Dan's successful library career will very soon land them in a new home outside of Lakewood. Dan was offered and accepted his new position just days before they tied the knot! The couple hopes to return to Lakewood in the not so distant future (a goal which their family and friends wholeheartedly endorse). But for now, we simply wish you both all the happiness in the world as you embark on this next phase of your lives together!



Natalie and Dan relax before their wedding.

LO Outreach & Development Community Conversations

Help us take the oldest civic journalism project in the country to the next level in 2011!

Always wanted to write, but not sure where to start? Curious about what is going on in your neighborhood? Want to make a difference in our community? Then join The Lakewood Observer for some conversation and a cup of coffee!

Starting February 1 from 7-9pm at The Beck Café join us for a new series of Outreach & Development Community Conversations. And don't worry, these aren't 'meetings'- just a chance to sit down with other engaged citizens and talk about ideas, challenges, community issues, etc... And the coffee is on us! These Community Conversations will give us all a chance to sit down informally with community leaders and bend their ears for a while. There will also be time set aside to focus on you- the contributors (or aspiring contributors)- and what you need from us as a writer, photographer or editor.

Snowmen And More Seen On St. Charles And Onondaga

by Christina McCallum

On Sunday, January 16, the St. Charles-Onondaga Block Club sponsored a snowman building contest for the neighborhood.

The rules, emailed Thursday, January 13, were simple: create a snow sculpture by 3:30 Sunday afternoon. Ballot voting would determine winners in three categories: Best Traditional, Biggest, and Most Creative.

At 3:30, neighbors gathered on a porch to drink hot chocolate and receive ballots. Approximately 26 neighbors ventured into the cold to see the eight entries. The group walked around the St. Charles-Onondaga neighborhood (between Madison and

Franklin) to see what was built.

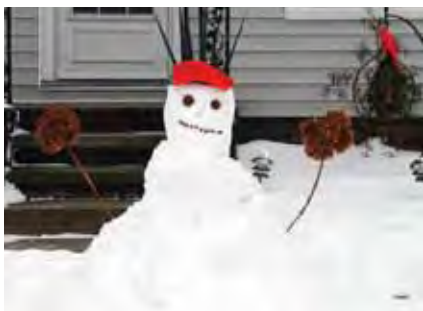
The entries were a mix of creativity and resourcefulness, as the extreme cold made packing snow difficult. Among them were traditional snowmen, a crocodile, a caterpillar, a rocket, and a take-off on the snowmen scenes of Calvin and Hobbes.

Ballot results declared the following winners: Beth Pence for Best Traditional Snowman, The Sessions Family's Rocket for the Biggest category, and the Germaine Family's Blue Caterpillar for Most Creative.

Winners received candy bars from Malley's for their efforts, but the neighborhood enjoyed several days of great sightseeing!

2011 Outreach & Development Community Conversations Schedule
February 1st
February 15th
March 1st
March 15th
All Community Conversations run from 7-9pm at The Beck Café.
Outreach and Development Com-

munity Conversations will occur on our Tuesday editorial deadline for any last minute questions you might have. Look for more details on the full schedule and a listing of community leaders for Community Conversations coming soon- posted on the Observation Deck and in the paper!



Best Traditional Snowman - Beth Pence.



A snow shark chasing a swimming snowman.



The Biggest was this Rocket, from the Session Family.

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Lakewood Living

Vintage Lakewood Corner:
Groundbreaking At Grant, 1969

by Rhonda Loje

The Lakewood Historical Society, in conjunction with the Lakewood Observer, is reaching out to all of Lakewood, present and past, whether you live here now or used to call Lakewood home, to help us remember Lakewood's history in photos. With this issue of the paper we announce the creation of the "Vintage Lakewood Corner." Each month, we will post a different photo of Lakewood's past along with the story that goes with it, to help everyone remember what Lakewood was, and get a feel for how the past informs the times we are living through now.

This picture was submitted by Bill Moorhead, who graduated from Lakewood High School, and now lives in Gahanna, Ohio. The picture he posted originally to our Facebook Site and now featured in our first "Vintage Lakewood Corner" is of the "new" Grant School groundbreaking in 1969. Bill's mother, Joan Moorhead, was the President of the Grant PTA which is why Bill Moorhead is pictured holding the shovel. Also present are Mrs. Rauch, his first grade teacher, and Mrs. Tighe, Grant's Principal.

Bill relates, "We were all very excited to get a new school. Our teachers told us about how the new school was going to be more open without all the classroom walls and (that it) would have a large library! It was fun watching the construction from my home across the street on Elmwood and, of course, we went and played there even

though it was forbidden." According to Bill the "new" Grant was very special. "When we started the 'new' Grant, we learned that they combined some grades and even let the students help design their own courses," Bill says. "In third grade, Jim Kirkpatrick and I designed a house, figured out how much it would cost to build and built a scale model (actually, Jim's dad did all the building)." He continued saying, "My father, a teacher at Lakewood High School, was then the president of the Lakewood Teachers Association. There was a lot of disagreement about the "new" Grant--about the architecture, the open classrooms, and mixing the classes for example."

Grant, in its current late sixties incarnation, this year earned an "Excellent with Distinction" rating from the State of Ohio, along with its sister school to the north, Lincoln Elementary. Bill's reminiscences offer a window into late sixties Lakewood that is fascinating.

What stories do your pictures have to tell? If you would like to see your pictures of Lakewood's past in the Vintage Lakewood Corner, submit them to the Vintage Lakewood Facebook page (at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/edit/?id=303047936066&sk=basic#%21/pages/Vintage-Lakewood-Ohio/303047936066>), or to the Lakewood Observer online, by signing into the Member Center at www.lakewoodobserver.com and



Young Bill Moorhead holds the shovel at the "new" Grant school groundbreaking in 1969.

clicking on the Vintage Lakewood category. If you have actual photos and don't want to scan them into a computer, send them to Rhonda Loje, care of The Lakewood Observer at 14900 Detroit, Suite 205, Lakewood, and remember to send a self-addressed stamped envelope, so your photos can be scanned and returned to you. The Lakewood Historical Society will choose a picture for each month's

Vintage Lakewood Corner and publish it in the paper, along with posting it to the Vintage Lakewood Facebook page, and the Lakewood Observer's Observation Deck-- where you can see posts without signing up-- so the whole city can share in the fun and discussion, in whichever format you prefer. Come join us in celebrating Lakewood's history.

Thank You To All Of The
Great Citizens Of Lakewood

I would like to thank all of the wonderful people who have stopped to help me in this snowy weather. I'm in an electric wheelchair and have gotten stuck in places were people have not shoveled snow. I have people stop, men and ladies young and old, because some businesses on Detroit Avenue do not believe in clearing their sidewalks. Some will do their sidewalks, but do not do the crosswalks. I do thank these people for their efforts very much. The people of this city are always helpful and willing to do what they can. Why can't these businesses do the right thing? Shovel your snow. With the number of disabled and elderly in this city, and the fact that this is the Main Street in our town means it should be made accessible for all. Also, to the people who do shovel and have a bus stop at their location- please shovel the area to the street so that the busses can lower their ramps or just as a courtesy to all who take the bus. It is difficult to have to step into a foot of snow to get on the bus. I know several of these businesses are closed, but the company listed as the sales agents should help with the snow removal. Thank you to all the great residents.

Richard Jaronowski

February Lawn And Garden Checklist

by Terry Stiles

- Pickup sticks and debris
 - Look at catalogues
 - Start making planting decisions
 - Draw garden layout- remembering to rotate crops even in the smallest of gardens
 - Plan compost area- no matter how small, the benefits are substantial
 - Make list of tools to be repaired or replaced
 - Take mower and other summer equipment in to be tuned up
 - Raised beds- even six inches is a huge benefit to plants and saves water
 - Plan which mulch and fertilizers will be needed- also include garden in mulching equation
 - Check garden structures, stakes, and trellises
- This is the first in a series of monthly checklists for your tree, landscape, and lawn needs.

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