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# THE LAKEWOOD OBSERVER

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Volume 7, Issue 6, March 22, 2011

## Schools Name New Assistant Superintendent

by Christine Gordillo

The Lakewood Board of Education has named Mason (Ohio) City School District Superintendent Kevin L. Bright as the next assistant superintendent for Lakewood City Schools. Bright will replace Jeff Patterson, who will succeed Superintendent P. Joseph Madak when he retires on July 31, 2011.

Bright, who has headed the Mason City Schools in southwest Ohio for the past 13 years, comes to Lakewood with impressive credentials over a 37-year career that includes being named state Superintendent of the Year in 2003.

Other awards and accomplishments he has garnered are a testament to Bright's leadership of the Mason Schools in both financial and academic aspects. Mason is currently ranked 5th in the State of Ohio in student achievement while spending below the state average in pupil expenditure. Bright has earned the Buckeye School Administrators Association's Barney Dunn Award for Greatest Student



Newly selected Assistant Superintendent, Kevin Bright.

Achievement Growth in Ohio. In addition, the district has been given the "Making Your Tax Dollars Count" award for excellent financial accountability from the State Auditor's office each of the five years since the award's inception.

"Dr. Bright's experience will be invaluable as we lead the district through some uncertain times in public education," said Patterson. "He has an outstanding background in curriculum and instruction, and with the operations of a school district." Added Board President Matthew John Markling: "Dr. Kevin Bright is

an academic expert who produces astonishing scholastic results ... With the addition of Dr. Bright to the current administrative leadership, Jeff Patterson has assembled a 'dream team' that will continue to build upon the reputation the Lakewood City Schools has for demanding academic excellence."

Bright, who was assistant superintendent in Mason before becoming superintendent in 1998, oversaw explosive growth in the city of Mason and the district, which went from an enrollment of 2,500 when he joined the district in 1990 to more than 11,000 students in its six schools today.

While enjoying great success at Mason, Bright was looking for a change in his surroundings and a new challenge.

"Lakewood has a wonderful reputation. I always wanted to come to an area with a more diverse population and more urban area. I look forward to bringing my knowledge and expertise to help this district," said Bright, who also cited closer proximity to some of his family

as a reason for his relocation.

During his tenure at Mason, Bright implemented a number of innovative curriculum and instruction strategies that helped bring the district up from one struggling in academic performance to a district rated "Excellent with Distinction" by the state. Mason has also been the home to four national Blue Ribbon Schools during Bright's stewardship.

Prior to joining Mason

City Schools, Bright held various leadership positions with the Findlay City Schools, including assistant superintendent, director of personnel and junior high principal. He started out his career as a social studies teacher in the Lucas Local Schools near Mansfield.

Bright holds a BA from The Ohio State University, an MA and PhD in Educational Administration from Bowling Green State University.

## Geigers' Reputations Intact



Patti and Chas Geiger enjoying a night out at Starry Night. Cleared of charges Chas and Patti look forward to happily continuing their lives.  
by Jim O'Bryan

In what was a bizarre case of mistaken identity, Charles and Patti Geiger were cleared of any involvement in an accident that was later deemed an assault, with charges being filed. From the night the incident occurred Chas has asserted that he was at The Melt at the time of the incident. Video evidence proved his alibi was accurate.

The local media feeding frenzy that followed the Geigers

for several weeks proved to be premature and unfounded. "It was pretty crazy," said Chas in a conversation with the LO, "We knew we were innocent but everyone else was acting like we were guilty."



## Hixson's Aids Victims Of Japanese Disasters

by Bill Hixson

Many years ago I was asked to teach floral arranging in Japan. I agreed, reluctantly as all of my background and interests at that time were in Europe. I said that I would need at least 20 students for me to come. Within one week I received notice that they had 20 students and, "When could I come?" Before I could choose a date, a week later they had 40 students and, "When could

I come?" The third missive soon came to me announcing that they had 100 students and again, "When could I come?" I decided to answer quickly, setting dates before all of Japan would meet me at the airport.

Off I went and that time there were over 100 students to teach. I thought it would be for one time only, but once there I was charmed by the moods,

continued on page 11

## Harding 8th Grade Girls Capture Basketball Championship



The Harding 8th grade girls' basketball team capped off an 18-1 season by winning the Northeast Ohio Conference Middle School League Championship. Team members are: Front Row (Left to Right): Emma McKeon, Taylor Shaw, Madison Clause, Anna Kessler, Fiona O'Donnell and Katie Ribar, Back Row (Left to Right): Mikayla Harper, Marissa Lewis, Amy Ritschel, Kelsey Kvasnicka, Madeline Mullen and Coach Michael Harper Not pictured due to illness was Lisa Vandervort.



# Calendar Page

## Thursday, March 24

### The Lakewood Department of Human Services, Division of Aging, Intergenerational Tea Party

4:00 - 6:00 PM, The Womans Club Pavilion at Lakewood Park  
Our Intergenerational Tea Party is an annual event enjoyed by mothers, daughters and granddaughters throughout the area. This year we are hosting a Hawaiian themed party in honor of the newest American Girl doll, Kanani Akina. This event is sold out.

### Orientation about Hard Hatted Women

6:00 - 7:30 PM, 4220 Prospect Ave., Cleveland  
Hard Hatted Women is a non-profit organization that started 1979 by three women in the Non-Traditional Trades - a telephone installer, truck drive and steel worker. Our goal is to introduce women and girls to non-traditional careers. Our Mission Statement is: Empowering women to achieve economic independence by creating workplace diversity in trade and technical careers. [www.hardhattedwomen.org](http://www.hardhattedwomen.org)

### Healing Power of Drumming For Those Touched by Cancer

7:00 - 8:30 PM, The Gathering Place West, 800 Sharon Drive, Westlake  
This interactive drumming circle will teach the healing powers of drumming and help those touched by cancer decrease stress. Drums will be provided or you can bring your own. Families welcome. Program co-sponsored by Hospice of the Western Reserve. Advanced registration is required. 216.595.9546. [www.touchedbycancer.org](http://www.touchedbycancer.org).

## Friday, March 25

### Live pro wrestling returns to Lakewood with NWA World Heavyweight Champion

7:00 - 11:00 PM, St. Gregory's Byzantine Hall, 12920 Madison Ave.  
Absolute Intense Wrestling Presents Battle Bowl. See Page 15 for details.

### Regional Premiere! Jerry Springer: The Opera

8:00 PM, Studio Theater, Beck Center for the Arts, 17801 Detroit Ave.  
Showtimes Friday & Saturday 8PM, Sundays .7PM. Last weekend. Call 521-2540 or purchase tickets online at [www.beckcenter.org](http://www.beckcenter.org).

## Saturday, March 26

### Earned Income Tax Credit Clinic

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM, Lakewood Public Library, 15425 Detroit Ave.  
Trained volunteers will help you, at no charge, apply for the money you have earned. In order to qualify for the Earned Income Tax Credit, your earned income and adjusted gross income (AGI) must meet income eligible requirements. Clinics will be held at the Lakewood Public Library also March 26, April 2 and 9. Appointment times on these dates will be 10:00 AM, 11:00 AM, 12:00 PM and 1:00 PM. To register call at (216) 226-8275 x 127.

### Glass Tile Pendants Class at Crafty Goodness Cleveland

6:00 - 7:30 PM, Crafty Goodness, 15621 Madison Ave.  
In this class you will create five glass tile pendants to wear using a variety of images from vintage books/dictionaries, maps and other decorative papers. A fun and easy way to create wearable art! A fun mother/daughter class. Price: \$20. Kit includes: five glass tiles, five bails, one chain. Studio provides all other necessary materials. Age Level: 10 yrs. to Adult. 216-226-4880. Visit [www.craftygoodnesscleveland.com](http://www.craftygoodnesscleveland.com) to see their full class calendar. Other classes this week are: Beginner Cross Stitch on Monday, March 28th at 6 pm.; Beginner Embroidery Monday, March 28th at 7:30 pm.

## Sunday, March 27

### Open House: Energy Work, Intuition, and Healing

12:00 - 4:00 PM, 16903 Fischer Road (Lakewood and West Park border)  
Join us for an opportunity to meet Sarah and Cindy, who will each describe energy practices for healing mind, body, and spirit. Sarah, founder of Balancing Room, is a certified Clinical Practitioner of Eden Energy Medicine. She focuses on the energy body, including the meridians, chakras, aura, and more, to balance flows that have become blocked or weakened. Sarah uses energy tests to determine which areas require attention, and offers hands-on techniques to bring balance and healing, with emphasis on what each of us can do for ourselves. Cindy, the founder of LightWorks Medical Intuition and Healing, is a certified Light Journey Guide. She senses illness, disease, and injury in the body through a sixth sense. Cindy also uses this sixth sense to channel light energy directly to the area of discomfort. Healings often occur and can result in pain relief, release, rejuvenation, and restoration. Cindy and Sarah will answer questions and offer a tour of each office in a relaxed environment. Refreshments will be offered. Contact Cindy: [Cindy@lightworksheal.com](mailto:Cindy@lightworksheal.com) 440-655-3418. Contact Sarah: [balancingroom@gmail.com](mailto:balancingroom@gmail.com). 216-221-8833.

## Monday, March 28

### Income Tax Preparation Clinic

12 - 3:30 PM, Lawther Center, 16024 Madison Ave.  
Offered Monday & Tuesdays through April 18th. 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. Volunteers will meet individually with interested participants to assist with the completion of the year's tax returns. Appointments are by reservation only. To make a reservation, call 216-521-1515.

## Tuesday, March 29

### Lakewood Observer Outreach & Development Community Conversations

7 - 9 PM, Beck Cafe, Detroit Ave.  
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. It's a chance to sit down with other engaged citizens and talk about ideas, challenges, community issues, etc... And the coffee is on us! 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.

## Thursday, March 31

### Downtown Lakewood Business Open House

5:00 - 7:00 PM, Deagan's Kitchen & Bar, 14810 Detroit in their meeting room.  
Are you a business owner or manager of a Downtown Lakewood Business? Come to Deagan's Kitchen & Bar. Meet your business neighbors, find out what's happening in the Downtown district, and how the DLBA can help your business. Light appetizers, cash bar, good conversation!

### Financing Your Very Small Business

7:00 - 8:30 PM, Main Library Auditorium, 15425 Detroit Ave.  
What options do you have when your startup is unable to secure traditional financing? Representatives from the WECO Fund invite you to participate in a workshop that covers everything from business plans to tax returns. You may be the right candidate for a microloan.

## Saturday, April 2

### 2nd Annual Spring Fling at The Furry Nation

10:00 AM - 5:00 PM, The Furry Nation, 15800 Detroit Ave.  
Help us celebrate our 2 year Anniversary. We will have many rescues, artists, Pet photography, a free year of free food for dogs and cats. A large Charity Raffle with over 40 baskets totaling over \$5000.00 in donations from local merchants all to benefit Lakewood's Own All Dogs Heaven Rescue. [www.thefurrynation.com](http://www.thefurrynation.com).

### Mud In Yer Eye Monthly Contra Dance at Masonic Temple

7:00 - 11:00 PM, Lakewood Masonic Temple, 15300 Detroit Ave.  
The band Mud in Yer Eye with caller Carol Kopp perform a contra dance in the beautiful ball room of the Masonic Temple every First Saturday of the Month. Singles and couples, age 7 to 100 welcome! No previous dancing experience necessary. At 7pm the caller goes through most of the steps to expect during the night and then again before each dance. Wear comfortable shoes and clothing. \$6 charge at door to help pay for the hall. Lessons begin at 7pm. Dance starts at 8pm. [www.neohiocontradance.org](http://www.neohiocontradance.org)

### The Underpants - Steve Martin's adaptation of a play by Carl Sternheim

8:00 PM, Mackey Main Stage, Beck Center for the Arts, 17801 Detroit Avenue  
Runs through April 23rd. See Page 16 for story.

More listings at [www.lakewoodobserver.com](http://www.lakewoodobserver.com)




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Your Independent Source for  
Lakewood News & Opinion

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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, March 27  
Sunday, April 10

**Publish Date**

Tuesday, April 5  
Tuesday, April 19

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PUBLISHER  
Jim O'Bryan

EDITOR IN CHIEF  
Margaret Brinich

ADVERTISING  
Maggie Fraley  
[LO.adsales@gmail.com](mailto:LO.adsales@gmail.com)

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

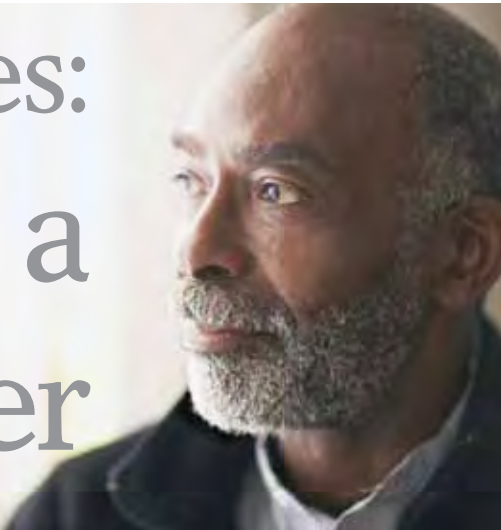


Advertising Feature

# Focus on Healthy Living



## Type 2 Diabetes: Stopping a Silent Killer



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

- Blood pressure higher than 130 over 80.

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

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

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

## The Neurologist Will See You Now

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

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

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

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

*For more information, visit [lakewoodhospital.org/neuro](http://lakewoodhospital.org/neuro)*

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

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

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

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





# Lakewood City News

## More Changes To Council And Its Leadership

by Christopher Bindel

The March 7, 2011 Council meeting was called to order at 7:30 P.M. by Council Vice President Mary Louise Madigan. As former Council President, and Ward I Councilman, Kevin Butler stepped down to become the City's new law director, Councilwoman Madigan (Ward IV) was to act as President until Council elected a new one.

The meeting opened with five Boy Scouts leading everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilwoman Madigan then began the agenda by announcing the selection of David W. Anderson to fulfill the Ward I Council seat left vacant by Butler. Before the meeting could proceed with Anderson in his new official role, he had to be sworn in. Judge Patrick Carroll was on hand to conduct the official swearing in. Surrounded by his wife Andrea and children Brianna, Reese, Luke and Benjamin, who all participated, Anderson took his oath and officially became the Ward I Councilman. He took his seat as Councilman Anderson, and the meeting proceeded.

Mayor Mike Summers recognized the five Boy Scouts who helped with the Pledge of Allegiance in the opening of the meeting. Because each one had recently completed the highest rank in Boy Scouts, Eagle Scout, the Mayor presented each of them with a resolution commending and thanking them for their hard work on their service projects. The Mayor continued saying that it is not every day that Boy Scouts achieve the rank of Eagle Scout, and pointing out that it is much more rare that five do it all at once. He wanted to make sure to recognize the troop leaders as well as the parents of the individuals, as he said it would not have been possible for them to achieve this honor without their support.

Next, Councilwoman Madigan read a communication from the Committee of the Whole (the committee that consists of all members of Council) regarding Council leadership. With Council President Butler having stepped down,

Council had to select a new Council President. The Committee of the Whole recommended that Councilwoman Madigan finish out 2011 as Council President and that Brian Powers replace her as Council Vice President. After Council received the communication from Councilwoman Madigan, Councilman Brian Powers (At-Large) moved to elect her as Council President. Seconded by Councilman Thomas Bullock (Ward II), the motion was put to a vote and Madigan was unanimously elected as the new Council President. Councilwoman Madigan then moved to elect Councilman Powers to Vice President, and was seconded again by Councilman Bullock. Powers was then unanimously elected to the position of Vice President.

The next item on the agenda was presented by Councilman Powers and regarded leashed dog-walking in Lakewood and Kauffman Parks. Last year an ordinance allowing leashed dogs in Lakewood and Kauffman parks was passed on a trial basis, to see if it could be done without any financial strain to the City and with no incidents in the parks. With the trial period coming to a close without any problems, Councilman Powers submitted an ordinance that would make the change permanent and asked Council to consider it and send it to the Public Safety Committee for review. Councilman Powers made a point to mention the hard-working citizens that made the pilot year a success, and the fundraising they did to make it possible. Without either it could not have happened. He also pointed out that the leashed dogs in the parks issue was originally brought forth by Councilman Powers and although he is no longer the Chair of the Public Safety Committee that he is more than welcome to continue to be a part of the process. Council then referred the proposed ordinance to the Public Safety Committee for further consideration.

The next several items on the agenda were all finance-related. The

first was an ordinance that would give the City the right to sell bonds in the amount of \$2.1 million dollars to pay for capital improvements throughout the City. The items that followed were specific certificates that indicated what some of the money would be spent on, including street repairs, Detroit Avenue improvements including new traffic signals, and improvements to the municipal garage ventilation. All of the items were referred to the Finance Committee for further consideration.

Coming to the end of the agenda items, there was just one member of the public to speak. She spoke on behalf of her fellow residents on Beach Avenue and complained again about the Rockport development. Instead of discussing the conditions of the vacant lots, she chose to discuss the makeup of the development itself. The current development consists almost entirely of housing units. She said she believed that with gas reaching nearly \$5 a gallon, people soon won't be able to afford to drive out to the malls to do their shopping. Therefore she believes that Lakewood's Planning and Development Department should be pushing the development to build small stores for mom and pop shops that can sell necessities such as clothes so people won't have to drive to shopping centers to get their necessities.

Next Councilwoman Monique Smith asked the Mayor about a proposed development on Edgewater Drive. There is currently a house worth just under a million dollars for sale on Edgewater Drive. A property developer is interested in the property, but only for the almost two and a half acres of land. The Mayor explained that they are interested in raising at least two structures on the property to make way for a development of 14 single-level homes. The developer, Abode Living, held a community meeting for neighbors of the property at Emerson Elementary to discuss their plans. During the discussions reservations and concerns were raised by several of the residents. The Mayor said that after that meeting he met with the developer to work on some of the issues regarding the property. After extensive talks he said that they agreed to disagree, and are looking towards the next step, which the Mayor said is not clear, or if there even will be one. The developer is also looking at some other parcels in Lakewood for development, including one on Sloane, by the curve to Lake, where there are three vacant rental properties for sale.

The Mayor continued saying that in complex developments such as the ones being looked at for either Sloane or Edgewater, there are many things to look at and several steps to take. Some of the things they need to look at are whether the development fits the neighborhood, if it fits into the zoning requirements, and if there are modifications to the zoning requirements that are appropriate. In the case of the Edgewater proposed development, the Mayor said that the zoning allows for about 11 houses. They are asking for 14. He said the city could

maybe push 12, but 14 was not going to happen. The developer argued that the economics of the deal do not work at 12 houses, and the Mayor said that they may not, however in that case the development just does not happen.

In any case, the Mayor said that if it does move forward the plans would have to go before the Planning Commission and then the Architectural Board of Review as well, as there are sure to be several community meetings to discuss the impact of the possible development before any decisions would be made. He does not see any impending deadline forcing a hasty approach to the issue and plans to take an orderly approach to handling it.

Councilman Powers thanked the Mayor for his update and said that even though nothing concerning the possible development would come to a vote at Council, it is still something they are interested in and concerned about. He continued saying that his personal preference would be to see an individual purchase the home and renovate it to its previous splendor. He understands however that that is not his call, although he said anything he can do to convince someone else to do that he would. He even went as far as to say that if he could purchase it himself he would. Although he cannot, he hopes everyone in the city comes together and tries to find someone who will. However if no one does, and property is purchased by a developer, the City cannot tell them how they can or cannot use that property. Provided they work within all the proper zoning and building codes, the developer can do with it what he likes. However, he said the City can at least let them know what their preferences are.

The Mayor then said the issue Lakewood has to consider is that it is a community of mostly older two-storey homes in a time where an aging population is seeking more single-level homes, with a bedroom and bathroom on the first floor. These types of homes are something that Lakewood is seriously lacking in, and many in Lakewood who go searching for such homes often end up in places like Strongsville and Westlake. The Mayor continued, saying that one of Lakewood's challenges is taking property that no longer has a strong market demand, such as a million dollar home, and repurposing it for a type of housing that there is a strong market demand for, such as single-floor homes. He said it is a difficult transition and one the City will have to work through as a community. He restated that one of his goals as Mayor is to reposition Lakewood's housing for the city's second century. He said that the second century has a different view than the first did, but that the community needs to figure out what the new view is. He thinks the situation on Edgewater could be a part of figuring that out.

With no further comments from the Mayor, or any of the members of Council, a motion to adjourn was heard and the meeting ended at 8:10 P.M.

continued on next page

### AROUND THE CORNER



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# Lakewood City News

## 22,600,000 Steps And Counting...Mark Your Calendar For The 10th Annual Lakewood Hospital Ambulance Chase

by Kris Griesmar

Celebrate 10 years of running, walking, wellness, community spirit and support of Lakewood Hospital at the Ambulance Chase on Sunday, May 1.

“This is a fabulous event, not to be missed,” notes Ken Haber, Lakewood Hospital Foundation President. “The Ambulance Chase is for all, from the youngest among us in the Children’s Chase to participants well into their eighties. And the bonus is the difference that has been made in patient care at Lakewood Hospital due to the funds raised through the event.”

The rehabilitation program at Lakewood Hospital gave me my life back,” states Bill Forester, stroke survivor and 2011 Race Committee member. On August 17, 2009, Bill’s life changed forever, suffering a massive, debilitating stroke that affected his speech, and the use of his arm and leg on his right side. “I ate healthy, didn’t smoke and was very active...it made no sense. It just goes to show that this can happen to anyone.”

Bill credits his successful journey



Ambulance Chase is a favorite of Lakewood runners. This photo is from last year.

from stroke victim to stroke survivor to Lakewood Hospital’s Rehab Services program. “For the past year and a half, I have had the great fortune of intensely focusing on my physical, occupational and speech therapy. The hospital therapists and members of the stroke support group have become my community.”

As part of his therapy, Bill began a serious running regime, something he had done very little of before the stroke. Through his hard work and endurance, and the dedication and encouragement

of his therapists, he is now running half marathons. “My first race was last year’s Ambulance Chase, and I am running again this year- with an improved stride and a sense of great pride in giving back to Lakewood Hospital, because it gave me my life back,” notes Bill.

Since its inception in 2002, the Ambulance Chase has raised nearly \$300,000 for a myriad of programs and services at Lakewood Hospital, ranging from SeniorCare Services to Teen Health Center to the emergency department. In keeping with Lakewood Hospital’s Vision for Tomorrow, this year’s race will benefit patients in need of post-acute rehabilitation and outpatient physical, occupational, and speech therapy services, as well as several other initiatives.

“Walk or run, 5K or 1.5 miles,

volunteer or participant... it doesn’t matter what you do, just come join us on May 1!” exclaims Jan Murphy, president, Lakewood and Fairview hospitals. “And help to support patient care at our community hospital- Lakewood Hospital.”

Presented by Donald Martens & Sons Ambulance Services, event festivities are at Lakewood Park and registration begins at 7:30 AM.

For more information, call 216-529-7009 or visit [lakewoodhospital.org/foundation](http://lakewoodhospital.org/foundation). To register online visit [hermesccleveland.com](http://hermesccleveland.com)

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### More Changes To Council And Its Leadership

continued from previous page

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 April 4, 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](http://onelakewood.com/citygovern_council.html).



## Your Best Choice in Stroke Care

Cleveland Clinic Neurological Institute  
at Lakewood Hospital

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a Cleveland Clinic hospital

Lakewood Hospital is leading the West Side in stroke diagnosis and comprehensive treatment, to provide the highest level of care to our patients.

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- Through the use of state-of-the-art technology, our specialists diagnose and treat quickly, using the most innovative options available
- With the area’s only Neuro Integrated Care Unit and Cleveland Clinic Neurological Institute, we treat the most serious neurological conditions
- Accredited stroke rehabilitation program

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

Do you know the warning signs of a stroke? Think F.A.S.T. Learn more and request a free stroke information kit at [lakewoodhospital.org](http://lakewoodhospital.org)

For an appointment, call 216.529.7110.

\*Ranked by U.S.News & World Report, 2010.



# Lakewood Public Library Events

All Events and Programs Are Free And Open To The Public

## Wednesday, March 23

**MEET THE AUTHOR: Dan Coughlin**  
Crazy, With the Papers to Prove It: Stories About the Most Unusual, Eccentric and Outlandish People I’ve Known in 45 Years as a Sports Journalist  
Dan Coughlin is not crazy, but for 45 years he covered sports in Cleveland, which means he lived life under a full moon. In this book, the award-winning Plain Dealer and WJW-TV reporter reflects on the most unusual, eccentric and outlandish people and events he covered. “I never met a wacko I didn’t like,” Coughlin says. Not only did he write about them, they became his lifelong friends. Every day was an adventure, but it wasn’t all laughs; some of his boxers went to jail, his softball players got shot, his race car drivers were killed. Luckily, Coughlin kept notes! Any Cleveland sports fan will enjoy meeting these memorable characters. Books will be available for sale and signing at the event.  
**7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium**

## Sunday, March 27

**SUNDAY WITH THE FRIENDS: The Circle East Ensemble**  
Introduced by Dr. Alan M. Tartakoff, Violinist, The Circle East Ensemble will come West to perform a thoughtful selection of classical music for audiences of all ages.  
**2:00 p.m. in the First Floor Multipurpose Room**

## Monday, March 28

**Stress Management and Back Injury Prevention**  
Dr. Jay-P Fite shows you how to battle physical, emotional and chemical stressors with proper lifting, sleeping and bending techniques. Find new ways to deal with emotional stress and limit your chemical intake.  
**7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium**

## Tuesday, March 29

**Wabi Sabi: The Holistic Home for Stress Free Living**  
Simple uncluttered spaces, rustic furnishings and organic materials are the hallmarks of Wabi Sabi, the design aesthetic of ancient Japan. Cara Gallagher will show us how these simple ideals can be applied to make us appreciate the materials we already have in our homes and live in a more environmentally responsible manner.  
**7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium**

## Wednesday, March 30

**LAKEWOOD HISTORICAL SOCIETY: Clevelanders in the Civil War**  
With good humor and dramatic zeal, Marge Wilson tells the stories of significant Clevelanders before, during and after the war. Famous names range from future president James Garfield to the son of Cleveland’s grand gentleman, Jeptha Wade. Rockefeller’s little brother joined up at age sixteen. And who could forget early settler superwoman, Rebecca Rouse? Other folks include one of Lincoln’s guards, a survivor of Andersonville, Confederates and more.  
**7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium**

## Thursday, March 31

**Financing Your Very Small Business**  
What options do you have when your startup is unable to secure traditional financing? Representatives from the WECO Fund invite you to participate in a workshop that covers everything from business plans to tax returns. You may be the right candidate for a microloan.  
**7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium**

## Saturday, April 2

**FILM NOIR IN THE FIFTIES: Cops, Commies & Corruption**  
**D.O.A. (1950) Directed by Rudolph Maté Not Rated**  
A man walks through the long corridors of a police precinct until he finally reaches homicide headquarters. “I want to report a murder,” he says. “Who was murdered?” they ask. “I was.” Sometime during the past 24 hours, someone slipped CPA Edmond O’Brien a mickey of slow-acting poison. With the help of his secretary/fiancée, Pamela Britton, he spends the rest of the film looking for an answer to the existential question at the heart of film noir: “Why me?”  
**6:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium**

## Sunday, April 3

**SUNDAY WITH THE FRIENDS: The Teahouse Sounds of Silk and Bamboo**  
The Cleveland Chinese Music Ensemble recreates the atmosphere of a faraway teahouse with ancient and modern forms of Chinese music played on traditional wind, string and percussion instruments. An assortment of hot teas will be provided for the audience to sample as lush, lyrical “silk and bamboo” pieces are punctuated by lively festival music for an unforgettable experience. Drink up.  
**2:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium**

## Monday, April 4

**Road Scholar: The New Face of Elderhostel**  
George Shinas invites you to take part in the adventure of lifelong learning. Discover thousands of educational tours spread across fifty states and more than ninety countries that are offered by the not-for-profit leader in educational travel since 1975. Experience in-depth and behind-the-scenes learning opportunities, from cultural tours and study cruises to walking, biking and more. Mr. Shinas will answer your questions and share experiences from his own adventures—thirty-one and counting.  
**7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium**

## Wednesday, April 6

**MEET THE AUTHOR: Neil Zurcher**  
**Tales from the Road: Memoirs from a Lifetime of Ohio Travel, Television, and More**  
After a million miles and four decades, Neil Zurcher has a lot of great stories to tell. He met Prince Charles in a bathroom, and tripped and fell on President Gerald Ford. He raced on an elephant, piloted a glider, and hung from a trapeze. He survived a hotel fire, a tornado, and countless stunts for the camera. During his “One Tank Trips, he visited every corner of Ohio and beyond and met hundreds of unusual people, making him one of the most popular personalities in Cleveland television. In this book, with his familiar folksy style, Neil shares dozens of his favorite personal stories. Many will cause a chuckle, some will surprise, and all recall an era of television and of Northeast Ohio that was full of color and characters. Books will be available for sale and signing at the event.  
**7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium**

## Thursday, April 7

**MEET THE AUTHOR: Diana Tittle**  
The Severances: An American Odyssey, from Puritan Massachusetts to Ohio’s Western Reserve, and Beyond  
Although the book covers nearly four centuries of this remarkable family’s history, the author’s lavishly illustrated talk will put special emphasis on how the experience of designing and furnishing “homes beautiful” in Cleveland Heights transformed John L. Severance and his sister Elisabeth Severance Prentiss into serious patrons of the arts who endowed the Western Reserve with some of our most distinguished civic buildings. Books will be available for sale and signing at the event.  
**7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium**

## BOOK GROUPS: Thursday, March 24

**BUSINESS BOOK TALK with Tim Zaun and Friends**  
Get down to business with like-minded Lakewoodites. Visit [www.timzaun.com](http://www.timzaun.com) or go to [www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.com/bookclubs](http://www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.com/bookclubs) to learn more.  
Aftershock: The Next Economy and America’s Future by Robert B. Reich  
Clinton’s Secretary of Labor outlines nine ways to save America’s middle class in his latest book.  
**7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Meeting Room**

## LEARNING LAB CLASSES:

Reservations for computer instruction classes begin the first of each month. To register, please stop in or call (216) 226-8275, ext. 127. We ask that all students come to class with a working knowledge of the mouse. If you need help, visit the Technology Center and ask the staff to set you up on our Mouse Training Program. It’s fun, easy and essential to becoming computer literate. All classes take place in the Main Library Learning Lab on the 2nd floor.  
**UPCOMING MARCH & APRIL CLASSES: (Class sign-ups for March begin on Thursday, March 1)**  
**Saturday, March 26: E-MAIL BASICS @ 3:00 p.m.**  
**Thursday, March 31: INTRO TO DATABASE SEARCHING @ 7:00 p.m.**  
**Saturday, April 9: WORD PROCESSING BASICS@3:00 p.m.**  
**Thursday, April 14: JOB HUNTING BASICS @ 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**  
**Saturday, April 16: INTERNET BASICS@3:00 p.m.**  
**Saturday, April 23: WEB SEARCHING BASICS@3:00 p.m.**  
**Saturday, April 30: 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**

**TEEN HOMEWORK CENTER: For students in sixth to twelfth grade**  
Looking for a place to work on your homework or class projects? Feel free to come by with friends to work and chat at the same time. Library staff will be present to help answer questions with assignment directions or guide you to appropriate materials for your research.  
**Ongoing through Thursday, May 26**  
**Thursdays, 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room**

## 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.  
**Ongoing through Thursday, May 26**  
**Monday – Friday, 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m., in Main Library Children’s and Youth Services and at the Madison Branch**



# Lakewood Public Library

## The Cleveland Chinese Music Ensemble Serves Up A Tea Infused Concert

by Martha Wood

There is more to China than what you read about in the financial papers. There is an ancient China that has worked for 4000 years on the perfect cup of tea. A China where making this cup of tea is considered high art, along with poetry and the traditional music of the tea house, known as Sizhu, or “silk and bamboo”. On Sunday, April 3rd at 2:00 pm in the Main Auditorium, Lakewood Public Library is delighted to welcome the Cleveland Chinese Music Ensemble for a mystical teahouse concert that promises to refresh you in mind, body and spirit.

Like Irish pubs or cafés in Paris, the Chinese have tea houses. Chinese tea houses are scattered throughout China and are usually found along bridges as a respite for travelers. It is customary to bring your caged song-bird with you to hang on long poles that stretch across the ceiling of the tea house, order your tea and listen to the tea house musicians.

According to musician and founder David Badagnani, the Cleveland Chinese Music Ensemble uses traditional string and wind instruments such as the erhu, the pipa, a guzheng, a sheng and dizis to create a

sound that is meditative and relaxing, and just the sort of music you might hear at a tea house. What’s more, every selection they are playing at the concert will have something to do with the beloved brew.

Xue “Snow” Yu, a vibrant soprano, is the guest vocalist. Yu, a master student at Kent State University will be singing a very traditional ballad about drinking tea and a relatively modern one from a 1930’s Chinese movie.

The ‘tea’ theme will also be reflected in the selected poems that will be read in their original Chinese by Zhiyi Xu, an octogenarian grandfather from Hangzhou. An English translation of the same poems will follow.

As a special treat, a benefactor from the Province of Anhui near the lower end of the Yangtze River has supplied rare and prized teas from the Anhui region to be served at the concert. Now these aren’t your average grocery store teas we’re talking about. These are teas worth hundreds of dollars served in traditional clay pots for you to enjoy along with watermelon seeds (a specialty) and Jujube, a type of date that has been cultivated in China for 4000 years.

With the addition of a beautiful blossoming tea, a handmade work of



The Cleveland Chinese Music Ensemble

art which has to be seen to be believed, and the performance of an authentic Tea Ceremony, this concert should not be missed. “We want to create something the audience will never forget”, says Badagnani.

So come, enjoy the music and

drink up the tea house atmosphere at the Lakewood Public Library on April 3rd at 2:00 pm in the Main Auditorium. As always, this free event is generously funded by Cuyahoga County residents through Cuyahoga Arts and Culture and the Friends of Lakewood Public Library.

### Destination:

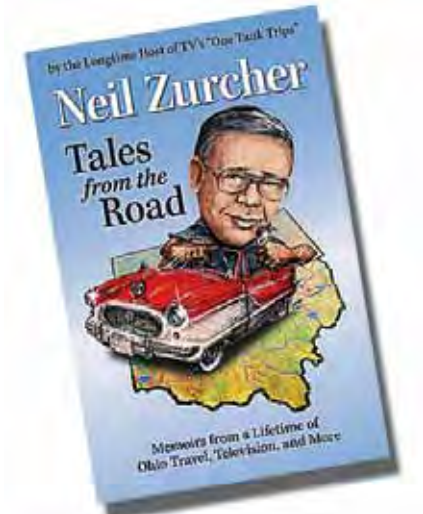
## Lakewood Public Library

by Chris Weaver

It is unlikely that the phrase “One Tank Trip” brings to your mind anything besides the image of a smiling man in a red and white convertible traveling the highways and byways of Ohio. The man you are thinking of is Neil Zurcher, of course, and his famous suggestions for hundreds of quick, economical outings to wonderful nearby attractions.

Having logged more than a million miles in his travels, Mr. Zurcher’s next stop is Lakewood Public Library’s Main Branch Auditorium on Wednesday, April 6th at 7:00 p.m.

This evening will revisit and go beyond his Trips as Mr. Zurcher also recalls his early days in TV and radio news, before he became an icon of travel reporting. Taking stories from his new book, “Tales from the Road: Memoirs from a Lifetime of Ohio Travel, Television and More,” this Ohio Broadcasters Hall of Fame member will highlight storm chases and high-speed chases,



and other newsworthy events he covered in his early journalism career.

A recipient of both the Distinguished Service Award from the Society of Professional Journalism and the Silver Circle award from the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, this visit by Zurcher is not to be missed. Books will be available for sale and signing at the event.

## The Severances: A Cultural Legacy

by Andrea Fisher

The Golden Age of philanthropy brought us families like the Rockefellers and Carnegies. Cleveland has the Severance family, whose generosity brought an enduring legacy of arts and culture to the city, most notably with the magnificent home of the Cleveland Orchestra: Severance Hall. Diana Tittle, author of The Severances: An American Odyssey, from Puritan Massachusetts to Ohio’s Western Reserve, and Beyond will be at the Lakewood Public Library on Thursday, April 7 at 7 p.m. in the Auditorium as part of our Meet the Author series.

John and Abigail Severance came to America like many of the other 21,000 Puritans that fled England, seeking freedom to practice their religious beliefs. The Severances originally settled in the Massachusetts Bay Colony in the 17th century and remained there as farmers for a number of generations. Tragedy eventually brought the family to Cleveland, generations later in 1830, when four young Severance boys came to Cleveland to live with a cousin’s family after their parents died of tuberculosis.

One of the orphans, Solomon, would die before his time just like his parents, leaving his young wife with two young boys, one of whom would become a Standard Oil millionaire. Louis started as a cashier for Rockefeller’s company, and worked his way up the ranks of the company. He used his fortune to invest in The Arcade, founded a hospital in Seoul, Korea, and



contributed generously to the College of Wooster and Oberlin College, as well as Case Western Reserve University.

Louis’ children, John L. and Elisabeth, had a taste for high culture and the arts, and were eager to cultivate this love in the city of Cleveland. Without their generosity, Cleveland would not have Severance Hall, Cleveland Museum of Art’s Court of Armor and Tapestry, and other pieces that were given to the museum after their deaths. Elisabeth established the Allen Memorial Art Museum at Oberlin College, and also invested millions in health-care institutions in the city.

In this well-researched book, Diana Tittle uses the hundreds of historical documents, letters and records of multiple generations of the family. Don’t miss this chance to learn more about the Severance family, whose history is traced from their humble Puritan beginnings to their transformation into industrial tycoon descendants and generous benefactors of the Arts and Medicine in Cleveland. As always, this Library program is free and open to the public.

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# Lakewood Schools

## Harding 8th Grader Wins Top Award In National Art Contest

by Christine Gordillo

Harding 8th grader, Jacob Corder, has been named a national Gold Medal winner - the highest honor - in the prestigious Scholastic Art & Writing Awards presented by the Alliance for Young Artists & Writers. This is a national competition with more than 185,000 works submitted from more than 50,000 students in grades 7-12 from across the nation.

Corder won his Gold Medal, which represents the most outstanding work in the nation, in the Jewelry category, for two pieces submitted together, a felted ring with metalwork base and felted earrings. He will be honored along with the other national winners at a ceremony in May at Carnegie Hall. The national winners were selected from the 1,500 that advanced from their regional competitions in January.

Entries were judged by professionals in visual and literary arts and

judged on the following criteria: originality, technical skill and emergence of personal vision or voice.

Corder's pieces have special meaning to him as he created them as a tribute to his family. The ring includes three felt "hills" with faces that represent his mother, his sister and himself. The earrings, one of which is a cloud with sunshine and the other a cloud with rain, are a tribute to his mother.

"The cloud earrings represent good and bad times," Corder said. "My mom is a single mom and she's gotten us through a lot of good and bad times and these were a thank-you to her."

And how does Mom feel about that? "It reduced me to tears," said Julie Corder. "It was the most touching thing I've ever heard."

Corder, who began taking art classes at the Cleveland Institute of Art at age 11, already has a few other significant art accomplishments



under his belt, in addition to this most recent honor. He took second place for a silk painting he entered when he was 11 at the Starry Night art exhibition held on the eve of the Lakewood Arts Festival, and sold one of his papier mache animal creations to Pioneer Savings Bank to hang in their lobby.

Many of Corder's pieces can be found at Local Girl Gallery in Lakewood, which will be hosting a show of his work in June.

In addition to Corder, two Lakewood High school students who were named Golden Key winners at



Jacob Corder

the regional level also had their work judged at the national level. Senior Peter Barlow won his regional Golden Key for a film titled, "Last Hope" and senior Danielle Curran for a painting titled, "Purple Hart."

The Scholastic Awards were founded in 1923 to offer recognition and scholarships for students for their artistic talents.

## Hayes Kindergartners Help Those In Need



Kindergartners in Katie Papp's class at Hayes Elementary recently brought into focus the importance of giving to your community and helping others as they raised money to buy eyeglasses for patients in need at MetroHealth Medical Center in Cleveland. The class sold bags of trail mix for 25 cents during their lunch period during the first week of March. The class was able to donate \$85 to Metro and thanks to their efforts, about 85 more people will have functional eyeglasses!

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[www.lakewoodhardware.com](http://www.lakewoodhardware.com)

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## Kindergarten And Open Enrollment Registration Is March 23

by Christine Gordillo

Kindergarten registration for the Lakewood City Schools will take place in all 7 of our elementary schools on Wednesday, March 23, 2011 from 2 p.m. – 7 p.m. Parents may register children at their neighborhood elementary school on this day only. On March 23, kindergarten classrooms will be available to tour after 3:15 p.m. when current students have been dismissed for the day. This will allow parents and youngsters to see the current kindergarten classrooms in their neighborhood school.

If you are unable to register on March 23, you will need to register at the Lakewood Board of Education, Student Services Department on the 2nd floor, 1470 Warren Road. Registration at the Board of Education is held between 8 a.m. and 2 p.m. every working day. Children enrolled in Lakewood City Schools pre-kindergarten program are already enrolled in the district and do not need to re-register.

Parents may register a child who will turn 5 years of age on or before September 30, 2011. You will need to provide the following documents at registration:

### Child's Information:

- \* Certified copy of birth certificate (U.S. Passport or Visa)
- \* Social Security card (optional)
- \* Immunization record, doctor's name and phone number

### Parent Information:

- \* Valid driver's license/picture I.D.
- \* Residency (provide two):
  1. Current gas/electric bill – portion showing your name & address.
  2. Faxed confirmation of new utility service: (216) 529-4104 (Attn: Ms. Griveas).
  3. Fully executed lease: includes landlord contact information and all persons living at this address.
  4. Owner Affidavit completed in

full and notarized by land lord/property manager (only when numbers 1, 2, and/or 3 cannot be provided).

5. Residency and Custody Affidavit completed in full and notarized by resident.

### 6. Official Documentation

of Custody (required only when child does not live with birth parents).

March 23 is also the date the district will begin accepting applications for open enrollment for students in grades kindergarten through 5th. The Lakewood City Schools are organized around the concept of neighborhood schools. Each school has a designated attendance area based on street addresses. If you live in a school's attendance area, you are guaranteed a place in that neighborhood school. The Lakewood Board of Education has a policy that allows parents to apply for open enrollment to another elementary school. These applications are approved only if space is available in the requested school and grade. Please understand that open enrollment requests must be processed very close to the beginning of the school year and only after the district is able to judge what the neighborhood enrollment will be.

If parents need to make arrangements (childcare, carpooling, etc.) based on where your child will attend school, you should make your plans on attendance at your neighborhood school where your child is guaranteed a place. Open enrollment requests should not be based on any school closing as that timetable and transition plan have yet to be fully created. The final date to submit an open enrollment request for the 2011-2012 year is August 11, 2011.

If parents have any questions regarding the enrollment process, neighborhood school status, or any other item please contact the Division of Teaching and Learning at 216-529-4203.



# Lakewood Schools

From Lakewood Recreation

## New And Improved Summer Youth Programs

by Mike Callahan

The Recreation Department is busy preparing for an exciting summer. Many of the traditional programs have been enhanced and there are plenty of new activities for children of all ages. Here are some of the highlights:

**Ranger Baseball**

Leagues are available from 4 year-old Tot T-ball to 15U (ages 13-15) Ripken Prep. The Ripken Prep Division is new for 2011. Also, a new team formation policy and coaches' packet with roster form has been developed. Registration ends March 31.

**Running Rangers**

This new program seeks to prepare those entering grades 6 through 8 for the fall cross country season. If your middle schooler is interested in cross country, this program will let them try it out. Participants will be instructed in the areas of training techniques, diet, and running form, in addition to distance training runs. Included in the registration is participation in a local road race. Participants will also receive a t-shirt.

## Lakewood Students Shine At NE Ohio Science Fair

by Christine Gordillo

Sixteen students from Lakewood High and Harding Middle School attended the 58th Annual Northeastern Ohio Science and Engineering Fair at Cleveland State March 14-17 and all came away with recognition of their projects, including a first-place award for sophomore Hannah Kiraly in her category.

More than 600 students from nearly 100 area schools competed at the fair in nine categories, which are subdivided by grade levels. NEOSEF awards one 1st place, and multiple 2nd place, 3rd place and honorable mentions per subdivision. Students also compete for over 300 Special Awards totaling more than \$15,000 that are donated by companies, societies and organizations.

Kiraly, who also placed first last year at the fair, won in the Biology Grades 9-10 division for her project titled: "Can Integrating the Concept of Intercropping with GMO's (Genetically Modified Organisms) be Beneficial to the Agricultural Industry." First-place winners received \$100 in addition to a medal and blue ribbon. Joining Kiraly in awards recognition are the following LHS students:

3rd Place: George Harkenrider, Jacob Zbin

Honorable Mention: Hugh Campbell, Sameena Khan, Victoria Milicevic

Special Awards:

George Harkenrider – Antique Automobile Association and Parker Hannifin Corp. for his project, "Lift Relative to the Camber of a Wing"

Sameena Khan - Cleveland Clinic Department of Pathobiology for her project, "The Effect of Surface Temperatures on Fingerprints"

Hannah Kiraly – Trustee Award for Outstanding Project



Jungle Terry visits Lakewood Recreation Kids Connection last summer

**Ranger Sports Camps**

The Recreation Department works closely with Lakewood High School Athletics, and the various varsity coaches at LHS. This summer, children have the opportunity to enhance skills in many sports under the direction of the Ranger coaching staff. Summer camps and clinics include Baseball, Boys Basketball, Girls Basketball, Foot-

ball, Soccer, and Volleyball.

**Aquatics**

Summer swim passes and learn-to-swim registration are available beginning May 1. Looking for a different activity in the pool this summer? Try water polo! This program will introduce students to the game, work on skills, and include scrimmages. The program is great for beginners--students should be in Level 4 or higher learn-to-swim, although the class will be held in shallow and deep water. The Department offers many other aquatics programs including American Red Cross Lifeguard Training, Lifeguard Instructor Training, a USA Swimming-affiliated competitive swim team, the entry-level Ranger Summer Swim Team, and more.

**Kids Connection**

The classic summer camp, Kids Connection, is back with some upgrades. A new registration pro-

cess allows registration for individual weeks. Register for 4 or more weeks and receive a free swim pass. Also, breakfast will be served daily by the Lakewood City Schools Nutrition Services Department, and is included in the registration fee.

**Parents' Night Out**

This article isn't entirely for the kids! Parents, leave the babysitting to us and enjoy a night out on the town on July 9 or August 6. Kids will start with dinner, a movie, and gym activities and then we'll walk as a group to the municipal pool for swimming. Children will be supervised by summer day camp staff and lifeguards.

**Parent and Child Etiquette**

New to Lakewood Recreation, join Mr. Dick Blake and his wife for one of Mr. Blake's most requested classes over the years. Children learn the social skills and table manners that not only teach them to act like young ladies and gentlemen, but also help them to be successful throughout their lives and in future careers. Parents get to share the experience and maybe learn a little something, too! The class will take place on Sundays, May 29 and June 5 at Harding Middle School.

Above are just a few highlights of the Recreation Department's summer youth offerings. For more details, including fees, times and locations on these and all other programs, visit [www.lakewoodrecreation.com](http://www.lakewoodrecreation.com), or call 216-529-4081. Look for the Recreation Department's Spring/Summer booklet due out to homes in late March. Lakewood Recreation, where the fun never ends!

## Students Meet Cleveland Cavaliers, Hear Healthy Message At West Side Market

by Mike Callahan

Current and former Grant and Roosevelt Elementary School students, including many from the Recreation Department's Ranger Basketball league, went on a field trip to the West Side Market Saturday, March 12. The West Side Market, a 99 year-old Cleveland landmark, is without doubt an intriguing place. But it was the special guests that the students met, and the transportation to and from, that will make the day hard to forget.

The group was picked up from Grant Elementary School by several vehicles including a stretch limousine, and driven to their destination. Upon their arrival the students were introduced to representatives from the Cleveland Cavaliers organization and Cleveland Clinic. After hearing a bit about the history of the market and an overview of the healthy eating message of the day, special guests Cavs forwards Joey Graham and Alonzo Gee were introduced.

The students then joined their new friends for a tour of the market. Along the way, Cleveland Clinic dietitian Kate Mone spoke about different healthy foods and good eating habits.

After the tour, all were divided into



Students from Lakewood Recreation and Lakewood City Schools with Alonzo Gee and Joey Graham from the Cleveland Cavaliers at the West Side Market on Saturday, March 12.

groups and sent on a scavenger hunt to purchase items for several recipes. The items were paid for by the Cavaliers, and then donated to a local charity.

At the conclusion the students were given gift bags from the Cavaliers and driven back to Grant Elementary. If that wasn't enough, the students and their families were then given tickets to the Cavaliers game on Sunday March 13. The tickets had been purchased by Cavaliers players as a part of the team's community outreach program.

The event was a part of the Cleveland Clinic's "Just Move It!" campaign

**continued on page 13**



# Lakewood Cares

## 3rd Annual Junk2Funk To Benefit North Coast Health Ministry

by Jeanine Gergel

Local Girl Gallery, at 16106 Detroit Avenue, will be an eclectic art lover's mecca on Friday, April 15, from 7 to 10 p.m., for Junk2Funk, as artists and designers will be raffling off "new" chic sustainable art and fashions to benefit North Coast Health Ministry, the West Side's free clinic for the low-income uninsured.

The Junk2Funk Benefit is presented by Local Girl Gallery and stArt Neo. It will benefit North Coast Health Ministry while touting the four Rs of life: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Respect, during the city's month-long Earth Day celebration in April.

For the benefit, Northeast Ohio artists are asked to design one-of-a-kind art or wearable fashion, from clothes to jewelry to sculpture, all made with recycled materials. Respect and support for those without health insurance will be imbedded in each design, as designers choose their supplies from discarded materials. These items will have their beginnings as "trash", but will be transformed into unique, gorgeous, one-of-a-kind art pieces.

Ruthie Koenigsmark, president of stArt Neo, presenting sponsor of Junk2Funk, says, "Art is how we express our individual style and values every day-contributing artists are in a unique position to promote the message of sustainability and help to others by participating in this event."

### Five Guys Hosts Junior Class Fundraiser



by Crystal Green

On Thursday, March 10, Five Guys Burgers and Fries held a fundraiser to benefit the Lakewood High School Class of 2012. The entire staff would like to thank the junior class student council and also a big CONGRATULATIONS on the success of it. Over 240 people dined at Five Guys, resulting in the junior class earning over \$600! Thank you to the community of Lakewood for their outstanding support!



At the 2010 Junk2Funk event (from left to right): Martin Madigan, Mary Griffiths, NCHM Board Chair John Griffiths, Bridget Elias, and John Elias

The April 15th gala evening features a silent auction and Chinese raffles, wine and cheese, hors d'oeuvres and pastries from local restaurants, and organic, fair trade coffee from Coffee for a Cause.

Fashion designers, artists, restaurants and companies looking to support this benefit should contact Ruthie Koenigsmark from stArt Neo at 216-521-2894 or rkoenigsmark@yahoo.com no later than April 5. Creations should be dropped off at Local Girl Gallery no later than April 10 to be part of the auction. Arrangements can also be made to have donations picked up at the artist's convenience by calling Ruth Koenigsmark or Jeanine Gergel at 216-228-7878, ext. 107.

Tickets for the event can be purchased in advance and are \$12 each. To order online, go to North Coast Health Ministry's website: <http://nchealth-ministry.org>. Tickets are \$15 on the day of the event, as available. Artists who produce a piece for the auction are admitted to the event at no cost.

About North Coast Health Ministry  
North Coast Health Ministry is the West Side's free clinic for the low-income uninsured, serving more than 2,500 patients who have no other route to health care. With the support of approximately 120 volunteer physicians, nurses and other caregivers, NCHM is able to provide primary health care, specialty referrals, prescription assistance, and health education to the medically underserved. Founded in 1986, North Coast Health Ministry is a bridge to better health for our medically underserved neighbors in need.



Soul Food Event Organizers: Jason Weiner, Leah Kubiak, Paula Maeder Connor.

## Soul Food Donations Fund Meals For Lakewood Families

by Kristine Pagsuyoin

His favorite was the shitake mushroom puffs on a stick and mine was the Mediterranean stick- or maybe it was the fruit, or maybe the caramel-coated apples and bacon on a stick.

Last Saturday night my hubby and I ventured out without the kids- a rare treat- to support the Trinity Lakewood Community Outreach (TLCO) event Soul Food: Feed the Hungry, Feed the Soul. Amidst a room of twinkling lights we were joined by about 200 energized guests of Trinity Lutheran Church where we enjoyed wonderfully creative and delicious appetizers (every appetizer was on a stick) created by chef, Matt Somich. Fantastic music by XeLa provided the backdrop for the party-like atmosphere and exciting live auction of some incredible art donated by local artists.

This was the second year for Soul Food, which raises money to help feed those struggling with hunger. Paula Maeder Conner, pastor of Trinity Lutheran and one of three of the event's organizers, commented on the increase

of supporters this year and was excited to report to me that they were successful in raising more money this year.

Funds raised will support hunger relief and other health-promoting activities. "Many responses from among community meal guests indicated that a meal at Trinity is their only meal for the day," said Pastor Paula, referring to the paper plates that hung from the ceiling at the event. She went on to say that dinner guests are, "Glad for companionship around the table, and that community meals allow them to use money they would have spent for food, to purchase items that they might not have been able to have otherwise (i.e. toothpaste, toiletries, etc...).

According to the Pastor, in a recent survey at one meal, TLCO learned that half of the attendees are Lakewood residents. "We are serving our neighbors and are glad to be doing so." Pastor Paula was a happy to announce that this event will be scheduled again for next year. For hubby and me, we will look forward to another nice night out for a great cause.

## The Lakewood Human Services Series

by Alicia Bowen

We live in a unique city that provides us with services that many other cities don't provide. One of the most important is the City of Lakewood's Department of Human Services, which provides a range of services to families, youth, and seniors. Our community is very fortunate to have the Division of Aging, the Division of Early Childhood, and the Division of Youth-all of which provide pertinent resources and support for Lakewood residents.

During the next few months, I will be writing a series of columns in which I will be highlighting each of these programs of the Lakewood Department of Human Services. You will become familiar with those who deliver the services, as well as those who benefit from the services.

What follows is a general introduction to these Divisions, and some of the programs they feature:

- Aging**  
Senior Center West, Kathleen & Robert Lawther Center, 16204 Madison Ave.  
Senior Center East, 12400 Madison Ave. (216) 521-1515  
Activities/Programs: Craft group, gold coast follies, Gray pride, low vision support group, sewing group, Lakewood Art League, knitting and

crocheting, card games, special events, NEO Senior Citizens of the Deaf, Lakewood Photographic Society, and AARP Tax prep services

**Health and Wellness:** Health Education, walk in clinic, Board of Health flu vaccines, Happy Walkers Club, and Sittercise

**Intergenerational:** Ohio Reads, Grandparent Read to Me, Growing healthy together, spring fling, grasp, and tea party

**Congregate meals and home delivered meals,** Subsidized housing, senior living facilities, social work, home-making, seasonal, and transportation  
**Early Childhood**

Toni Gelsomino, Program Mngr.  
17400 Northwood Ave.,  
(216) 521-5018

**Childcare** Scholarship assistance, Family Room drop-in's, early childhood care and education provider, greater Cleveland family support consortium, and toy lending library

**Youth**  
Mary Hall, Assistant Director  
12900 Madison Avenue  
(216) 529-6870  
The Lakewood Collaborative, H2O, and Wrap Around

City of Lakewood's H2O (Help to Others)  
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Saturday, April 16

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Tickets available at door

Reservation Deadline is April 13

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thelakewoodfoundation.org/H2O

Kids can get a picture with the Easter Bunny for only \$5.00!

Seating times available:

8:30 am - 9:30 am

9:45 am - 10:45 am

11:00 am - 12:00 noon

12:15 pm - 1:15 pm

Please specify your seating preference on your order form.

Raffle tickets for

fun-filled theme baskets will be available!

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



# Lakewood Cares

## Hixson's Aids Victims Of Japanese Disasters

continued from page 1

standards and kindness of all the Japanese I came into contact with. That was in 1964. I have gone each year since to teach for about one month. I never thought that my teaching would be so well received and that I would still be going even through this year.

Over the years I have taught mainly in Tokyo, Osaka and Hiroshima, but also in Kobe and Sendai. Students have come to my classes from places as north as Hokaido and from cities at the southern tip of Japan.

The first time I was in Japan I experienced an earthquake. It happened to me at my hotel during the night. Wearing my nightclothes, I rushed to the window to see what people were doing outside. I saw no one. I called to the hotel desk only to find out it was a common small earthquake and that I should return to bed to sleep with no worry. Needless to say I did worry and could hardly wait for the morning to come.

Once I was up and meeting my Japanese friends, I was told that almost weekly in Japan there were similar small earthquakes. Yamaguchi sensei, the person who first came to my Ohio class and persuaded me to come to Japan, told me of her experience in the early 1900's with the last major earthquake. She was a young girl at that time and was able to rescue her younger sister from the ruins of the family home. Miss Yamaguchi believed she would be never experience another earthquake as strong as the one of her childhood.

Unfortunately it was not to be so. Yamaguchi sensei is now over 90 years old and experienced this last one. She lives close to Tokyo's outskirts and did not have any damage other than broken shelves and dishes. This summer when I go to teach she will introduce me to audiences when I give lecture-demonstrations there as usual. I will learn first hand what it means to her to have experienced yet another terrible earthquake event.

As I mentioned, Hiroshima is one of the cities in which I have taught for many years. I have seen the memorial building there and made 1,001 origami

cranes as an offering to pray for peace just as many other people have done. Communicating with my Hiroshima student friends, I find that they consider these most recent earthquake and tsunami experiences to be as horrific as what they experienced in the past. They also worry about the fallout from the damaged nuclear buildings one through five.

The Japanese will rebuild the destroyed towns and cities. Homes and buildings will be more earthquake resistant. Hopefully, the new communities will be located in tsunami safe areas. Surely there will be more disasters in the future. Earthquakes will occur in Japan again, perhaps more than 100 years in the future.

Now we need to do what we can to help the Japanese people. I have had Japanese antiques, art and artifacts for sale in my shop, Hixson's, in Lakewood for many years. I wish to offer an enticement for people to come and buy some at a 20% discount. For each purchase of one of the Japanese items, I will give 20% of my portion of the sale to a Japanese aid group. The sale is in progress now with additional items to be added as time allows. If you have no interest in acquiring a Japanese piece, remember there are many reliable aid organizations such as the Red Cross you may wish to make a contribution to.

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## Ministerial Musings: A Fist Or An Embrace

by The Rev. Dr. John Tamilio III, Ph.D.

*"For just as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is also dead." ~ James 2:26*

It was a Saturday afternoon. I was sitting in Root Café in Lakewood putting the final touches on my sermon for the next day. A young man (let's call him Jim) introduced himself. He saw that I had a Bible and wanted to know why. I told him who I was and what I was doing. Jim, who was fresh out of college, was scoping out the area. He hopes to launch a new, non-denominational church with some close friends. He wanted to know more about Lakewood and asked for some advice.

We spoke for about fifteen minutes and then he inquired about the church I serve (Pilgrim UCC). I gave him the "Cliffs Notes" version. He then wanted to know the basic "content" of my weekly homilies. He wanted to know if I preach "the Gospel." I told Jim that I do preach Jesus' Gospel of radical inclusivity, unconditional love, and profuse grace.

It did not take long for me to realize that we interpret the Gospel a bit differently.

Jim believes that preachers need to constantly remind their flocks they must accept Jesus as their personal Lord and Savior or face the fires of eternal damnation. I tried to explain to him that the Jesus I believe in is a Lord of love, not a wrathful God I need to fear. "Look at it this way," I said. "I have three children. I love them with all of my heart and soul — and they know that. I want them to love me in return because they know this, not because they fear they will be punished if they do not love me." I also told him that if I, as a broken, sinful human being, can have such a perspective on parental love, then God's love for all of God's children must be even more merciful and forgiving than mine.

We parted ways and agreed to



disagree.

I went back to my seat and read the second chapter of The Letter of James. I also recalled the teachings of Jesus: "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven" (Matthew 7:21). I also recalled the parable of the sheep and the goats. Why do the sheep enter God's glory? It isn't because of what they say or believe. It is based solely on what they do; how they ministered to Jesus when they served "the least of these." (For a refresher, reread Matthew 25:31-46).

Having faith in God and believing that Jesus is one's Savior should be viewed as a loving embrace, not a cocked fist. I love and serve Jesus Christ, because I know he loves me without reservation and that he offered everything for me. That's Good News! It is also Good News that my faith is made richer by serving God in the service of others.

James is right, "Faith without works is dead."

The Rev. Dr. John Tamilio III, Ph.D. is a musician, scholar, preacher, and poet. He serves Pilgrim United Church of Christ in the Tremont neighborhood of Cleveland. Dr. Tamilio lives in Lakewood with his wife and their three children.

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## Lakewood Talks

# Ed Favre: 37 Years, 4 Months, 19 Days - Retired

by Jim O'Bryan

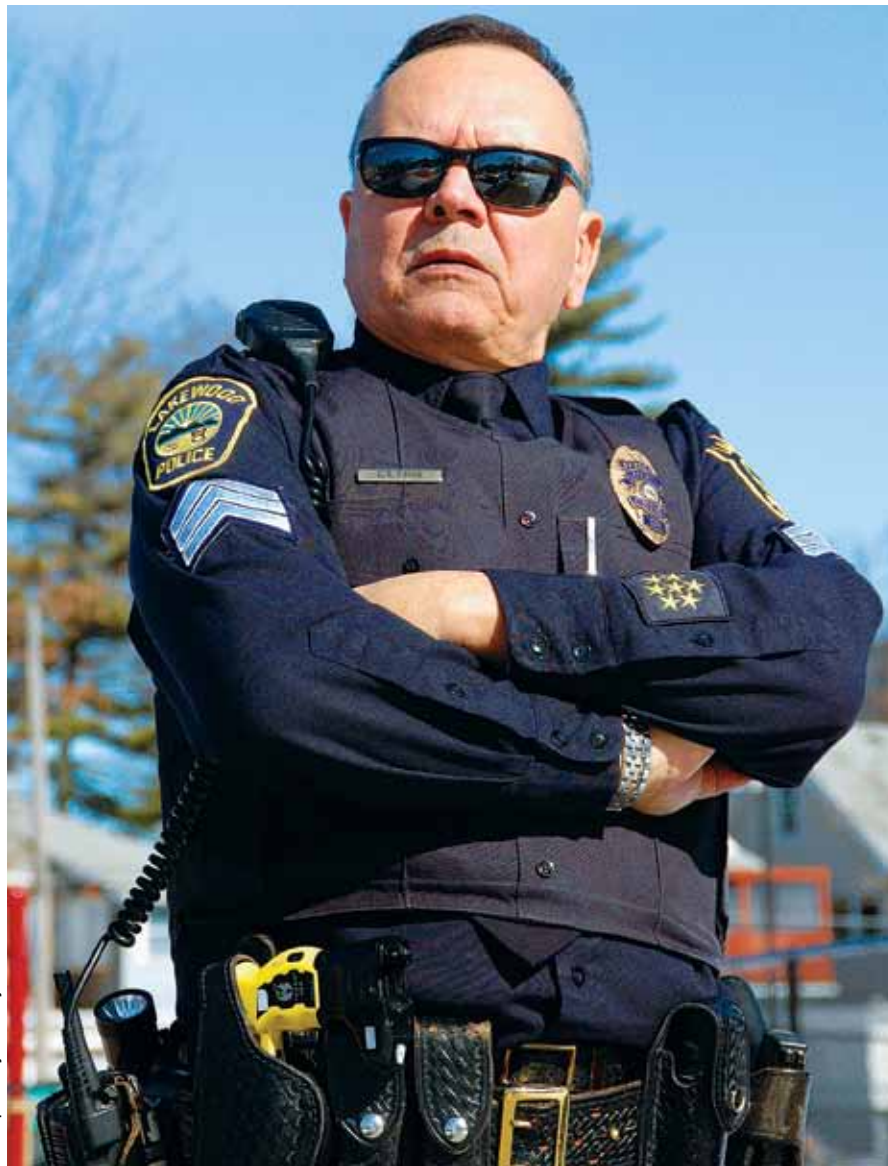
During these past 37 years, Lakewood has seen Edward Favre become somewhat of a Renaissance Man, serving on the School Board, The Grow Lakewood Committee and other committees that looked at housing and economic development, as a member of many fine groups like Lakewood Kiwanis, Lakewood PTA, and American Legion to name a few, as well as being a champion for children, seniors and alternative lifestyles.

In this first of a multi-part series of Lakewood's civic leaders, we look at Ed as a retired police officer and his feelings for Lakewood, then and now.

I first met Sgt Ed Favre after starting the Lakewood Observer; we ran into each other at events, school meetings, Kiwanis, and even, on occasion, crime scenes. Over the years, I have forged what I would call a somewhat interesting relationship with Ed, as I come very much from the streets he patrolled. I have always enjoyed our conversations, as Ed is also a person who can easily understand that some people might not agree with you, and at that point, both parties should talk, and discuss the facts. After that, if there is no consensus, move on, but do not let differences close doors, or stop trains of thought. You must always be willing to keep the conversation alive. As long as the conversation is alive there is a possibility of learning, and maybe coming together for a common solution.

What I noticed most about Ed during our conversations were the same reoccurring themes that underline the paths he took in life: working with kids, seniors, and his commitment to a continued good life in Lakewood.

Please note I say "continued." Ed has served on the Lakewood Police force under 8 mayors and 5 police chiefs. During that time, he has acted on special assignment to the Mayor's Office, working alongside his longtime friend Mayor Tom George. His thorough knowledge of Lakewood landed him on the Grow Lakewood committee, which was put together in 2004 to study what would be needed in the city over the next couple years. With all of his years of experience, I believe he walked away with the same general thought that many of us



photos by Jim O'Bryan

Sargent Edward Favre on a call during his last week on the road.

share: Lakewood needs tinkering, not a major overhaul. What attracted him here, is keeping him here, as is the case with many of his friends. There is no huge shift in 1973 Lakewood, to 2011 Lakewood.

He is extremely proud of a couple things he certainly should be proud of. In his years both as a detective and a sergeant assigned to the detective bureau, he has made catching the criminals that prey on others his number one priority. Not that he ignored domestic violence, traffic, etc, but he really felt best chasing down the forger, the scam artists and uncovering corruption in city hall. He recounted one particular case to me saying, "On a quiet Saturday morning, May 11, 1991, myself and John Crane were the detectives on duty. We were called to City Hall on a report of a break-in at the Finance Direc-

tor's Office. Viewing the scene, it did not take us long to realize that it was staged and we immediately suspected the Finance Director at the time, Mary Saunders, of setting it up." Their suspicions were confirmed, and that started an investigation of Lakewood City Hall that saw seven City Hall officials and many vendors charged and convicted of various crimes.

One woman in particular, Janice Dickerson, took years to capture. She would blow through town every couple of years, prey on a handful of elderly people, then hit the road. "There were scams, bank scams..." said Favre, "They always seem to prey on the elderly and those that can least afford it. There was this one, Janice Dickerson a.k.a. Pamela Berdard. I chased her for two years. I joined up with a detective from Euclid, Ted Shafer. He and I would chase her every time she hit town. We had warrants for her, finally some police department in Arkansas got her. We rounded up as many living victims as we could." He went on reminiscing, "At her trial, because of her mouth and her interesting uses of adjectives, Judge Patty Cleary had her mouth taped shut. She was found guilty and sent to jail." Ed smiles and adds, "You know that really made me feel good. I loved being an advocate for the elderly."

Another thing he is most proud of is something that was born out of a terrible crime. In 1979, a professional individual who was gay was, "Hacked up and castrated at the Edgewater Towers," in a crime that is still not solved. Ed realized the problem was that pro-

fessionals in many walks of life could not live out of the closet in 1979.

"There was a group of people that preyed on gay men and women," he recalls. According to Favre, they would befriend them, beat them up and rob them or try to extort money. "These guys could not make reports, they were prominent bankers, lawyers, doctors. So I worked with a Cleveland policeman, to form a list of contacts for the LBGT (Lesbian Bisexual Gay Transgender) Community. At the time I took some heat for it, but it paid dividends. The main thing was that people that were victimized by crime, and I mean beaten, had a cop that would go about solving the crime without embarrassing them. We are talking some brutal crimes," he said, "I am particularly proud of the fact that we solved crimes and protected reputations."

Lakewood has been seen for decades as "cool" because we can accept others. I asked Ed quite seriously if he thought his actions helped to build Lakewood's wonderful history of being accepting of diversity. Ed's simple answer, "I would like to think it helped." When you get a chance, ask some of your diverse friends and neighbors why they are here.

As the conversation wandered we hit on many interesting stories and I asked how he got so involved with kids, which ultimately led to his work on the School Board. He traces it back to when the oldest of his three kids were 7 and 5, and he had been working as a Juvenile Detective. He could see first-hand that an educated, active child was a child he would probably not have to put through the legal system later.

His children benefited from a great family life with his wife Gladys. Both living and working in Lakewood caused him to be a firm believer in structured family and community activities. He could see first-hand at home, and outside of his house, that every child did not have the same advantages, and has worked to even out some of those inequalities in the police and on the School Board.

One of the most serious moments of the afternoon of the interview occurred when he was speaking of the cycle of abuse, and how he has seen it here in Lakewood. "I have been here long enough that I have seen three gen-



## Lakewood Dog Park Victory Celebration

by Kent Cicerchi & Karen Karp

The Friends of Lakewood Dog Park, Inc., is hosting an event to celebrate the City of Lakewood's recent win in Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court. The City successfully defended the Lakewood Dog Park in a three-year lawsuit filed in 2007 by the neighboring City of Rocky River and four of its residents, who claimed that barking from the dog park constituted a public and private nuisance. The court heard arguments in July, 2010, in an eight-day trial, and ultimately disagreed, issuing a decisive victory to Lakewood on February 1, 2011.

The victory celebration will take place at The Avenue Tap House, 18206 Detroit Avenue (at Phelps) in Lakewood, Ohio, on Sunday, March 27, from 3 to 6 pm. The celebration will include a drawing for door prizes donated by area pet stores and retailers and a beer-tasting featuring the Thirsty Dog Brewing Company of Akron. Although tickets may be purchased for \$10 at the door, advance sale tickets are recommended and are available through the FLDP web site: [www.LakewoodDog-Park.org](http://www.LakewoodDog-Park.org). Friends of the Lakewood Dog Park, Inc., is the group of volunteers that maintains the dog park and provides programs of interest to dog-owners; it is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization.



# Lakewood Talks

## Ed Favre, “I Have Drunk Plenty Of Bad Koolaid”



Sargent Edward Favre in his office for almost 40 years. Now he is hoping to move his office to the other side of City Hall.

erations of men abusing the women in the family. I knew Dad abused Mom in front of the sons. The sons went on to be abusive to their wives, and their grandsons are now abusive to their wives.” He admits those are the moments that really are tough and make for some unhappy days on the force.

But he remembers the teenagers that were bound and determined to see a dead body and Daniel’s Funeral Home with a smile. “The Funeral Home was upset,” he said, “But I just had to chuckle, these kids really wanted to see a dead body embalmed! They thought it would be cool.”

When we breezed through some of our typical topics, like how Lakewood has changed, Ed indicated that Lakewood is really in more of a constant state than people realize. Certainly there is more domestic abuse reported, he said, but that’s because of lower tolerance than in the past. He said that with so many victims’ rights groups there is better awareness and more of a network to help. So while domestic violence, and DUI’s seem up, they were merely unreported in the past or did not make the headlines.

He remembers a time when Birdtown was much rougher than it is today. He sees that it has had ups and downs like all of the housing in Lakewood today. But Ed sees Lakewood and Birdtown as being in better shape now than in the past. According to him, there was real gang activity in Lakewood in the past. When I asked the kind of gang trouble he had in mind, he started talking about the Hell’s Angels and biker bars, also a guy that was “muscle” for Danny Greene. I clarify, mentioning new gangs, and he says that Lakewood is still good at working together to keep serious crimes down--that block watches, citizen awareness and an engaged community have helped to spare us, with a couple of exceptions.

I asked about his days working Vice and he mentioned some things including “hookers.” I know this is naive, but I said, “Hookers?” Growing up I only had heard of one, that lived off of Detroit Avenue. She was a legend while I was in school, like a mythical thing to young boys. I had never thought, “HOOKERS.” He said, “Oh

yeah, we used to have flea bag hotels in town, the Yorktown, and Lakewood Manor,” where the Jose Mesa case started- another case he was in on.

When I said, “Blue Fox type hookers?” I was hoping to hear, Yes. (The Blue Fox was an interesting “classy” nightclub on on W 117th and Clifton, where CVS is now, on par with the Theatrical on Short Vincent Downtown, and like that club it had many “high rollers” and mobsters). But he said, “No, they were not high class hookers!” The Blue Fox was another legendary spot where gangsters-- not gangstas-- hung out. Real live mobsters. Which prompted another interesting story from Ed. “One night

on patrol at Detroit and Highland Avenue (W. 117th’s real name) this car goes flying past going southbound just hauling. I floorboarded that police car to try to catch this guy... He caught the light at W.117 and Berea, and it took me by the incinerator to catch him. So I call in the plate, and we do not have the technology we do today. So I walk up to the window and this guy starts to pull out piles of FOP cards and I notice it is Kevin McTaggart,” (Danny Greene’s hit-man). I could tell he was drunk and asked him to get out and he was reaching for the glove box, I pulled my gun, just as my backup arrived and the box opened which had a gun in it. We booked him on weapons and drunk driving.”

As we ended this first session, he said that while he sees room for improvement in Lakewood, he also sees that we are better today than we were yesterday and he has some ideas about where we can look in the future for answers. He understands the connection from police, to community, to City Hall to schools. This is a person who really loves this community and its assets.

When talking of his earliest days on the beat, he spoke of how it was his duty to check in on every store, know the streets and reach out and interact with everyone from children to business owners. He expressed regret that with the exception of DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education), most



students have very little interaction with the police anymore.

While I knew the names of many police officers I have interacted with, and pondered if that was a good or bad thing, Ed said, “I felt it was my duty to stop at children’s Koolaid stands, and buy some Koolaid. And I was a big tipper... that way I had a chance to meet the children on friendly terms, and I could teach them safety tips like, never walk the Koolaid over to the car. You stay in front of your house. This is something I continued through my entire career... Let me assure you, I have drunk plenty of bad Koolaid!”

It is nearly impossible to summarize a 37-year career in a single article, especially one from someone like Ed. We did not even touch on his School Board career, committee work, City Hall work, family life, and his other real passion, boating!

So as this is not a eulogy, I will be having ongoing discussions with Ed Favre and other civic leaders. Look for Ed’s continuing conversation with me about Lakewood, then and now, and about how we all can do better.

### Lakewood Youth Forum: Finding Our Place As Teens

by Chamarra Bentley

I was recently a part of the Youth Forum held at City Hall. It was an opportunity for teens to inform adults about our experiences, feelings, and thoughts about our Lakewood community. The subjects that I focused on were what actions youth could take to change the minds of adults that do not have a good impression of us, especially teens of color. I informed the audience that there are not many activities for teens to participate in. Everybody is not able to pay, or is not even interested in sports, so I suggested the idea of a teen center. I thought about making the teen center out of a Lakewood school that is currently not in use. One room could be for music, another for art, another room for movies, etc.

I think it would be positive for teens in Lakewood to collaborate with organizations that already exist in Lakewood, such as LEAF (Lakewood Earth And Food). LEAF grows fruits and vegetables in community gardens and provides a way to sell CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) shares of food in front of the Library. We could also serve food to the needy at local churches, conduct local car washes to help raise money for the community, and even volunteer at the animal shelter. There are a lot of things for teens to do that are positive, productive, helpful, and an extra way for us to gain our self-worth.

There was an event in September

2010 called Recess Rocks. It had activities for kids and families to have fun and learn about healthy living. Now you see, it was for kids. What about us teens? I thought maybe there could be a day or weekend dedicated for teens using the same idea. There would be stations set up in the park, just like for Recess Rocks. The only difference would be that the activities would pertain to teens instead. I think a station on healthy eating, with recipes and food for us to try would be a good idea. There could also be the basic volleyball, basketball, football, etc. I think a Zumba instructor would be fun to teach us some moves. I strongly feel that this could be a great beginning of

fun geared toward teens.

Overall, I had an extremely wonderful experience at the Youth Forum. I met very intelligent and truly amazing people. I met students with all types of backgrounds, stories, opinions, and lifestyles. I always find it interesting that no matter where you live, your ethnic background, or level of education, people either want to help or be helped in some kind of way. People desire this, even if it is the smallest issue, teens not having anything to do is certainly one of these issues. I just want to show that not all teens are “bad.” There are many teens like me who enjoy the satisfactions of others, and will give any time of the day to help and see smiling faces.

### Students Meet Cleveland Cavaliers, Hear Healthy Message At West Side Market

continued from page 9

and the Cleveland Cavaliers’ “Fit as a Pro” campaign. The opportunity for Lakewood students to be involved came about when the Cleveland Cavaliers’ Community Relations Coordinator contacted Lakewood Recreation. The Department then turned to volunteer parent and Coach Janet Trentel, who helped organize the group of students who attended. As a volunteer coach with the Recreation Department and volunteer at Grant Elementary School, Trentel was able to secure twenty-four students

and four parent chaperones for the event.

“I don’t know if you realized it but when the limo pulled into the parking lot at drop off, several of the parents had tears in their eyes when they saw how happy their kids were,” wrote Trentel in an email after the event.

“Corey Canant told me, ‘Mrs. Trentel, that was awesome!’ He was one of many kids who said the same thing,” Trentel said.

Although the Cavaliers didn’t play their best the next day, it was all smiles in the students’ section at the Q.



# Lakewood Business

## The Centennial Gala:

# Celebrating 100 Years of Business In Lakewood

by Valerie Mechenbier

The Lakewood Chamber of Commerce is celebrating its 100th birthday in 2011. In partnership with The Lakewood Historical Society and supported by our Centennial Sponsor, Cox Business, the Chamber will be hosting The Centennial Gala on April 9th, 2011 at the Beck Center for the Arts. Join the Chamber as we celebrate 100 Years of Business in Lakewood.

The evening will begin with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres at 6pm. Gala attendees will enjoy music of the era while enjoying delicious food provided by four of the Chamber's finest catering member-organizations: Nature's Bin, Italian Creations, Brennan's Catering, and Gatherings Kitchen. Cakes entered into the Centennial Gala Cake Decorating Contest will be on display after judging takes place by our esteemed panel of experts: Kenny Crumpton of Fox8News, Janet Nguyen of Cleveland Metromix.com, and Chef Rob McGorray of Ranger Catering. At 7:30pm, a short program will include the pre-



Lakewood Chamber members Anne Zagaros, R. C. Hyre, Brian Bowman, Dr. R. B. Crawford, Amos Kauffman, Edward Wiegand, Edythe Perlman, Alice Evans at Detroit Ave. and Warren Rd., 1931.

sentation of the Thurber Award, and, at 8pm, our Host Sponsor Beck Center for the Arts will present The Underpants, Steve Martin's contemporary adaptation of a 1910 satire by German Expressionist Carl Sternheim.

The evening will also include

birthday cake (courtesy of Create-A-Cake), plus the awarding of several fabulous prizes. Each decorated cake will be raffled off, and winning tickets will be drawn for a Lakewood Swag Basket, the Centennial Heist \$1000 cash prize (sponsored by PNC Bank),

and the Vintage Ladies Estate diamond and platinum ring (valued at \$2000, sponsored by Broestl & Wallis Fine Jewelers). Proceeds from the Vintage Jewelry raffle will benefit The Lakewood Historical Society Ohio Chautauqua programs.

The celebration of the Chamber's 100th birthday will continue all year long with stories of Lakewood businesses, video tributes, Chamber member recollections, and more. Check the Centennial Gala website – [www.lakewoodcentennialgala.com](http://www.lakewoodcentennialgala.com) – as new stories are added throughout the year. Information regarding Gala tickets, Vintage Jewelry raffle tickets, the Cake Decorating Contest and sponsorship opportunities can also be found on the Gala website.

Enjoy this evening of theater, fine food and celebration as the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce begins its second century of serving the business community.

## Did You Know?

The Chamber of Commerce is not a government agency and is not financed by city government. The Chamber is made up of local businesses and is financed in large part by membership dues.

## Lakewood Chamber of Commerce Upcoming Events

### Saturday, April 9th, 6pm

The Centennial Gala, Beck Center for the Arts

In Partnership with The Lakewood Historical Society

Supported by our Centennial Sponsor Cox Business

### Friday, April 15th 11:30am

April Luncheon Meeting, Lakewood Senior Health Campus Mayor's Address & The State of the Chamber

Sponsored by AT&T

For more info, go to [www.lakewoodchamber.org](http://www.lakewoodchamber.org). For more info, go to [www.lakewoodchamber.org](http://www.lakewoodchamber.org).

## Cox Communications Offers Free Calls to Japan

by Stacie Schafer

Cox Communications has announced that calls placed to Japan with Cox Digital Telephone will be free of charge through March 31, 2011. This program includes Cox Digital Telephone calls to both landlines and cellular telephones dialed to country code 81. Free Cox Digital Telephone calls to Japan will be retroactive to March 11, 2011.

The program is for all residential Cox Digital Telephone customers

with Cox Long Distance. Calls placed to Japan will automatically go through free of charge for these customers.

"We want to make it easier for our customers to get in touch with their friends and family members in Japan and to stay informed of the situation during this terrible tragedy," said Doreen Studley, vice president of marketing, Cox New England-Cleveland. "I am very proud of our employees' commitment to the communities we serve, and this program exemplifies our commitment to Cox communities."

## Chamber Spotlight: The Thurber Award

by Valerie Mechenbier

Frank Leslie Thurber, a man of spirited public service and leadership, was the first president of the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce in 1911. To pay tribute to Mr. Thurber and to celebrate the 100th year of the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce, the Thurber Award will be presented at The Centennial Gala on April 9th at the Beck Center for the Arts.

The Chamber is now accepting nominations for the Thurber Award. The award will be given to a Lakewood Chamber member who has a sustained history of volunteerism and Chamber leadership and who has been a champion for Lakewood business. To submit a nomination, download the nomination form from the Stories page of [www.lakewoodcentennialgala.com](http://www.lakewoodcentennialgala.com). The deadline for nominations is March 25th, 2011.

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# Out and About

## Lakewood’s Shellie Sedlak Finds Happiness, Hope And Hollywood In Cleveland’s Gordon Square

by Jenny Spencer

Longtime Lakewood resident Shellie Sedlak is a passionate champion of her West Side lifestyle. A native of New York City, Shellie shows her affection for her adopted hometown in a variety of ways. Among other community activities, Shellie has been a long time participant in Keep Lakewood Beautiful; she won the Governor’s Award in 1993 for helping to start the City of Lakewood and Lakewood Hospital recycling programs. Like any good New Yorker, Shellie also appreciates Lakewood’s density, walkability, historic architecture, and mix of retail.

Shellie’s West Side home away from home is Cleveland’s burgeoning Gordon Square Arts District, whose epicenter at West 65th Street and Detroit Avenue is less than a ten-minute drive from most parts of Lakewood.

“In addition to everything that Lakewood has to offer, I love that I can drive a few minutes east and have a night out of avant garde theater or catch a movie at the Capitol Theatre. Gordon Square just adds to everything that already makes my Lakewood life wonderful,” says Sedlak.

### Live Pro Wrestling Returns To Lakewood With NWA World Heavyweight Champion

by John Thorne

On March 25th in Lakewood, long time Absolute Intense Wrestling performer and former WWE superstar, Colt Cabana, will be competing for a chance to add another Pro Wrestling Championship to his collection as he competes in AIW’s Battle Bowl for a chance to wrestle for AIW’s intense division Title on June 26th.

Earlier this month in Los Angeles, Cabana competed for, and won, the prestigious NWA World heavyweight Championship which is considered one of Pro Wrestling’s highest honors.

The NWA World Heavyweight Championship is pro-wrestling’s oldest recognized title. Officially established in January of 1948, its lineage can be traced back to 1905, making it the oldest surviving pro-wrestling championship in the world. The NWA world title is regularly defended around the globe and has been recognized by the



Lakewood’s Shellie Sedlak

Shellie first became involved in Gordon Square because of her passion for modern theater. In 2002, she began volunteering for Cleveland Public Theatre. Currently, she serves as the volunteer chair for CPT’s annual “Pandemonium” fundraiser and is a member of their Board of Directors.

When Shellie heard that the Capitol Theatre was being renovated

after three decades of closure, she was ecstatic. “I really admire Detroit Shoreway [Community Development Organization, the owner and developer] for bringing the theater back after it was abandoned for thirty years,” Sedlak said, “The Capitol’s reopening is made very poignant this year by the fact that we’ve just lost our historic Detroit Theater. The Gordon Square folks get that. They understand what it’s like to have businesses close, and they understand loss.”

Shellie decided to get more involved in Gordon Square in October 2009, when the Capitol, a 1920s-era silent film theater, re-opened as a three-screen all-digital cinema. She joined the Board of Detroit Shoreway C.D.O. and became active in a grassroots volunteer group called the Friends of the Capitol Theatre.

“We [the Friends] quickly realized that work had to be done to get the word out about the Capitol’s opening. We want people to come down to experience movies in a unique urban environment.” Sedlak also noted the Capitol’s special offerings such as a partnership with the Cleveland Cinematheque and a monthly classic movie series, additions to its regular schedule of Hollywood and independent films.

Shellie’s work as a Capitol Theatre “Friend” has included leafleting at summer festivals across the region and

arranging “Capitol movie nights” with groups of friends. She plans to continue volunteering both in Lakewood and in Gordon Square. “Cleveland and inner-ring suburbs like Lakewood should take hope from the Capitol Theatre’s reopening. In a big box world, we have to have the courage to try to renovate our old neighborhoods and bring them back to life.”

The Capitol Theatre is located at West 65th Street & Detroit Avenue in the Gordon Square Arts District of Cleveland ([www.gordonsquare.org](http://www.gordonsquare.org)). During the month of March, the Capitol is offering a Lakewood Resident Discount: \$6 admission with proof of residency\* in the 44107 zip code.

\*Acceptable forms of residency include state issued photo ID or utility bill showing current address.

For showtimes, call (440) 528-0355 or visit [www.clevelandcinemas.com](http://www.clevelandcinemas.com).

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# Lakewood Is Art

## Curtain Goes Up On Steve Martin’s, “The Underpants” At Beck Center

by Fran Storch

Beck Center for the Arts presents The Underpants, Steve Martin’s contemporary adaptation of a turn-of-the-century satire by German Expressionist, Carl Sternheim, on the Mackey Main Stage, April 1 through 23, 2011. Showtime’s are 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 3 p.m. Sundays. The performance on Saturday, April 9 is sold out for a private event.

In The Underpants, Martin brings

his comic genius and sophisticated literary style to Sternheim’s classic 1910 farce. His hilarious version opened Off-Broadway in 2002 to critical acclaim. The New York Times called the show “laugh-out-loud funny” and the Village Voice said it was “hilarious and bawdy.” A farcical send-up of middle-class snobbery and conformity, The Underpants tells the story of a puritanical bureaucrat and his attractive, young wife, who becomes an instant celeb-

rity when her bloomers accidentally fall down in public. Steve Martin uses saucy jokes, witty wordplay, and slamming doors to lampoon our contemporary culture’s fascination with fame. The Underpants is based on Sternheim’s controversial play, Die Hose, his first major success as a playwright and the first in his cycle of plays about the moral sensibilities of the German bourgeoisie. The original production of Die Hose was banned by the German government, not just for its suggestive setup, but for its biting satire criticizing middle class society.

“Directing Sternheim’s The Underpants is an exciting opportunity for me to explore a unique and very important chapter in world drama, German Expressionism, when great geniuses like Max Reinhardt, Erwin Piscator, and others were literally forging the modern theater,” says director Matthew Earnest, who directed last season’s acclaimed comedy, Is He Dead? at the Beck Center. Earnest adds, “Whereas Sternheim’s original play was radical and a bit dangerous for the times, in Martin’s hands the piece becomes a freewheeling spoof of the American middle class.”

Tickets for The Underpants are \$28 for adults, \$25 for seniors (65 and older), \$17 for students (with valid ID), and \$10 for children (12 and under). An additional \$3 service fee per ticket is applied at the time of purchase. Preview night on Thursday, March 31 is \$10 with general admission seating. Group discounts are available for parties of 13 or more.

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

Beck Center’s production of The Underpants is presented through special arrangement with Samuel French Inc. and is sponsored by FIT Technologies, Cox Communications, Ohio Arts Council, and Cuyahoga Arts and Culture.

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

### Erie Light

by Kristen Dutton

Fireflies out tonight

You will see the Erie light

Floating out to sea

On my back, waves crash

The orange moon behind me

Abyss before me

Calm before the storm

You will see the Erie light

Chasing me tonight

### Blessings Of Lake Erie

by Ginny Vigrass

Whispering winds whip the lake,  
as the graceful gulls swoop  
down to fetch their fish.

The cold clouds of winter float by,  
dancing in colors of misty grays and white  
as the trees sleep along the shoreline.

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opens in Radiant Light  
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Lakewood Observer

# Grinding It Out

by Casey Ryan

On November 6 of last year, I was cited for a DUI by Cleveland Police. After a couple of postponements secured by my lawyer, I was convicted of that offense on January 18, and as of Tuesday, February 8, 2011, I will have been sentenced to whatever the judge deems appropriate.

Needless to say, I have had better holiday seasons.

Most people who drink go through life as social drinkers, without running afoul of the law. They have a glass of wine with dinner, a few beers with friends, or hoist a few during the game. Others go off the deep end and become addicted, unable to get through a week or even a day without a drink, or unable to face daily ordeals or even pleasures without the bracing of a cocktail or shot. And there are binge drinkers, who go out and simply

get smashed for whatever reason, then sober up for some length of time til the next episode.

And then there are folks like me, somewhere in between. Sometimes we drink; often we don't. We may have just a few, we may have more than that. We drink to celebrate – it could be anything – but we usually don't cry in our beer. We feel okay about drinking, since it doesn't affect our jobs or family life. And we usually get by without serious consequence.

But not always. Trouble can and often will catch up to us. It may be legal trouble in the form of a DUI, or some other offense resulting from a bad decision made under the influence. It may be coming home to an empty house after a loved one has had enough and left. It has caught up to me and now there will be hell to pay.

Whatever you may think, don't

think it can't happen to you. I made that mistake. I thought my luck would hold. It didn't.

And since this is my third offense (it took 16 years, but who's counting?) I will have multiple penalties. There will be jail time. I have already sought counseling and through that have resolved the major issues in front of me. I will be on probation for 1–2 years. There will be numerous fines, and of course legal and court fees. I will likely have to attend Alcoholics Anonymous meetings for a year or so. I totaled my car the night of the offense (and miraculously walked away) but when I get a new one—which will take a while since my income will be diverted to my legal troubles—it will in all likelihood require an ignition interlock to operate and special plates.

All these things come at my expense. And there is more. My license is, of course, suspended, and I will have to pay to get it back. In the meantime I have to get a state ID which, yes, I must pay for. I must use public transportation to get to work. I have to walk to my girlfriend's house—have you noticed how cold it's been? I must walk to the grocery store, the AA meetings, the library, or anywhere else I go. I used to walk to the local pub, but, well, I gave that up.

On top of all this we—my girlfriend and I—had to put her dog Baxter down a couple of weeks ago. I was able to walk to her house to see him the last few weeks of his life, and she was able to drive the short distance to the vet. But had my jail sentence started sooner and I was unable to be there, I would have been devastated. The same thing applies, obviously, to my mother, girl-

friend, and others—when in jail, you are not there for the people who need you.

Eric Wedge, former Indians manager, used to say that the baseball season is a long one, and you have to grind it out, day after day. And that is what a criminal offense can become—a grind. One must go through the court-ordered processes, satisfy the judge and court, and deal with the consequences of one's mistake on a daily basis. The penalties seem to pervade every aspect of your life.

Every day, over and over, I think to myself how different, how much better, things would be for me had I not made the mistake of drinking and driving that November night. And not just for me, but for all the people in my life who have been adversely affected—my girlfriend, my mother, my sisters, and friends. Without that mistake, I could get to work without the bus and go places afterwards if I chose. I could have driven to Pittsburgh to be there for my friend the night his wife suddenly passed away. I could do so much more for Mom and Maryde (said girlfriend) if I could drive and get from here to there—go to the store, meet here or there instead of needing a ride, pick up this or that, be the one to drive so someone else doesn't have to...dozens of things we often take for granted.

So when you go out for a beer or cocktail tonight, get a designated driver or take a cab, or just don't have too many. Whatever you have to do to stay out of trouble, do it.

And the grind will continue. Like the baseball season, the process is a long one. But someday it will end, and unlike the baseball season, I will not be back for another one.



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Lakewood Perspectives

Facing Adversity At Home And Abroad

My heart and my prayers go out to the people of Japan. But at the risk of sounding callous, a part of me actually envies their situation. Not that I wish that kind of death and devastation upon anyone, nor do I long for the overwhelming heartache and hard work that lies before them. But when it comes to adversity, I'm beginning to think that overcoming the known difficulties of a natural disaster might be simple in comparison when facing the unknown obstacles of an un-natural one.

For as bad as things will certainly be in Japan for years to come, they are faced with problems that all have straightforward and attainable solutions. With the earthquake and tsunami wiping out the coastline, the country can quickly unite to meet the basic needs required for survival: potable water, durable shelter, and the staples of a minimal diet. Once the basics have been met, they can move to the next level on Maslow's Hierarchy of needs; roads can be cleared, buildings re-built, and power lines re-strung. Although the scars will always remain, eventually, the country will rebound.

Unfortunately, the problems facing this country are a little less certain. The disasters we face are unnatural ones, and the causes are our own. We've ignored the laws of common

by Bret Callentine

sense, manipulated the conventions of economic theory, and skirted the rules and regulations that made this country great, all to serve our own selfish, short-sighted interests.

In no way do I intend to demean the unbelievable amount of pain and suffering faced by the people of Japan, or of those in Haiti, or even New Orleans. Rather, I'm suggesting we may be grossly underestimating the possible difficulties that lie before us in our man-made disaster.

The difficulty starts with even recognizing there is a crisis looming. In Japan, no one in Tokyo can deny the devastation in the northern territories. And therefore, all are willing to accept their roles. Here in Ohio, many don't accept that there are problems, and therefore seem unwilling and almost unable to even discuss possible solutions.

A recent article in the Wall Street Journal suggested states such as Wisconsin and Ohio were not, contrary to popular belief, in any financial crisis, since their bond ratings were still sound. The argument was essentially this: since the States could still borrow more money, they were not, in fact,

always clear. We might get a little tremor, or the river might crest just before it spills over the levee. But eventually, our desire to master our domain leads to that one last engineering feat that produces catastrophic failure. Like Icarus, eventually we fly too close to the sun and are quickly brought back down to earth.

Arrogantly, we more often elect the politicians that promise us solutions over ones that actually demonstrate knowledge of the problems. We all want the ocean front property but don't want to be bothered with talk of flood plains or hurricanes. We live on fault lines and in the shadow of active volcanoes and blindly ignore the odds of earthquakes and avalanches. We tell ourselves everyone should own a home, have a job and get an education but rarely pay heed to the difficulties in how to pay for it. We all see the trappings of an opulent society and are all too eager to believe that those we elect can sustain it without our own personal sacrifice.

I do pray for the people of Japan, and my heart is breaking for them. I also pray just as hard for us, because unlike in Japan, our failures are less obvious and our path less clear, but the pending disaster that will shake the very foundation of our society is every bit as inevitable.

broke. That's like saying yes, the bank has repossessed your house and your car, but since you're still getting credit card offers in the mail, don't worry, because apparently you're still financially stable.

Even if we can agree there's trouble, good luck trying to come to some sort of consensus as to how serious it is. Are we facing Tokyo-sized setbacks, where shops are replacing some windows and restocking shelves? Or are we living next to the Nuclear Power Plant that's threatening to melt down? That's the problem, no one really knows. What's worse is that our trust in our elected officials is so diminished we probably wouldn't believe them even if they had the guts to admit it.

The trouble with pushing through legislation like State Bill 5 isn't that it's too harsh or too tame or that it restricts this or doesn't solve that; it's that ANY course of action seems drastic when you're not convinced that action is required in the first place. If our elected officials had any sense, they'd figure out that you'll never get people out of the building unless they believe you when you say it's on fire.

Sometimes Mother Nature isn't

Cheating All The Way To The Top

by Richard Tidyman

We want our kids to be successful. We tell them to work hard and get good grades. Higher grades will be rewarded, we say. That may or may not be true. There ARE rewards, however, at the high school level. There are potential scholarships and prestige at stake for those with high GPAs.

Let us not forget that we teach by example, and they are watching us ever so closely. They observe and record all the little hypocrisies in our lives--all the "white lies" we tell, and maybe even ways in which we steal. In addition, we may even enlist them to lie for us. The phone rings..."Tell him I'm in the shower and can't talk right now." What parent, especially one who is on

a budget, hasn't been tempted to benefit from another's mistake? Example: The cashier accidentally gives you too much change. This is a moment for some quick rationalization, all of which is observed and recorded by the child at your side.

We tell our kids to do the right thing, but we don't drive the speed limit because no one else does. We see non-handicapped people parking in handicapped spaces. For those minor untruths and financial advantages, we tell our children it doesn't matter. No one got hurt (other than a mega-multi-billion dollar company who won't miss it, and it was someone else's fault anyway).

Considering what most kids see at home, added to the media portrayal of

"normal," it's no wonder many kids in school cheat. The reason? "No one is getting hurt. Everyone else is doing it. I have to get a good grade if I'm going to get into college. If I don't pass, my parents will ground me."

Who does cheating hurt? Everyone. Caught or not, cheaters develop a dependency on having an unfair advantage. It might even prove to be addictive and qualify for a 12-step group.

Whatever happened to instilling integrity in our kids? Growing up, I had religion to instill guilt, and the fear of purgatory. But what happens when faith in a higher power holds no sway (teens still do question their faith, don't they? Or was that a '60's thing?)?

Maybe we should focus more on the fundamentals of true happiness and psychological well-being. I wish I knew as a kid what I know now--that my sense of personal self-esteem depends on perceiving myself as trustworthy, capable, respectable, and loved for who I really am, or as Pinocchio says, "a real boy." By cheating, I am robbing myself of that pillar of emotional well-being and peace of mind.

It might be safe to assume that people who cheat fear getting caught (which reduces happiness), but what about guilt? Doesn't guilt get in the way of pride and self-assurance? Cheating hurts our sense of self. It feels natural to abhor cheating, and if I cheat, do I abhor myself?

Have you noticed "Birds of a feather..."? It seems to me that cliques

are partially formed by levels of integrity. Cheaters must hang with cheaters. Kids with integrity hang with other kids with integrity. It makes perfect sense that it should be that way, though of course there are exceptions. Who does your kid hang out with?

Maybe we need to spend less time telling our kids to get good grades and spend more time instilling in them the sense of honesty and fairness and the peace of mind that comes with it. How about "work hard, work smart and win the prize honestly"? When cheaters win, as they sometimes do, our kids can stand tall and be proud of their honest effort. What greater success is there?



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## Pulse Of The City

### Public Employee Unions...

## America's Last Defenders Of Rights In The Workplace For The "Hireling"?

*"No refuge could save the hireling and slave,*

*From the terror of flight, or the gloom of the grave," The Star Spangled Banner, Francis Scott Key 1814*

Anyone who's come within a county mile of a news source in the last month or so knows that this country is again experiencing a social revolution, the likes of which we have not seen in many a year. While I suspect that many of us have been happy to sit on the sidelines and watch the world go by, there have also been quite a few very dedicated people who have been working hard on some very revolutionary plans so that our society could soon be changed to their way of thinking.

Well, as has often been said, America is a revolutionary nation, born of a revolutionary experiment with what Thomas Payne referred to as the "Rights of Man." Just what that phrase means exactly has been an issue since the foundations of our country. A number of the Founding Fathers were more than a little leery of pure democracy as something akin to mob rule, so we ended up with a representative democratic system called a "republic."

Still, America ended up with more rights for the everyday person than had been common at that time around the western world. Ironically, the Iroquois Confederation of Native Americans already had established many rights and procedures (including women's rights) that America's government would later ensure. Before long, France and other nations would experience revolutions of their own, as more and more people demanded a voice in their public and private lives.

Around that same time in history, the Industrial Revolution began. Entrepreneurs hired people of virtually all ages to work in their factories, mills and mines, at times for 14 hours a day, and often for starvation wages. Small craftspeople were soon replaced by huge factories. Before long, company towns developed, where workers depended on the company stores and housing available. The term "wage slaves" came into vogue to describe workers who, through debts or other economic circumstances, were chained to their jobs just as effectively as if those figurative "chains" been actual chains of iron.

Over the years, and often with bloody results, a labor movement was born. Ever so slowly over many years, child labor was limited, an eight hour day was established, and the rights of women and minorities in the workplace were established. Job benefits came along, as well as the right of an employee to have a due process hearing before dismissal. Most of these advances happened because workers had started trade unions. It is a simple and well-known fact that political and economic power and human rights are seldom, if ever, either granted from on high or relinquished voluntarily.

Those concepts are born in struggle and dispute, and through very real battles that are either won or lost. Unions were the way that everyday men and women could band together to be sure their voices would be heard, when as individuals those voices could otherwise have been lost in the roar of factory machinery.

Before long, unions developed in the public sector, as well, and that's where the present controversy appears to be developing in our nation. Those unions helped to insure that teachers, police, fire personnel and other public employees would have some protection through due process hearings against arbitrary administrative actions. They helped to bring in new safety equipment for the safety forces, and to negotiate for sick leave and pension plans for the injured or disabled. They helped to establish a fair system of salary schedules, often based on seniority and education, and they helped to insure that all sides would be given a fair hearing in any labor dispute that might arise.

For a long time, however, and even these days in some parts of our country, there is, and has been, a philosophical resistance to public employee unions. The anti-union argument seems to go that public employees are public servants, and that with the current financial issues facing states, the only way that states can effectively address those issues would be if unions were out of the way, or at least, that their power would be reduced.

It is also felt by some of the current government leadership around the country that the best way to curtail what they perceive as the political strength of "union power" is through the legislative process, rather than through negotiation. That's where the current controversy arises. While there are a small number of states where public employee unions have little negotiating leverage (or may not even exist!), others, like Ohio, established the rights of public employees to negotiate long ago.

The trouble in a nutshell seems to be that once workers' rights have been either granted or established, having a government force them to give those rights up becomes a scary thought for many Americans. Although, like other aspects of life, I've found things that I've liked, and have not liked, about unions, the fact that they stand up for the working people is something that I appreciate.

After all, what part of "due process, employee rights, and collective bargaining" could we possibly have an issue with, whether regarding public or private unions? As has already been stated, many of the advantages that workers in virtually every field of endeavor in this country have benefited from have come either directly or indirectly by victories won by unions.

The fundamental principles of being able to negotiate for better conditions in the workplace has long been considered an American right, and one, by the way, that we have seen to have been eroded deeply by the loss of so many of our manufacturing jobs overseas. With the issue of public employee unions now before us, and with so many employment rights and benefits having already been taken from us as Americans, do we really believe that even more employee rights should be taken away, whether that might be in the public or the private sector?

The good thing about labor negotiations is very simple: In order to arrive at an agreement, BOTH sides have to agree, so it's not that a "union" is able to achieve anything they want without the other side signing off. It's the "give and take" of negotiation that often results in win-win situations for all concerned.

As far as the idea advanced by some that unions might be a part of the political "far left"? That, to me, is pure nonsense. Standing up for the American worker does not necessarily mean that one is slipping down a slide into "socialism," any more than being a "conservative" means that one necessarily has "fascist" tendencies. Forget about left-right politics for a moment, if you will. Human rights are human rights. The right to speak up and to better one's lot in life in the

workplace should be something that all Americans should cherish.

I truly believe that there always needs to be some system of community checks and balances constantly evaluating and addressing what works, and what needs improving, whether that would be with our public schools or in our workplace environments. To that end, unions, advocacy organizations and others do indeed provide a significant counterpoint to "top-down only" ill-considered directives, whether that would be from some "boss," or from our politicians, or from agenda-minded "reform" movements, whether those might be left or right wing.

In a free society, I believe it is essential for each citizen to be given the opportunity to speak out, and when necessary, organize and join others in order to effect change in their workplace lives for the better.

We do, however, need all sides in this critical discussion about our workplace rights of course, and to me, yes, that does include the unions. Their rights... are your own rights, after all is said and done. (By the way, I can only guess that if we, as a state, think that it's costly to do "collective bargaining" with public employee unions at the present time, I can only imagine how expensive this epic battle could get for all sides involved in the foreseeable future.)

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# Lakewood Observer

*The Precession Of Simulacra?...*

## Or, The Subversion Of French Theory, The Rockport Square Project, And My Own Backyard

by Lyz Bly, Ph.D.

In 1979 French theorist Jean Baudrillard published, "L'ordre des simulacres." [1] In this germinal essay, Baudrillard asserts that the profusion of screened signs and images would not just mask a reality, but they would become reality. The image would be so fully entrenched in our psyches that it would take the "real" out of culture entirely. Like so many French thinkers, Baudrillard's ideas are spookily prescient; if you are skeptical of his theory, scan your Facebook friends—how many of them have you seen "in the flesh" in the last month?

Facebook aside, Baudrillard's theory creeps into my life on a daily basis, yet over the last month or so, I have questioned it every time I look out my dining room window. This is because my family and I have a front row seat to the debacle that is the Rockport Square development project on the city's east end. Our house is situated on the south west corner of Fry Avenue. The reality is that when we bought it in May of 1999 the neighborhood was an entirely different place. Our neighbors included Fairchild Chevrolet and, while businesses do not always make the best neighbors, on summer evenings our son learned to ride his bike in their parking lot. We knew the owners, salespeople, and staff; they did not complain when we cut through their lot while walking our dogs. Nor did they care when elderly apartment dwellers on Beach Parkway made their daily treks around shiny new cars to buy groceries and prescriptions at Drug Mart. Across the street on the east side of Fry Avenue, our more traditional neighbors included a teacher with a penchant for growing unkempt herb gardens in her front yard and a young couple for whom my son would dogsit. These were the kind of people with whom you shared yard tools, they were people who helped you move furniture and shovel sidewalks.

Five years into our life on Fry (on August 13, 2004) Rysar Properties and Forest City courted the City of Lakewood with a proposal for a multi-phase, multi-year project involving townhouses and retail development in a roughly six-block radius on the north and south sides of Detroit Avenue. The corporations bought Fairchild's land and the three houses across from my family's home, and within two years the parking lot



*Commercial Property Available sign at the corner of Detroit and Beach Avenues.*



*What the neighbors get to see.*

was emptied and fenced off, the houses abandoned. After numerous crimes in and around the vacated homes (including a fire that burned one of the home's garages to the ground), my neighbors and I pressured the city and the corporations to tear down the houses immediately, leaving an open field. Thankfully, Forest City (who, by the time the houses were demolished—in the fall of 2006—ousted Rysar to take "control [of the project...] to put the Forest City brand on it" [2]) did not fence off this lot, which provides a place for neighborhood kids to play in the summer.

Such is not the case with the former Fairchild lot, which, for years has been fenced off and left largely unattended. The lot is a sore spot, as it calls to mind events at a meeting my neighbors and I planned in June of 2006 to, as our flyer declared, "[address] what we expect from [Rysar and Forest City] so that our neighborhood is not neglected at the expense of corpo-

rate development." [3] Ken Lurie of Rysar came to the meeting in a sports car and was dressed in designer jeans, a freshly pressed linen shirt, and Italian loafers. Eli Miller of Forest City was less ostentatious in his dress, but his presence was no less condescending. The lowest point in the meeting came when an elderly, disabled resident of the apartments on Beach Parkway asked if it would be possible to open the Fairchild lot so that she could more easily access groceries and prescriptions at Drug Mart. Lurie snidely nudged Miller and said, "Well, you just give Eli here a call and he'll come over and give you a ride." That comment alone compelled me to begin a campaign demanding accountability from the city and the corporations on the project. While I was able to garner media attention to the matter (with the help of Lurie, who made it easy with his predilection for calling Scene reporter Lisa Rab names in public), the project continued to stall and, in lieu of an accessible path for Beach Parkway residents, we ended up with a trash-littered expanse spanning a full city block surrounded by chain-link, barbed-wire fence. [4]

Fast-forward to February 2011. The empty, littered, fenced lot remains. The space where the three houses on the south west corner of Fry and Detroit Avenues used to stand is still barren. And promises of residential-retail storefronts, and later, an Appleby's Restaurant and a parking garage, on the north side of Detroit between Fry and Beach Avenues, were broken long ago. As I peruse my file of newspaper clippings and letters from

city officials on the Rockport project, a statement from Planning and Development Director Thomas Jordan (who no longer holds this post) in a letter dated October 2, 2006 taunts me: "Under the current timeline all phases of the project will not be completed until July 2008." Three years past this deadline my neighborhood remains unchanged. While the city and Forest City cannot be blamed for an economic recession, they should be held accountable for creating an eyesore, for isolating a community of apartment dwellers, for devaluing my Fry Avenue neighbors' and my family's properties, and for poor, irresponsible planning.

About six weeks ago Forest City sent its minions to clean up the vacant lot between my house and Detroit Avenue. My spouse and I joked that something must be happening with the project—over the years we have learned that such instances are the only times they maintain their property. The workers replaced most of the fence, removing the barbed-wire; they plowed snow into mounds in the center of the lot; they removed many years worth of refuse. "Something really must be up," we mused.

Within a few days, the irony of all ironies appeared on almost all of new chain-link fence—a banner depicting a white picket fence, along with a few signs with the words, "Commercial Property Available." Again, we cynically mused, though more dejectedly than usual, "Such great minds—sheer marketing genius—the flimsy façade-image of a homey white picket fence will surely draw potential buyers to the property!" This brings me full circle, back to Baudrillard and simulacra; façade and simulation require that no one recalls the truth, or the reality behind the constructed image. As someone who has watched it unfold in my backyard, I am privy to the truth: the Rockport Square project is—at least in part—a failure, one that taxpayers have helped finance. But you do not have to believe me. Look for yourself; the white picket fence banner is already peeling away from the chain-link, in some spots flailing in the cold wind.

### Footnotes/Bibliography

[1] The English translation appears here (and in numerous volumes and internet sites): Jean Baudrillard, "The Precession of Simulacra," in *Art After Modernism: Rethinking Representation*, Brian Wallis, editor (New York, NY: The New Museum of Contemporary Art, 1984, 253-282), 254.

[2] Henry J. Gomez, "It's all Forest City's project now: Rysar bows out of Rockport Square in Lakewood," *The Plain Dealer* (Tuesday, September 12, 2006), C3.

[3] This meeting was reported on by Lisa Novatny in the *Lakewood Sun Post* and Lisa Rab in *Scene Magazine* (see "Air Cleared on Rockport," Thursday, June 8, 2006, page 1, and "Lurie's Fury," June 14-20, 2006, page 5 respectively).

[4] Lisa Rab, "Man with a Past," *Scene Magazine* (June 28, 2006), <http://www.clevescene.com/cleveland/man-with-a-past/Content?oid=1495301> (accessed February 23, 2011).

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Lakewood Living

Meet Your Killer Face To Face:

Film Noir In The Fifties

by Ben Burdick

One of the great pleasures of watching an old film noir at the Library is listening to our friend Terry Meehan introduce the evening with humor, insight and short subjects. The filmmaker and film professor is known to prepare his own original documentaries to show before each feature. With rare interviews, film clips and historical background, these home-

grown special features set the tone for thoughtful discussion without bogging down the viewer's personal enjoyment or spoiling the ending. Of course, many people attend just for the unpredictable discussions that follow each film. Meehan seems to attract a nice friendly film crowd that likes a good argument as much as a good laugh. The professor will begin his second film noir series (his fourth film series

St. Charles-Onondaga Warms Up With Chili And A New Website

by Christina McCallum

On Friday, March 4, members of the St. Charles-Onondaga Block Club gathered to sample each others' best batches of chili and to view the block club's new website, <http://www.sites.google.com/site/scoblockclub/>.

The variety of chili was wide, with everything from classic beef to white bean with chicken represented. Beth Ann Komara contributed a spicy hot Mexican black bean variety, while Barb Daniels' black bean chili featured butternut squash. Rounding out the unusual ingredient category was a hot chili containing pineapple, brought by Chris and Kara Swansiger.

The meal was a great counter to the cold, windy and rainy weather that greeted the club. Members were happy to escape their homes and the recent snows to catch up with neighbors.

Co-captain Debbie Hokin said she

was, "Extremely pleased with the turnout," and thinks it definitely should be repeated in the future. "It was great to meet people new to the neighborhood," she said.

Club Co-Captain Kyle Krewson debuted the new website. It allows members to catch up on news specific to the neighborhood plus information relevant to the broader area, as provided by a number of feeder sources. Members can sign up to receive newly posted block club announcements at a preferred email address.

Some content will be limited to St. Charles-Onondaga Block Club members. These pages feature photos of past club events and a member directory. A pet directory is under discussion, to help identify and locate missing animals quickly.

If you're interested in what's going on in our neck of the woods, check out the St. Charles-Onondaga website- [www.sites.google.com/site/scoblockclub/](http://www.sites.google.com/site/scoblockclub/).

with us altogether) on Saturday, April 2 at 6:00 p.m. in the Lakewood Public Library Main Auditorium with the bizarre 1950 classic, "D.O.A."

Stroking his snow white beard thoughtfully, Meehan describes his first selection as follows: "Frank Bigelow is an accountant who goes to San Francisco for a short vacation and finds that he has been poisoned and may soon die. He figures he has a week. What would you do if you were told you had a week to live? He does not go gentle into that good night, but transforms himself from a CPA into a film noir detective. There is only one thing on Bigelow's bucket list: find out who poisoned him and why."

"This film is one of a small but important subgenre of film noir, where the hero begins the film at or near death's door. 'Sunset Boulevard' and 'Double Indemnity' are two others."

The significant differences between noirs of the forties and the fifties are debatable—that's why the Library hosts these discussions in the first place. Meehan points out that, "Film buffs and scholars argue endlessly as to whether certain films are really film noir. It is difficult to say, because when noirs were being made in the forties and fifties the filmmakers were not consciously contributing to a genre called 'film noir.' The term did not come into general use until the seventies, nearly two decades after the classic noir period ended."

"After having done a series on the forties and another one on the fifties, I could still think of at least a dozen more films I could add to the list. After the classic film noir period ended in the late fifties, many filmmakers began to consciously emulate the style, creating a new genre that has come to be known as neo-noir."

It seems as if Meehan is already contemplating his next series of films. However, he won't make any final decisions until he sees where the conversation at the next couple of films leads him. You can join the conversation by attending "D.O.A." on Saturday April 2.

To learn about other free films at the Library, visit [lakewoodpubliclibrary.com/film](http://lakewoodpubliclibrary.com/film). All are made possible by the generous support of the Friends of Lakewood Public Library



Nowhere To Go But Up!

by Kathryn Tatnall

On Saturday, March 26th, Family Music and More will present the Disney Pixar film, "Up". Released in May of 2009, "Up" is the story of Carl Fredrickson, a 78-year-old lonely widower, who decides to fulfill the life-long dream he shared with his wife Ellie. The two met as children and were drawn together by their mutual love of adventure, and a shared admiration of the explorer Charles Muntz. As they grew up their friendship became love and the two married. It is seventy years after that first meeting that Carl takes off on the adventure of a lifetime. Carl is ordered by a judge to move into a nursing home because he hit the construction worker who knocked down his mailbox. Faced with the prospect of leaving the home he shared with Ellie behind, he uses his considerable skills to tie several thousand balloons to his home and sets sail for Paradise Falls. A hilarious adventure ensues with a stow-away Wilderness Explorer, an exotic bird, a talking dog, and a former hero who is not so heroic anymore. Directed by Pete

Docter and Bob Peterson, "Up" stars Ed Asner as Carl and Christopher Plummer as Charles Muntz in this delightful tale for the whole family.

Family Music and More is a monthly program that runs September through May each year. We strive to provide quality family entertainment with emphasis on the kids. On the fourth Saturday of the month we get together to enjoy live local talent or a good movie that makes us laugh. Our goal is to provide entertainment for the wide age range that families typically encompass. We try to have a performer from the Northeast area as often as possible. Since we cater to families and are very aware of public school schedules and holidays, we rarely schedule a performer close to a holiday or a school vacation. Thus, we have to reserve these dates for our movie nights. So if you are still in town for the beginning of spring break, join us for "Up." The movie will be presented in the Main Library Multipurpose Room at 7 o'clock and is free and open to the public.



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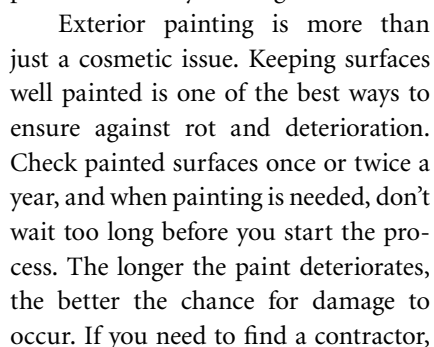


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You will want to be sure to clean away all dirt and debris from the prepping process before applying paint. Wiping down the area with a tacky cloth or even vacuuming dust and dirt will help to prepare the surface for the



*CRS will be presenting two of their workshops at the Lakewood Old House Fair on Saturday, April 16. The Old House Fair will run from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Harding Middle School and admission is free. Presentations will begin at 1:30pm and will be on "Painting Your Old House" and "Choosing Colors for Your Old House."*



Exhibitor Information and the Registration Form can be picked up at Lakewood Hardware, 16608 Madison Ave., open seven days a week. You may also go online and print the information and form at [www.lakewoodhardware.com](http://www.lakewoodhardware.com). You can call the store at 216-226-8822 for further information. The deadline to be included in the Old House Fair Directory is Saturday, April 9. This event is being brought to you by Madison Avenue Merchant Association, Lakewood Community Recreation and Education Department, and The Lakewood Observer.

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Lakewood Living

Vintage Lakewood Corner

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. 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.

These photos reflect the work of Viktor Schreckengost, an industrial designer of bicycles, toys, lawn chairs and pedal cars, as well as a painter, sculptor and ceramic artist. One of his most famous pieces is the Jazz Bowl, an example of Jazz Age art designed for Eleanor Roosevelt during his association with Cowan Pottery (which started in Lakewood). In Lakewood, he is most famous for his creation of an architectural sculpture for the exterior of the Civic Auditorium at Lakewood High School, which opened in 1955. The Early Settler, commonly and wrongly referred to as Johnny Appleseed, was commissioned by the Lakewood Board of Education.

While the artist initially referred to his sculpture as Johnny Appleseed, from the beginning, the Board of Education wanted an Early Settler, representing the earliest residents of Lakewood and loosely based on Jared Potter Kirtland. The opening pageant booklet for the Civic explained, “The Early Settler represents the desirable features of Lakewood – he established a home, reared a family, tilled the soil, improved the species, organized government to serve his needs, and built churches and schools...In this building...let us sow seeds of culture...that all who enter will reap a harvest from ideas which are planted here.”

The 18-foot sculpture stirred much controversy at the time, with some residents calling it ghastly and horrid. And despite the insistence of the Board of Education that it depicted an anonymous early settler, many residents complained that it was Johnny Appleseed, a “seedy” character to say



Above: Viktor Schreckengost’s “The Early Settler” over the front of LHS Civic Auditorium is one of Viktor’s more impressive works. Right: Viktor working the leg of the Early Settler.

the least. While the confusion still lingers among Lakewoodites, you can be assured that the sculpture depicts and is called, “The Early Settler.”

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/home.php#!/pages/Vintage-Lakewood-Ohio/303047936066>) or to the Lakewood Observer online.



If you have physical photos and don’t want to digitize them, 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, whichever format you prefer. Come join us in celebrating Lakewood’s history.

Lights Out, Lakewood Celebrate Earth Hour March 26th

by John Litten

On Saturday, March 26th at 8:30 pm, the City of Lakewood will be participate in “Earth Hour.” This is one hour of the year devoted to turning off as many lights, appliances and anything else electrical as possible. Keep Lakewood Beautiful, in conjunction with the City and other groups, is promoting the event “virtually” this year. Look for this article on the LEAF and EcoLakewood Facebook pages and “like” it. Your “like” is your pledge to turn off the lights on Saturday night.

Our goal is getting 200 households to participate, but it is really about much more than that. Given the drive of Lakewood residents, it is anticipated that this goal will be rather easy to accomplish. The challenge will be looking “beyond the hour” to find ways to conserve energy going forward. The results of one hour’s energy savings are minuscule compared to what can happen if we all make a concerted effort to be more energy-conscious.



For more information on Earth Hour, visit [earthhour.org](http://earthhour.org), then promptly power down your computer!

Keep Lakewood Beautiful is planning another dual event in April. The Great American Clean-Up and Earth Day are being combined into one event on April 30th. From 9-11:30 am, groups will be able to clean up an area of the city, then at 12:30 at the Women’s Pavilion, there will be tables with tons of information regarding how YOU can “live the green life” in Lakewood. If interested in the clean-up, having a table at the Earth Day event or just have questions, email [johnlitten347@gmail.com](mailto:johnlitten347@gmail.com).

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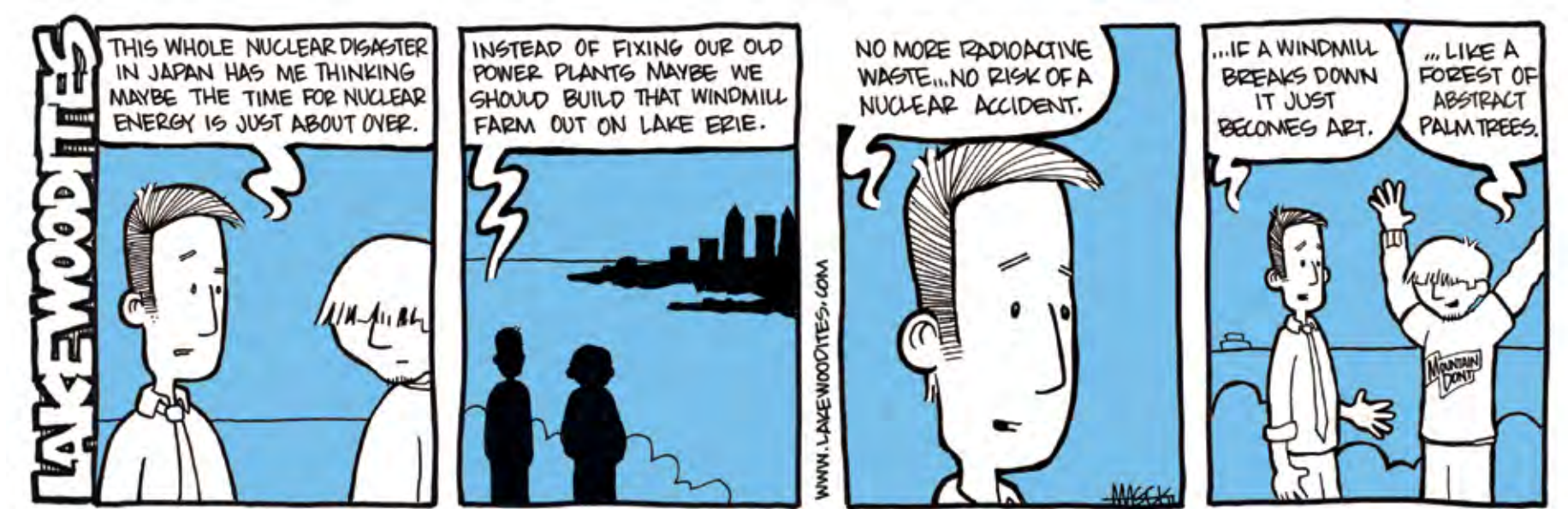
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