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# THE LAKEWOOD OBSERVER

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Volume 8, Issue 2, January 24, 2012

## *Breaking Bread Together*

# To Raise Awareness Of Cultural Diversity

by Jana Christian

As a general rule, my food-allergic family avoids social situations involving shared food... and potlucks have the most potential for disaster. However, we do make an exception. Despite the risks, we always attend the Lakewood Community Diversity Potluck hosted by the Community Relations Advisory Commission in partnership with Lakewood High School's Race and Diversity (RAD) Club.

My husband and I are in a mixed-race marriage and know little about our cultural food heritage so I leave the cooking to him (and it has been kielbasa and noodles for the last three years... not sure how that fits in with our culture, but everyone seems to like it). Despite our culinary ignorance we feel it is important to introduce our children to the world around them by exposing them to people with backgrounds unlike our own.

The theme of the potluck on Thursday, January 19 was "The World Lives in Lakewood" and the program featured video biographies created by the high school students in the ESL program. Seeing photos of their homelands, hearing tales of war and abuse and learning a little about the struggles they have faced as strangers in a foreign land really made me realize how blessed we are to live here.

Although the Diversity Potluck is growing, I am surprised that more people don't take advantage of this incredible learning opportunity. Not only are the various foods providing a lesson in cultural heritage, the high school students that participate provide great role models of acceptance and leadership that I want my children to emulate.

As they grow up, my children will begin to understand racism more (it is inevitable as mixed-race children that they will confront those issues). But for now, I am glad they are aware of each person's uniqueness and still remain blissfully nonjudgmental. Yes, they know that each person in our family has a different skin tone, but they have no use for words like "Black" or "White" since they don't correspond with any skin colors they see in real life and they don't describe anything except physical attributes.

"Why would someone make up silly rules based on what color skin they have?" my son asks. "Isn't that as silly as looking at the color of their hair?" Indeed... If only everyone were so understanding (and incredulous).

Want to introduce the concept of cultural diversity to your young ones but don't know where to start? Check out these resources (and make plans to attend the next Community Diversity Potluck):

The Anti-Defamation League ([www.adl.org](http://www.adl.org)) has a great deal of information available. Simply click on "Education" on the left side of the page or go directly to this link:

[http://www.adl.org/what\\_to\\_tell/whattotell\\_intro.asp](http://www.adl.org/what_to_tell/whattotell_intro.asp)

Go to [FamilyEducation.com](http://FamilyEducation.com) and type "diversity" into the search bar. They provide lesson plans, quizzes, Question & Answer pages and crafts to introduce and explore the topic with children.

Teaching Tolerance ([www.tolerance.org](http://www.tolerance.org)) is an amazing website which serves as "A place to find thought-provoking news, conversation and support for those who care about diversity, equal opportunity and respect for differences in schools."

## Dress Up Your Heart 2012

by Elizabeth Dauber

February is the American Heart Association's Go Red For Women heart health awareness month. As part of that, Lakewood's Open Your Heart Committee is sponsoring its 5th annual "Dress Up Your Heart" fundraiser with the mission of raising local awareness of heart disease, the number one killer of women in the U.S. This year's event will include a Red Dress Fashion Show followed with a silent auction of the featured dresses. The dresses presented are designs by Susan Dauber, a Lakewood High School graduate who earned a Bachelors Degree in Fashion and Apparel Design from Cornell University and is currently working in the fashion design industry in New York



City.

"Dress Up Your Heart" will be held at The Avenue Tap House, 18206 Detroit Ave, Lakewood, on February 4 from 7 p.m.- 9 p.m. Tickets are \$30.00 pre-sale only and are available at Sweet

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## High School Students Extend LCSC's Response To Community Need



H2O volunteers model new hats made for the team by a grateful Westerly resident.

by Trish Rooney

With a three-year grant from United Way of Greater Cleveland, Lakewood Community Services Center has extended its food service to include monthly door-to-door deliveries to eligible seniors living in Lakewood senior housing. The program launched in September 2011 with service to the Westerly Apartments. On the third Friday of each month a three-day supply of food is delivered to each resident who has signed up for the new service. Grocery bags are packed and assembled in LCSC's pantry with help from volunteers, then loaded into the United Way-funded van for two round-trips to the atrium at the Westerly.

At the drop-off area, literally dozens of Lakewood High School H2O club members are ready and waiting to head

for the buildings' elevators to begin their door-to-door trips. With staggering efficiency, this group of student volunteers manages to complete delivery to 160 units in less than two hours! Besides providing a critical service, the program is offering both residents and students an opportunity to socialize and to form important relationships. "Since the first delivery in September, this service opportunity has gained popularity and momentum among the students," says H2O Coordinator Emmie Hutchison. "The initial group of volunteers has returned each month, with the addition of their friends, members of LHS's Action Team, and other kids who have heard that the residents of the Westerly are wonderful. This has been a great partnership for

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## Lakewood Block Club Informational Meeting

by Mike Tuttle

The Lakewood Block Club Program is alive and well thanks to Mayor Michael Summers, City Council and the fifty-nine hard working Block Captains through out the city. Block Captains work hand in hand with Ward Police Offi-

cers, City Departments and the members of their clubs. We can thank these dedicated volunteers for helping keep their streets safer, cleaner and friendlier places to live. They do their best to make the streets they live on "neighborhoods" in the tru-

**continued on page 3**

## Barnstormers To Tackle Thought-Provoking Production

by Dave Gannon

The LHS Barnstormers will stage, "The Laramie Project: Ten Years Later," January 26-28 at 8 p.m. in the high school's Tryout Theater. In 2003 the Lakewood High School Barnstormers Drama Club produced the thought-provoking play, "The Laramie Project." This play was written as a look at the impact

the violent and brutal murder of a gay University of Wyoming student, Matthew Shepard, had on an entire community. The LHS Barnstormers produced it as a means of opening up a dialogue about violence, hatred, intolerance and acceptance. In short, this production was moving, eye-opening, and heart wrenching.

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# Calendar Page

## Tuesday, January 24

The Civic Commons and The Citizens League of Greater Cleveland present a 3-day Online forum, where citizens and journalists can engage one-on-one with candidates on relevant topics. Conversation will be moderated by The Civic Commons and will allow questioners to ask follow up questions and engage candidates in some depth.

**The Civic Commons website**  
<http://theciviccommons.com/blog/cc-and-citizens-league-team-up-for-online-forum>

## Lakewood Schools' Community Engagement Meeting

Superintendent Jeffrey W. Patterson invites the community to share its vision of the future of our district as the Schools face challenging economic times ahead.

**Grant Elementary School**  
1470 Victoria Ave.

## Wednesday, January 25

**AARP FREE TAX AIDE HELP**  
12:00 PM

AARP Tax Aide is offering free electronic filing of tax returns. The program is staffed by IRS-certified volunteers who are ready to assist low- to moderate-income taxpayers of all ages. It is not necessary to be an AARP member to use the service.

Appointments can be made now by calling the site you plan to use. The following Lakewood locations offer assistance on a weekly basis:

- **Barton Center, 14300 Detroit Ave., 9 a.m. to noon Thursdays; call (216) 221-3400.**
- **Madison Branch of the Lakewood Public Library, 13229 Madison Ave., noon to 4 p.m. Tuesdays; call (216) 228-7428.**
- **Lakewood Senior Center, 16024 Madison Ave., noon to 4 p.m. Mondays and Tuesdays; call (216) 226-0611.**
- **Rocky River Public Library, 1600 Hampton Road, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesdays and Fridays; call (440) 333-7610**  
16024 MADISON AVE.

## The Great Pizza Bake-Off 2012!

by Gordon Brumm

On Friday evening, January 27, between 5:00 and 8:00, in the Lakewood High School East Cafeteria, Lakewood Kiwanis will present its Great Pizza Bake-Off. Customers will enjoy an all-you-can-eat sampling of pizzas from 16

## Coast Guard Auxiliary Safe Boating Classes

7:00 PM - 9:30 PM

The State of Ohio's mandatory boating education law requires boaters born on or after January 1, 1982, to complete a National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) approved course before operating a boat more than ten horsepower. There are 24,161 boats registered in Cuyahoga County. According to the ODNR Boating Accident Report for 2006-2010, there have been 276 accidents on Lake Erie involving 350 vessels, 127 injuries, and 19 fatalities. U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 7-5 is offering the following two public safe boating classes: Boating Skills & Seamanship (powerboat oriented) and Sailing Skills & Seamanship. The two boating classes will start on Wednesday, January 25, 2012 and run through March 21 from 7:00-9:30 on Wednesday evenings. USCG Auxiliary and Ohio boating certificates issued for both classes and both classes NASBLA approved. Possible insurance discount. Register through Lakewood Recreation. Contact V. Suda 216-226-7221 or sudav@cox.net for more details.

**Garfield Middle School**  
13114 Detroit Ave., Lakewood, OH 44107

## Thursday, January 26

**Lakewood Family Collaborative January Spotlight: Lakewood Community Services Center**  
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

The Lakewood Family Collaborative meets the

Lakewood establishments.

Tickets at the door are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under. Tickets bought in advance (at schools) are \$10 for adults, \$8 for students 13-18 years of age, and \$5 for children 12 and under.

fourth Thursday of every month at the Lakewood Women's Pavilion, featuring a different community speaker.

**Lakewood Women's Pavilion, 14532 Lake Avenue**

## LHS Barnstormers' production of "The Laramie Project: 10 Years Later"

8:00 PM

This play is a look at the impact of the murder of gay Univ. of Wyoming student Matthew Shephard 10 years later.

**Lakewood High School Tryout Theater**  
14100 Franklin Blvd.

## Friday, January 27

**Registration for FREE English speaking classes**  
12:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Registration for FREE classes for anyone wanting to learn to speak, read, or write English. We also help prepare students for the Citizenship test! Held at the Taft Elementary School at 13701 Lake Avenue.

**13701 Lake Avenue**  
**Lakewood, Ohio 44107**  
**Taft Elementary School**

**The Ray Fogg Show**  
8:00 PM

As the winter "blahs" set in, a fixture of the summer party scene will be coming to town to share some fun times. Popular Put-In-Bay entertainer, Ray Fogg, will bring his one-man show of island fun to

Lakewood, OH for a single performance at Around The Corner on Friday, January 27, 2012. Showtime will be at 8pm, with doors opening at 7pm.

**Around the Corner**

## Saturday, January 28

**2012 Lakewood Criterium Neighborhood Meeting**  
7:00 PM

We need your input! Come — and bring a neighbor — to an informational meeting regarding a 2012 Lakewood Criterium bike race in Lakewood's West End. Members of Team Spin, the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce, and the City of Lakewood would like to hear from business owners and residents on the following streets within and bordering the 2011 race loop: Sloane, Edanola, Park Row, Phelps, Scenic, W. Clifton, Kenilworth, Rio, Gridley, Graber, 1300-1550 Riverside, Maile, Owego, Mathews, and 18000+ Detroit. Plans are being formulated for this year's event, and we'd like to hear from you.

For info and photos from the 2011 Lakewood Criterium, go to [www.lakewoodcriterium.com](http://www.lakewoodcriterium.com).

**St. Peters Episcopal Church**  
18001 Detroit Ave., Lakewood OH 44107

## Sunday, January 29

**Friends of the Lakewood Dog Park, Inc. offers opportunities for enthusiastic dog lovers!**  
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Come join us for "HELPING HANDS-FEST 2012" in the Multi-Purpose Room of the Lakewood Public Library, 15425 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio 44107.

We are FRIENDS OF THE LAKEWOOD DOG PARK, Inc. 501(3)(c) and we're looking for people just like you! And just like us! Come join us to discuss opportunities to lend your HELPING HANDS to sustain and improve the Lakewood Dog Park through volunteerism. Enthusiastic FLDP members and all dog lovers are encouraged to attend.

**Multi-Purpose Room of the Lakewood Public Library, 15425 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio 44107.**

**Many more listings at**  
**[www.lakewoodobserver.com](http://www.lakewoodobserver.com)**  
**List Your Event Today - It's FREE!**

# KAUFFMAN PARK FRIENDS



Due to inadequate snowfall, Kauffman Park Friends has extended the deadline for their Snow Sculpting Contest through February 19. Please do a snow dance if you know one, hit the park once it accumulates and share your creative side.



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Your Independent Source for Lakewood News & Opinion

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

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

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

**Upcoming Submission Deadline**


Sunday, January 15  
Sunday, January 29

**Publish Date**

Tuesday, January 24  
Tuesday, February 7

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Lakewood City News

Mayor Says No To West Shore Fire Plan

by Christopher Bindel

Council President Brian Powers called the January 17, 2012 Council meeting to order at 7:33 P.M. To start the meeting off, Council invited Lakewood’s reappointed Poet Laureate, Bill Knittle, to read a poem. Mr. Knittle read his poem to Council thanking them again for his title.

Moving on to agenda items, Councilman Powers (At-Large) gave a report from the Committee of the Whole regarding the drive-through zoning ordinance that Councilman David Anderson (Ward I) had introduced. Powers discussed a brief history of the ordinance from being introduced by Councilman Anderson through several public meetings, work sessions and work with the Planning Commission. He said that the ordinance that was being presented to them was now a substituted version of the original, and it was on its third and final reading. The zoning changes will make it easier for the City to limit and control the use and placement of drive-throughs throughout the city.

Council unanimously passed the substituted ordinance.

Next, Councilman Shawn Juris (Ward III) read a report from the Public Works Committee regarding Lakewood’s Bicycle Master Plan. The Plan lays out the intentions of the City’s Public Works Department and the Planning Commission to consider and include aspects of bike traffic, safety and storage in their work. This Plan has been in the works for many months now and the City has worked with many different groups and people. After much research and consideration the Public Works Committee recom-

mended adoption of the resolution to Council. Council agreed and passed it. Councilman Tom Bullock (Ward II) thanked the Planning Commission for all their hard work and Council for passing the Bicycle Master Plan. He said it was a good first step but asked that Council and the Administration consider doing more to actually implement what it outlines. He said they need to devote resources toward signage and bicycle parking as a start.

The next item on the agenda was a communication from Councilman Juris regarding the Lakewood Community Vision. In 1993 Lakewood published its Community Vision which was meant to be a guide for the Planning Commission and the city as a whole when making decisions. Although Juris says that much of the plan remains relevant to this day, the fact is that a lot has changed in the nearly 20 years since its passage and it could use updating. As the long term goals set out by the Lakewood Community Vision were set for just five years, Juris said it is over due to be reviewed and a second edition passed. Juris suggest that the Planning and Development Department begin the work on updating the Vision and then follow it up with public meetings with the Planning Commission.

Council referred Juris’ communication to the Planning Commission for consideration.

Councilman Juris then read another communication asking that Council have discussions on the idea of holding a Lakewood business summit. This summit would pull together Lakewood businesses to discuss with them how to attract and retain businesses in Lakewood. This conversation would also include a discussion of what types of businesses the City should try attracting. In addition to this second goal, Juris suggested they discuss the possibility of looking to target specific industries, such as wedding planning or music recording, for specific sites in Lakewood that could use development.

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

Coming to the end of the agenda items, Council President Powers asked if the administration had anything to share. Mayor Michael Summers told Council that he wanted to update them on the West Shore Fire Consortium. Lakewood was part of a group of several west side cities which were awarded a \$100,000 grant to conduct a study to see if combining and sharing fire services was feasible and money saving. The study was completed about 14 months ago and the cities were given time to consider whether it was a good move for them to participate. Mayor Summers told Council that that amount of time has run out, and after careful consideration, and discussions with Fire Chief Gillman, he has decided that Lakewood would not participate in the consortium.

The mayor gave several reasons for his decision. The first is the fact that Lakewood is on the far eastern end of the consortium group which does not leave the City in a optimal position for good coverage. This is the same reason North Ridgeville also decided not to participate, being on the furthest southwest end. In addition to our position, the closest city to support Lakewood is Rocky River, which has the smallest Fire Department of all the cities involved. Rocky River only has six firefighters or EMT’s per shift, while Lakewood has

28. Lakewood’s response times of three to four minutes is the shortest of any of the cities participating and their standard of four firefighters per truck is the highest. Lakewood’s training level for firefighters exceeds those of the other communities and the City’s fire staff is almost equal to all the other communities combined. When it came down to it, it was difficult to discover how the consortium would benefit Lakewood.

Mayor Summers did make it clear, however, that the fact that he has decided that Lakewood will not go forward as a part of the consortium, does not mean that Lakewood will not work with the other communities in some degree. He said there are great opportunities to share cost and resources for things such as training, capital resource acquisition and some specialized services such as Hazmat.

With no further comments from the administration and no statements from members of the public, Council President Powers adjourned the meeting at 8:17 P.M.

Council meetings are held every first and third Monday of the month at 7:30 P.M. in the City Hall Auditorium. The next regularly scheduled council meeting will be held on February 6, 2012. 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).

Lakewood Block Club Informational Meeting

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est sense of the word. Criminal activity and nuisance issues can happen on any street. Block Captains keep problems to a minimum by informing all residents when suspicious behavior or nuisance activity is noticed by Club members. The more alert eyes on the block the safer that block will be. Ward Police Officers also help to educate residents about easy ways to prevent themselves from becoming victims. Simple actions like: locking your doors, locking cars, keeping valuables out of cars when parked and keeping porch lights on at night will discourage the average criminal from making you his next target.

We will have an informational Block Club meeting at 7 p.m. on February 29, 2012 in the City Hall auditorium at 12650 Detroit Road. If you want more information or are interested in helping form a Block Club on your street, stop in or contact Block Club Coordinator Mike Tuttle at 529-5567 or [michael.tuttle@Lakewood.net](mailto:michael.tuttle@Lakewood.net).

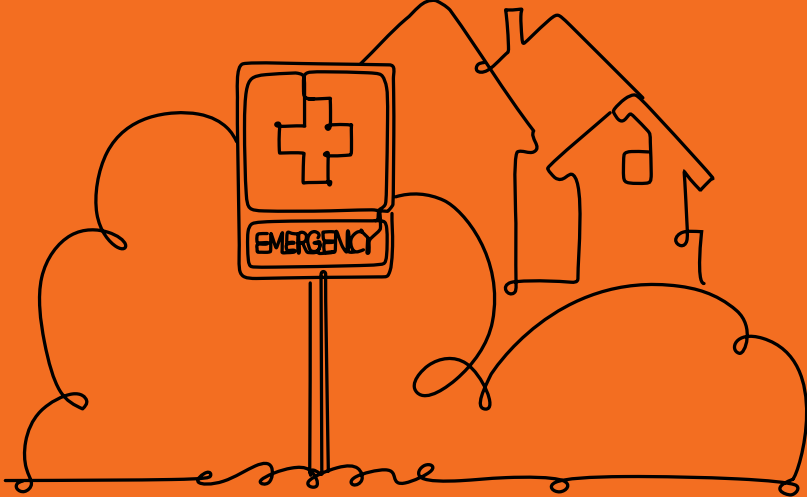
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# Robert Seelie 1956-2012

## Colleagues And Co-Workers Remember Bob Seelie

by Thomas George

Bob Seelie reportedly served longer as Lakewood City Council President than anyone in the City's history. Sadly, Bob passed away on January 7, 2012. He was 55.

Colleagues and co-workers remember Bob as someone who had a knack for being in the right place.

One of Bob's favorite right places was at the Lakewood July 4th parade review stand, where for many years, he announced the names of the parade participants as they marched, walked, drove or juggled their way past the stand.

"I always think fondly of Bob emceeing the Fourth of July Parade. It was a great showcase for his humor and love of Lakewood," recalls former City of Lakewood Assistant Law Director Mary Haas McGraw.

"We all forget or never realized what an active individual this man was", said former City Council colleague Brian Corrigan. "He was a standout football player and played hockey throughout his high school years at St. Edward."

I recall knowing Bob before we both entered the political arena and can recall getting a backstage pass to the Aug. 26th, 1978 World Series of Rock at old Cleveland Stadium. It was a hot, steamy evening as 100,000 rock fans absorbed the sounds of Eddie Money, Todd Rundgren and Utopia, the Cars and Bob Welch. I made my way underneath the centerfield bleachers in anticipation of the arrival of the featured act, Fleetwood Mac. As the stadium personnel pulled the chains of the clankity metal doorways, the black limousines crept slowly onto the secure bleacher concourse. One by one the limos stopped to unload their precious cargo. A scattering of curious onlookers watched as the limousine drivers, dressed in black tuxedos, each hopped out to unload the band members. To my surprise, who hops out to open the door for Stevie Nicks...it's Bob Seelie!! He looked at me with the big Seelie grin as he opened the limo's rear door and heavenly Stevie Nicks emerged in a flowing white gown.

Later I asked, "Damn, Seelie, how did you pull this off?"

"Hey, a guy's gotta make a living," he said with a grin.



Bob Seelie addresses the crowd at the ground breaking for Rosewood Place. Bob believed in that project and he always believed in Lakewood and Lakewoodites.

Bob Seelie was in the right place that night.

Seelie's life changed dramatically when, in 1982, he was severely injured in a water-skiing accident on Lake Erie. The accident left him as a paraplegic with limited use of his hands. The accident did not, however, sap his strength or courage. After nearly a year of recovery, Seelie went to work on a regular schedule and eventually ran for City Council in Lakewood where he soon was elected City Council president by his peers.

"For as much time as Bob spent in Council and related committee meetings, he spent 10 times that amount behind the scenes talking to people," recalls former colleague Brian Corrigan.

In the rough and tumble political world, Seelie's chief weapon was his keen wit.

"What I will remember most about Bob was his ability to break silence or tension in the room with his humor. Bob always had a line to make you laugh," said former colleague Ryan Demro.

Seelie had a "dry sense of humor no one could match," said former colleague and friend Brian Corrigan.

Bob's wit and patience served him well as he chaired many contentious City Council meetings, particularly

during the time of the proposed West End development.

I recall often 75 or more citizens would sign up to speak prior to the start of the regularly scheduled Council meeting and Bob would patiently allow everyone to say their piece. Whether you supported or opposed the project, everyone agreed that Bob was fair to both sides. And when tensions mounted, he had a way of injecting humor to defuse the situation. Nobody could have handled the tense atmosphere better than Bob. Situated in the Council President's chair during this emotional setting, he was in the right place.

Seelie's election caused the City of Lakewood to seriously address handicapped compliance. Under the administration of Mayor David Harbarger, Council chambers were redesigned to allow handicapped access to the stage area. The outside entrance of City Hall was also reconfigured to allow for handicapped access.

Seelie made many of us aware of the things we take for granted. Following a council meeting some members

would often go for a sandwich or pizza at a nearby eatery. In order to have Bob join, colleagues learned which Lakewood businesses were handicapped accessible.

When the great power outage of August 14, 2003 occurred, Seelie spent the muggy, sticky night in his van because his electrically powered elevator to the upstairs unit of his family home was powerless.

Former colleague, now State Representative Nickie Antonio remembers, "Knowing no limits, Bob was a great role model for those differently abled. A favorite memory of mine was when we cut the ribbon at Lakewood Park of the new promenade. Bob led the procession down the new walkway, his face beaming as we proceeded to the bottom to view the lake and the Cleveland skyline."

Former Council colleague Brian Corrigan remembers, "The most at ease I saw Bob is when he was next to or near the water. The Lakewood Democratic Club held its annual steak roast in the summer. The event was held at Clifton Beach. Bob loved those roasts, loved water and really seemed to enjoy being with friends enjoying life."

Now all Lakewood mourns the loss of Robert Martin Seelie. St. Clement Church was completely full for his January 10th funeral mass conducted by Father Jerome Duke, who had served with Bob as a Lakewood Hospital Board of Trustee.

Seelie is survived by the most important people in his life, his children Kelly (Doug) Pavey, Patrick, his grandchildren Jack and Luke, his life-long companion Patty (nee Anello), his brothers and sisters, Lincoln Avenue neighbors, St. Clement and St. Edward classmates, close friends, relatives and former colleagues and co-workers.

We all admired Bob's strength and grit and that he never complained or used his disability as an excuse. He will be missed.

Bobby my friend, we're certain you are in the right place.

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# Lakewood Public Library Events

**compiled by Leana Donofrio-Milovan**

**Jan. 28**  
**Lakewood Art House Cinema:**  
**“Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind”**  
Can love survive a mindwipe? Jim Carrey has a broken heart and he needs to forget the painful memories of all those late night fights and how much worse it felt when she finally left. Kate Winslet loved him, but she’s ready to shed all her memories of the good times when a doctor promises her the cure for heartache. As the past stretches out, shrinks and slowly fades, they try to hold on before it is too late.  
**Saturday, January 28 at 6:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium**

**Jan. 29**  
**Sunday with the Friends: Sunday Cinema “Stormy Weather”**  
Lena Horne sings her signature tune in this musical biography of Bill “Bojangles” Robinson, featuring Cab Calloway, Fats Waller, and the Nicholas Brothers. Filmed in breathtaking black-and-white. Recorded in heartbroken surround sound.  
**Sunday, January 29 at 2:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium**

**Feb. 2**  
**The Worlds of Maurice Sendak: Coming to America Lecture**  
The Sendaks’ struggle to assimilate into American life is not so different from the experience of Cleveland’s early Jewish settlers. This illustrated lecture features images and objects from the Maltz Museum collection that reveal how the preservation of tradition continued alongside the desire to become an American.  
**Thursday, February 2 at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium**

**Feb. 4**  
**Film Neo Noir: “The Man Who Wasn’t There”**  
Billy Bob Thornton stars as a taciturn barber who hatches a revenge blackmail scheme on his cheating wife and her over boss that will bankroll his new life as a dry cleaning mogul. (It’s a new invention.) But someone gets murdered and someone else gets blamed. Thornton’s deadpan voiceover and the film’s slick black-and-white cinematography hark back to the early days. But with the Coen Brothers, there might be more than meets the eye.  
**Saturday, February 4 at 6:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium**

**Feb. 5**  
**Sunday with the Friends: The Hollywood Slim Trio**  
Hollywood Slim and his brother John have been harmonizing on swing, jazz and blues standards for over thirty-five years and they’re still having a ball, learning new tricks and playing old favorites. You can’t go see Ray Charles, Little Walter or Nat “King” Cole anymore, so come to the Library and catch a glimpse of one of Cleveland’s best kept secrets.  
**Sunday, February 5 at 2:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium**

**Feb. 8**  
**Health and Wealth: Sharpening Your Axe**  
Would you like to live a more natural and healthful life? Holistic wellness coach and master herbalist Rachel Anzalone confronts your greatest health challenges with her powerful plan.  
**Wednesday, February 8 at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium**

**Feb. 9**  
**Booked for Murder: “Down River”**  
Though he was acquitted of the murder of a small town football star, many people still believe that Adam Chase is a coldblooded murderer—even his parents. When he is unexpectedly called back home by an old friend, the old demons return and suspicion, rumor and death soon follow. This thriller is packed with enough family drama to fill the cast of a Shakespearean tragedy.  
**Thursday, February 9 at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Meeting Room**

**Feb. 11**  
**Lakewood Public Cinema: “Joe Versus the Volcano”**  
This wry fairy tale is a Tom Hanks/Meg Ryan romantic comedy for people who don’t particularly like those kinds of movies. A miserable office drudge discovers the simple fact that life is worth living when he prepares to sacrifice himself to the angry volcano that threatens a South Sea island paradise. Abe Vigoda, Ossie Davis and Lloyd Bridges bring the laughter with one gem performance after another while a clever selection of songs conspires with the moon to move you to tears of joy.  
**Saturday, February 11 at 6:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium**

## Children/Youth Events

**compiled by Arlie Matera**

**Homework ER**  
For students in kindergarten through eighth grade  
Need a little help with your homework? Come to the library for extra help and resources. There is no need to register in advance. Homework ER will be closed for school holidays and vacations.  
**Monday – Thursday, 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**  
**Children & Youth Services Department at the Main Library & Madison Branch**

**Family Weekend Wonders**  
Make the library a part of your family weekend time with programs featuring stories, activities, music and crafts. These free programs are offered every weekend throughout the year at both the Main Library and Madison Branch. No registration is needed. Check out our website ([www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.org/youth](http://www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.org/youth)) for times and upcoming themes.  
**Main Library Activity Room and Madison Branch Auditorium**

**Weekends With Wee Ones**  
For families with children under 2 years old  
Spend a part of your family weekend time clapping your hands, tapping your feet, singing nursery rhymes and, of course, sharing books. Programs are offered every weekend throughout the year, and there is no need to register in advance.  
**Madison Branch Children and Youth Services**  
**Saturday at 11:30 a.m. and Sunday at 3:30 p.m.**



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# Lakewood Public Library

## Top Teen Chef: *The Tasty Conclusion*

by Stephanie Schuerger-Fries

On Friday the 13th of January, three teens participated in the Lakewood Public Library's first Top Teen Chef program. The teens were invited to take part in three food challenges, or battles. They had 45 minutes to complete the challenges. They were given a large selection of potential ingredients and asked to compete in a "Battle Kool-Aid," "Battle Celery," and "Battle Brownie." Using the main ingredients listed in each battle, they were required to create a beverage, appetizer, and dessert.

Three judges sampled and critiqued each of the participants' entries. Rob Geul, local chef at Lakewood's Jammy Buggars, was the guest judge, in addition to two Children's Library staff members. The judges considered creativity, presentation, and tastiness in assigning points and reviewing each of the culinary creations. The compe-

tion was a close one, but ultimately the Top Teen Chef named was Calvin Dolatowski, a 6th grader at Harding Middle School. Runners-up were: Ana Webb, a 7th grader at Shaker Heights Middle School, and Lily Alvino, a 7th grader at Garfield Middle School.

Jammy Buggars provided a \$50 gift card to the Top Teen Chef, and each of the runners-up received a token for a free meal. The Library was also fortunate to have a \$30 gift card donated by Giant Eagle to assist in the purchase of the ingredients for the program, and Mary Lou Call of First Federal Savings and Loan of Lakewood donated four trays of brownies for the dessert competition. All of the participants, judges, and attending family members had a great time at this culinary battle!

*Stephanie Schuerger-Fries is a Children's Library Assistant at the Lakewood Public Library and mom of Lakewood School students.*



**Left:** Calvin Dolatowski, Top Teen Chef of Lakewood.

**Below:** Lily Alvino, Calvin Dolatowski, and Ana Webb prepare their culinary masterpieces for Lakewood Public Library's Top Teen Chef competition.



## Chinese Cinderella

by Marge Foley

Everyone knows the story of Cinderella and her wicked stepmother. Chinese Cinderella tells the true story of an unloved Chinese girl growing up in Shanghai and Hong Kong, complete with wicked stepmother. Born in 1937 in Tianjin, China, author Adeline Yen Mah begins her book in the autumn of 1941 and concludes it in the autumn of 1952. Mah was considered bad luck because her mother died shortly after giving birth to her. Although Mah was subjected to emotional cruelty by her father, stepmother, and siblings, she excelled as a student. We read how neglect and loathing was heaped on Mah during her painful childhood and how she was abandoned at a boarding school as the Red Army approached. Her isolation fueled her studies and she earned a medical degree from London Hospital Medical School and eventually established a medical practice in California. She has worked as a physi-

cian, anesthesiologist, and writer.

Adeline Yen Mah tells us, "I wrote the book because I wished to record the life of one unwanted Chinese daughter growing up in twentieth-century China and encourage all unloved children to transcend their abuse and transform it into a source of courage, creativity, and compassion. What inspired me was the desire to give a factual account of the inner workings of a Chinese family and describe it with emotional authenticity. I wished to instill in Westerners a desire to learn about Chinese culture and history."

Adeline Yen Mah is Founder and President of the Falling Leaves Foundation, whose mission is "to promote understanding between East and West" and provides funds for the study of China's history, language, and culture. Chinese Cinderella is available in the Juvenile Biography section of the Lakewood Public Library.

## Manga History Program For Teens

by Nikca Petruccio

It is likely that if you have children or teens in your house, at least one of them is deeply engrossed in a manga or anime series. Big eyes, action lines, dramatic plotlines, bizarre and adorable creatures- all staples of this now familiar genre. Manga and anime have seen a dramatic explosion in popularity here in the U.S. over the past twenty years, but the medium's history is much longer and richer than you might expect.

If you have a diehard otaku (obsessive anime fan) in your house, perhaps they would like to enrich their manga reading experience by learning a little bit about its Japanese origin, centuries-old history,

distinct art style, and the dramatic effect it's had on the cultures of both Japan and the United States. (If they can unbury their nose from that copy of Bleach, that is.) Youth in sixth through twelfth grade are invited to spend an afternoon at Lakewood Public Library's "Manga Academy," to discuss the object of their obsession! One session only will be held on Saturday, February 11 from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the Library's Multipurpose Room. No registration necessary, just drop in! For more information call the Children and Youth Services Department (216) 226-8275 ext. 140

*Nicka Petruccio is a librarian at the Lakewood Public Library in the Children & Youth Services Department.*

## Healthy After School Snacking Program At The Lakewood Library

by Julie Strunk

For family members of all ages.

Get educated about the snacks you eat. Begin a healthier life in the New Year! Ali Jones, Earth Fare Community Relations Coordinator and a chef from Earth Fare will show you just how delicious healthy snacking can be. Kick the junk food habit now and start living a healthier life without giving up taste, variety, and visual attraction. Be inspired by their creative snacking ideas and let them show you how even younger snackers can prepare tasty treats. Earth Fare is dedicated to providing food from organic and local farms so that you can "Eat Better. Live Longer." The presentation will wrap up with a fun food craft for children and teens!

Wednesday, February 1, 5:00 p.m. – 5:45 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room

## The Persistence Of Creativity: CityMusic Cleveland Reflects On The Holocaust

by Andrea Fisher

CityMusic Cleveland will perform The Emigrants, part of The Persistence of Creativity series, at 7:00 p.m. on February 20 in the Main Library Auditorium. This special event is in preparation for their spring production of Brundibár and also coincides with the exhibit In a Nutshell: the Worlds of Maurice Sendak on display in the Main Library Second Floor Gallery. A string quartet and woodwind quintet will play the rarely performed music of six different composers whose lives were devastated by the Holocaust.

For the composers featured in The Emigrants concert, the Holocaust had a direct impact on their lives. Maurice Sendak was also impacted by the atrocities of World War II, and it can be seen in his work. While many of his books feature fantastical beasts and rambunctious children, books like Dear Mili, We Are All Down in the Dumps with Jack and Guy and his version of Brundibár with Tony Kushner, all reveal his feel-

ings about the Holocaust. Growing up in America, Sendak was reminded of his Jewish roots with the worn photographs of his European relatives. He knew at a young age that many of them died in concentration camps.

CityMusic Cleveland is a professional chamber orchestra which performs free concerts throughout the city. They have made it their mission to give communities quality classical performances without the high ticket prices, and they also work with communities to enrich cultural offerings. This unique and poignant performance will take place at the Library on Monday, February 20th at 7:00 p.m.

To find out more about the CityMusic Cleveland Brundibár performance and The Persistence of Creativity series, go to: <http://www.citymusiccleveland.org/pdfs/brundibar.pdf>.

The Maurice Sendak exhibit will be on display through February 24, and can be viewed during regular Library hours.



# Lakewood Schools

## Superintendent Kicks Off First Of Community Meetings

by Christine Gordillo

A small but spirited and engaged crowd joined Superintendent Jeffrey W. Patterson at Hayes Elementary School on January 18 for the first of a series of community meetings he is holding across the city over the next month to listen to what citizens have to say about the future of the Lakewood City Schools.

After hearing Patterson’s vision for improving academic performance and providing 21st century skills for our students, the audience was brought up to speed on where the district is headed financially and reminded of what cost-cutting measures the administration already has taken over the last five years to keep the district in decent financial shape currently despite the challenging economic times. Balancing the

budget into the future, however, will entail more cuts and this is where the audience expressed their desires for the school district.

A resounding theme of the night was the desire to keep elementary class sizes as low as possible. Maintaining the depth of programming and broad choice of extracurricular activities at the high school was also emphasized. Questions regarding the status of the district’s Phase III of its long-range construction plan also arose and Patterson provided an update as best he could considering the uncertainty at the state level regarding funding.

Patterson’s goal is to hear from as many citizens as possible as he goes from neighborhood to neighborhood as well as speaking to community groups such as the Lakewood Minis-

terial Association and at the city’s two senior centers.

There is still plenty of time to catch a meeting and share your thoughts. If you can’t make one of the meetings on the schedule, there is a chance to hear

**ALL MEETINGS BEGIN AT 7:00 PM**

Tuesday, January 24, Grant Elementary School Gym, 1470 Victoria Ave.  
Thursday, February 2, Horace Mann Elementary, 1251 West Clifton Blvd.  
(child care provided, call 529-4074 to reserve space)  
Wednesday, February 8, Roosevelt Elementary School Gym, 14237 Athens. Ave.  
Wednesday, February 15, Lincoln Elementary Large Gym, 15615 Clifton Blvd.  
Thursday, February 23, Emerson Elementary Cafeteria, 13439 Clifton Blvd.  
Wednesday, February 29, Harrison Elementary Cafeteria, 2080 Quail Ave.  
(child care provided, call 529-4074 to reserve space)

**Report Back to Community: Thursday, March 8, Lakewood High East Cafeteria, 14100 Franklin Blvd.**

a recap of the community’s thoughts when Patterson holds a “Report Back to the Community” meeting on March 8 at 7 p.m. at Lakewood High’s East Cafeteria. Here is the remaining schedule: Meetings (all begin at 7 p.m.):

## LHS Artists Honored As Best In Region

by Christine Gordillo

Once again, Lakewood City Schools has a good number of young artists that have been recognized for their artistic talent in the prestigious Scholastic Art & Writing Awards national competition. Three Lakewood High students were honored with the top award - Gold Key Winner - in the Cuyahoga County Region and will have their artwork judged on the national level next month. One of those Gold Key Winners, Elizabeth Taucher also was selected as one of only five artists in the region named a American Vision & Voice Nominee for her “best of show” Film and Animation piece, “Sydney the Giraffe” (view on YouTube at <http://tinyurl.com/7pm3uuv>).

Each year more than 77,000 students in grades 7-12 participate in the Scholastic competition. The process begins across the country as young artist and writers submit more than 100,000 creative works of art and writing in 28 categories to a network of regional affiliates that locally present the awards. Panelists of experts in their field look for works that best exemplify originality, technical skill and the emergence of a personal voice or vision.

The most outstanding works of art

and writing from each region are forwarded to New York City to be judged with the best in the nation. This year’s Regional winners are currently hanging in the Art Gallery at the Cleveland Institute of Art located at University Circle. The artwork will be on display until February 4.

Congratulations to all of the Lakewood High’s 2012 Scholastic Art winners:

**Gold Key Winners:**

Allie Mattis for her mixed media piece entitled, "Turtle."

Bram Myers for his design piece entitled "Diplomat: October 15 at The Bela Dubby."

Elizabeth Taucher for her Film and Animation entitled, "Sydney the Giraffe."

**Honorable Mentions:**

Jessica Balmer, Jacob Corder, Molly Loder, Nicole Matthews (West Shore Career-Tech), Clayton Overcashier, Michael Todaro, Emily Trautmann

The Scholastic Awards were founded in 1923 to offer recognition and scholarships for talented students and have made available more than \$25 million in awards and scholarships since then.

## High School, Middle School Musicians Fill Honors Festivals

by Christine Gordillo

Winter is prime time for many high school and middle school honors festivals and with the amount of musical talent in the Lakewood City Schools, you can bet the district is well-represented at a number of the honors ensembles that have performed or will soon be performing throughout the state.

Recently, three Lakewood High students traveled to Ohio University to participate in a weekend-long honors festival that culminated in a performance of some of the most talented high school musicians in the state on January 8. Sophomore Danny Toner sat principal cello, junior Moira Horn was second chair cello, and sophomore Cooper Brown sat assistant principal first violin in the invitation-only event.

At the middle school level, Lakewood is host this year to the Ohio Music Education Association’s District IV Middle School Honors Festival and the district’s two middle schools will be well-represented at the event. The festival is February 25 and begins at 4 p.m. at the Civic Auditorium. Choir, band and orchestra honors ensembles comprised of some of the region’s best middle school musicians will perform in this free concert. Representing Lakewood’s two middle schools will be:

Garfield band and orchestra members: Tess Marjanovic – piccolo/

flute; Carissa Bellino – clarinet; Sage Petrone – bass clarinet; Evan Aldrich – trumpet; Kenny Miller – trombone; Abi Norman – violin; Katelyn Martin – violin; Erin Gregg – violin; Cate Schleckman – viola; Rhianna Zuby – cello; Eleanor Howells – cello; Lauren Houk – cello; Isabell Mierau – bass

Garfield choir members: Ana Guerra, Alexandria Donegan, Emma Price, Michelle Reese, Jacklyn Voll, Taylor Keaton, Katie Maxwell, Ryan Smith, Garrett Naylor, Jared Forkins, Tino Perez, Austin Guetling, Desmond Fleming

Harding band and orchestra members: Zoe Budzar – violin; Zeke Dalisky – violin; Amanda Kantor – violin; Paula Atfield – violin; Tom Grauel – viola; Juliet Belardo – viola; Alex Figueroa – viola; Madalyn Vedaa – cello; Kelly White – cello; Samantha Wittal – bass; Evan Levis – French horn; Claire Black – flute; Autumn Gibbons – flute; Veronica Gordon – piccolo/flute; Jarret Sullivan – bass clarinet; Emily Brown – alto sax; Jimmy Toner – tenor sax

Harding choir members: David Rogers, Elias Tsourlakakis, Allison Olah, Wendy Rice, Stephen Watkins, Daisy Lord, David Dailey, James Suire, Michael Amato, Oscar Rodriguez, McKinsey Kays

In this season of honors ensembles, Garfield 8th grader Tess Marjanovic

**continued on page 12**



West Shore Career-Tech senior Nicole Matthews’ “Little Red Riding Hood” won an Honorable Mention in the competition.

# CLEAR THE WAY!

Help do your part to keep Lakewood a successful walking community and clear your sidewalks after a snowfall.

If you see or witness any problems relating to clearing snow from the sidewalks (neglected property-residential or commercial), please call the city at **216-252-4322**.

**Kids need clear sidewalks during the winter to get to and from school safely each day.**

**NEED HELP CLEARING?**  
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Lakewood Schools

# Holocaust Survivor Brings History Alive

by Paul Nickels

History can be abstract, particularly to the very young who look back at the amazing sweep of the 20th century. Those in the “Baby Boom” generation were well-schooled in the horrors of the Holocaust, when more than 6 million Jews perished in Nazi Germany and its brutal system of concentration camps. For children who were born later, it is a much more distant event. The history of the Holocaust is certainly taught in school, but for junior high students at Lakewood Catholic Academy, history recently came to them in the form of Holocaust survivor Andrew Steinberg of Shaker Heights, who visited the school to relate his personal experience as a prisoner of the Nazis near the end of World War II.

Mr. Steinberg, more than 80 years old, was just 14 when he became one of 3,000 Jews rounded up in a Hungar-



Holocaust survivor Andrew Steinberg shared his experience with junior high students at Lakewood Catholic Academy recently.

ian village in 1944 and transported in a cattle wagon along with his parents and grandparents, arriving at Auschwitz on

May 4. The 7th and 8th graders were spellbound listening as he described the degrading treatment he received at the hands of his captors.

Mr. Steinberg told his story in a quietly reflective manner. He recalled being “disinfected” with a large group

of fellow captives, and given the striped prison clothes he would wear until his release. As a strong young boy, he was kept alive to work for the Nazis, though he slowly lost strength trying to subsist on a diet of just 800 calories a day.

He believes strongly that it is important to tell his story to all who will listen. “I feel it is my duty,” he explains. “I think about the fact that I am here, and so many are gone – fellow Jews, the soldiers who fought to liberate us. It’s important to tell the story to the world. It’s not just a Jewish story – it’s a human story.”

Asked by the students in a question-and-answer session after he spoke if he felt hatred toward the Germans, Steinberg demurred. “I do not hate the German people,” he explained. “There is nothing to be gained from hatred. I do detest the behavior of criminals of all sorts, but my experience taught me tolerance.”

His experience also taught a substantial lesson to the 130 young people who heard his story that day – one that they won’t soon forget.

## Upcoming Lakewood Recreation Activities And Programs

by Mitchell Robida

**ADULT**  
**Tuesday/Wednesday, Jan 31 & Feb 1**  
Working w/ Computer Files on Windows XP  
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.  
Harding Middle School, Room 320

**Saturday, February 4**  
Pocket Change Interiors-recycle, reuse  
1:00 - 2:30 p.m.  
Harding Middle School, Room 325

**Mondays, February 6 – 27**  
Monday Night Watercolors  
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.  
Rockflower Studio Art & Design  
15707 Madison Avenue

**Tuesday/Wednesday, February 7 & 8**  
Basic Microsoft Word 2007  
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.  
Harding Middle School, Room 320

**Tuesday, February 7th**  
Loving Without a License  
7:00 - 8:00 p.m.  
Garfield Middle School, Room 116

**Tuesday, February 7th**  
Intro to Macrobiotic Diet  
7:00 - 9:00 p.m.  
Harding Middle School, Room 321

**Wednesday, February 8**  
The Coupon Guy  
7:00 - 8:45 p.m.  
Harding Middle School, Room 112

**Fridays, February 10 – March 2**  
Drawing & Painting  
9:00 - 10:30 a.m.  
Rockflower Studio Art & Design  
15707 Madison

**YOUTH**  
**Tuesday, February 7 – 21**  
Kids Can Cook!-Valentine’s Day  
4:00 - 5:00 p.m.  
Harding Middle School, Room 321

**Tuesdays, February 7 – 28**  
Jr. Golf Academy  
6:00 - 7:00 p.m.  
Horace Mann Elementary School, Gym  
Grades K – 8th

**Saturdays, February 11 - March 3**  
Paper Mache’ & Sculpture  
9:00 - 10:30 a.m.  
Rockflower Studio Art & Design  
15707 Madison Avenue  
Ages 6 - 14

Ranger Baseball  
T-Ball, Rookie, Minors & Majors  
Ages 4 - 12  
Early Bird-Register by March 1st \$10 off.  
Registration Deadline is March 31.

**Tuesday/Thursday, Feb 14 – Mar 8**  
Learn to Swim-Shrimps-Pre-School-Levels 1 - 6  
Lakewood High School Indoor Pool

**Monday-Thursday, March 5 – 28**  
Spring Board Diving-Advanced  
6:00 - 7:30 p.m.  
Lakewood High School Indoor Pool

**Monday/Wednesday, March 5 – 28**  
Spring Board Diving-Junior  
6:00 - 7:30 p.m.  
Lakewood High School Indoor Pool

**Friday, February 3**  
Aquatic Special Event-Dive-In Movie- Smurfs  
Inner Tubes and Noodles Available  
Doors Open at 7:30 p.m.

Registration is required for all Lakewood Recreation activities and programs. Some restrictions apply. For more information on the activities and programs listed above please contact (216) 529-4081 or visit us at [www.lakewoodrecreation.com](http://www.lakewoodrecreation.com). Also, do not forget to “like us” on facebook and follow us on twitter.

We would also like to invite the community to participate in our customer survey located in the new recreation booklet. Completing this survey will help us to meet your wants and needs in planning for future recreation and education opportunities in Lakewood.

## Lakewood Catholic Academy Open House Is January 29

by Paul Nickels

Lakewood Catholic Academy (LCA), a pre-K through eighth grade Catholic elementary school in Lakewood serving families across the West Shore, will hold an Open House for prospective families on Sunday, January 29, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at its campus at 14808 Lake Avenue in Lakewood. The Open House corresponds with the beginning of Catholic Schools Week, the annual celebration of Catholic education.

Visitors will receive information about the LCA curriculum, have

the opportunity to tour the lakefront campus and meet the community of teachers, current parents, faculty and staff. LCA Principal Maureen Arbezniak will offer a brief presentation on “The LCA Difference” at 3 p.m. in the school’s St. Augustine Library.

No reservations are necessary to attend the Open House.

For more information, visit the LCA website at [www.lakewoodcatholicacademy.com](http://www.lakewoodcatholicacademy.com) or contact Director of Marketing & Admissions Paul Nickels at 216.521.0559 or by email at [pnickels@lakewoodcatholicacademy.com](mailto:pnickels@lakewoodcatholicacademy.com).

## Barnstormers’ To Tackle Thought-Provoking Production

**continued from page 1**

Ten years after this heinous crime, the producers of the original production ventured back to Laramie on the anniversary of Matthew’s murder. Their purpose? To gaze into the eyes of a community and see what, if any, lasting changes had taken place. The result of that effort is the script, “The Laramie Project: Ten Years Later.” The LHS Barnstormers are proud to produce this

script in an attempt to once again open up a dialogue about issues of perpetual concern to all of us. What have we learned from the events of the past? Are we a more or less tolerant school and community than we were ten years ago?

Tickets will be available in advance for \$3 or at the door for \$5. Call 529-4162 for more information.

Dave Gannon is the adviser for the LHS Barnstormers Drama Club.

## Lakewood Schools To Hold Kindergarten Parent Info Night

by Christine Gordillo

The Lakewood City Schools will be hosting a Kindergarten Parent Information night for parents of preschoolers interested in learning about the District’s kindergarten program. The event will take place on Wednesday, February 22, at 7 p.m. at Hayes Elementary School’s Cafetorium. Hayes is located at 16401 Delaware Ave.

Mark Gleichauf, the District’s Director of Teaching & Learning K-12, will host the evening and review what is addressed in the curriculum, how a typical kindergartener’s day unfolds, what the registration process is, how to determine which school a child will attend and what parents can expect from a Lakewood City Schools’ education. A school nurse will also be in attendance to address any concerns and give a rundown of immunizations required.

Although the event is geared to parents who are unfamiliar with the District’s kindergarten program, anyone is welcome to attend. There will be a question and answer discussion as well. For more information, visit the district web site at [www.lakewoodcityschools.org](http://www.lakewoodcityschools.org) or call 216-529-4074.



# Lakewood Health

## Cleveland Kickers Lakewood Academy Is Back And Taking Spring Over!

by Erin Fach

This year is shaping up to be the year of the Kickers. CKLA (Cleveland Kickers Lakewood Academy), a Lakewood based youth soccer developmental program is aiming big and delivering even bigger this Spring. The girls' side of the program has added three additional teams and is here to make a statement. CKLA Sporting Director and Lakewood High School – Girls Varsity Coach, Vladimir Godosev says, “I couldn’t be more proud of the dedication and progress this organization has made in our first two years. We started with just 5 teams, and now expanded to 12 for Spring.” He adds, “It’s been my dream to get a true developmental youth program going for kids, to not just give them a place

to play, but an environment to learn, grow and experience the beautiful game at high competition.”

CKLA is also helping with the refugees in our area. Together with Asia Inc, the School Board, and Cleveland Catholic Charities – CKLA’s own Bill Gregg has led the way in starting a CKLA based program: Lakewood Soccer United. LSU is a program geared towards helping immigrants and refugees assimilate in Lakewood and Cleveland. Coach Vlad says, “Bill has been a driving force and leader in getting this program going, his passion drives us all. It’s something that we can really take to heart, knowing we can give back to those who have witnessed and been a part of such devastation or hardships. We asked ourselves, what

better way to teach, than by playing the world’s game?”

CKLA’s recent venture is to reach out to the 5-8 year old range in youth soccer. They have started a Premier Developmental Program, which takes kids in at young ages to learn the basics of soccer and put the “fun” back into FUNdamentals. Mr. Godosev says, “We want to take our youth and teach them early on the good habits and let them take the game to new heights. This isn’t about winning or losing at youth ages, it’s about giving kids the proper tools and training for future success. We are starting up our program to feed the future of CKLA and Lakewood Athletes.” PDP starts up this Spring with two training sessions a week, and competitive games once

every two weeks. One can see why the approach of more training, less competing will help encourage growth and learning. “Winning is fun, playing games is fun, but at which point do you say – winning at 9 years old or 5 years old is okay, but it’s because little Jane can run past everyone; however, for some reason when Jane is 13 or 14, everyone is running past her and now Jane is having trouble understanding the game and her skills never really improved, and doesn’t enjoy it as much as when she dominated at 9. That’s because her whole youth career all Jane heard was “run Jane, kick it as hard as you can!!” says Coach Vlad. “What I want to hear is, “Coach, thanks so much, Jane learned how to make an accurate pass 20 yards, the next year she was able to go 40 yards, now she’s chipping it 30 yards, yesterday she curled the ball far post past a diving keeper and she’s only 12.” CKLA’s philosophy encourages development and growth, understanding that the most important winning is academically and at the high school/college levels.

CKLA is covering all aspects of youth soccer to help all ages experience the beautiful game. To help catch up to the rest of the country as well as the world, one player at a time. This isn’t just about soccer, it’s about changing a culture and giving back to a city who’s long been in the shadow of neighboring cities’ soccer youth development. Stay tuned for more great CKLA news to come...we’re sure of it! For more information go to the CKLA website at, [www.cklasoccer.com](http://www.cklasoccer.com).

## Women And Heart Disease

by Margaret Brinich

According to the American Heart Association, heart disease is the number one killer of women in the United States.

### Women’s Symptoms are Different Than Men’s

Women may have different heart attack symptoms than men. Women who develop one or more of the following symptoms while at rest or unexpectedly should seek medical attention immediately. Women need to understand that they, too, are vulnerable for heart disease and delaying treatment can be fatal.

Common symptoms of heart attack in women include:

Cold sweat, shortness of breath,

weakness, unusual fatigue, nausea, dizziness, pain or pressure in the back or chest, pain or discomfort in either or both arms (The pain may be intermittent.), burning sensation in the chest or upper abdomen or irregular heartbeat

Cardiac disease can be prevented in many cases and is very treatable in most. If it’s been awhile since your last cardiac check-up, you should schedule a screening through Fairview or Lakewood Hospitals’ Women’s Preventive Cardiology Clinic. For just \$35, you will be provided various cardiac screenings to evaluate your risk:

Complete lipid profile and blood sugar, blood pressure and heart rate, EKG, Body Mass Index, stress assessment, educational emphasis on

awareness in preventing heart disease in women, thorough history and physical by a cardiac nurse practitioner, referrals to appropriate providers to maintain a healthy lifestyle or smoking cessation programs.


You will receive a personalized cardiac health plan and a referral to any appropriate providers.

For more information, call:

**Fairview Hospital**  
216.476.7932

**Lakewood Hospital**  
216.529.8500


**Lutheran Hospital**  
216.363.5757




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



# Lakewood Cares

## H2O Brings In The New Year With Changes

by Emmie Hutchison

H2O, “Help to Others” will celebrate its twentieth year as a program of the City of Lakewood’s Division of Youth in 2013. It is a program that has grown and blossomed under the leadership of its founder, Celia Dorsch. Effective December 31, 2011 Ceil has retired and it has been a bittersweet farewell for those who worked with her; colleagues in the city, school staff, community leaders, social service agencies – and of course the kids. There have been thousands of kids who have participated in H2O programming and have had the chance to develop as leaders and activists while participating in any or all of the H2O program components.

Celia was hired 22 years ago to be a youth activities coordinator for the Youth Office. Her duties and responsibilities centered around developing meaningful, safe and fun activities for Lakewood youth...and did she ever! She planned dances and games and all kinds of after school and summer social activities, always with the goal of engaging a wide range of adolescents and teens. While attending a Service Learning Conference in Columbus, Ceil and Mary Hall, the assistant Director for the Division of Youth, had a critical realization:

### High School Students Extend LCSC’s Response To Community Need

continued from page 1

H2O.” One resident at the Westerly is so grateful to her “team” that she presented them with hand-knitted winter hats. You can see the proud models in the photo.

On the third Tuesday of each month, the action shifts to Fedor Manor and to the Southwesterly Apartments. Here, student volunteers from St. Edward High School--accompanied by parent volunteers--hit the corridors and elevators of these two buildings to complete door-to-door delivery to 64 units at Fedor Manor and 36 at the Southwesterly, which was the most recent to join the program in December. "This has been a wonderful opportunity for St. Ed's to connect with our neighbors in the Lakewood Community," according to Liam Haggerty, Vice President of Mission Effectiveness

tion: kids didn’t need to be entertained, they needed to be actively involved in their community. Kids could be engaged, valued, learn and have fun through community volunteering... That moment of realization formed the guiding vision of what has become a dynamic, responsive, and treasured program that is still growing.

The service learning will continue! Emmie Hutchison has assumed the role of coordinator, and we are proud to announce that there is a new addition to the team, Vanessa Lange. She comes to H2O with five years of professional and volunteer experience in youth development and service learning. After graduating from the College of Wooster in 2006, Vanessa served as an Americorps VISTA in San Jose, California, where she coordinated a volunteer ESL and citizenship tutoring program for elderly immigrants. Vanessa has also worked as a site manager for an after-school literacy program and, most recently, as a youth development program assistant with Ohio State University Extension’s 4-H program. Outside of work, Vanessa spends her time volunteering with Big Brothers Big Sisters and the Cleveland Metroparks’ Youth Outdoors program.

She is also currently working towards her Master’s Degree in Education at Kent State University. She resides in Lakewood and enjoys hiking, reading, traveling, and exploring the Cleveland area. Her passion for service and working with young adults made her an ideal fit for working with H2O, and we are so pleased to have her on board.

With staffing in place, H2O will continue its after-school, extra-curricular programs at the Middle Schools, February through April. Middle school participants work alongside trained high school volunteers to create service projects to help their community. The high school program calendar is filled with a wide variety of opportunities for kids to actively get involved at including, the Food Bank, Ronald McDonald House, nursing homes, food delivery in collaboration with Lakewood Community Services Center, and daily calls for assistance for local agencies and organizations. In addition, H2O volunteers will be helping at numerous community and school events.

SAVE THE DATE: The annual Breakfast With the Bunny pancake breakfast will be March 31 at Lakewood Park Women’s Pavilion. This event sells out each year, so watch for details in March! Also watch for registration information for H2O’s Middle School Summer Service camp.

While facing the challenges



New addition to the H2O team, Vanessa Lange.

that come with change, we are also embracing the spirit and excitement it can bring. It is a wonderful time to become involved with H2O, and there are plenty of ways to support our year-around programming. For example, we will be kicking off our “For the Kids” campaign in March. With your tax deductible contributions, YOU can help us ensure that these amazing programs will be available for Lakewood youth for another 20 years...

If you have any questions about how to become involved with H2O, call Emmie Hutchison at 529-6045.


Emmie Hutchison is the coordinator of H2O.



St. Edward volunteers unload the first of 64 grocery bags at Fedor Manor, then head off to the Southwesterly.


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Lakewood Cares

Friends Of The Lakewood Dog Park

Opportunities For Enthusiastic Dog Lovers!

by Alanna Faith

How would you answer these questions?

Are you the kind of person who loves dogs?

Do you like to smile and have a good time?

Do you enjoy making new friends and socializing?

Do you have the belief that giving of your time, talents and skills is the “right thing to do” to give back to your community?

Are you the kind of person who has energy, helpful ideas and works well with other people to accomplish goals and to feel self satisfied?

If most of your answers were YES, you’re in good company!

We love dogs! We treat them like family and consider them a blessing in our lives. We smile every day at the antics of our animals and enjoy time spent with our dogs and other “pet parents”. Socializing is what we do! We share a common bond with one another, friendships are formed, relationships have blossomed and we look out for each other. We have a belief that we all need to support our community to keep it safe, clean and enjoyable for everyone.

Come join us for Helping Hands Fest 2012 on Sunday, January 29 from 6:00 - to 8:00 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room of the Lakewood Public Library, 15425 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood.

We are Friends of the Lakewood Dog Park (FLDP), Inc. 501(3)(c) and we’re looking for people just like you!



Friends of the Lakewood Dog Park Volunteers: Mikki Rhoades, Lynne Schroeder, Dave Starcher (left to right).

And just like us! Come join us to discuss opportunities to lend your Helping Hands to sustain and improve the Lakewood Dog Park through volunteerism. Enthusiastic FLDP members and all dog lovers are encouraged to attend.

Want to socialize? Dave boasts,

“We come to Lakewood Dog Park everyday. Bailey, my dog, has her buddies she can’t wait to see and so do I. That’s why I volunteer.”

New to town? A transplant to Lakewood, Kaylee tells us, “The Lakewood Dog Park was a place for

me to meet new, lifelong friends. Park patrons come from so many different backgrounds and are so diverse, yet we all have one thing in common-- the ability to speak ‘dog’. I met my fiancée working on projects with Friends of the Lakewood Dog Park.”

Need to hone your skills or build up your resume? Want to feel fulfilled? Deirdre explains, “Volunteering with FLDP has brought a lot of joy into my, as well as my dog’s, life and that is something I am very grateful for.”

Believe that what you do really does make a difference in the world? Tammy proclaims, “Volunteering is something I’ve done from a young age. I feel very strongly that volunteering is something that everyone should do. Because we use Lakewood Dog Park, we have a responsibility to make sure it is a clean, safe and fun place for our dogs.”

Are you a devoted dog owner? Lynne sums it up, “I volunteer with Friends of the Lakewood Dog Park because it is already a great place to take my dogs and anything I can do to ensure that it continues is well worth it.”

Is your dog the most well-behaved on the block? Are you versed in “dog-speak”? We’ve got a spot for you!

Can you hit a sales quota like nobody else? Is party planning a passion? Do people call you a “fashionista”? Perfect! You’ll fit right in.

Are you affectionately known as an IT geek? Do you have an avocation in the arts? Do you aspire to design or create graphics? Maybe the ad biz is more your style? Marketing geniuses can also apply. Whether you’re a “Boomer” or young fledgling, we appreciate it all!

Bean counters and businesspeople have lots of options too. If you speak “legalese,” can decipher a ledger, navigate a networking event, or are blessed to be able to write an awesome grant proposal, you’ve found your philanthropic “home” with us.

Come join us for Helping Hands Fest 2012 on Sunday, January 29 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room of the Lakewood Public Library, 15425 Detroit Avenue.

Alanna Faith is the President of Friends of the Lakewood Dog Park, Inc.

Beatles Tribute Invades Lakewood To Raise Awareness And Money For Hunger Relief

by Kristel Smith and Jason Weiner

Area musicians and community leaders will take the stage on January 28 at 7 p.m. at the Lakewood Masonic Temple to perform and celebrate the music of the Beatles. All proceeds of this family friendly event, “All You Need is Love (and Food)”, will support the hunger relief efforts of local non-profit Trinity Lakewood Community Outreach (TLCO).

Attendees can expect a casual, fun evening with a coffeehouse atmosphere complete with baked treats and coffee bar included with admission thanks to the Root Café. The night will be capped by an “all-star” performance of All You Need is Love performed by several of our own Lakewood “celebrities.”

Founded in 2009 as the community outreach arm of Trinity Lakewood Church, the mission of TLCO is “fostering a healthier community through collaboration, education and meeting basic needs.” TLCO accomplishes this by providing four community hot meals each month, a free monthly produce distribution (between June and November), a community garden that supports the hot meal program, and

ALL YOU NEED IS LOVE

(AND FOOD)

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(AND ONE CAN OF FOOD)

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OF

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TLCO

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community-based health and wellness programming.

The Lakewood Masonic Temple is located at 15300 Detroit Avenue. Admission is a suggested \$10 dona-

tion and a canned food item. Children under 10 are free. For more information - please contact Jason Weiner, TLCO Vice-Chair and event organizer at 216-394-9695 or jasonhweiner@yahoo.com.

Serving the City of Lakewood

Lakewood Seventh-Day Adventist Church

1382 Arthur Avenue, Lakewood, OH

First Saturday, of the month, Potluck begins 1:15pm

Potluck immediately follows service. Service begins at 11:00am. Bible Study begins at 10:00am

All are welcome any time

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First Friday, of each month, 5pm-7pm, Phone: Laura at 216-406-5620 (after 5pm)

Monetary donations are appreciated. Please make check payable to Lakewood SDA Church

Please send to the above address, attention Treasurer, and note “For Little One’s Ministry”

Dress Up Your Heart 2012

contintued from page 1

Designs Chocolatier and The Avenue Tap House. Advanced tickets may also be purchased from Open Your Heart Committee Members. Your ticket includes appetizers, wine and beer.

For more information, check us out the event facebook or email: dressupyourheart@gmail.com.

Invite your spouse, friends or relatives to wear RED and enjoy a fun and important evening out!

Join the Discussion at: www.lakewoodobserver.com



# Lakewood Cares

## Ministerial Musings: Common Courtesy

by Rev. Dr. John Tamilio III

“Woh — oh, what I want to know, is are you kind?”  
~ The Grateful Dead, “Uncle John’s Band”

His name is Mark. I see him every morning when I drop my son Jay off at school and grab a quick coffee at the convenience store around the corner from my home on the west side of Lakewood.

I thought Mark owned this store and was surprised when I found out he only worked there. In retrospect, I believed Mark was the proprietor of Convenient Food Mart because he takes so much pride in his work.

Mark always smiles at customers and talks with them as if he is an old friend. He makes sure the coun-

ter where patrons can grab a coffee or a slushie is always clean. The shelves are always stocked and neat and every delivery person knows Mark by name — and he knows theirs.

So why a religious article about a clerk at a corner store?

Customer service is a rarity. More often than not when I (and probably you) go to the store, the cashier does not look us in the eye or say a word to us, other than giving us the total of our purchase.

We’re not much better. How often do you talk on your cell phone at the checkout counter and pay no attention to the teenager working for a little over minimum wage or the elderly person who needs the money to pay for necessary prescriptions?

I recently heard former Plain



Dealer and Pulitzer Prize - winning columnist Connie Schultz say that her father used to say that she could tell how good a man was based on how he treated the waitress. How true! Schultz observed that our character can be measured by how we treat those we can easily mistreat: the cashier, the waitress, the hotel maid, the landscaper who speaks broken English.

And then there is Mark.

Mark deserves to be treated with respect not just because he treats others the same way, but, rather, because he is

a human being wonderfully made in the image of God just like you and me. Mark has pride in who he is and what he does and shares that with everyone he meets. That is a value more of us need to possess.

Life is hard enough. The dour economy finds us counting every penny and tolerating maltreatment and exploitation at the hands of superiors so that we can keep our jobs. In school our children are polarized and harassed for the grotesque pleasure of the bully who never learned the Golden Rule. There’s drug abuse, crime, domestic violence, looming environmental catastrophes — do we have to be rude, cruel, and selfish as well? Do we?

Those on the right and left speak of Christian values, and we often disagree on what those values are. The right claims that the right to life is a Christian value. The left argues that a woman’s right to choose takes moral precedence. Although not mutually exclusive, the abortion issue polarizes those on each side of the sanctuary. The same can be said about capital punishment, same gender marriage, militarism, health care, immigration — you name it.

But common courtesy and mutual respect? Aren’t those values we all share? I know Mark does. He does so every day. I can only pray that I do, too.

John Tamilio III, Ph.D. is the religious columnist for The Lakewood Observer. He is also the Senior Pastor of Pilgrim United Church of Christ in the Tremont neighborhood of Cleveland.

## NCHM To Offer Appointments At Westown Physician Center

by Jeanie Gergel

Beginning January 25, 2012, North Coast Health Ministry (NCHM), a free clinic serving the low-income uninsured, will offer primary care appointments at the Westown Physician Center at 10654 Lorain Avenue in Cleveland. Appointments must be scheduled in advance and will take place on Wednesday and Thursday mornings beginning at 8:30 a.m.

“Our provision of care at this site will allow us to bring care closer to some of our patients in the city of Cleveland,” says NCHM Executive Director Lee Elmore. “Many of our patients have transportation issues, and our hope is that, by offering our services in this in

this area, more low-income, uninsured patients will be able to readily access the care they need, despite the transportation challenges they face.”

The space at Westown Physician Center is being donated for use by Fairview Hospital. North Coast Health Ministry will also continue to provide patient care at its primary location at 16110 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood five days per week.

“We are extremely grateful to Fairview Hospital for their donation of this space and their commitment to meeting the health needs of the underserved in the community,” says Elmore.

Individuals receiving care at either the Westown or Lakewood locations must be registered patients of North

Coast Health Ministry. North Coast Health Ministry serves people earning up to 250 percent of the federal poverty level (income level varies based on family size) within 17 zip codes in northwestern Cuyahoga or northeastern Lorain counties. To become a patient, interested individuals should call 216-228-7878.

### About North Coast Health Ministry

North Coast Health Ministry is the West Side’s free clinic for the low-income uninsured, serving approximately 2,700 patients who have no other route to health care. With the support of 120 volunteer physicians, nurses and other caregivers, NCHM is able to provide primary health care, specialty referrals, prescription assistance, behavioral health care and social service referrals to the medically underserved. NCHM strives to be the medical home for its patients providing preventive care and chronic disease management as well as care for acute illnesses and injuries. Founded in 1986, North Coast Health Ministry is a vital part of the health care safety net on Greater Cleveland’s West Side. NCHM’s primary location is at 16110 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood, Ohio.

## Team Lakewood’s First Annual Chili Cookoff

by Maggie Robinson

Our Howard Hanna Team Lakewood is asking for your help and your attendance to judge the many versions of our agent’s home-made Chili!

## Musicians Fill Honors

continued from page 7

added another feather in her cap besides the OMEA festival, as she and her director, Julie Tabaj, traveled to Bowling Green the weekend of January 20 for Marjanovic, who plays flute and piccolo, to perform in the university’s Middle Schools Honors Band as part of Bowling Green’s annual Band Music Reading and Directors Clinic. Each January, hundreds of middle- and high school band members, their teachers and directors converge at BGSU for the event.

Congratulations to all the talented musicians!

What a wonderful opportunity in the middle of February to taste and see what you like AND support this charity. Many Lakewood residents and businesses came out in December to support the Annual Children’s Free Care Fund Event at the Carlyle, and we had our most successful event ever. This year we are starting early! Please come with your family and friends to the Howard Hanna office right here in Lakewood!

There will be HOT HOT chili, and meaty chili and vegetarian chili and chicken chili, green chili and more! Bring your sweetheart on the 16th of February, have a great meal, and show your love for the little ones who need free healthcare throughout the year!

We look forward to seeing you on Feb 16 from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. We’re right here in Lakewood, we’re Howard Hanna...local AND Green! Call us for reservations at 216-221-6585 or just come on over to 1495 Warren Rd (next to Speedway and the Post Office –park in the back) and have yourself a bowl!

Lord, make me  
a good and  
chaste Christian,  
but not yet.  
-St. Augustine

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# “Acutely Aware” Fundraiser Benefits Beck Dance Education

by Fran Storch

Back by popular demand, author Laura Viccarone returns to the Beck Center to share her collection of humorous short stories entitled “Acutely Aware,” at a fundraising event on Friday, January 27 at 7 p.m. in Beck’s Studio Theater. Viccarone’s last performance at Beck sold out, so plan to buy your tickets early and join us for this 21-and-over event.

The entertaining evening includes a pre-show reception with hors d’oeuvres and a complimentary drink, followed by Viccarone’s one-woman show at 8 p.m., and desserts after the performance. All proceeds benefit the Dance Alliance of Beck Center (DABC), a volunteer group which provides support for students in the Dance program at the Beck Center. Tickets are \$25 and may be purchased online at [beckcenter.org](http://beckcenter.org) or by calling 216-521-2540 x10.

DABC will also host a bake sale

Saturday, Feb. 11 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Beck Center’s main lobby. Proceeds from the sale will be used to help offset costume expenses for Beck Dance Education’s upcoming production of Sleeping Beauty, April 27 through 29. Plan to stop by Beck and pick up some delicious homemade treats baked by DABC members.

Beck Dance Education will offer an Afro-Latin Rhythm master class with Susana Evert on Saturday, February 11 from 4:15 to 6:00 p.m. in the Music-Armory Building. Evert, a world-class Latina instructor, dancer and choreographer, will teach students basic Latin rhythms including salsa, meringue, samba, and rumba. No partner is required. Cost for the class is \$15 per person. Students may register online at [beckcenter.org](http://beckcenter.org) or call 216.521.2540 x10.

Congratulations to Beck Dance Education students Taylor Gerrasch and Julia Horner who represented the

center at the Youth America Grand Prix ballet competition last month in Chicago. Gerrasch and Horner competed in the senior contemporary category, performing solos choreographed by Antwon Duncan and Anna Roberts and both placed very well in this prestigious competition. A highlight of the weekend included a day of instruction by international master teachers and choreographers. This is the fourth year Beck Center dance students have participated in this event.

It’s not too late to register for the winter/spring semester at the Beck Center. Classes begin the week of January 30. With more than 200 classes, lessons and programs to choose from, students can learn how to dance, sculpt, play an instrument, or even try a hand at improv. Beck Center’s winter/spring semester offers returning favorites and exciting new offerings such as Broadway “Glee” Club, Cut Paper Illustration, Kids-N-Tunes, Hip Hop,

Suzuki Violin, Public Speaking, Tone & Stretch, and Family Clay Time - to name just a few.

A complete class catalog and easy online registration can be found at [beckcenter.org](http://beckcenter.org) or call Customer Service at 216.521.2540 x10. Classes fill up quickly, so don’t wait, sign up today! Private music lessons in all band and orchestral instruments are also available and registration is ongoing throughout the year. To learn more or to schedule private lessons, call the Music Office at 216.521.2540 x37.

Located at 17801 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood, the Beck Center for the Arts ([beckcenter.org](http://beckcenter.org)) 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.

## “Spring Awakening” Rocks Beck Main Stage: Collaboration Brings BW Music Theatre Program To Lakewood

by Fran Storch

In collaboration with Baldwin-Wallace College Music Theatre Program, the Beck Center for the Arts presents the Tony Award-winning rock musical, “Spring Awakening,” Feb. 3 through March 4 on the Mackey Main Stage. Show times are 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 3 p.m. Sundays. Tickets are now on sale.

Directed by Victoria Bussert, director of Music Theatre at Baldwin-Wallace College, “Spring Awakening” features Equity actors Scott Plate and Laura Perrotta as the adult male and female characters with a talented cast of 17 young actors from BW’s nationally recognized music theatre program. “I am thrilled about this initial collaboration between the Beck Center and Baldwin-Wallace,” exclaimed Bussert, “especially on such a ground-breaking piece in American musical theater.”

Based on the controversial play by Frank Wedekind, “Spring Awakening” explores with passion and poignancy

the turbulent journey from adolescence to adulthood. This landmark musical swept the 2007 Tony Awards, winning eight out of its eleven nominations, including Best Musical and Best Score. With book and lyrics by Steven Sater and music by Duncan Sheik, “Spring Awakening” is an exhilarating mix of morality, sexuality, and rock & roll including hard-hitting songs like “Mamma Who Bore Me,” “My Junk,” and “The Bitch of Living.”

Set against the backdrop of a repressive and provincial late 19th-century Germany, “Spring Awakening”

tells the timeless story of teenage self-discovery and budding sexuality as seen through the eyes of a group of schoolmates. Haunting and provocative, “Spring Awakening” examines a myriad of taboo social issues including child abuse, incest and suicide. This production includes adult language and nudity and is recommended for mature audiences ages 17 and older.

Tickets are \$28 for adults, \$25 for seniors (65 and older) and \$17 for students (with valid ID). An additional \$3 service fee per ticket is applied at the time of purchase. Preview Night on

Thursday, Feb. 2 is \$10 with general admission seating. Group discounts are available for parties of 13 or more. Purchase tickets online at [beckcenter.org](http://beckcenter.org) or call Customer Service at 216.521.2540, ext. 10. 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 “Spring Awakening” is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI) and is sponsored by Cuyahoga Arts and Culture and the Ohio Arts Council.

## A Local Talent With National Connections

by Kathleen Vagi

Ever wonder what it would be like to appear in a movie with Jake Gyllenhaal, Rob Lowe or Joe Pesci? One Lakewood woman has had the pleasure of those experiences. Her name is Jean Zarzour, actor of film, stage, television

and radio.

An actor for over 25 years, Jean has been featured in “Love and Other Drugs” with Jake Gyllenhaal, “Proximity” with Rob Lowe and James Coburn, “The Public Eye” with Joe Pesci, and many other movies.

This multi-talented lady can also sing. Most recently, Jean appeared in the role of Belle Carroca in “My Favorite Year” at the Beck Center and was a national understudy in the roles of Earth Mother and Power Woman in “Menopause The Musical” at several theaters nationwide, and at the 14th St. Theater in downtown Cleveland.

How does someone from Lakewood, Ohio wind up in several Hollywood and other national productions, and what was it like? Jean says, “It isn’t easy. It takes a lot of hard work, perseverance, and ongoing instruction. You also have to love the journey because, no matter how talented you are, so much of it is filled with rejection. Like any job, it’s first a matter of establishing solid relationships and

then it’s a numbers game - the more you audition and market yourself, the more work you’ll get. What is it like? Like winning the Lottery! Not quite as much money, but so thrilling!”

Bringing her craft to the small screen, Jean was a featured actor in “Detroit 187” with Michael Imperioli (The Sopranos) and has appeared in television ads for such organizations as the Cleveland Cavaliers, JC Penney and The Ohio Lottery, just to name a few. According to Jean, whether landing local jobs or Hollywood movie roles, hard work, perseverance, and ongoing instruction are paramount to success. Jean has been sharing this formula with students for over 15 years at other Arts Organizations from Cleveland to England, and for five years in Lakewood through Find Your Voice - a Voice Acting Institute. Classes run for eight weeks, beginning Feb. 6th, and are forming now. Here’s the link: <http://findyourvoice-voiceactinginstitute.blogspot.com>, or give her a call at 216.521.3831.

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## Lakewood Business

# Laskey CPA Buys Revelations Building On Detroit

by John Murphy

Laskey CPA, a public accounting firm with nine employees, has purchased the property at 15514 Detroit Avenue that formerly housed Revelations Salon & Spa. Timothy P. Laskey paid \$250,000 for the property and plans to invest about \$50,000 renovating the duplex before moving into the building in May 2012.

"This will be a great location for us," said Laskey. "It will give us room

to hire additional employees in the future. There is a lot of investment being made in Lakewood, and we're excited to be moving into an area with positive growth and development."

Laskey CPA will change its name to Laskey Costello at the time of the move to reflect the addition of Cindy Costello, Laskey's youngest daughter and a CPA, as a partner in the firm. Laskey CPA provides accounting services to businesses and nonprofits,

estate planning and individual income tax preparation.

Laskey sold his building on Madison Avenue to Stone's Throw Properties LLC for Lakewood attorney Maria L. Shinn in December 2011 for \$158,000. Shinn specializes in probate and estate administration, elder law and services to non-traditional families. Like Laskey, Shinn wanted more space to grow her law practice.

"I'm very committed to Lakewood

and am looking forward to moving into Bird Town," Shinn said. "This move is a great opportunity for me to further develop my practice."

"These moves are a perfect example of companies and individuals using their creativity for adaptive re-use of properties," said Lakewood Mayor Mike Summers. "Maria Shinn, Laskey CPA and Revelations all chose to stay in Lakewood, and all are making a big bet on their future. Each business owner is investing in their vision, and I couldn't be more pleased to have them here."

Summers predicts the next ten years will be breakout years for the city. Statistics show that Lakewood's average age is 36, four years younger than the county's average. The city also has a higher percentage of college graduates and is ideally located for businesses with easy access to the airport, downtown and major highways.

## Planning Is January's Theme At The Lakewood Chamber Of Commerce

by Valerie Mechenbier

The Lakewood Chamber of Commerce began its one-hundred and first year of serving the greater Lakewood business community by hosting marketing & motivational speaker Katherine Miracle of Miracle Resources at their January monthly meeting and luncheon at Brennan's Catering & Banquet Center, sponsored by DMS Management Solutions. In keeping with the Chamber's January theme of "Planning", Ms. Miracle captivated and engaged the audience in a discussion of Planning for a Strong 2012. From branding to marketing to public relations to revenue development, Ms. Miracle is an accomplished businessperson who has done it, who teaches it, and who gave audience members spe-

cific take-aways so that they could be on a successful path for 2012.

Also on the subject of Planning, discussions have begun regarding a 2012 Lakewood Criterium. Last year's event - the first Criterium race in Northeast Ohio - was well-run and well-received, and members of Team Spin, the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce, and the City of Lakewood are looking for input to make this year's event even better. West End residents and business owners are invited to an informational meeting regarding a 2012 Lakewood Criterium event. The meeting will be held on Saturday, January 28, at 7 p.m. at St. Peter's Episcopal Church (18001 Detroit Avenue). Lakewood Criterium committee members would like to hear from residents and business owners on

the following streets within and bordering the 2011 race loop: Sloane, Edanola, Park Row, Phelps, Scenic, W. Clifton, Kenilworth, Rio, Gridley, Graber, 1300-1550 Riverside, Maile, Owego, Owego Ct., Mathews, and 18000+ Detroit. For info and photos from the 2011 Lakewood Criterium, go to [www.lakewoodcriterium.com](http://www.lakewoodcriterium.com).

Lastly, networking is critical to success in the business community and should be a key component of every businessperson's plan for 2012. The Lakewood Chamber of Commerce presents two fabulous networking opportunities to kick off the new year: the Northern Ohio Area Chambers of Commerce (NOACC) Great Big Chamber Networking event at the Great Big Home & Garden Show at the I-X Center on February 7, and the annual "Business After Hours" networking event with members of the Rocky River Chamber of Commerce at Deagan's Kitchen + Bar on February 15 (sponsored by Cox Business). Call the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce at 216-226-2900 for more information about these two tremendous face-to-face marketing opportunities.

For more info on upcoming events and how to get involved with the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce, go to [www.lakewoodchamber.org](http://www.lakewoodchamber.org), and find us on Facebook!

## Did You Know...

When you purchase at locally-owned businesses, more money is kept in the community because locally-owned businesses often purchase from other local businesses and service providers!

### Chamber Spotlight:

## DMS Management Solutions

Lakewood Chamber member DMS Management Solutions offers a comprehensive range of services and solutions to meet the needs of growing businesses. This Lakewood firm assists small- to mid-sized businesses in the areas of Accounts Payable, Accounts Receivable, Banking/Cash Management, Billing, Budgeting & Strategic Planning, Financial Reporting, Payroll, HR/Benefits Administration, and more. It's that time of year - time to close the books on 2011 and plan for a strong 2012, and Mike DeStefano can help. Call Mike at 440-799-4615.

## Lakewood Chamber Of Commerce Upcoming Events

### Saturday, January 28

2012 Lakewood Criterium Neighborhood Meeting

**St. Peter's Episcopal Church**  
**18001 Detroit Avenue 7 p.m.**

### Wednesday, February 15

Lakewood and Rocky River Chambers of Commerce Business After Hours Networking Event- Cash bar

*Sponsored by Cox Business*

**Deagan's Kitchen + Bar**  
**14810 Detroit Avenue,**  
**5:30 p.m.- 7 p.m.**

### Friday, February 24

Monthly Meeting: 6th Annual Outstanding Work Ethic Awards Luncheon

\$15 members, \$20 non-members

**Women's Pavilion**  
**14532 Lake Avenue,**  
**11:30 a.m.- 1 p.m.**

## And Then There Was One

by Anne and Jack Palomaki

Do these names sound familiar? Barry, Biles, DeLorean, Fairchild, Ganley, Guthery Schreiber, Hale Zupan, Koepke, LaRiche, Lossman, Marc Lance, and Spitzer. They may not be if you were born after 1980. These new and/or used car dealerships dotted the Lakewood landscape for many years. Now only one full service dealership remains in Lakewood, Steve Barry Buick, located at 16000 Detroit Avenue.

How has Steve Barry Buick continued to thrive after 57 years? Owner Steve Barry says, "We're a family-oriented business that depends on our customers for our longevity and our success." Complete customer satisfaction in every transaction has been the goal since the family dealership was established in 1975.

From 1955 to 1966, father Ste-

phen R. Barry was a Lincoln-Mercury dealer. In 1966, he bought Biles Buick which was located in the Detroit Avenue building which now serves as the office of U.S. Congressman Dennis Kucinich. Mr. Barry died in 1991 at the age of 67. His four sons and two daughters have carried the "family tradition" since that time. St. Edward High School graduates Steve, Mark, and Bruce operate the dealership now. Longtime Service Manager Al Ballas and his ASE and GM certified technicians offer complete service for all GM models and makes. "Like New" repairs are available at the collision center across the street. A good selection of pre-owned vehicles is also available in the lot on the south side of Detroit.

The dealership is also an engaged supporter of community activities. They are supporters of the

Lakewood YMCA. The Lakewood Chamber of Commerce has honored them for their long-time membership. They have always encouraged Lakewood youth with their participation in the Halloween "Window painting" project. Barry Buick also has an annual Christmas meal and celebration for current and former customers. In return, the customers bring donations for the Lakewood Community Service Center. Barry Buick has contributed to Lakewood High and St. Edward Sports programs, and have generously given door prizes to neighborhood church groups.

The corporate trend to high volume mega-dealerships often results in inconvenience to customers who must travel a significant distance for sales and service. Lakewood is fortunate to have a dedicated, customer oriented,

centrally located dealership that has the respect and trust of so many loyal customers.

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## Why Buy Local?

by Christin Sorensen

Years ago, it was commonplace to go to the corner store to buy your groceries. The neighborhood hardware store was the go-to place for everything you might need to complete a home improvement project. Your wardrobe was bought from the local department store you had been shopping at since

you were a child. But then the “big box stores” moved in and people stopped shopping local. So convenient to go to one place and get everything you needed, right? Wrong! Product quality and customer service were two of the most important factors that fell by the wayside. Small businesses began to flounder. That is why in 2009 the 3/50

project was born. Their tagline is, “Saving the brick and mortars our nation is built on.”

Their mission is simple: get people to pick three of their favorite local businesses and spend \$50 between all of them each month. Lakewood is filled with so many great small businesses to frequent, everything from independent record & book stores to excellent restaurants can be found all along the main thoroughfares. \$50 is a meal out and then perhaps a birthday gift for a favorite friend. Such an easy concept that makes a huge impact. For every \$100 spent at small, independently-owned businesses, \$68 of that money stays right in the town the shop is located in. Spend the same amount at a “big box store” and less than \$48 stays in the community.

Shop owners depend on the residents to keep them in mind when making purchases. With the competition from “big box stores,” locally-owned shops set themselves apart by offering outstanding customer service. Each and every customer is important and is treated accordingly because return business is key.

The Buy Lakewood program is currently being revamped to offer even more incentive to buy local. “5% off Fridays” is just one of the perks that will be offered. Each participating shop will proudly display the new logo in their window, letting the customers



know to expect quality products and outstanding service. Buying locally-made goods and supporting small business is more important now than ever before. Lakewood is filled with so many unique places to shop, you truly never have to leave the city limits to find everything you need!

Chris Sorensen is the owner of Crafty Goodness on Madison Avenue.

## Letter To The Editor

Dear Lakewood Observer Editor,

I have been going to the Convenient store on Madison Avenue for years. Service is always good.

The owner, Neil McReynolds, showed me a letter he got from Chief of Police Timothy J. Malley. The letter said the police Narcotics/Vice unit did “compliance inspections” on December 2, 2012, trying to identify stores that sold alcohol to underage kids.

The letter said Neil’s store was among those that refused to sell to underage buyers, and the Chief thanked Neil.

When Neil showed me the letter, I congratulated him, but he said congratulations weren’t necessary. “Lakewood is my home and it’s home to my business. The last thing we need is some drunk teenager wrecking a car or killing someone.” He said his staff is well trained and if anyone is to get credit, it is them.

Just one more reason I go to Convenient Food Mart.

Yours truly,

Leo Cantrelle  
Morrison Avenue




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Lakewood Opinion

# We Know You Didn't Mean To Kill Our Cat!

by Jeff Worron

It was an accident. You were driving down Lake Avenue on Thursday evening, January 12, at about 6:30 or 7:00 p.m. That's when Snowball ran out into the street and was struck by your car. Needless to say, he is dead. We know you didn't mean to hit him. It was probably unavoidable. It just happened.

But what you did next was avoidable. In those few split seconds after your car hit him, you realized what had just happened. And that's when you made a choice. Instead of stopping to check on the cat or taking just a few minutes to find out where he lived, you chose to just keep going. Perhaps you were in a hurry to get home. Maybe you had somewhere to be. Or perhaps you just didn't care. After all....it was just a cat, right?

Except it wasn't just a cat. Snowball was our cat. He belonged to our whole family. He was part of our family. He was the love of our 9-year-old daughter's life.

Had you stopped, you would have seen that he was wearing a collar that had his name, his address and his telephone number. In fact, you hit him right in front of our house. Had you stopped, you would have learned that Snowball was a special cat. We know that all pet owners think that their pet is special, but Snowball really was. We always said that he was more like a dog than a cat. If you had stopped, we would have told you that all or our friends and neighbors loved Snowball. You would have learned that my daughter named him Snowball because he was all white.

You see, we do not blame you for hitting Snowball that day. We knew and accepted the risks of having an indoor and outdoor cat. When we moved onto this street just a year ago, we knew that his life would probably be cut short by a car on busy Lake Avenue. But we continued to let him go out because Snowball loved going out to play and visit our neighbors. Snowball was only 4 years old when he died, but he lived those four years to the fullest. Whether it was climbing the tree in the front yard so that he could get on the garage roof and peek into our bedroom window, helping us rake leaves by jumping into the pile, playing hide and seek by hiding under the tarp, or lying down on his back to get his belly tickled when he heard our car pull into the driveway, Snowball loved life.

Had you stopped, we would have not only shared with you these stories about why we loved Snowball so much, but we would have thanked you for doing the right thing and letting us know that Snowball was hit and laying in the middle of Lake Avenue. It was after all, just an accident!

But you didn't. You drove on leaving him lying in the middle of the road. So, someone else did for you what you should have done. You see since it was a Thursday night, it was the night that our neighborhood puts its trash out for pick-up the next morning. Luckily, we have wonderful neighbors, one



The beloved Snowball!

of whom noticed Snowball lying in the road and went to investigate. When they saw it was in fact Snowball, they came and knocked on our door. It was cold and it was raining that night. It would have been far easier for them

to ignore him. But, instead they took the time to let us know what happened. They spared us and especially our daughter from the agony of either not knowing what happened to him or of finding him in far worse condition

after lying in the road where he would have been susceptible to other cars.

In case you were wondering (which I doubt you are), we are going to have a small ceremony for Snowball today and bury him under the tree that he loved to climb. We are very grateful to our kind neighbors who by doing the right thing (which you should have done), allowed us the opportunity to make that happen.

By the way, we also are using this unfortunate incident as a teaching moment. Even though we know that your hitting Snowball was an accident, we nonetheless are teaching our daughter that even though accidents do happen, it's how you handle yourself and what you do after an accident that matters. In a world where we tend to think of ourselves first and others second, there is still room to "do the right thing."

We love you Snowball and will miss you very much!

Love Jeff, Torey, Tully and Grandma Jiggs.

## Yard Signs Have Wrong Emphasis

by Robert Sedlak

Each fall for the past few years, bright yellow tree-lawn signs have proliferated throughout Lakewood, indicating that we should "BRAKE 4 KIDS". Though a well-intentioned slogan and suggestion, designed to protect our children from the harm imposed by reckless and irresponsible drivers, I feel we may be missing the mark. A small percentage of Lakewood's population is affected by traffic mishaps, and is certainly something to be avoided, but a much larger disservice is done to our children through parent non-involvement with a child's education. If we compare the number of children that are hit by a car, versus the number of children who have no motivation for success in the classroom, I am sure the second scenario would have the overwhelming numbers. There are plenty of studies that indicate parent involvement in a child's education does have an impact. Encouragement, support, help, and direction to our children's success in school should bring favorable results, if

everyone would participate. The article below was written 22 years ago, but the message is the same today.

The research overwhelmingly demonstrates that parent involvement in children's learning is positively related to achievement. Further, the research shows that the more intensively parents are involved in their children's learning the more beneficial are the achievement effects. This holds true for all types of parent involvement in children's learning and for all types and ages of students.

Looking more closely at the research, there are strong indications that the most effective forms of parent involvement are those which engage parents in working directly with their children on learning activities in the home. Programs which involve parents in reading with their children, supporting their work on homework assignments, or tutoring them using materials and instructions provided by teachers, show particularly impressive results.

"Parent Involvement in Educa-

tion", Kathleen Cotton and Karen Reed Wikeland, May 1989

Maybe the yellow signs directed at miscreant drivers should instead be directed at those who guide our young people in the pursuit of knowledge. A clever marketing firm should be able to design a slogan and a colorful poster directed towards the goal of helping our children succeed in the classroom. The "Stop Smoking" campaigns over the past decades have successfully curtailed the numbers who smoke. A similar campaign encouraging success in the classroom is certainly worth a concerted effort on our part to impact a positive change.

With all the current conversation about education, maybe this is one way to get the conversation started in our community. As much as the teachers have an impact on students, the crucible of the home environment is far more powerful.

Robert Sedlak is a Mathematics and Pre-Engineering teacher at Lakewood High School.

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# The Lakewood Observer Project 2012

## Links - Highlighted

The Lakewood Observer has one of the most complete sets of LINKS that Lakewoodites should be aware of or can use. If you have a LINK for your business, non-profit, or whatever please send it in and it might be highlighted here: <http://lakewoodobserver.com/links/>



### Gyroscopethattakesyouplaces

Gyroscopethattakesyouplaces is about people, places, and things in Cleveland, Ohio. The people are artists, musicians, writers, and thinkers. The places are neighborhoods, mostly in and around Cleveland. The things are mostly made here, too. Some of the things were not made here. Those are mostly bicycles. A bicycle is a gyroscope that takes you places. Gyroscopethattakesyouplaces is written by Michael Gill, a writer, editor, wood block printer, and a bicyclist.

## From The Photo Blogs

Check out the Lakewood Observer Photo Galleries at: <http://lakewoodobserver.com/photoblogs>  
Where many of Lakewood’s best, combine with some of our newest photogrpahers to share their images of Lakewood and what Lakewoodites are doing around the world! Isn’t it time you started yours?



Bruce White from Cheyenne, Wyoming standing in front of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in protest. Bruce came in with friends from Wyoming but would not step on the RRHOF property in protest. Bruce thought it was outrageous that RUSH with 22 Gold Albums, and 18 Platinum Records was not in the Hall. He thought maybe because they were never in fights, never broke up, and stayed married to their wives, Cleveland and the Rock Hall, thought they were unfit. This was taken while Bruce’s friend went through the Rock Hall. As I walked away he yelled, “Tiny Tim is in the Rock Hall but not RUSH? WTF?” Hard to argue with that one.

### Chris Perry Teeters On The Edge of A Black Swan Event

Bill Call - Posted: Sun Jan 15, 2012 11:19 am

Chris Perry’s article in the most recent Observer offers a lot to think about: [http://lakewoodobserver.com/read/2012/0 ...](http://lakewoodobserver.com/read/2012/0...) everything  
This caught my eye:  
“Change is coming to Lakewood, but how much and in what form will often come from outside forces”. Obvious, simple, and very insightful.

On Wednesday I found myself driving around Cuyahoga County delivering odds and ends to job sites and applying for permits. As I drove through Berea, North Olmsted and Parma I noticed a lot of neighborhoods in distress, a lot of vacant store fronts and a lot of houses that have seen better days. I was reminded again that Lakewood is in much better shape than many surrounding communities and in a better position to prosper.  
Except....  
As Chris pointed out: “The fact that we have.. flat-lined as a regional population=base ...while at the same time paved over 25% more land... is a blow to our regional sustainability”.  
The real question is: Even if Lakewood does everything right how can we compete in a region with declining population when regional and governing institutions are doing their best to empty the central core?

Chris Perry - Posted: Tue Jan 17, 2012 9:54 pm

Thanks for taking an interest in my article and using it to launch this thread.  
Good to know that some people take some curiosity into what I have to say. ...

## From the LO Observation Deck

Good Neighbors Talking Over The Digital Fence About Life In And Around Lakewood, Ohio

Topic.....	Author .....	Posts .	Count...	Last Response
Why are the traffic lights being taken down?.....	Betsy Voinovich .....	25 .....	1329	
Kauffman Park Snow Sculpting Contest .....	Meg Ostrowski .....	6 .....	173	
Warning Siren .....	Grace O’Malley.....	1 .....	145	
If Your Car Looks Like This.....	Jim O’Bryan.....	3 .....	426	
Chris Perry Teeters On The Edge .....	Bill Call.....	14 .....	606	
of A Black Swan Event				
The Snow is Finally Here...Clear the Way!.....	Kristine Pagsuyoin ..	5 .....	376	
How hard is it to get the fireplace working? .....	Betsy Voinovich .....	1 .....	171	
Trees in jeopardy .....	John Palmer.....	3 .....	407	
Murder On Waterbury - Lakewood Police Update	Jim O’Bryan.....	62 .....	3777	
And Now For Something Completely Different ..	Jim O’Bryan.....	16 .....	1906	
Lakewood Kiwanis Pizza Bake-Off .....	Ryan Salo.....	1 .....	104	
Off January 27th 5-8pm				
Shameless Plugs - Part II.....	Matthew John Markling.....	30 .....	1893	

### Why are the traffic lights being taken down?

Betsy Voinovich - Posted: Thu Jan 12, 2012 12:37 pm

Hi all,  
I’ve been seeing the notices that the traffic lights at Detroit and Mars, Detroit and Manor Park and Detroit and Hall are going to be removed. Why is this? As a person who does a lot of walking to the library and Drug Mart, etc, I feel that it’s hard enough to get across the street during business hours with the lights that we have. There will be more traffic at Hall if there is a McDonalds near there, why would we want (or need) fewer traffic lights?  
Can anybody give me some information about why this is happening?

robert klann - Posted: Thu Jan 12, 2012 2:22 pm

I was not aware (Manor park and Detroit) until my daughter told me so I emailed members of the council  
Response below  
From: Juris, Shawn [mailto:Shawn.Juris@lakewoodoh.net]  
Sent: Thursday, January 12, 2012 11:58 AM  
To: rklann; Bullock, Tom; Nowlin, Ryan; Powers, Brian; Smith, Monique  
Subject: RE: safety - student crossing - removal of signal  
Good Afternoon Mr. Klann,  
Yes, the light at Manor Park is scheduled to be removed permanently on February 15th as part of Phase 2 of the Detroit Signalization project.  
Shawn Juris  
City Council Ward 3

Edward Favre - Posted: Fri Jan 19, 2012 10:09 am

In the 1980s, when the current signals were put up, some were eliminated. The City argued the points, however Hall/Detroit and Victoria/Madison were eliminated. The City had to reinstall those at City expense.  
  
The problem was that the State employed out-of-town traffic firms that did not know the City of Lakewood. They used a one-size-fits-all, cookie-cutter approach that counted cars and not people. It was amazing they discounted the traffic light right in front of the entrance to Detroit Theater, which was showing kid matinees at the time.

Isn’t it time you became part of the discussion? Isn’t it time we discuss what is good about Lakewood like adults? Using real names, talking like real people. Lakewood Observer, pushing the Lakewood envelope of discussion for 8-years. Real people, real issues, 24/7/365



Andrew Brickman and Gina Cole at 11 River, looking across the river to Lakewood, Ohio. Andrew is the developer of both 11 River and Clifton Pointe!



## Lakewood Living

# Josh Rosso: *Leaving The Car In The Dust*

by Erika Durham

Josh Rosso lost his car keys.

Then his license plates expired.

Not that he was using his car too much before that happened, but Josh has made his mind up to leave his car sitting exactly where it is, and use his bike to get literally everywhere he needs to go.

That bike is almost a point of contention among a few different people though. The bike itself is super slick and efficient, it's a fixed gear Fuji Track Pro, black and red, and looks super stylistic. The problem that some people (such as Josh's mom, and a few friends of his) have is that Josh rides this bike without any brakes, and also without any toe clips. If you think this is crazy, you're kind of right...he might be one of three people I know who ride a fixed gear without at least an emergency brake. But that's the way he likes it, that's how he's comfortable, and that's how he gets from point A to point B as fast as his very strong calves can get him. I will say though, to Josh's sanity, I've never seen him ride without a helmet.

I had the distinct pleasure of "racing" (using that term lightly, as I was just nearby when this started) Josh and his roommate Lenny up the east side of the Detroit/Superior bridge during a Cleveland Critical Mass ride over the summer. I thought I might be holding



Josh, getting ready for a snowy ride to work.

my own until about a third of the way up the bridge, when Josh's crazy sprinting speed powered him and his Fuji

well beyond my reach. Josh is hardcore.

But let's get back to Josh not using his car. He lives in Lakewood,



but works at Crocker Park. That means he does at least 14 miles a day round trip, no matter what the weather. We've had a mild winter so far, but just this morning I ran into Josh about to ride to work in some brutally cold and slushy conditions. He was ready.

Just to prove that Josh hasn't slipped yet up to this point, when I asked him if there is a bus that can take him to work, he couldn't answer me... he doesn't know because he hasn't not ridden his bike yet.

Josh not only uses the Fuji to get him to where he needs to go, he also estimates that about a third of his free time is also spent riding his bike, whether it's a valley ride, a ride to meet up with friends, or a quick little jaunt out to Cleveland Heights for breakfast. I'm not kidding.

He started riding regularly in high school, when he was living in Avon. While Josh's main concern for cyclists is mutual respect between drivers and bikers alike, he did say that Lakewood is distinctly ahead of many other local cities when it comes to safety. Drivers seem much more aware here, cyclists tend to obey the rules of the road more often than not. Bottom line, for all of the cities Josh rides in, he feels the most comfortable in Lakewood. While there's always room for improvement, it makes me happy to hear an avid cyclist compliment our city so well. After all, Josh is also part of that improvement, simply by being out there every day.

Josh's dream job is to be a bike messenger, and he's excited to see the possibility of that career path becoming more fruitful as more people (especially in Cleveland) start to use that service again. Maybe one day we'll even have bike messengers in Lakewood! And believe me, Josh will be the first on the list.

Always with a big grin on his face, even after riding 15 miles through sludge and freezing temperatures, Josh is an absolute pleasure to get to know. He's a fantastic asset to both the cycling community, as well as Lakewood as a whole.

## Donate Dog Food At Lakewood Dog Park Super Bowl Sunday

by Alanna Faith

As part of its outreach mission for 2012, Friends of the Lakewood Dog Park, Inc. 501(3)(c) is hosting a pet food donation drive to benefit another dog-loving Lakewood non-profit, My Best Friend's Bowl. And what better time to do it than Super Bowl Sunday? Simply stop by the Lakewood Dog Park on Sunday, February 5 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. with a donation of dog or cat food. We have a super goal of stuffing a Subaru full of food that will fill hundreds of pet bowls.

Representing the event sponsor, Ganley Westside Subaru, Laurie Sekeres will be on hand showing off a "Dog Tested, Dog Approved" Subaru, with tailgate wide open and ready for pet food donations. Dry or canned, big bags or small, all will be greatly appreciated. Gift cards to any local pet supply store will be used to purchase food when needed. One gallon plastic zipper-seal bags are needed to break down larger bags into smaller portions.

And because it's Super Bowl Sunday, we want a win-win situation! Not only will all the pet food collected be donated to My Best Friend's Bowl, but for every new or pre-owned vehicle purchased from Laurie at Ganley Westside Subaru during the month of February, \$100 will be donated to Friends of the Lakewood Dog Park. Half of all Subaru owners own a dog, so we know we'll see

a lot of canine pet parents.

We really scored a touchdown with support for the event from the Cleveland Browns, so be sure to stop by with your pet food donation and see what surprises we have.

Here's why it's so important to help: It's heartbreaking for a pet owner to have to surrender a beloved animal because of their economic situation. My Best Friend's Bowl is dedicated to providing a temporary supply of food to the people in our community and their pets. It is our goal to keep pets and their owners together and to make sure that every bowl is full. Twenty-five to thirty pounds of dry dog food would feed an average dog for a month; three to four pounds of dry cat food will feed an average cat for a month.

Don't forget, if you're not a member of Friends of the Lakewood Dog Park, you can join the team on Sunday, February 5 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The annual fee is ONLY \$10.

For more information, visit: [www.LakewoodDogPark.org](http://www.LakewoodDogPark.org) and [mybestfriendsbowlakewood.com](http://mybestfriendsbowlakewood.com)

We encourage you to LIKE both organizations on Facebook and you can contact Laurie Sekeres at Ganley Westside Subaru at 25730 Lorain Rd., North Olmsted, Ohio 44070, 216-513-9565.

And our thanks to the Cleveland Browns! Woof! Woof!

HELP US SCORE OUR GOAL!



Laurie Sekeres representing Ganley Westside Subaru.

Sunday, February 5, 10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Lakewood Dog Park, 1699 Metropark Drive, Lakewood, Ohio 44107. Just south of the Emerald Necklace Marina in the Rocky River Reservation of the Cleveland Metroparks.

Alanna Faith is the President of Friends of the Lakewood Dog Park, Inc. 501(3)(c).

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Lakewood Living

Want To See Your Dream House?

by Paula Reed

The year 2012 is not only leap year, it's a house tour year. The Lakewood Historical Society's biennial "Come Home to Lakewood" house tour occurs on September 9, the first Sunday after Labor Day. While that seems far in the future, the planning process is already well underway, but we need your help! We need to know the houses you want to see, those you drive by and wish you could get inside. Give us the address, and we'll do the rest. We'll contact the owners to let them know they've been nominated, and ask if they'd be willing to showcase their home. If so, we'll visit, and choose from the nominees those that would make up the most unique and fascinating tour. We'll be rounding up our possibilities over the next three weeks, so don't delay, make your nominations today! You may nominate by:

E-mailing the Historical Society with the address: lakewoodhistory@bge.net, calling the Society with the address: 216-221-7343 or completing the form below and mailing to: Lakewood Historical Society 14710 Lake Avenue Lakewood, OH 44107.



Above: 12598 Clifton was highlighted in a past "Come Home To Lakewood" tour.  
Left: 1590 Waterbury offered a glimpse into a typical Lakewood home.



"Come Home To Lakewood" House Tour Nomination Form

Address Nominated: \_\_\_\_\_

Owner's Name (if known): \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Lakewood Historical Society 14710 Lake Avenue Lakewood, OH 44107

Green Benefits For Your Home

by Chris Bergin

The U.S. Green Business Council recently reported that single-family homes are responsible for a little over 20% of the country's greenhouse gas emissions. By living in a green home, people can help reduce these causes of climate change, and studies show that more homebuyers are looking to purchase homes that have eco-friendly features.

"We put out a homebuyer and seller survey annually and studies show people are more interested in buying green improved homes," said Michelle Wardlaw, Public Affairs Associate for the National Association of Realtors. "NAR research has consistently shown that there is a considerable growing market for green homes. Many of the consumers today, we find, want homes that are sensitive to the environment."

Many who think about going green in a home, envision solar panels, but those aren't the best investment for everyone. With solar panels, a home must be in an area with sufficient sunshine and it must be in a location that is ecologically-minded.

"Solar Panels require an up-front investment but because they are clearly visible from the street they are likely to command a price premium," said Matthew E. Kahn, Professor at UCLA Institute of the Environment in the

Department of Economics. "In preliminary work using data on home sales in Sacramento County [California] I have found that with all else being equal, homes with solar panels sell for a 6% higher price."

If you were selling a home in the Midwest, that probably wouldn't be the case. But, while solar panels can be clearly seen by a potential homebuyer, they are only the tip of the iceberg in determining whether a home can offer energy efficiency and there are many less expensive things a seller can do to make their home green prior to putting it on the market.

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Justin Barnes, a policy analyst for the Database of State Incentives for Renewables & Efficiency, funded by the U.S. Department of Energy, said the easiest green fixes deal with appliance replacements. "There are all kinds of incentives for these and that makes a home attractive," he said. "Other measures are cost effective and advisable as well, such as replacing windows and doors and finding ways to insulate the home more effectively."

Some upgrades have more appeal and return on investment than others. Energy-efficient appliances can reduce monthly utility bills, replacing old furnaces can lower heating bills, and tankless water heaters mean less time and water wasted waiting for water to warm up.

These eco-friendly upgrades may not be a top priority for most buyers, but pointing them out can pique their interest. "While a potential buyer will notice whether the home has a swim-

ming pool or a great kitchen, the home's energy efficiency and 'greenness' is harder to see," said Kahn. "The seller who owns such a home should recognize this point and make his home's green features well known."

"In terms of resale price maximization, the best green initiatives to help sell hinge on whether potential buyers value energy efficiency and are aware of the home's energy efficiency," Kahn said. "If the seller believes that his home is highly energy efficient due to his past investments and the architecture of the home, then the seller should produce 12 months of past electricity bills to signal to potential buyers that the home has this added bonus."

Remember, anytime you need to replace something in your home, it's an opportunity to make an eco-friendly choice that can increase resale value later on.

Chris Bergin is a licensed Realtor at Prudential Lucien Realty.

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