

Free – Take One!  
Please Patronize Our Advertisers!



Kiwanis Spaghetti Dinner March 3 • LEAF Open House March 4

# THE LAKEWOOD OBSERVER

Proud Member Of The Observer Media Family Of Community Owned Newspapers & Websites

Volume 8, Issue 4, February 21, 2012

## Superintendent Patterson Reaches Out And Asks For “Your Input On Our Schools”

by Betsy Voinovich

**“What should be the last to go when we make budget cuts?”**

When I first met Lakewood City School Superintendent Jeffrey Patterson, he spoke of his desire to have everyone in the District on the same page with regard to the schools, or as he put it, “I don’t want to be putting out fires,” which he said, would require ongoing communication between the community and the Administration. With District-wide community meetings, which he is conducting personally, Jeff Patterson is sharing with parents and residents the state that the District is in, and what it needs to get ready for, in terms

of challenges to our resources, along with the educational challenges of the 21st century.

The Superintendent is ask-

ing residents about the criteria THEY will use to evaluate the wisdom of the District’s ultimate plan to balance the budget. He clearly wants and expects the community to pay attention and contribute. He is cutting to the heart of the matter by asking for the priority list of community members: What makes this school district special to you? (Which encompasses, Why did you come here? Why are you

still here?) Additionally he specifically asks, “What should be the last to go when we make budget cuts?”

about All-Day Kindergarten, how the gifted program fares with music programs and sports programs, concerns

ogy of the building itself.

It was fascinating, and rewarding, in that parents and residents with different and even opposing viewpoints listened to each other and compared notes and ideas, as Mr. Patterson and his team of note-takers took in the whole thing, and weighed in with policy or the point of view of the Administration.

Along with everyone I spoke to who attended the meeting, I felt that my voice

**continued on page 6**

**The remaining meeting dates are:**  
**THIS Thursday, Feb. 23, 7 p.m., at Emerson Elementary**  
**Wednesday, Feb. 29, 7 p.m., at Harrison Elementary,**  
**child care is available (call 529-4074 to reserve space)**

ing residents about the criteria THEY will use to evaluate the wisdom of the District’s ultimate plan to balance the budget. He clearly wants and expects the community to pay attention and contribute. He is cutting to the heart of the matter by asking for the priority list of community members: What makes this school district special to you? (Which encompasses, Why did you come here? Why are you

He is taking in depth notes at these meetings and encouraging dialogue not only between the Administration, teachers, staff and the community, but different members of the community with each other.

And we have opinions that differ, while all having the same goal for our children: a good education. Issues that emerged during the meeting I attended included what the group felt

about class sizes at different grade levels, concerns about maintaining actual neighborhood schools, along with a discussion about the value of the team of people inside a building being as important as the construction and technol-

## Middle Schoolers Excel In Power Of The Pen

by Christine Gordillo

Students from Harding and Garfield middle schools showed their creative flair and grace under pressure at the District Power of the Pen Writing Competition held late last month at North Royalton Middle School, where two of the teams placed in the top five. Of the 26 teams competing in the two grade-level competitions, Harding’s 8th grade team placed third and Harding’s 7th grade team took fourth.

The creative writing contest is made up of three rounds where writers are given prompts to jump-start a story. Prompts from this year’s competition included “Explain the miracle of snow from a dog’s point of view” and “Create a variation of a familiar game; give it a new name.” Sounds kind of tough, right? And, the writers only have 40 minutes to complete their essay or short story.

Awards are given for the top 15 individuals, as well as Best of Round awards for the top story in each round.

Out of the 146 7th grade and 141 8th grade writers at the competition, the following

writers earned medals by placing in the top 15:

**10th place: Grace Werner (7th, Garfield)**

**11th place: Veronica Gordon (8th, Harding)**

**12th place: Jonny Latsko (8th, Harding)**

**17th place: Sage Petrone (8th, Garfield)**

The next step for the statewide competition is the Regional Tournament at St. Joseph Academy on March 24. The top 50% of writers at the District level advance to Regionals. Lakewood teams will be sending an impressive 17 writers, or 66% of the four teams, to compete at Regionals. Good luck to all the talented writers!

The following are the schools’ Power of the Pen team members (Asterisks denote regional qualification):

**GARFIELD TEAMS:**

**8th Grade:** Allie Donegan\*, Erin Gregg, Ella Howells\*, Tess Marjanovic, Katelyn Martin, Sage Petrone\*, and alternate Kate McHugh; coach Barb Lynch

**7th Grade:** Ian Bell\*, Alexis Fallon\*, Abigayle

Samko\*, Evan Suttell, Maura Therber, Grace Werner\*, and alternates Elan Dimacchia and Rhianna Zubry; coach Dan Smith

**HARDING TEAMS:**

**8th Grade:** Amanda Cabot\*, Veronica Gordon\*, Zak Inak\*, Jonny Latsko\*, Tess Moran\*, Jimmy Toner, and alternate Olivia Berger; coach Ruth Pangrace

**7th Grade:** Kent Adams, Lauren Klann\*, Melina Lawrence\*, Elena Mulready\*, Hannah Salo\* Abbey Stone\*, and alternate Liam Gamez; coach Pam Sheils



**Lakewood Launches Volunteer Lakewood Website**

by Melissa Garrett

The City of Lakewood recently launched a website as part of the City’s new Volunteer Initiative. The website, [www.volunteerlakewood.com](http://www.volunteerlakewood.com), strives to match the enormous talent of Lakewood residents with the needs of community orga-

**continued on page 8**



David Hansen plays Inspector Poirot in his adaptation of Agatha Christie’s first mystery.

## The Great Lakes Theater Festival At The Lakewood Public Library

by Morgan Maseth

Attention all mystery fans! The Great Lakes Theater Festival will be bringing their world premiere adaptation of Agatha Christie’s The Mysterious Affair at Styles to the Lakewood Public Library on Monday, March 5 at 7 p.m. in the Main Auditorium.

The Mysterious Affair at Styles was Christie’s first foray into mystery-writing as well as the debut appearance of one of her most famous characters, Hercule Poirot. It launched the Golden Age of Detective Fiction, as a classic Whodunit that leaves the reader constantly second guessing who the killer really is. As a precursor to Chris-

tie’s most famous novel, The Mousetrap, this premiere adaptation of her first novel adapted by David Hansen supports The Great Lakes Theater Festival’s mainstage production of The Mousetrap which is being held at the Hanna Theatre from March 9 to March 25.

Lisa Ortenzi directs the five actor touring company that features Cleveland actors, David Hansen, Michael Gatto, Anne McEvoy, Emily Pucell, and James Rankin. The play’s production team is completed with Terry Martin as the scenic designer, Esther Haberen as

**continued on page 11**



Calendar Page

**Wednesday, February 22**  
**Evening Ash Wednesday Service**  
7:00 PM  
Ash Wednesday service with imposition of ashes and communion. At noon and 7 p.m. All are welcome.  
*Location: Faith Lutheran Church, 16511 Hilliard Road, Lakewood OH 44107*

**Thursday, February 23**  
**Lakewood Family Collaborative February Spotlight: Housing Research & Advocacy Center**  
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM  
The Housing Research & Advocacy Center (the Housing Center) will be presenting issues facing the community regarding housing discrimination and services offered by the Housing Center. This event is free and open to the public. The Lakewood Family Collaborative meets the fourth Thursday of every month at the Lakewood Women's Pavilion, featuring a different community speaker.  
Guest speaker Mandy Mehlman will be speaking about her organization's work, the Housing Research & Advocacy Center (the Housing Center), a fair housing agency that works to ensure fair housing rights through research, education, and advocacy. This event is free and open to the public.  
*Location: Lakewood Park Women's Pavilion 14532 Lake Avenue*

**Lakewood Schools' Community Engagement Meeting**  
7:00 PM  
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.  
*Location: Emerson Elementary School*

**Friday, February 24**

**Lakewood Kiwanis Spaghetti Dinner**  
March 3rd - 4pm - 7pm  
**Masonic Hall • Detroit and Andrews**  
**LOCATION CHANGE! SAVE THIS DATE**

**Lakewood Chamber of Commerce Monthly Meeting 6th Annual Outstanding Work Ethic Awards**  
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM  
Join the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce as we present the 2012 Outstanding Work Ethic Awards to exceptional students who work in programs offered by the West Shore Career-Technical District.  
*Location: Lakewood Park Women's Pavilion 14532 Lake Avenue*

**Saturday, February 25**  
**Craft Swap**  
6:00 PM - 9:00 PM  
Has your craft stash grown out of control over the past year? Do you need to clear out the old to make room for the new? CG will be teaming up with Megglefritz Designs for a night of crafts, drinks & fun! Tickets will be \$10, and a portion of the proceeds will be donated to the American Heart Association because February is Heart Health Month.  
Appetizers and beverages will be provided, as well as a few craft demos going on throughout the evening.  
Bring a quart size ziploc bag to swap and leave with a quart size bag of new supplies to get your craft on! Want to bring more than one bag? Then you will leave with even more goodies!  
*Crafty Goodness, 15621 Madison Avenue*  
**Kismet: An Arts and Music Event**  
8:00 PM - 2:30 AM  
Kismet seeks to spotlight Live Artists and the

Music that fuels their performance art. Not only will the visual artists be creating LIVE, but also displaying and selling their creations. The musicians here are top-shelf choices, sure to please. Kismet is going to be a real banger of a party. Don't miss it.  
Proudly Featuring:  
Artists - Rae Vena, Justin Roberts, Wake Leah Lady, and Tom Reed  
Musicians - Just Boji, Light Pollution, Broccoli Samurai, and DIGIRAATII  
*Location: The Avenue Taphouse 18206 Detroit Ave, Lakewood, OH 44107*

**Tuesday, February 28**  
**Relay for Life Kick-Off!**  
6:30 PM - 8:30 PM  
Relay for Life is coming to Lakewood! Beginning at 6:00 pm on June 15 until noon on June 16, teams of friends/families/co-workers will walk the Lakewood High School track to raise funds for cancer research. Interested in joining or forming a team or volunteering with the event? Stop in at Jammy Buggars any time between 6:30 - 8:30 to get information and meet the committee. Stay for dinner and Jammy Buggars will donate 15% of your bill to the cause.  
*Location: Jammy Buggars 15625 Detroit Avenue (corner of Lakeland)*

**LHS Talent Show**  
7:30 PM  
Presented by the American Youth Foundation club. Tickets are \$5  
*Location: Civic Auditorium 14100 Franklin Blvd.*

**Lakewood Schools' Community Engagement Meeting**  
7:00 PM  
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.  
*Location: Harrison Elementary School*

**Wednesday, February 29**  
**Informational Block Club Meeting**  
7:00 PM - 8:30 PM  
Residents interested in finding out about Block Clubs can should attend this meeting. A Block Club representative and Ward Police Officers will be at the meeting at 12650 Detroit, in the City Hall Auditorium,  
*Location: 12650 Detroit Road, City Hall Auditorium*

**Sunday, March 5**  
**Lakewood Earth And Food Community (LEAF) Community Open House**  
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM  
*All you need to know about what LEAF does for Lakewood residents, businesses and urban farmers, and how you can join one of the largest CSAs in Ohio. All Are Welcome!*  
*Location: Lakewood Public Library, Main Branch Multi-Purpose Room*



**Wednesday, February 29**  
**Many more listings at**  
**[www.lakewoodobserver.com](http://www.lakewoodobserver.com)**  
**List Your Event Today - It's FREE!**



ANNUAL LAKEWOOD  
OLD HOUSE FAIR  
MAY 5TH  
11:00 AM - 4:00 PM

*The Lakewood Observer is proud to sponsor the Lakewood Old House Fair again this year. Save the date for Saturday, May 5th from 11am to 4pm at Harding Middle School.*

*Any Lakewood home improvement and home-related business is encouraged to exhibit. Registration forms are at Lakewood Hardware store, 16608 Madison Ave., Lakewood.*

*Bringing Lakewood home-related resources and businesses together to serve the needs of Lakewood homes and the residents who care for them.*

*Location: Harding Middle School, Lakewood, Ohio*



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

**West End Tavern presents:**  
**"Saturday Bloody Mary Bar"**  
Create Your Own - 11 a.m.  
**Serving Breakfast/Lunch**  
featuring our famous  
**Gourmet Meatloaf Stack and Savory Pot Roast**  
**Voted Best Hamburger On The Northcoast!**

**"Sunday Brunch"**  
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
**A 20-Year Lakewood Tradition**  
**Eggs Benedict • Eggs Sardoux • Stuffed French Toast • Pot Roast Hash Omelets • Fritatas • and more!**  
featuring our famous  
**"Mega Mimosas"**



THE  
LAKEWOOD  
OBSERVER

Your Independent Source for  
Lakewood News & Opinion

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

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

**Become an Observer!**

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

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

<b>Upcoming Submission Deadline</b>	<b>Publish Date</b>
Sunday, February 26	Tuesday, March 6
Sunday, March 11	Tuesday, March 20

**[www.lakewoodobserver.com](http://www.lakewoodobserver.com) – 216.712.7070**  
**14900 Detroit Avenue, Suite 205, Lakewood, OH 44107**

The Lakewood Observer  
is powered by AGS's:

PUBLISHER  
Jim O'Bryan



**Ninth Estate  
Software**

EDITOR IN CHIEF  
Margaret Brinich

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

ADVISORY BOARD - Kenneth Warren, Steve Davis, Heidi Hilty, Dan Ott, Jeff Endress, Lauren Fine, Steve Ott, Vince Frantz, Margaret Brinich, Betsy Voinovich  
EDITORIAL BOARD - Thealexa Becker, Nicole Boose, Margaret Brinich, Vincent O'Keefe, Heather Ramsey, Casey Ryan, Betsy Voinovich, Kenneth Warren  
WEBMASTERS - Jim DeVito, Dan Ott  
PHOTOGRAPHY - Ellen Brinich, Marge Foley, Jeanie Gergel, Christine Gordillo, Mary Johnson, Annette Kelly, Jim O'Bryan  
ILLUSTRATIONS - Rob Masek,  
PRODUCTION - A Graphic Solution, Inc.  
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS - Teresa Andreani, Jeremy Barker, Christopher Bindel, Gordon Brumm, Paula Maeder Connor, Erika Durham, Erin Fach, Alanna Faith, Lauren Fraley, Melissa Garrett, Thomas George, Christine Gordillo, Laura Gorman, Mary Johnson, Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur, Annette Kelly, Congressman Dennis Kucinich, Sharon Marrell, Morgan Maseth, Arlie Matera, Valerie Mechenbier, Leana Donofrio-Milovan, Marjorie Preston, Gary Rice, Mark Rollenhagen, Annie Stahlheber, Fran Storch, Rev. Dr. John Tamilio III, Ph.D., Gina Tatsumi, Marnie Urso, Graham Veysey, and Betsy Voinovich.

City News

# Banning Smoking In Lakewood's Parks?

Council President Brian Powers called the February 6, 2012 Council Meeting to order at 7:33 P.M. He then read a report from the Committee of the Whole regarding Community Development Block Grants (CDBG). It was reported to the Committee that in 2012 Lakewood will receive about 15% less CDBG funding than last year. That is almost \$300,000 dollars less. This grant money comes from the Federal Government and is used for several programs around the city including those that help residents paint their houses or make necessary improvements to their homes so they can keep them, help those without insurance get medical care, help abused women and children, and gives the homeless someplace to stay.

With such a large reduction this year, the Citizens Advisory Committee, which makes suggestions to Council as to how much should be given to each program, will have to be called back together to adjust their recommendations to match the new amount.

Councilman Powers (At-Large) then introduced an ordinance to Council that would clarify one currently on the books regarding dangerous and exotic animals in Lakewood. The change would be relevant to veterinarians, animal hospitals and approved animal rescues. The new ordinance will clarify that those institutions may keep animals that are normally prohibited in Lakewood, particularly in this case pitbulls, but only for a limited amount of time and for legitimate purposes. Council referred the ordinance to the Public Safety Committee for consideration.

Councilwoman Mary Louise Madigan (Ward IV) then read a communication from all of Council and the Mayor asking members of the community to support the Cuyahoga County Health and Human Services department by renewing the levy that will be on the ballot on March 6th. The funds help support “services of prevention, early intervention and trauma.” Passing the levy will help continue “critical services including funding for Metro-Health Hospital, for children at risk of abuse and neglect and services that help keep seniors healthy and in their homes.” Access to any of services is assured to any Cuyahoga County resident who is in need of assistance.

Council then passed a resolution in support of the measure.

Councilwoman Monique Smith (At-Large) then read a communication from herself and Councilwoman Madigan asking Council to consider banning smoking from all of Lakewood’s parks. Councilwoman Smith stated that city “parks are intended for the healthy enjoyment of all” and are “spaces designed to encourage exercise and activity.” She said that second-hand smoke inhibits that enjoyment. “Second-hand smoke is dangerous and smells bad,” she said. She also mentioned the litter from tobacco products, such as cigarette butts and packaging, as also being a nuisance. She believes that smoking is a “behavior that Lake-

wood’s children and youth do not need to see while they are riding, running or playing.” Furthermore she said smoking should definitely not be allowed around the skatepark, tennis courts or the ball-fields. She concluded saying “we all know smoking is bad for us, we shouldn’t have to put up with it in our parks.”

After reading her statement, Councilwoman Smith said she asked the Law Director to help draw up an ordinance banning smoking in all of Lakewood’s parks and asked that it be considered in the Human Services Committee. She also said that this was brought forth by residents who have had complaints and concerns regarding this issue. “Some folks in the community who are trying to organize activities in the parks for kids are seeing problems with loitering and have this idea that smoking in the parks is getting in the way of what they are trying to accomplish.”

Councilman Tom Bullock (Ward

by Christopher Bindel

II) applauded Councilwomen Smith and Madigan for bringing this issue forward and said he looked forward to the discussion and hearing from law enforcement regarding it. He also said he suspected that the number one litter item in the parks was probably cigarette butts.

The Director of Public Works, Joe Beno, then asked Council to consider passing an ordinance that would change the closing times of Madison and Kaufman parks. Right now both parks, like Lakewood Park, close at 11 P.M. Director Beno would like to change that to one hour past sunset, unless involved with an organized event. He said they did not believe there was any reason for the two parks to remain open so late at all times of the year. He also said he believed this would help prevent graffiti and loitering in the parks and would give police easier rules to enforce.

Council referred the ordinance to

the Public Safety Committee for further consideration.

Fire Chief Gilman then asked Council to pass a resolution which would allow the city to accept a \$1,300 grant. The funds are dispersed from Cuyahoga County’s Homeland Security Grant program and are designated to go toward the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). The money is reimbursement for funds spent on equipment and training for CERT members.

Coming to the end of the agenda items, Council President Powers adjourned the meeting at 8:35 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 March 5, 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).

## New And Improved Buy Lakewood Program

by Melissa Garrett

In early 2012, Mayor Summers announced the launch of the redesigned Buy Lakewood program. This program is a consumer education initiative about the importance of buying locally as well as a customer loyalty program. It has been redesigned to make it simple, functional and flexible.

Buy Lakewood 2012 will feature a program called Five Percent Fridays. Participating businesses will offer a 5% discount on Fridays to individuals who show their Buy Lakewood card. In addition to Five Percent Fridays, businesses may choose to offer additional discounts to Buy Lakewood participants. The program will begin on Friday, February 24, 2012.

“We have simplified the Buy Lakewood Program to make it easier for both businesses and consumers to participate,” stated Mayor Mike Summers. “The Buy Lakewood Program will focus on sharing information on the importance of buying locally and the economic impact it has on our city. For every \$100 spent at a locally owned business, \$45 stays in the local economy, creating jobs and expanding the city’s tax base.”

Lakewood businesses can sign up to participate in this program by visiting [www.onelakewood.com/buylakewood](http://www.onelakewood.com/buylakewood). Once a business is enrolled, they will be added to the online business directory. Businesses will also receive a window cling displaying their support for the Buy Lakewood Loyalty Program.

Anyone who shops in Lakewood can pick up a Buy Lakewood card at Lakewood City Hall (12650 Detroit Avenue), LakewoodAlive (14701 Detroit Avenue #LL10) or the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce (16017 Detroit Avenue). Individuals can also sign up for a card by visiting [www.onelakewood.com/buylakewood](http://www.onelakewood.com/buylakewood). If you already have a Buy Lakewood card, it is still valid and you can use it for Five Percent Fridays.

The Buy Lakewood Program is



a joint partnership between the City of Lakewood, LakewoodAlive, the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce and the Madison Avenue Merchants Association (MAMA).

### Why buy Local?

Buying locally helps to improve our community in many ways:

It keeps dollars in Lakewood’s Economy. For every \$100 spent at a locally-owned business, \$45 stays in the local economy, creating jobs and expanding the city’s tax base.

Residents have more choices. A marketplace of hundreds of small businesses helps to ensure more innovation, competition and lower prices over the long term. Local businesses



choosing products based on what their local customers need and desire guarantee a more diverse range of product and service choices.

Get better service: Local businesses often hire people with a better understanding of the products they are selling and take more time to get to know customers.

Encourage local prosperity: A growing body of economic research shows that in an increasingly homogenized world, entrepreneurs and skilled workers are more likely to invest and settle in communities that preserve their one-of-a-kind businesses and distinctive character.

Local businesses are the lifeblood of our community. When we keep our dollars in the city, every purchase contributes toward our schools, our culture and the well-being of our friends, relatives and neighbors.

Slife Heating and Cooling  
Lakewood's Finest  
in HVAC Installation,  
Repair & Maintenance...

"That's What All The People Say!"

HEATING - COOLING  
AIR CONDITIONING - FURNACES - BOILERS  
Serving Lakewood For 20 Years!

Slife Heating & Cooling  
216 221-0310  
www.slife-hvac.com

HOME COMFORT SYSTEMS  
Innovation never felt so good.™



# Lakewood Public Library Events

compiled by Leana Donofrio-Milovan

## Feb. 21 Knit & Lit

Gail Eaton hosts a social club for multitaskers—a combination book club and stitchery group. She’s looking for readers who can enjoy intense discussion of modern classics while relaxing with their latest project. Come share your passion for great literature and show off your knitting, crocheting, counted cross-stitch, embroidery and quilting works-in-progress. At the close of every meeting, the group decides which book will be read for next time. Visit [www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.org/bookclubs](http://www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.org/bookclubs) for a complete list of the books being considered and find out which title you should read to be ready for the next discussion.

Tuesday, February 21 at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Meeting Room

## Feb. 22 Meet the Author: Maria Doria Russell: From The Sparrow to Doc to Other Novels

In her critically acclaimed debut novel, a Jesuit priest is the first human being to make contact with an alien civilization. “It was predictable, in hindsight. Everything about the history of the Society of Jesus bespoke deft and efficient action, exploration and research. During what Europeans were pleased to call the Age of Discovery, Jesuit priests were never more than a year or two behind the men who made initial contact with previously unknown peoples; indeed, Jesuits were often the vanguard of exploration.” Since then, Maria Doria Russell continues working to reconcile divine inspiration with human experience, exploring subjects ranging from Jewish refugees in the Italian Resistance to the foundation of the modern Middle East at the Cairo Peace Conference. In her latest book, Russell tackles the western and the murder mystery with no less an icon than Doc Holliday as her leading man. It may sound like an odd departure at first, but watch as Russell peels away layers of wild west cliché and reveals the human beings inside the heroes. These gunfighters have never been more compelling. Books will be available for sale and signing at the event.

Wednesday, February 22 at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

## Feb. 25 Lakewood Art House Cinema: “Heartbeats”

Nicolas and Marie are best friends and bitter rivals. These trendy Montrealers are über cool and painfully so, but when they both become infatuated with a young Adonis, their carefully-constructed facades begin to fray. This beautiful boy only returns gestures of friendship halfheartedly. Their obsessive needs are driven to new levels...

Saturday, February 25 at 6:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

## March 1 20 Minute Resume Tune-Ups

Get one-on-one help with your resume from professional career consultant, Vernice Jackson. She’ll show you how even minor changes can vastly improve your hirability by better reflecting your skills and potential. Call 226-8275, ext. 127 to sign up for a twenty minute face-to-face appointment.

Thursday, 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Learning Lab

## March 4 Sunday with the Friends: Brian Henke: Selections from the Living Gallery of Natural Wonders

His virtuoso guitar evokes a personal vision of nature like the beauty of a treetop set against a deep blue sky. It can be described by words, but to experience it you have to see it and hear it for yourself. Brian Henke heralds the return of spring.

Sunday, March 4 at 2:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

# Strokes Of Genius

by Julie Strunk

Try something new and get messy! Strokes of Genius is a program where aspiring artists with active imaginations come together. Sound like you? Listen to stories showcasing renowned artists and learn about their creativity, artistic styles, and lives. Participate in art activities and projects! Are you in second, third, or fourth grade? Just stop by the children and youth services desk at the library, or call 216-226-8275 ext. 140, to register.

Strokes of Genius meets Wednesdays from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. in the Main Branch of the Lakewood Public Library’s Multipurpose Room starting on March 14, 2012 and continuing until May 2, 2012.

Julie Strunk is a supervisor in the Children's and Youth Services Department at the Lakewood Public Library.



\*\*\*NOW YOU CAN\*\*\*  
**Rent A Husband**  
HANDY SERVICE



- Painting
- Gutter Cleaning (most homes \$70-\$75)
- Drywall, Plastering & Repair
- Minor Electrical/Plumbing
- Carpentry/Lattice Work
- Chimney Caps/ Roof Repair
- Home Pressure Washing
- Tree Service/Pigeon Problems

- Snow Removal
- Broken Windows/Sash Cords
- Vinyl Replacement Windows
- Porch Repair / Steps / Hand Rails
- Bathroom / Kitchen Remodeling
- Tub Surrounds
- Vinyl Siding

And all those jobs and repairs that you never had the time or talent to do yourself!

(Building code violation correctons)

Call: **Rich Toth at 440-777-8353**

## March 5 Great Lakes Theater Festival Presents: Agatha Christie’s The Mysterious Affair at Styles

Adapted by David Hansen  
Dame Agatha Christie’s first mystery comes to life on our stage in this original, hour-long play. The brilliant Belgian private detective Hercule Poirot also makes his iconic debut, arriving at an isolated country manor filled with enough evasions, plot twists and red herrings to keep you guessing until the final curtain. Did they all do it? The novel launched the Golden Age of Detective Fiction and served as a precursor to The Mousetrap, Christie’s most enduring mystery. Five riveting actors from the Great Lakes Theater Festival will make this dark and stormy night an unforgettable experience.

Monday, March 5 at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

## March 6 Health and Wealth: Tax Deductions for Parents, Students and Educators

Natalie Vloedman, an H & R Block senior tax advisor with over thirty years of experience, comes to the Library with the simple goal of enriching her community. She’ll share specific strategies for reducing the tax burdens of teachers, students and those who love them.

Tuesday, March 6 at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

## March 8 20 Minute Resume Tune-Ups

Get one-on-one help with your resume from professional career consultant, Vernice Jackson. She’ll show you how even minor changes can vastly improve your hirability by better reflecting your skills and potential. Call 226-8275, ext. 127 to sign up for a twenty minute face-to-face appointment.

Thursday, 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Learning Lab

## March 8 Booked For Murder: Bury Your Dead by Louise Penny

Repeat Agatha award winner, Louise Penny triumphs again with 2010’s Bury Your Dead. While searching for the remains of Samuel de Champlain the founder of Quebec, an archaeologist is found murdered in the basement of the Literary and Historical Society. Could a 400 year-old secret be buried with Champlain? Chief Inspector Gamache investigates this mystery deeply rooted in the past conflict between the province’s French majority and English minority.

Thursday, March 8 at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Meeting Room

## March 10 Western Cinema The Great Train Robbery (1903) Directed by E. S. Porter

On August 29, 1900 near Table Rock, Wyoming Butch Cassidy and his gang held up Union Pacific’s Train #3, blew up the safe and got away with \$5,000. Three years later, pioneer filmmaker Edwin S. Porter shot an 11-minute one-reeler inspired by that event, and thus the western movie was born.

# Children/Youth Events

compiled by Arlie Matera

## Saturday, February 25 Jungle Terry For the whole family

The man who knows everything there is to know about animals is back by popular demand! Learn all about the animals he cares for and more.

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

## 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.

# AROUND THE

## Lenten Specials

Featuring Our Famous Fish Fry  
Great Lakes Xmas Ale Beer Battered Cod  
Shrimp Louisiana, Blackened Catfish, Haddock,  
Homemade Cabbage & Noodles and Pierogies.



Warehouse Party Room  
available for your parties  
or fundraisers!"

Sundays -Enjoy our delicious a la carte Brunch  
Mondays- Buy One, Get One- Black Angus Burgers  
Wednesdays- Try our \$5 Menu!

**18616 Detroit Avenue**  
**216.521.4413 • www.atccafe.com**

**CORNER**  
EATERY  
DRINKERY  
FUNNERY



# Lakewood Public Library

## Beginners Computer Classes And Job Hunting Help Available At The Library

by Amy Kloss

If you're a computer beginner, you are not alone. There are many people who don't have an e-mail account or know how to navigate the web. If you're a Lakewood Library patron, however, you're in luck. Any patron who wishes to enter the digital age can take advantage of free computer classes offered at the main branch of Lakewood Public Library.

This spring and summer, the Library will be offering monthly classes that cover the basics of computer usage, web searching, e-mail and the Microsoft programs Word and PowerPoint. All of these classes are held Saturdays at 3:00 p.m. A workshop covering job search skills will be held once a month on Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. In addition, during the month of March, a representative from Cuyahoga County Community College will be on hand to offer twenty minute resume tune-ups. These one-on-one sessions will be held from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. three Thursdays in March.

Although most classes are geared toward beginners with very limited computer knowledge, it is important that students know how to use a mouse before they come to class. Mouse training is available in the Library's Technology Center. Registration is required for all classes; to learn more about signing up for classes, visit [www.lkwdpl.org/classes](http://www.lkwdpl.org/classes) or call 226-8275, ext. 127.

A recent addition to the array of classes, Computer Basics, offers beginners a chance to learn and understand the various parts of the computer such as the mouse, desktop, keyboard and monitor. Students with no computer experience will learn the difference between clicking and double-clicking, the parts of an internet window, and what the Control key actually does. Computer Basics allows novice users a chance to enter the world of computers in a comfortable setting where they will receive clearly worded, basic instruction and then be allowed to work at their own pace on self-guided computer exercises.

In Web Searching Basics, students learn fundamental knowledge needed to navigate the web and do research online. The class teaches students how

to access the internet using a browser, manipulate the windows that allow internet access, recognize a web address and visit a website. Web Searching Basics covers a variety of search engines beyond Google, and demonstrates how search results vary depending on the engine. Students learn how to modify search terms to get better results; the difference between website extensions like .com, .net and .gov; how to evaluate the quality of sites; and different ways to use the Internet.

In E-mail Basics, students log into a sample Yahoo e-mail account and run through the basic functions: reading new messages, composing, replying, deleting, and forwarding. They also

learn to use e-mail safely by avoiding spam, scams and viruses. Students are not required to have an e-mail account before taking the class; however, time does not allow students to sign up for an account during class.

In Word Processing Basics, students create a sample document and then learn to copy, paste, and change the font styles. Also covered is saving and retrieving documents, as well as how to add links and graphics to a document. PowerPoint Basics will teach students to use this popular program to build a slide presentation that will enhance any message they are trying to convey to an audience.

Job Search Skills concentrates on

what is needed to effectively conduct a job search on the internet. This class help job seekers prepare an internet-friendly resume, send a resume through e-mail and discover the latest trends in job-hunting on the web. Students are encouraged to share information and ask questions that pertain to their individual job searches.

All computer classes are held in the Learning Lab at the Main Branch of the Lakewood Public Library, 15425 Detroit Avenue. Students must have a valid Lakewood Library card, and registration is required; stop in or call 216/226-8275, ext. 127 to register. Reservations for computer classes begin the first day of the month in which the classes will be held.

## LPL Picture Book Award Coming Soon!

by Arlie Matera

Maurice Sendak's *Where The Wild Things Are* is a Caldecott Award winning picture book, a classic of children's literature, and a perennial best seller. So what's the magic ingredient? Is it the story? The illustrations? The blending of the two? And out of the thousands of picture books published each year, how does the award committee choose just one to receive the coveted gold medal? Thanks to a special program designed by children's librarian, Marge Foley, second through fourth graders will have a chance to find their own answers to these questions.

"I wanted to get kids thinking about what makes a great picture book," says Mrs. Foley. "Over the course of five weeks we'll read a selection of new picture books together. Then we'll discuss them, and by program's end, the kids will decide which book they like best."

Mrs. Foley developed the idea for a children's picture book award committee after attending a Mock Caldecott Conference led by Sue McCleaf Nespeca, who served on both the 1993 and the 2008 Caldecott Award Committees. "Serving on the mock committee was an enlightening experience," says Mrs. Foley.

"What one person thought 'vibrant and moving' another called 'busy and confusing.'"

Though similar to a Mock Caldecott type conference, the Library's program will be something unique in its own right; in addition to voting on their favorite book, children will create, name, and design their own award, then plan an award ceremony for their final meeting. All second

through fourth graders are invited to join in the fun! The picture book award committee will meet in the Main Library Multipurpose Room on Thursdays from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. The program begins on March 15 and runs for five weeks (there will not be a meeting on 4/12 when the Lakewood Schools are closed for Spring Break). To register, please stop in or call (216) 226-8275, ext. 140.



### Diabetes Alert Day

Join us during Diabetes Alert Day to receive FREE blood sugar, foot, eye, blood pressure and cholesterol screenings. Staff from our Diabetes and Endocrine Center will be available to review your results, answer questions and determine any necessary treatment options.

For more information, call 216.529.5312.  
[lakewoodhospital.org/diabetes](http://lakewoodhospital.org/diabetes)

**Lakewood Hospital**  
a Cleveland Clinic hospital

Every life deserves world class care.

### Free Screenings

Date: March 30, 2012  
Time: 6:30-9:30 a.m. or 2:30-4:00 p.m.  
Location: Lakewood Hospital  
Wasmer Auditorium  
14519 Detroit Avenue  
Lakewood, OH 44107

Pre-registration is not required.

For best results, do not eat or drink (except water) for eight hours before your screening.

Enter to win a \$25 Giant Eagle gift card.

Visit Sicily Without Leaving Home

**NUNZIO'S Pizzeria**

Since 1990

Fresh Authentic Italian Cuisine

Pizza • Pasta • Subs • Salads • Wings

Now serving

Lakewood, Rocky River & Fairview Park

17615 Detroit Ave.

216-228-2900

[www.nunziospizza.net](http://www.nunziospizza.net)

4 Locations to Serve You Better

20 Years in Business

**Mon-Sat**  
4pm-3:30am  
Deliveries until 3:30am

**Sunday**  
2pm-1:30am  
Deliveries until 1:30am

	Small 6 Cut - 9"	Medium 8 Cut - 12"	Large 12 Cut - 16"	Party Tray Half Sheet
Plain	\$6.25	\$7.75	\$10.25	\$11.25
1 Item	\$6.75	\$8.50	\$11.25	\$12.75
2 Items	\$7.25	\$9.25	\$12.25	\$14.25
3 Items	\$7.75	\$10.00	\$13.25	\$15.75
4 Items	\$8.25	\$10.75	\$14.25	\$17.25
Deluxe	\$8.75	\$11.50	\$15.25	\$18.75
Extra Items	\$0.50	\$0.75	\$1.00	\$1.50
Extra Cheese	\$0.75	\$1.25	\$1.75	\$2.50

Available Items: Pepperoni, Sausage, Mushrooms, Onions, Green Peppers, Anchovies, Ham, Bacon, Fresh Garlic, Black Olives, Hot Peppers, Ground Meat & Artichoke Hearts



## Lakewood Schools

# LHS's WikiSeat Project Hands-On Learning With A Twist

by Christine Gordillo

It's not often you see 70 high school sophomores beaming with pride over an English class project. However, at the Beck Center for the Arts on Feb. 6, you couldn't miss the smiles on the faces of the students in Sean Wheeler's American Literature class as they proudly displayed the results of their project: handmade chairs or WikiSeats.

The students in Lakewood High School's 2.0 program were at the Beck to exhibit their work from "The WikiSeat Project." The project required the students to design and build a chair by hand. The unique learning experience called for students to engage in ideas surrounding design concepts, the experiential learning cycle, and the works of Ralph Waldo Emerson. The LHS students are the first high school in the country to tackle the project.

Nicolas Weidinger, a designer



Kayla Edwards proudly displays her WikiSeat, which includes a wood treble clef covered in magazine clippings to represent Kayla's love of music and pop culture.

and professor at Ohio State University and creator of the WikiSeat concept, described the project in this way:

"A WikiSeat is a three legged stool that is built by hand. Each WikiSeat starts with a "Catalyst" that acts as a central support structure. The creator of a WikiSeat has the freedom to gather materials and find their own methods for building the seat."

The "Catalyst" is a small metal support structure made of angle iron that is constructed in such a way as to form a three-legged chair. Each student was given a "Catalyst" at the start of the project and instructed to design a chair using the "Catalyst." Class time was spent on considerations of form/function, the design process, and readings on the nature of learning and self-determination as outlined by Ralph Waldo Emerson in his essays, "The American Scholar" and "Self-Reliance."



Tyler Crossland is proud of his colorful WikiSeat.

The results of the quarter-long project were chairs that reflect the unique sensibilities and interests of each of the students. The styles ranged from sleek to frilly to spartan. One was built with an old film reel as its back, another a skateboard. And even if a chair didn't quite make it, such as one student's project which she dubbed "Epic Fail," the process and critical thinking used to get qualifies as a success.

"(In this project) the students are doing instead of getting, making instead of regurgitating, and engaged rather than being passive participants in their learning," said Wheeler. He told the audience of friends and family gathered at the Beck that he wanted to show his students that they can be problem-solvers. He wanted them to see how they would develop the confidence as the project progressed to finish the job and do something they never thought possible.

Although many of the students said the prospect of building a chair by hand "freaked them out" at first and seemed like an insurmountable job at the start, by the end they were thrilled with what they had created.

Eleven of the chairs remain on display in the front window of the Beck Center through the end of the month for those who would like to check out the students' amazing creativity.

Lakewood High's 2.0 program is a pilot project of 9th and 10th graders in core subjects focusing on project-based, real-world learning that uses technology to not only connect students with other learners around the world, but to help collaborate and share their work with each other.

For more on the WikiSeat project, go to [www.teachinghumans.blogspot.com](http://www.teachinghumans.blogspot.com)

## District Teams With Nonprofit To Help Tutor Refugees

by Christine Gordillo

In an effort to help Lakewood's newest citizens succeed, the Lakewood City Schools and Asian Services in Action Inc. (ASIA), have teamed up to provide tutoring services for the District's more than 180 refugee students across grades K-12.

The Memorandum of Understanding between the two entities, passed unanimously by the Lakewood Board of Education on Feb. 6, calls for the District to provide space at Emerson Elementary School for ASIA Inc. to conduct tutoring sessions two days a week after school. The District will also provide computers, software, textbooks, smart boards and other resource materials to help accelerate the students' assimilation into the schools and the community.

"This is a win-win for everyone," Assistant Superintendent Kevin Bright told the Board. "They help us reach the families and we help them with

resources." Bright informed the Board members that 95% of the District's refugee students come to our schools directly from refugee camps in countries such as Somalia, Myanmar and Bhutan and that it can take a new English learner from such circumstances 5-7 years to reach grade level proficiency of their American peers.

"What the District is trying to do is help accelerate these students' growth," Bright said.

ASIA Inc. has been conducting after school tutoring sessions off-site from the schools for a few years now, with about 80 of the refugee students participating. Those sessions have been staffed mostly by volunteers. The new agreement calls for the District to provide at least one certified tutor for all the afternoon sessions.

ASIA Inc.'s Executive Director, Michael Byun, called the agreement, "another step in forging partnerships with receiving communities."

## Superintendent Patterson Asks For "Your Input On Our Schools"

continued from page 1

had been heard and valued, and my contribution to the discussion noted and recorded. If you haven't attended a meeting yet, there are a couple more to go. If the one at your child's school or the school in your neighborhood was earlier in the month, try a different school—all are welcome. And then make sure you go to the meeting on March 8, at 7 p.m. in Lakewood High's East Cafeteria, when after weighing all of this discussion--Superintendent Patterson will report back to the community regarding the

recommendations the Administration will make to the Board of Education in April.

**The remaining meeting dates are:**  
**THIS Thursday, Feb. 23, 7 p.m., at Emerson Elementary**

**Wednesday, Feb. 29, 7 p.m., at Harrison Elementary, child care is available (call 529-4074 to reserve space)**

As was reported in the last Observer, Superintendent Patterson would like everyone's opinion, so even if you can't attend one of these meetings, if you have a strong opinion about

what needs to be protected in the District, or how improvements might be made, he has asked that you email him or send him a letter with your responses to his questions.

**Question #1: What criteria will you use to judge the wisdom of our ultimate plan to balance the Lakewood City School District's budget?**

**Question #2: What district characteristics, programs and services make your school district special to you?**

**Question #3: As we cut the projected expenditures by \$4 million, what should be the last things affected by the**



# Lakewood Schools

## Jumping For A Cause



About 100 4th and 5th graders from all seven of Lakewood's elementary schools gathered on Feb. 11 at Lakewood High's East Gym for the 14th annual Jump Rope for Heart event. The students jumped for two hours for heart health and to raise money for the American Heart Association. The district has raised nearly \$100,000 over the years for the Heart Association.

## Education On Tap

by Teresa Andreani

Jeff Patterson, superintendent of the Lakewood City Schools, has scheduled a series of community engagement meetings to inform citizens about the goals of the district, its financial standing, and to solicit the input of the community on solving the significant fiscal issues the district faces.

Education on Tap is an opportunity for young professionals to share their thoughts and to learn more about this community asset on February 27 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Around the Corner. This event is geared towards a younger demographic. Although many of you do not have children in the school district, many of you will. Kyle Baker, current Lakewood Alumni Foundation Board of Trustee, said that, “even if you don’t live in Lakewood, Education on Tap will really open your eyes about the continued health of the Lakewood City Schools over the next few years. After hearing the information and the path of the schools, I think many of you will want to move back to Lakewood.” Moreover, for current Lakewood resi-

dents, “We may not yet have children in the school district, but many of us are property owners and it’s important for us to understand the impact a quality school district has on our property values,” said Margaret Brinich, current Lakewood Alumni Foundation Board of Trustee.

To be clear, this is not a fundraiser or a charity event, so do not worry about being solicited for your hard earned money. Education on Tap is simply a program to allow the superintendent of the Lakewood City Schools to get the message about the school system’s health out to young professionals in the community.

Visit the Lakewood Alumni Foundation on Facebook to learn more about this event.

February 27, 2012  
7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.  
Around The Corner  
18616 Detroit Ave., Lakewood  
Sponsored by the Lakewood Alumni Foundation and Around the Corner

\*Complimentary appetizers and cash bar

## Kindergarten Registration

by Christine Gordillo

Kindergarten registration will take place in all Lakewood elementary schools on Wednesday, March 21, 2012, from 2:00 – 6:30 p.m. Children may register at their neighborhood school on this day only; if you are unable to register on March 23, you will need to register at the Lakewood Board of Education (Student Services, 2nd floor), 1470 Warren Road (between 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.). Parents may register a child who will turn five years of age on or before September 30, 2012.

**You will need to provide the following documents at registration:**

**Child’s Information:**

- Certified copy of birth certificate (Passport or Visa)
- Social Security card (optional)
- Immunization record, doctor’s name and phone number

**Parent Information:**

- Valid Driver’s License / picture I.D.
- Residency (provide two):

1. **Current gas/electric bill** – portion showing your name & address
2. **Faxed confirmation of new utility service:** (216) 529-4104 (Attn: Ms. Griveas)
3. **Fully-executed lease:** includes landlord contact information and all persons living at this address
4. **Owner Affidavit** completed in full and notarized by landlord/property manager (only when numbers 1, 2, and/or 3 cannot be provided)
5. **Residency and Custody Affidavit** completed in full and notarized by resident

**Official Documentation of Custody** (required only when child does not live with birth parents)

If you would like to have a kindergarten packet sent to your home, please call 529-4203. If you have friends or neighbors who have a child eligible for kindergarten in August but do not currently have a child attending Lakewood City Schools, please share this information with them.

Children enrolled in Lakewood City School’s pre-kindergarten program are already enrolled in the District and do not need to re-register. Kindergarten information will also be sent to these families.

If you have any questions regarding registration, please contact your neighborhood school.

## Balloon Creations From “Family Music And More”



by Marge Foley  
Christopher Micko, Ron Fowler, the Flower Clown, and Christina Micko show some of the fabulous balloon creations made at the recent “Family Music and More” program at the Lakewood Public Library.

36<sup>TH</sup>

CLEVELAND INTERNATIONAL

FILM FESTIVAL

MARCH 22-APRIL 1, 2012

TOWER CITY CINEMAS / CLEVELANDFILM.ORG

BE CARRIED AWAY

A stylized illustration of a black whale swimming upwards, holding a large, multi-colored hot air balloon. The hot air balloon has sections of teal, yellow, and orange. The background is a light beige color with a faint silhouette of the Cleveland skyline at the bottom.

Logo for Cuyahoga arts & culture, featuring a stylized sunburst or starburst design above the text "cuyahoga arts & culture" and "strengthening community" below it.



Sports

# CKLA Education Is Key To Success!

by Erin Fach

CKLA Director and LHS Girls Varsity coach, Vladimir Godosev believes that continuing education for coaches will breed success into Lakewood's youth soccer. This spring and summer, Coach Godosev and the Recreation Department have arranged for two US Federation educational programs to be hosted in Lakewood for local coaches as well as coaches across the US. "Coaching education is crucial with what we're trying to build with CKLA and LHS Girls Soccer Varsity program. It's not enough for just one coach to have the knowledge to teach and train our youth. All our coaches should have the concepts and ideas to be able to educate our kids. We have so many great and passionate volunteers; now add direction, add a curriculum, add knowledge about HOW to coach, and you've got an equation for success," says Coach Vlad.

In conjunction with OYSAN, Ohio North's governing soccer body, and Coach Godosev, this spring Lakewood will host for the first time the National D license, which is geared towards travel coaches and entry level premier working with 11-a-side soccer. Here's a general overview of what the course brings this March.

The "D" License consists of theoretical (classroom) and practical (field) instruction on teaching the four components of soccer -- technique, tactics,

fitness and psychology -- as they relate to games between 1v1 and 11v11. The course also includes an extensive "methods" component, designed to improve the pedagogical skills of participating coaches and prepare candidates for the US Soccer national coaching schools.

"When I took this course it opened my eyes to a wide range of concepts. It's like someone opened the waterways and out burst thousands of ideas; many of which I was already applying, but not in such an organized or comprehensive way. I've realized the more courses I take, the more they help me connect the dots," says Coach Vlad. He adds "It's like a guitarist that is self-taught, plays his heart out not knowing that what he's playing is just natural unstructured sound. Then one day he gets an instruc-

tor that helps put that sound on paper, helps clean up a few chords...now it's not just sound, it's music." He adds, "You can see it all coming together, the School Board, Recreation Department, CKLA, LHS Girls Varsity soccer have united to give our youth the best opportunities through this great sport of ours."

Along with the US National D license, Lakewood will also be hosting the US Federation National Youth License. The NYL is designed to provide club directors of coaching, youth coaches, physical education teachers, and soccer administrators with the knowledge to successfully structure soccer environments for children between the ages of five and twelve. The course is often regarded as the

most beneficial and important of the national-level courses. "This one is a big one for me personally and our program; our youth is the most important to me, and giving them an environment and proper coaching that's been lacking or non-existent in this city and area is key. We have to get to our youth early and give them the tools needed to succeed later. Our CKLA PDP program for ages 4-8 years old is the future of our youth soccer in Lakewood," says Coach Vlad. This course will be offered in July and will be open to all coaches nationwide.

What can we say? CKLA is helping pave the road for future soccer... stay tuned for more. For more information please visit [www.cklasoccer.com](http://www.cklasoccer.com) or [www.oysan.org](http://www.oysan.org) for course registration and information.

## Volunteer Lakewood Website

continued from page 1

nizations. The website provides local organizations with the opportunity to post specific volunteer needs to recruit residents to help with projects within their organization. Likewise, residents will be able to utilize the website to find volunteer opportunities that most fit their requirements in a volunteer experience.

The City of Lakewood is making an effort to enhance the collaboration between government, local organiza-

tions and residents to provide needed services. Volunteer Lakewood is looking to match the tremendous talents and skills of our residents with the many organizations that serve our community. This volunteer program is unique because it tries to match a resident's specific skill set with a corresponding volunteer opportunity.

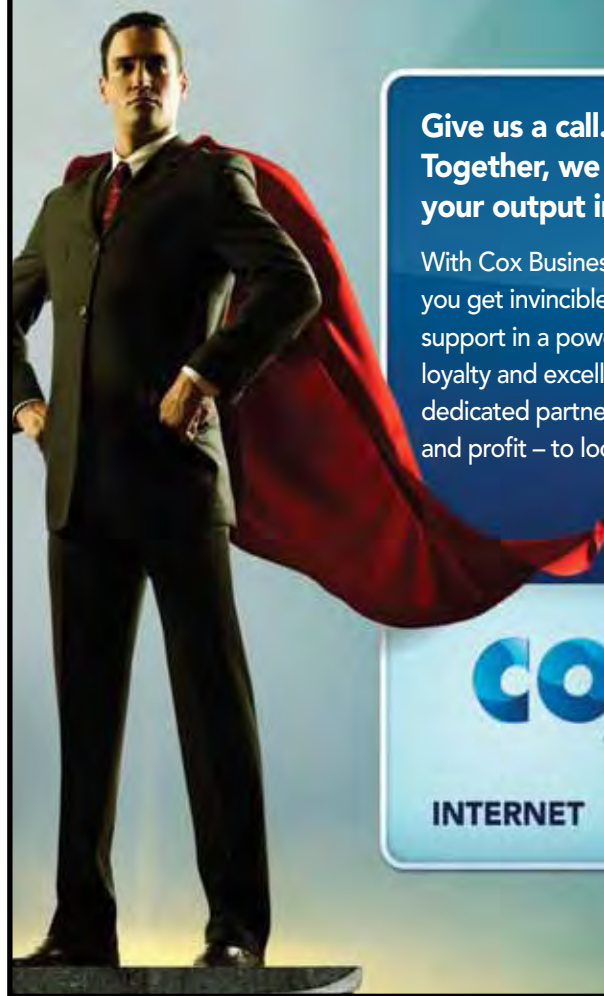
"We are in a period of scarcity at all levels of government- Federal, State, and Local," stated Mayor Mike Summers. "If we expect to support many of the services and institutions we hold

dear, we, as a community, each in our own way, will have to step forward in a meaningful way. Citizens in our very neighborhood may need assistance. As private citizens, we may be able to easily and effectively provide this assistance. Volunteer Lakewood is designed to help match citizens in need with citizens who can help."

For more information about Volunteer Lakewood, contact Michael Bowen, Executive Assistant to the Mayor, at 216-529-6093 or [michael.bowen@lakewoodoh.net](mailto:michael.bowen@lakewoodoh.net).


# RELIABILITY

Cox Business will boost your super ABILITIES



**Give us a call.**  
**Together, we can maximize your output in a single bound.**

With Cox Business' advanced products, you get invincible service and substantial support in a powerful combination of trust, loyalty and excellence. And having a dedicated partner means more time – and profit – to look after your business.



Business®

INTERNET | PHONE | TV

# Eat

## FOR GOOD MEASURE

Learn all about grains, grass-fed beef, and a vegan diet.



**MARCH 10**  
**12:30–4:00 PM**  
Lakewood High School  
14100 Franklin Avenue

**JOIN US at Eat Well Lakewood**  
Come to our event, and then measure the benefits! Sign up for one of our special executive chef demos, featuring Ernie Logsdon from Nature's Bin, Robert Geul from Jammy Buggars, and Demetrios Atheneos from Deagan's Kitchen & Bar. In addition, from 12:30–4:00 PM you can browse displays; get a FREE glucose screening, and pick up tips on nutrition.

For more information or to register for a demo, go to [LiveWellLakewood.org](http://LiveWellLakewood.org) or call **216.529.7695**.



LIVEWELLLAKEWOOD



Lakewood Is Art

# Youth At The Beck: Reckless

by Lauren Fraley

Life has been reckless with the characters in the Beck Center’s upcoming teen production. The play opens with the protagonist, Rachel (played by Meryl Juergens), receiving a confession from her husband (Perry Elyaderani) that he hired a hitman to kill her. But the story isn’t about her escape- it’s about the things in her past she can’t escape. The story is a validating one for anyone who has dealt with loss, regret, or distrust. And let’s be honest, who hasn’t?

But it all happens with some hilarious and absurd moments along the way- moments so absurd and specific it feels like it has to be true. And yet, jumping from car to bedroom, shrink’s office to business office, you can’t ever be entirely sure what’s real and what’s a dream in the fractured, nonlinear story written by Craig Lucas. (You might know him as the playwright of Prelude to a Kiss which he also adapted into a Meg Ryan movie.)

As Rachel wrestles with her own crises, we slip into her world one hint at a time, one coincidence at a time. It’s the seriously flawed but seriously well-meaning people that Rachel encounters



Cast members rehearse a scene using sign language in Beck Teen Theater’s production of “Reckless.”

who turn some of the bitterness into bittersweet. It’s the real and loveable, quirky, mistake-making people that make this reckless world of the play tolerable to live in for an hour and a half- a reminder of that truth as it plays out in our real lives. Among these characters are Lloyd Bophtelophti (say that ten times fast!), played with a striking

contrast of traits by Anthony Newman and his paraplegic wife, Pooty played by the expressive Leah Windahl. Beck Center Associate Director of Education, Jonathan Kronenberger, has directed Reckless two other times, but never with a teen cast. And just like in past Beck Center productions (like last season’s challenging Sondheim

musical, Into The Woods,) Jonathan continues to bring out the best in his young actors. Of course, it’s also thanks to the cast itself, packed with lots more fun character actors to fill the variety of roles from a condescending therapist to game show host. (Bet you can’t wait to see how those characters fit into the story line...)

As I walked into the Beck’s Studio Theatre to see one of the final rehearsals for Reckless, I was greeted by the thing I can only describe as Jonathan-energy: a cheerful and welcoming wave with the simultaneous grounded and focused director’s multitasking. While en-route to another part of the theatre, he explained over his shoulder to me that they were drilling some lines to make sure that the script isn’t ever paraphrased. They’re working with heavy material, but the standards are high for these actors and it shows in the product. Everyone brings their A-game to rehearsal, so it’s no wonder that when a small snag occurs, he can say, “It’s all good!” Opening night will be well worth seeing for teens and adults alike, so get your tickets for an enlightening night of theatre, and to witness the budding of many talented artists.

Beck Teen Theater’s production of Reckless runs in the Studio Theater, February 24 through March 4, 2012. Show times are 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 3 p.m. Sundays. There is a special 10 a.m. student matinee Thursday, March 1.

Tickets for Reckless are \$12 for Adult/Senior (65 and over) and \$10 for Children/Student (18 and under). To purchase tickets, visit [beckcenter.org](http://beckcenter.org) or call 216.521.2540, ext. 10. Beck Center is located at 17801 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood, just 10 minutes west of downtown Cleveland. Free onsite parking is available.

Beck Center’s production of Reckless is presented through special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc. and is sponsored by Cuyahoga Arts and Culture, the Ohio Arts Council, and Music Is Elementary.

about The HeArd visit [www.heard-whatsup.com](http://www.heard-whatsup.com).

Lucas originally wrote Reckless to work through some of the abandonment issues he felt as a result of being left as a baby in the backseat of a car at a gas station with a note pinned to his blanket. This satirical comedy raises the questions of whether we can ever really know people and that perhaps we simply lead reckless lives in which “things just happen.” The play’s plot, with its many comic twists and turns, is so improbable that it genuinely reflects the absurdities of life. Teenagers and their parents will enjoy this very funny play.

A special student matinee 10 a.m. Thursday, March 1 will provide ample learning opportunities for area middle and high school students to explore and discuss the psychological and philosophical topics from the play including alienation, existentialism and self-realization. For special group rates, call Rennie Tisdale at 216.521.2540, ext. 28.

## Beck Theater Teens Learn To “Speak” Without Talking

by Fran Storch

Parents will agree that it seems either you can’t get a word out of teenagers or you can’t get a word in edgewise, which is why it was a real learning experience for teen theater students at the Beck Center when they experienced firsthand some of the challenges facing the speech and hearing impaired. Recently, these aspiring thespians had the unique opportunity to learn to communicate using sign language from members of The HeArd, a group of professional theatrical sign language interpreters.

ASL coaches Deborah Epstein and Angie Herzberger joined students at rehearsals for Beck Teen Theater’s upcoming production of Reckless, opening February 24 in Beck’s Studio Theater. Several characters in the play use sign language to communicate with another character who cannot speak or hear. Epstein and Herzberger worked with cast members, teaching them basic sign language skills to help



Sign language interpreters from The HeArd coach students during rehearsals.

prepare them for their roles in the play. “One of the hardest things to do is speaking and signing simultaneously, which they are required to do throughout the show,” explained Jonathan Kronenberger, associate director of Theater Education at the Beck Center and director of Reckless. “The students did an incredible job picking up sign language. By the second rehearsal with our ASL coaches, they were doing so well we were able to add more details and more signing.”

Cast members continued to learn more signs on their own, even sharing private jokes. Students whose characters do not sign in the play were also

eager to learn and emulate what they saw in rehearsals. Kronenberger appreciates the valuable lessons students learned from this life-changing experience. “I am extremely grateful to these two dedicated women for sharing their talents and inspiring our students to express themselves in a new way.”

A dark comedy by Tony Award-nominated playwright Craig Lucas, Reckless has been described as “a modern-day Alice in a perilous winter wonderland.” Coincidentally, The HeArd will be signing an upcoming production of Alice in Wonderland at the Fine Arts Association in Willoughby on February 26. To learn more

## A Lakewood Native’s Homecoming

by Jeremy Barker

As long as I can remember Lakewood native, Dan Shaw, has been an influential member of the music community. At Lakewood High School he performed with the Jazz Band. At Tri-C jazz studies his senior year he studied jazz piano with Joe Hunter and Jackie Warren, and jazz improvisation with Lakewood saxophone legend and mentor, Ernie Krivda. His band

“Jesse Michael Barr” will be headed out to Portland Oregon and to California, but first they are coming home for two shows. First they will be playing at Mahall’s on Friday, March 2 in Lakewood, then on March 3 they will be playing at The Parkview Tavern in Cleveland. If you would like to see Dan Shaw and “Jesse Michael Barr” at Mahall’s they would definitely appreciate the support and a send-off.

LASKEY CPA

Timothy P. Laskey  
certified public accountant

Tax Preparation &  
Accounting Services

individual · small business  
corporate · estate

12511 Madison Avenue  
Lakewood, OH 44107  
P: 216/521-2100  
F: 216/521-3258



Primary Election 2012

by Margaret Brinich - Editor

For our last issue prior to the March 6 primary, we approached the campaigns of all three candidates in the hotly contested Democratic Primary to provide answers to a standardized set of questions to help our readers compare their options for the new 9th Congressional District. The new district runs along the shores of Lake Erie and combines parts of the 9th and 10th Congressional Districts. Incumbents Marcy Kaptur (current 9th District) and Dennis Kucinich (current 10th District) are both on the Democratic Primary ballot, along with newcomer Graham Veysey. Due to time and space constraints the two Republican Candidates, Steven W. Kraus and Samuel J. Wurzelbacher were not approached at this time. In addition to the victors from the Democratic and Republican Prima-

Marcy Kaptur



1) What makes you the best candidate for the 9th District?

Public service is about helping people. It's not a show or a game. It's about getting real results.

The key is working together. In its endorsement of my candidacy, the Plain Dealer cited my ability to create coalitions. And former Cleveland Mayor George Voinovich cited my ability to work in a bipartisan manner.

My leadership model is built on cooperation and collaboration. We need to leverage the creative abilities of all—elected officials, business leaders, teachers, faith-based communities, seniors, and ordinary citizens.

Let me give a concrete example. The idea for a World War Two Memorial came from a constituent named Roger Durbin, who had fought in the Battle of the Bulge. He approached me at a local fish fry with his idea. I took it and worked 17 years to turn it into reality. The result: a beautiful memorial in our nation's capital that honors the Greatest Generation.

Seniority matters in Congress. I am the longest-serving woman in the House of Representatives and second-ranking Democrat on the powerful Appropriations Committee, which approves all federal spending. That means I can bring real results for our community in transportation, housing, infrastructure, seniors, Lake Erie, community agriculture—the whole gamut.

And I won't back down from a fight, either. I led the opposition to the Wall Street bailout and stood up to a president of my own party in the historic fight against NAFTA.

Please visit my web site, [www.marcykapstur.com](http://www.marcykapstur.com), and review my legislative record at [thomas.loc.gov](http://thomas.loc.gov).

I am an attentive, hard-working Congresswoman focused 100 per-

cent on Northern Ohio. I have already visited Lakewood many times (to support the Beck Center and to work with Mayor Summers to address foreclosed vacant homes, for example). I look forward to meeting everyone in the weeks ahead. I know we'll be great partners!

2) What do you see as the greatest problem for this District in the next two years?

The housing crisis is immediate and relates directly to a longer-term problem of unemployment.

My plan for job creation is already working. Let me share its outline with you.

Step 1: IDENTIFY A GROWTH SECTOR. Toledo identified solar energy; Lorain identified sensor technology.

Step 2: SECURE FEDERAL DOLLARS FOR R&D. We secured millions of research dollars for solar alone; likewise, Lorain County Community College has received substantial federal support for its Entrepreneurship and Innovation center.

Step 3: LEVERAGE PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS INTO REAL RESULTS. In both locales, we're seeing job growth and spinoff companies. Northwest Ohio is a solar "hotspot" with approximately 6,000 jobs created. And NorTech estimates hundreds of jobs just from the Speed to Market Accelerator at LCCC.

That same model can work here. But one piece of the puzzle is still missing.

Step 1: Check. Biomedicine has been identified as a growth cluster with exciting promise.

Step 3: Check. Vibrant public-private partnerships are already in place through existing institutions.

What's missing is Step 2: Federal support for research and development. That would be my priority as your representative in Washington.

With a stronger economy, Ninth District communities can better address the housing crisis. Housing woes plague every community; Cuyahoga County alone has approximately 15,000 vacant houses.

Mayor Summers and four members of city council showed me a house on Cranford that is being rehabilitated with Federal dollars. Lakewood's leaders should be commended for their commitment, but they need help. One tool: my proposal for Rebuild America Bonds.

As always, the key is working

together. I will be a strong advocate for Lakewood and a reliable partner at the federal level.

3) What is your vision for cities/suburbs like Lakewood and how will you use your position in Congress to fulfill this vision?

As an urban planner by training, I see Lakewood as a quintessentially "livable" community.

I am convinced that North Coast of Ohio is one of the most sustainable places on our planet. We live along the largest body of fresh water in the world. And the value of Lakewood's geographical location on the Lake Erie shoreline, just minutes from downtown Cleveland, is inestimable.

Good schools, strong local government, affordable housing, and a diverse population add to Lakewood's high livability ranking. An emerging "creative class" is already driving economic development and will only gain momentum.

In short, the table is set for future growth. Nonetheless, Lakewood needs effective representation at the national level to meet its challenges, including an aging infrastructure.

I would focus on helping Lakewood obtain its fair share of federal dollars to maintain roads and streets, sewers, and utilities to help attract new commercial business and even light industry. Although Lakewood's housing stock is in better condition than many other communities, it needs constant attention through federal programs to stave off blight.

I look forward to assisting nascent industries such as food production and urban gardening—and certainly the arts! We simply must play to our strengths.

And I would collaborate with public and private partners to make the shoreline an even greater asset to the quality of life that will continue to distinguish Lakewood. With adequate green space and enhanced recreational opportunities, the Gold Coast in Lakewood could be an even more irresistible residential destination.

I can memorize the street grid and review planning documents, but the most important knowledge will come from listening to leaders such as Mayor Summers, Council President Powers, Council members, members of LakewoodAlive, and of course the people in this vibrant community.

Thank you for this opportunity to share my vision.

1) What makes you the best candidate for the 9th District?

I know Lakewood unlike anyone else serving in an elected position in this area. I chose my Congressional headquarters to be located in Lakewood because of the centrality of its location to the rest of the west side. Since my office is in Lakewood we have our fingers on the pulse of the city, its economy, its academic life, its spiritual and social life. My office is involved with the people of Lakewood at every level of the community. We specifically located next to a seniors' center so we could be of assistance to senior citizens. We handle hundreds of cases a year for people in Lakewood on a variety of issues, including Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security, Veterans and Immigration matters. My office has been responsible for limiting train traffic through Lakewood with an unprecedented agreement involving many levels of government, many communities and many business interests. We were able to achieve rail and safety improvements which have made Lakewood a safer community. We worked with the City to save and secure the Lakewood Social Security office and assist the city on a wide range of projects. We are participants in the civic life of Lakewood and look forward to continuing the service to the people.

2) What do you see as the greatest problem for this District in the next two years?

The greatest problem is unemployment. Poverty levels are up in Lakewood because of unemployment. Foreclosures are up because of unemployment. On a national level



Above left: Stopping by Bela Dubby coffee shop on Madison, talking with a guy from GM's factory line. Above right: With my wife, Elizabeth, delivering a Congressional Resolution to Lakewood High students for a film they made on how smoking and second hand smoke is bad for your health. Right: Running into Mel Page at the Lakewood Arts Festival.



One of the many public meetings I have held at my Lakewood office. This one was on predatory lending. I led the way in uncovering this practice and what it was doing to America, this region and my district.

we must create good-paying public sector jobs so that people in Lakewood will have more options for work. We need to rebuild our infrastructure and we need new ways of financing the rebuilding of America. I have proposed a means of the government creating 7,000,000 jobs, debt free, so that we can finally create the investment in our nation which is long overdue. Additionally, we must continue to help people save their homes from foreclosure. My office is very involved with that. We must continue to support the Lakewood School system so that our young people will have a quality education.

3) What is your vision for cities/suburbs like Lakewood and how will you use your position in Congress to fulfill this vision?

My vision for cities requires the Federal Government to reinstitute revenue-sharing and to provide massive funds to rebuild our infrastructure. Cities need specific programs to help protect public



Graham Veysey



1) What makes you the best candidate for the 9th District?

As the only fresh alternative in this race, I can bring an approach that is much needed – a common sense approach. Congress is broken. It has just a 9% approval rating, the worst ever. It is broken because people have lost faith in Congress. Our country is in a fiscal crisis. We have a \$15 trillion debt which will become \$26 trillion in 10 years unless we do something about it. Congress is not going to be fixed by two people who have been politicians for a combined 70 years. Kaptur and Kucinich are creatures of Congress and care more about scoring political points than policy solutions.

I am a small business owner and entrepreneur. I know what it is like to forgo a pay period to make sure that the employees get what they've earned. Congress doesn't understand that logic. That is why they have racked up the debt, which threatens investments we need to make in job creation and economic recovery, education, and the environment.

I'm calling for the implementation of the bipartisan debt-commission report that both of my opponents ignore. Congresswoman Kaptur would like to address our fiscal crisis with the same committees that got us into this mess in the first place. The failure of the Appropriations and Budget Committees created the so-called "super committee" which was a super failure. Congressman Kucinich won't implement the plan because he refuses to admit that there is a fiscal crisis at all. I can give him 15 trillion reasons why he is wrong.

The March 6 Primary is a referendum on Congress. Any registered voter can participate in the primary

– Democrats, Independents/unaffiliated voters and even Republicans can pull the Democratic ballot and influence this election and vote for the future instead of the same old, same old.

2) What do you see as the greatest problem for this District in the next two years?

JOBS. JOBS. JOBS. The new 9th district can't let the economic recovery bypass us like the last one did. I have the energy and understanding of the hyper-connected global economy so that we shed the rust belt image and become known as the digital belt.

The jobs that we create through public-private partnerships need to be jobs that compete in the age we are in. We need to build on our manufacturing base because we make the best things in the world here in Northern Ohio. I'll be a Congressman that realizes our full potential and that the goods we make can be sold not only in other parts of Ohio and America but all over the world.

We need to create jobs for today and jobs of the future that address the poverty that is rampant in this new 9th district. Congresswoman Kaptur's Toledo experienced the highest rise in poverty in America and Kucinich has represented Cleveland which has the second highest poverty rate for big cities in America. We need to create jobs in order to alleviate the poverty along the new 9th district. Kucinich will talk about the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan but the War on Poverty is being lost and I will be the new soldier in that fight by making sure we have a two-pronged approach of breaking the cycle of poverty through investments in early childhood development that focuses

on traditional pre-K while elevating the focus on further parental education both at home and at post-secondary educational institutions. If we don't make sure that we fight to break the cycle of poverty, then we'll be having the same conversations in 15 years about the abysmal graduation rates and won't be competing globally.

3) What is your vision for cities/suburbs like Lakewood and how will you use your position in Congress to fulfill this vision?

We have to invest in our cities. It is disappointing to see that although cities produce 80% of our economic activity, they were the direct recipients of just 8% of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Instead, money went to the states that add bureaucracy and geographic bias. We need to make sure that we invest in places where economic activity occurs so that we get the biggest bang for our hard-earned dollars.

Places like Lakewood thrive because of their neighborhoods and the relationships residents have with each other. Needed focus has been turned to the foreclosure crisis that decimated certain neighborhoods. I'm encouraged with the settlement with the predatory mortgage peddlers but know we can do more. Those dollars need to be invested in neighborhoods with leadership that has a plan to address the problem house by house, block by block.

Congress continues to reduce Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) that are helping to maintain and revitalize neighborhoods instead of looking at the efficiencies in communities that are spending wisely. That is why I will propose a race to the top, not in education, but in CDBG funding.

Cities across the country -- but particularly in Northern Ohio -- are confronted with aging infrastructure like sewer and water treatment facilities that are in desperate need of an upgrade. Climate patterns and technology are vastly different than when city leaders of yesteryear put these systems in place. The Federal Government and Congress have the opportunity to act as catalysts or obstacles to moving these projects forward. To date, they've been more of an obstacle. In Congress, I will fight to be an effective catalyst.

The Great Lakes Theater Festival At The Lakewood Public Library

continued from page 1

the costume designer and Richard Ingraham as the sound designer.

The Mysterious Affair at Styles will be held on March 5 at 7 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium and is free and open to the public. This

60-minute production is appropriate for audiences of all ages and includes an introduction and post-performance discussion. For more information go to [www.lakewood-publiclibrary.org/calendar](http://www.lakewood-publiclibrary.org/calendar) or call 216-226-8275 ext. 127.

Morgan Maseth writes for the Lakewood Public Library.



# Lakewood Cares

## North Coast Health Ministry Attains Outstanding Achievement Recognition For High Blood Pressure Care

by Jeanie Gergel

North Coast Health Ministry (NCHM), a free clinic serving the low-income uninsured on Greater Cleveland's West Side, has attained recognition by Better Health Greater Cleveland for outstanding achievement in high blood pressure care and control. The results were published in the Better Health Greater Cleveland Winter 2012 Community Health Checkup.

"We have long said it is our goal to provide care to our patients that is on par in quality with that provided to anyone of greater economic means or regardless of insurance status," says NCHM Executive Director, Lee Elmore. "This demonstrates that the quality of care we are providing for our patients with hypertension is not only on par – it is of the highest quality in the region."

Eighty percent of North Coast Health Ministry's patients have chronic diseases, with hypertension being among the most prevalent.



Members of the North Coast Health Ministry Chronic Illness Management Team

"Our entire team is focused on providing coordinated, proactive disease management to our patients with chronic illness, and we are extremely pleased and proud to be recognized for excellence in managing this particular disease," says NCHM Medical Director Philip Tomsik, M.D.

North Coast Health Ministry serves uninsured individuals that fall below 250% of the federal poverty level (income level varies based on family size) within 17 zip codes in northwestern Cuyahoga or north-

eastern Lorain counties. To become a patient, interested individuals should call 216-228-7878.

**About Better Health Greater Cleveland**

Better Health Greater Cleveland is a multi-stakeholder partnership that improves the health and value of health care provided to people with chronic medical conditions in Northeast Ohio. It is an independent, not-for-profit program established in 2007 under the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Aligning Forces for Quality initiative. Its focus on electronic medical records-catalyzed public reporting of performance on nationally endorsed and locally vetted quality standards has made it a leader in the use of technology to drive improvements in health care delivery and clinical outcomes in primary care. A region-wide Quality Improvement Learning Collaborative is a vital component of its work, leveraging data to identify opportunities and best practices in improving care and outcomes within a peer network of primary care professionals.

## Cars Purchased During February Benefit FLDP

by Alanna Faith

Friends of the Lakewood Dog Park organized and hosted a pet food donation drive at Lakewood Dog Park on Feb.5, benefiting My Best Friend's Bowl ([www.MyBestFriendsBowl.com](http://www.MyBestFriendsBowl.com)). Judy Towner of MBFB was thrilled. "The final tally was over 1,000 pounds of dog and cat food and that will help us fill a lot of pet bowls."

The Super BOWL Sunday pet food donation drive scored a huge success! HOORAH!

Plus, it's a WIN-WIN situation. Not only did all the pet food donated benefit the efforts of My Best Friend's Bowl, but Ganley Westside Subaru is offering a donation program to benefit Friends of the Lakewood Dog Park too!

For every new or pre-owned vehicle purchased from Laurie Sekeres at Ganley Westside Subaru during the month of February, \$100 will be donated to Friends of the Lakewood Dog Park, Inc. 501(3)(c).

Friends of the Lakewood Dog Park, Inc. (FLDP) is the nonprofit,



The Friends of the Lakewood Dog Park Pet Food Drive scores success as pet food donations overflow.

all-volunteer organization that, in conjunction with the City of Lakewood, manages the Lakewood Dog Park. The FLDP supplies the amenities at the dog park, and manages the website, Facebook page and communications with dog park members. Friends of the Lakewood Dog Park relies on memberships--only \$10 a year per person--and fundraising events to cover the dog park expenses. To join or donate visit [www.LakewoodDogPark.org](http://www.LakewoodDogPark.org)

Laurie Sekeres is an animal lover and supports pet and rescue groups in the Cleveland area. She was on hand

Feb. 5 with two "Dog Tested, Dog Approved" Subaru Outbacks to stuff with all of the pet food donations.

Half of all Subaru owners own a dog, so we know there are a lot of canine pet parents who already drive Subarus. Is it time for you to add or purchase another vehicle? Did you know that U.S. households with dogs now outnumber households with children? All the more reason to purchase a dog-friendly vehicle and support Friends of the Lakewood Dog Park!

Please contact Laurie Sekeres at Ganley Westside Subaru, 25730 Lorain Rd., North Olmstead, Ohio 44070 or call 216-513-9565. Purchase a new or pre-owned vehicle from Laurie during February 2012 and Ganley Westside Subaru will donate \$100 to Friends of the Lakewood Dog Park.

Please "LIKE" both Friends of the Lakewood Dog Park/Lakewood Dog Park and My Best Friend's Bowl on Facebook.

Also, add your name to our email list and receive updates of events, and news about the Lakewood Dog Park. Visit [www.LakewoodDogPark.org](http://www.LakewoodDogPark.org) and click the email icon.

**Cove United Methodist Church**  
A traditional Bible based ministry anchored in the love of God for ALL people.

**S.O.S THIRT SHOP**  
OPEN Tuesday & Saturday 1-4PM

**\$5 BAG SALE**  
EVERYTHING IN STORE  
Must fit in bag. Certain items excluded.

**Join Us!** **Worship & Youth Sunday School • 9am**

- Rise & Shine Early Morning Worship at 9am
- Children's Sunday School/Nursery during worship
- Adult Sunday School following worship
- Tuesday Night Bible Study at 7pm

**Feb. 22nd ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE 7PM**  
**Feb. 29th BOY SCOUT OPEN HOUSE**  
**Apr. 6th "LIVING LAST SUPPER" Presentation 7:30PM**  
**Apr. 7th COMMUNITY EASTER EGG HUNT 2PM**  
**Apr. 8th EASTER SUNDAY SERVICE 9AM**

**12501 Lake Avenue • 216-521-7424**

**Serving the City of Lakewood**  
**Lakewood Seventh-Day Adventist Church**  
1382 Arthur Avenue, Lakewood, OH

**First Saturday, of the month, Potluck begins 12:45pm**  
Potluck immediately follows service. Service begins at 11:00am. Bible Study begins at 10:00am  
All are welcome any time

**The SDA Community Service Center**  
Providing free gently used clothing, shoes, household items, & toys for over 50 years  
Every Tuesday 9am-11am and Thursday 5pm-7pm, Phone: 216-221-5941 (please call ahead)  
Item donations are accepted at the same place and time.

**Little One's Ministry**  
Providing free diapers, wipes, & baby toiletries, to over 170 families for over 3 years  
Recipients must obtain a voucher from the Lakewood Community Service Center  
First Thursday, 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"



Lakewood Cares

# Love

by Paula Maeder Connor

Love, heart health, and Lent seem to be February notions. With Valentine’s Day and Heart Health Month, our culture has connected the old love holiday with red blood cells and heart arteries. It’s a good match...a connection between what some call a “Hallmark Holiday” and a current reality. The culture sees red in February and realizes more and more that the stresses of life and heart attacks are connected. And why not? All that chocolate will definitely affect weight and weight affects heart health (or lack of health as the case may be). And you know those diamonds are found/mined by people

## Ministerial Musings:

# A Lenten Devotion

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

This is it: Lent is about to begin. February 22 is Ash Wednesday, the start of the Lenten season. Many people will gather in sanctuaries and cathedrals across the world to share the bread and cup of Holy Communion and to receive ashes on their foreheads to mark the start of our contemplative journey.

I recall that my Catholic childhood friends had to give something up for Lent, be it chocolate, or television, or drinking soda. The idea was to identify with the sufferings of Christ. “How does denying ourselves a Hershey bar and a can of Coca Cola help

## Ministerial Musings:

# What Is Lent?

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

Take a look at Matthew 4:1-11. This is the text around which the Christian Church modeled the Lenten season. Jesus journeys into the wilderness right before he begins his public ministry. He is tempted by Satan for forty days and forty nights.

In biblical parlance, “forty” signifies “a really long time.” According to Genesis 7:4, it rained for forty days and forty nights when Noah and his family were in the ark. That does not necessarily mean forty calendar days. It means a

so poor they will never own even one uncut rough...maybe not even a hut...and might be killed if they try to keep a piece of their find.

My thoughts, energies and contemplations go toward the above two parts of culture and awareness and also to Lent...what was once a 40-day holy week complete with down-looking people, sin-fueled sermons, abstinence or sacrifice of yummy and worldly pleasures, and following bloody footprints to a cross.

In recent years, thanks be to God, (TBTG), Lent for us in Lutheran circles is concentrated more on growth and waiting. We grow in knowledge

us identify with the crucifixion?” I remember asking myself. Although I better understand how denying one’s self a routine pleasure is a spiritual practice, it made little sense to me as a child.

As I got older, I heard about people adopting spiritual practices for this season. In other words, they decided to do something they normally wouldn’t do to make it part of their six-and-a-half week Lenten sojourn.

Some people choose to read through the Gospels during these forty-plus days. Others decide to pray more diligently following a specific

long, long time. (Being inundated with the stench of a floating menagerie for one week would be too long for me!)

The same is true of the temptation of Christ. Fasting for just a few days would make one famished. Contrary to reason, this ancient Christian practice is actually supposed to make us stronger to face whatever trials come our way. Jesus prepared himself for one of the greatest tests of all — and he passed it with flying colors.

The forty days of Lent reflect this lengthy, arduous time of temptation. (It does not include Sundays, because we always celebrate the resurrection on the Sabbath.)

According to the Methodist theologian, Laurence Hull Stookey, Lent has a dual purpose. It is “a time for probing considerations of our human condition, including sin and its deadly consequences for both individuals and society” and “a time for an equally intense consideration of the new possibilities offered to us in Jesus Christ and their implications for practical living.” (1996: 80)

Carve time out of your busy schedule over these next six-and-a-half weeks to dig deep. Make this a family time of sacred introspection and faithful devotion. It will make the empty tomb we find at the end of this season all the more glorious.

of Christ. We grow in devotional time. We grow in doing good. We wait for God to speak. We wait for answers to prayer. We wait for divine love that penetrates our world...knowing all the while that the story of death and resurrection is coming, too!

TBTG we can wait and grow at the same time and be about another cultural reality of multi-tasking. With the press of a key we can be anywhere without waiting. With the click of a mouse we can see old growth charts or chart new ones. With Photoshop we can grow large or small...just like those funny mirrors at circuses or fun houses allow us to do as we step in front of them.



prayer-pattern. Others plunge into the work of a Christian devotionalist such as Henri Nouwen, Barbara Brown Taylor, Anne Lamott, or, for the more traditional, someone like N.T. Wright or Max Lucado.

The point is to enrich and foster one’s own spiritual growth, as opposed to giving up coffee or watching CSI Miami.

What will you do? How will you nurture your soul and use this time to deepen your relationship with the Living Christ? I encourage you to do so, and to do so in a constructive manner. Pray. Read. Serve. Use this time to find the true Jesus — and to find yourself.

**Prayer:** Holy God, be with us as we begin this Lenten sojourn. Accompany us down the stony road and into the

# Exploring The Christian Faith At Faith

by Mark Rollenhagen

They are the fundamental questions asked by any journalist: Who, what, when, where and why?

Those 5 W’s will provide the basis for an exploration of the Christian faith, beginning Saturday, March 3, at Faith Lakewood, at the corner of Hilliard and Woodward in southwest Lakewood.

In five sessions, we will examine the roots of Christianity in the world’s broader search for meaning and understanding and explore the development of basic Christian principles and practices and how they do – or don’t – have relevance for today.

“The 5 W’s: A Guide to the Christian Faith” is not a canned Bible study or an off-the-shelf program offered by a denominational organization or megachurch. It is questions and discussion for people interested in exploring spirituality and faith.

For what will you choose to wait this year? Into what do you want (or need) to grow? These are Lenten questions and we have 40 days to allow God to grow us into wait-ers and/or to wait us into growers. Are you a diamond in the rough that, although not ready for Valentine’s Day, may be graced with your rough edges being rubbed and your coming out a strikingly new person?

TBTG we will do both. The heart-heavy month of February might also make our hearts heavy with inability to wait or to be sluggish in growing. Yet God comes! God pushes us gently sometimes and fiercely others. God supports us always in, through, and beyond waiting...yet never beyond growing.

TBTG there is a family of Christ in which our waiting is comforted, supported, and oftentimes grieved with friends who experience the same. TBTG there is a family of Christ where growing is expected, mistakes are normal, and courage is prayed for.

Come and see. There is an energy of Spirit that gives love, heart, and Lent a time together. Come and hug one another in peace. Come and greet one another with love. Wait and grow together in February.

One family of God meets Sundays, 10:30 a.m., at 16400 Detroit Avenue at Trinity Lutheran Church. Come!

*Pastor Paula Maeder Connor has been the Pastor at Trinity Lutheran Church since 1990. Trinity is birthing an outreach arm, Trinity Lakewood Community Outreach, that is meeting needs of people here in Lakewood.*

*vast wilderness. Remind us that the way through such a time of spiritual deliberation is by immersing ourselves in your Word and following your way. Bless us, we pray, as we do in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.*

I’ve developed the sessions as a former daily newspaper reporter and editor who became the pastor at Faith Lutheran Church last fall. “Faith Lakewood” is the congregation’s community connection effort.

The sessions will begin at 5:30 p.m. on five consecutive Saturdays, beginning March 3. The format will include 45 minutes of presentation and discussion, a short break for a simple meal, and another 30 minutes of discussion – out by 7 or 7:30 p.m.

Please register in advance by calling 216-226-6500 or e-mail office@faithlakewood.org and include your name and phone number. If you need childcare, let us know.

Faith is located at 16511 Hilliard Road and you can find us on Facebook under “Faith Lakewood” or on the web at [www.faithlakewood.org](http://www.faithlakewood.org).

*Mark Rollenhagen is the pastor of Faith Lutheran Church, Lakewood.*

Even from my sins, God has drawn good -Augustine

SUNDAY NIGHTS 5:00P  
LAKEWOOD LIBRARY AUDITORIUM  
(IT'S IN THE BASEMENT)  
15425 DETROIT AVENUE

  
prodigalcommunity.com



# Business News

## More Than Just Lunch: Lakewood Chamber Members Reap Benefits Through NOACC

by Valerie Mechenbier

Businesses and individuals join the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce for many different reasons: networking opportunities, increased exposure, business alliances, educational seminars, business-to-business marketing, a stronger voice in the community, cost-effective advertising and sponsorship opportunities, and more. One benefit of chamber membership that directly and positively impacts a business' bottom line comes from the Lakewood Chamber's affiliation with the Northern Ohio Area Chambers of Commerce (NOACC). NOACC is a regional partnership of over 120 community-based chambers of commerce in northern Ohio dedicated to helping chambers deliver competitive and cost-saving benefits and services for almost 35,000 member businesses. NOACC's mission is to harness the group buying-power of the NOACC chamber partnership to provide benefits and resources that the individual business

or local chamber would be unable to obtain on their own. Members of the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce (a member of NOACC) are able to realize significant cost savings by taking advantage of these NOACC benefits:

Accounts Receivables and Collection Management. In today's challenging economic conditions, Lakewood Chamber members have found it necessary and more important than ever before to protect their organization's cash flow. NOACC offers a receivables management and collection program from AmerAssist AR Solutions, Inc.

Group Health Insurance—Anthem. Chamber members get the purchasing power of the group insurance market through their membership, with access to the comprehensive care and quality providers they've come to expect.

Group Life & Disability Insurance – AnthemLife. Products such as Group Term Life and Accidental Death & Dismemberment, Short Term Disability,

Long Term Disability, Dependent Life, Voluntary Life (VGTL), and Voluntary Dental (PDP) plans are available to Chamber members through Anthem-Life.

Workers' Compensation Group Rating Program. Member businesses can better manage their workers' compensation programs, learn how to handle claims, and work with a claims representative from NOACC's endorsed TPA, Benefits 1 Group.

Managed Care Organization (MCO). University Hospitals CompCare offers a workers' comp local MCO: quality care, strong customer service, proven return-to-work results, and discounts on treatment by University Hospitals' Provider Network.

Merchant Credit Card Processing Services. Heartland Payment Systems handles all elements of credit card transaction processing for large and small business, offering a host of services that make one-stop payment processing a reality for chamber mem-

bers.

Payroll Processing. Heartland has also created value-added small business payroll service programs for NOACC Members.

Employee Wellness Program. The Wellness Council of Northeast Ohio provides wellness benefits to chamber members in the following areas: the Chamber Weight Loss and Exercise Challenge, the Quitline Nicotine Replacement Therapy Smoking Cessation Program, and the Walk Across America Pedometer Contest.

Office Supplies and Services. Independence Business Supply has designed a program for NOACC Members for the purchasing of office supplies, ad specialties, furniture, janitorial and sanitary supplies, and full-service printing, significantly reducing chamber members' expenses and simplifying the ordering process.

Shipping and Freight Services. NOACC has teamed up with PartnerShip®, a freight management company headquartered in Westlake, OH, to provide chamber members with extraordinary value on FedEx shipping services.

## Member Spotlight: The Lakewood/Rocky River Sunrise Rotary Club

by Valerie Mechenbier

The Rotary Club of Lakewood/Rocky River Sunrise (the "morning group" of The Rotary Club of Lakewood/Rocky River) is a volunteer organization of business and professional leaders who emulate the goal of Rotary: Service Above Self. Rotary members participate in many activities and service projects in the Lakewood and Rocky River communities. The club also founded the Interact Club at Lakewood High School, which involves high school students in local and international projects and helps to teach them the values of Rotary. To learn more about the Sunrise Rotary Club,

attend one of their weekly meetings (Wednesdays at 7:15 a.m.) at the Don Umerley Civic Center in Rocky River,

go to [www.lrrsunriserotary.org](http://www.lrrsunriserotary.org), or call Kathy Berkshire (President) at 216-970-8887.

## Lakewood Chamber Of Commerce Upcoming Events

**Friday, February 24**  
**Lakewood Chamber of Commerce Monthly Meeting**  
6th Annual Outstanding Work Ethic Awards Luncheon  
Presented to exceptional students of West Shore Career-Technical District programs  
This meeting is sponsored by the Lakewood/Rocky River Sunrise Rotary Club  
\$15 members, \$20 non-members  
**Lakewood Park Women's Pavilion**  
**14532 Lake Avenue, Lakewood**  
**11:30 a.m. networking, 12:00 p.m. lunch**

This meeting is sponsored by UA Lakewood  
\$15 members, \$20 non-members  
**UA Lakewood**  
**14725 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood**  
**7:30am networking, 8am breakfast**

**Thursday, March 29**  
**Lakewood Chamber of Commerce Education Task Force Workshop**  
"What Bikeability Means for Your Business"  
Free, Open to all  
**Beck Center for the Arts**  
**7:30pm**

**Friday, March 16**  
**Lakewood Chamber of Commerce Monthly Meeting**  
Breakfast meeting, Presentation by Dr. Robert Weil, President of Lakewood Hospital

## Team Lakewood 1st Annual Chili Cook-off Is A Hearty Success!

by Maggie Robinson

Thanks to all the neighbors, clients and guests who came to the Howard Hanna Team Lakewood's First Annual Chili Cook-off on February 16. We had a wonderful fund-raising event for the Children's Free Care Fund charity that provides free health care to children in need. Ten Howard Hanna agents made their BEST chili offerings for the public to enjoy. There was HOT chili and MEATY chili and NOT SO HOT chili and CHICKEN chili and Vegetarian Chili and TURKEY chili and BOILERMAKER chili and CHILI DOGS! There was French bread and corn

bread and onions, cheese, sour cream and desserts....oh MY! Once the diners had finished sampling, they were able to choose their "Top Chili Chef!" This year our winner was Jeff Curtis, for his 4-Chorizo Chili! (This author said it made your mouth say, WOW).

If you weren't able to join us, stay tuned, as we have lots of HH Team Lakewood community events coming up. And this was just our FIRST annual cook-off!

Maggie Robinson is a Real Estate Agent with Howard Hanna on Warren Rd. who has been part of the Lakewood community for over 22 years.

## Hometown Resident Melana Carbary Earns Prestigious Industry Credential

by Laura Gorman

Melana Carbary, a resident of Lakewood, OH, was recently awarded one of the life insurance industry's premier professional credentials, the Chartered Life Underwriter (CLU) designation from the American College.

The CLU program gives insurance representatives in-depth knowledge and skills to assist clients with their insurance and financial needs. To earn the CLU designation, Carbary passed the required courses for the program, met the specified experience level and ethical standards, and agreed to comply with the American College Code of Ethics and procedures.

15106 Detroit Ave.  
216-529-2328

come celebrate our  
*Sweet Sixteen*  
anniversary sale

Great Savings  
throughout the store  
thru the month of February

lion and blue  
CLOTHING • GIFTS • JEWELRY

like us  updates  
specials more

a neighborhood shop  
a world of treasures



Business News

# The Reiki Room Healing Arts Center Is Now Open!

*by Gina Tatsumi*

Anyone who has ever seen the movie, “Mr. Blandings Builds His Dream House” or “The Money Pit” can appreciate the hard work involved in remodeling and can perhaps appreciate what goes into opening a new business. At times, when I was working on getting The Reiki Room Healing Arts Center ready for opening, I felt as if I was pushing a boulder uphill, but I have enjoyed every minute of it.

We offer treatments of Reiki, Massage, cupping, reflexology, as well as acupuncture and chiropractic care with Dr. Adam Davis, who also believes that diet and the use of supplements can cure disease, especially when incorporated with other alternative modalities.

Reiki is a form of energy healing that is now being recognized by hospitals and physicians as a complement to treatments offered by Western medicine.

Reiki works with a person’s chakras, or energy centers, bringing balance to these areas, which become imbalanced when disease or stress affects the body.

The Reiki is simple, yet profound. People are amazed at the amount of heat that comes from my hands. I had a client jump off the table once after a treatment and check and see “where I

hid whatever made my hands become so warm.” I explained, That’s the Reiki fire!

I have been doing Reiki as a Reiki Master since 2004.

I learned the healing art of Reiki when I had a herniated disc in my back. A close friend took me to see a mutual friend when I was in dire pain. She taught us Reiki over that weekend, and I began to work on myself and saw improvement.

The universe kept prompting me to continue with the Reiki training, but I was very skeptical. I was struggling with the fact that ordinary people can do extraordinary things! Looking back now, I realize I have always been a healer.

The Reiki gave me a tool to use to help others in the world.

At first I was very afraid of my gift!

It came down to me opening a Bible one day and asking God... “Okay, God. You want me to be a healer? Show me a sign!” I closed my eyes, opened the Bible and pointed to a passage.

I was stunned to read “And some shall be healers”...wow...and it was highlighted...in yellow.

Ask and ye shall receive! The rest is history. I went onto become a Reiki Master in the next few years.

It was after treating a client who

was healed with fibrosis in her lungs that I discovered another gift of being a medical intuitive. I know this sounds very far-fetched, but I have testimonials from people who attest to having been helped with the healing power of Reiki.

My gift also seems to be able to help women with fertility issues. Over 8 women in the last 5 years have become pregnant with the help of the Reiki I have offered.

Miracles do happen. Reiki has its own wisdom, so the person being treated will be helped on some level, be it mind, body or spirit.

Our physician who is on staff, Dr. Adam Davis, is an old fashioned doctor who believes in treating the whole person. He uses many modalities to bring the person to optimal wellness through techniques such as acupuncture, chiropractic care and supplement and weight management care. He even offers needle-less acupuncture. It is amazing the things he can tell about a person just by examining their eyes and tongue. Simple kinesiology tests can also aid in the diagnosis.

The art of massage is also underrated! It is amazing how well one can feel after receiving a massage from Greg Kendzior, our gifted massage therapist. Greg is also trained in Reiki as a Reiki Master, but prefers to use

his gifts as a Licensed Massage Therapist. You automatically receive some Reiki when Greg works on you. His specialty is deep tissue massage, and sports injury massage.

One thing people misunderstand about massage is that one will probably have a small amount of soreness after receiving a therapeutic massage. That’s how you know it’s working!

It releases toxins, helps the body to readjust to normal and heal. It is very helpful to for the body to relax, but massage also has the ability to help keep one healthy by promoting proper function of all of one’s systems.

Greg also performs other healing modalities such as reflexology and cupping.

Reflexology is the ultimate foot rub! It deals with different pressure points in the feet to bring healing to specific areas of the body. Each point in the foot has nerve endings that correlate to different system functions.

Cupping is an ancient technique used to open and clear chakras, and is often not offered as it is such an ancient technique. It is very helpful to use during cold and flu season to release congestion.

We are also very reasonably-priced to allow people to afford treatments. The Reiki Room is also a provider for Parker Hannifin in Cleveland. It’s refreshing to know that insurance companies are now also seeing the value in Reiki and other modalities like massage and acupuncture.

In addition to our appointments and classes we offer a variety of Reiki-related and spiritually-minded gifts. Working with gems and crystals with the Reiki, brought me to begin to make Reiki Jewelry (Jewels by Gina) which is designed to bring healing to the wearer.

In addition to the services and gifts, the Reiki Room is offering a free monthly Reiki Circle’s to the community to help bring awareness about alternative healing.

A Reiki Circle is an opportunity for people who may be curious about Reiki to try it. It’s basically a gathering of people who enjoy giving and receiving Reiki an opportunity to do so. As Reiki practitioners, we seldom receive Reiki ourselves. It also gives students learning Reiki a chance to practice. We also are looking for sponsors to allow us to use their space in the community.

Dr. Davis and I are available for speaking engagements concerning the healthy benefits of our treatments. I love Lakewood, and we are very excited to be here. Our doors are open weekly: on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 11:00 a.m. till 6:00 p.m.

All other times are strictly by appointment. Watch the website for other special classes and events!

There’s always something happening at The Reiki Room!

1394 Cranford  
Behind Sweet Designs

# Nature’s Bin Gives Back To H2O And Lakewood City Schools

*by Mary Johnson*

Nature’s Bin, a full service natural and organic foods market located in Lakewood, Ohio recently donated six boxes of school supplies to H2O “Help to Others.” H2O is supported by the City of Lakewood’s Department of Human Services, Division of Youth, and a strong partnership with the Lakewood City Schools.

Nature’s Bin donated remaining stock of “green” school supplies from its back-to-school inventory including notebooks, notebook paper, graph paper, folders, index cards and journals made from recycled paper and sugar cane plants.

“We are pleased to give back to the local community,” stated Mary Johnson, assistant executive director at Nature’s Bin. “School supplies are a necessity for education and can sometimes be a financial burden to families. We hope this donation provides assistance to those students in need.”

As a partner in the local community, Nature’s Bin felt students at Lakewood High School could benefit from the school supplies as they begin the second semester of the school year.

“The donation is a wonderful boost to our efforts to provide necessary supplies to Lakewood School students,” stated Emmie Hutchison, coordinator at H2O. “Our organization collects supplies every year during the summer and we are so pleased to



A sampling of the “Green” School Supplies Donated by Nature’s Bin to Lakewood City Schools with the help of H2O.

replenish the donations mid-year.”

To learn more about Nature’s Bin visit [www.naturesbin.com](http://www.naturesbin.com). To learn more about H2O visit <http://onelakewood.com/humanservices/youth/h2o/>.

**About Nature’s Bin**

Nature’s Bin, a full service natural and organic foods market located in Lakewood, Ohio, is operated by the nonprofit, Cornucopia, Inc. This natural foods market serves as a training site for a unique and successful program that provides vocational training leading to employment for people with disabilities. Programs hosted at Nature’s Bin

serve people with a wide range of severe disabilities including developmental disabilities, autism, mental illness, visual, speech and hearing impairments, and injuries resulting from accident or illness. What distinguishes the programs at Nature’s Bin from other training facilities is the real-work learning environment. Trainees work side-by-side with staff members in all aspects of retail service, facing the challenges and rewards of competitive employment in a caring, supportive atmosphere. Cornucopia/Nature’s Bin has been serving people with disabilities for over 35 years.



# Madison Avenue Merchants Association

## Buying Musical Instruments On Ebay: New Vs. Used

by Sharon Marrell  
Part 1 - New

We want to give our kids the best possible instruments along with the best chance at success without breaking the bank-- at the same time hoping they don't lose interest in a month. EBay begins to look very appealing with the bottom dollar pricing for a beginner

band instrument with an unknown brand name as compared to the high-priced new, reputable brand name band instrument. What should you be aware of on EBay when you see pages of instruments? And then all the different brand names that aren't the ones the music teacher suggested! It's mind boggling!

As a basic background, factories

overseas buy spare or discontinued parts from other manufacturers, create an instrument and then engrave a brand name of the sellers choosing. Every batch may vary so this could lead to potential problems that can be frustrating. It is a gamble and maybe you'll get that one instrument that always performs. Most importantly, the parts

are non-replaceable for the shiny new instrument that "looks" perfect. So if you take it to your local repair technician, and need a major part, they can't get it. Manufacturers refuse to sell parts and say the owner will need to buy a new instrument. Technicians refer to these as disposable instruments. Technicians have seen instruments come in within a few weeks of purchase with complaints that they are hard to play. Techs will make adjustments and many times the instrument won't remain adjusted for any acceptable length of time. You've spent more money, and your child struggles, feels frustrated and possibly quits. So what's another alternative?

Look for Part 2 - Buying quality brand name used instruments-- in a future Lakewood Observer!

Sharon Marrell, a Lakewood resident, owns Marrell Music and has been a repair technician for over 20 years.

## Lakewood's Shannon Okey To Speak At SXSW

by Marjorie Preston

Shannon Okey, Publisher, Cooperative Press, will present "Knitting a Long Tail in Niche Publishing" at the South By Southwest (SXSW) conference in Austin this March as part of the Interactive portion of the festival, March 9-13, 2012. Originally a music festival, SXSW has grown to encompass music, film and high tech elements. Okey's talk, exploring ways to increase creators' revenue and buck the established publishing system, will be based on her own experiences as the woman business owner behind Cooperative Press, a small press that is anything but traditional.

Cooperative Press came about in 2009 after Okey had already successfully published a dozen books with major national publishers. She wanted to champion books that would fly under the radar at a mainstream publishing

house, compensate authors fairly, and provide them with more creative control. Cooperative Press pays royalties that are at least four times the industry average, and takes full advantage of fast-moving digital publishing innovations. Cooperative Press represents authors including Anna Dalvi, Heather Ordovery, Alasdair Post-Quinn, Kate Atherley, Stephannie Tallent and Okey herself.

Post-Quinn's Extreme Double Knitting was named to Library Journal's "Best Fiber Crafts Books of 2011" list. Not one to rest on her laurels after being acknowledged for publishing this award-winning book, Shannon is publishing "Beyond Knit and Purl" by Kate Atherley this month, only one of more than a dozen scheduled for publication in 2012.

Cooperative Press is located inside the Screw Factory – a historic factory

building in Lakewood, Ohio. Its books are printed in the U.S.A., unlike most other publishers, and the company is dedicated to working with printers who actively offset the environmental impact of their work.

Okey, originally from Berea, Ohio, has written more than a dozen books for major publishers, including the revised 2nd edition of Pam

continued on page 18

A magical place where you feel right at home!

**GODDESS BLESSED**

- Books, herbs, crystals, oils, jewelry
- Classes available
- Crafts by Local Artists

*Reiki and Massage in the heart of the sanctuary that is Goddess Blessed.*

★  
*Come in and sit a spell... complimentary tea in The Avalon Room!*

Tues, Wed, Fri & Sat: Noon-7p  
Thurs: 6-9p

15729 Madison Ave. • Lakewood  
216.221.8755 • [www.goddessblessedinc.com](http://www.goddessblessedinc.com)

**The Red Rose Cafe**

14810 Madison Ave • Lakewood  
216-228-7133  
Parking off Victoria Ave.  
Corner of Warren Rd & Madison

**Open 7 Days a Week with a Full Menu!**

**Fish Fry Everyday!**

**FRIDAYS**  
\$6.50 Cod Sandwich, Fries & Slaw

**THURSDAYS & SATURDAYS**  
\$4 1/2 Pound Burger & Fries

**30¢ Wings Everyday**

**Carabel Beauty Salon & Store**

Be the light of the party with green globy's. Dare to wear green hair accents or a green wig. Cute green faux eyelashes, green lipstick, green nail polish, and green hair bows. Celebrate with the help of Carabel Beauty Salon & Store. Call for an appointment. Free Parking

**216.226.8616** Your Feminine Connection

**15309 Madison Avenue • 216-226-8616**



**SULLIVAN'S**  
LAKEWOOD'S PUBLIC HOUSE

**Ash Wednesday and every Friday in Lent**

**CATCH THE FISH FRY OF YOUR CHOICE**

**\$12.99**

Our traditional **FISH & CHIPS** from the menu – **Tender Cod**, hand-dipped in tempura batter, piled on top thick cut chips. Served with a side of tartar sauce.

**OR**

Sullivan's **ALL YOU CAN EAT BUFFET** featuring **Lake Perch** breaded and fried, with creamy mac & cheese, boxties with cheddar dip, thick cut chips, cole slaw & dessert. (3pm – 8pm)

**When was the last time you were carded? Feel like a teenager again!**

**Get carded at Sullivan's.**

Only guests 62 and older qualify for the new **SENIOR MENU**

**3pm – 7pm, Monday through Friday**

**BUY ONE SENIOR ENTRÉE, GET ONE FREE**

**CELEBRATE THE MILESTONES OF YOUR LIFE WITH US!**

Visit Sullivans Lakewood on Facebook for daily specials!

**13368 Madison Avenue • (216) 529-8969**

**MAMA**  
madison avenue merchants association

<p><b>Marrell Music</b> • 13733 Madison 216-228-4885 • <a href="http://www.marrellinstrumentrepair.net">www.marrellinstrumentrepair.net</a> Keeping The Musician In You Playing Effortlessly!</p>	<p><b>MODA of Lakewood</b> • 14203 Madison 216-226-6632 • <a href="http://www.shopatmodalkwd.com">www.shopatmodalkwd.com</a> MODA MEANS FASHION! Resale Clothing/Shoes/Accessories For Men &amp; Women</p>	<p><b>The Red Rose Café</b> 14810 Madison • 216-228-7133 30¢ wings every day at the "Hottest Neighborhood Bar"!</p>
<p><b>Holistic Lakewood</b> • 15217 Madison 216-904-2524 • <a href="http://www.HolisticLakewood.com">www.HolisticLakewood.com</a> Natural Health Consultations, Supplements, Weight Loss, Wellness Services</p>	<p><b>Annamarie Pamphilis, ND, RDH</b> • 15217 Madison 440-539-0392 • <a href="http://www.HealthandBalanceInstitute.com">www.HealthandBalanceInstitute.com</a> The Health and Balance Institute specializes in Lifestyle Medicine, promoting health, naturally.</p>	<p><b>metro! on madison</b> • 15220 Madison • 216-228-2348 <a href="http://metrostage.com">metrostage.com</a> • <a href="mailto:metrowinery@gmail.com">metrowinery@gmail.com</a> Lakewood's newest lifestyle store specializing in local and global Home, Design, Food &amp; Wine!</p>
<p><b>Buckeye Beer Engine</b> • 15315 Madison 216-226-2337 • <a href="http://www.buckeyebeerengine.com">www.buckeyebeerengine.com</a> Gourmet Burgers &amp; Sandwiches, Gourmet Beer</p>	<p><b>Goddess Blessed</b> • 15729 Madison 216-221-8755 • <a href="http://www.goddessblessedinc.com">www.goddessblessedinc.com</a> a magical place where you feel right at home!</p>	<p><b>Carol Lynns Salon Plus</b> • 15410 Madison 216-226-4730 • <a href="http://www.CarolLynnsSalonPlus.com">www.CarolLynnsSalonPlus.com</a> A full service salon specializing in Haircolor, Relaxers, full body skincare (sugaring &amp; waxing) needs.</p>
<p><b>Crafty Goodness</b> • 15621 Madison • 216-226-4880 <a href="http://www.craftygoodnesscleveland.com">www.craftygoodnesscleveland.com</a> Locally made art &amp; products, affordable art/craft classes &amp; craft parties too!</p>	<p><b>Jeffrey W. Laubmeier, DMD</b> • 14583 Madison 216-226-3084 • <a href="http://www.JWLDentistry.com">www.JWLDentistry.com</a> General &amp; Family Dentistry Brighten your smile, build your confidence!</p>	<p><b>Taste of Europe</b> • 15512 Madison 216-521-9530 • <a href="http://www.tasteofeuropefoods.com">www.tasteofeuropefoods.com</a> Imported Deli Meats &amp; Cheeses and \$5 Homemade Specialties Daily!</p>

**visit uptown ON madison! SHOP Local**

Visit us for specials and events!



Pulse Of The City

The Civil War...150 Years Ago...

Ohio's Johnson's Island Prison, And The Tale Of The Magnificent U.S.S. Michigan... (The Ship That Saved Our State!)

When talk around a Civil War reenactment campfire turns to ships and the sea, often the discussion turns to that first great battle between two ironclad vessels at Hampton Roads, Virginia. The Union vessel was the U.S.S. Monitor, nicknamed the "Cheesebox on a raft." The Confederate vessel was the C.S.S. Virginia, formerly the U.S.S. Merrimack, a union warship that had been burned to the waterline and captured by the Confederates and converted into an ironclad.

That first battle between iron ships ended as a virtual draw. At that point in the campfire conversation, Civil War buffs will sometimes conclude that these were the first two iron ships built, but that would be a very erroneous conclusion. The first American iron warship was the U.S.S. Michigan, and she had been launched in 1843, fully 20 years before the first battle between iron ships was waged.

Unlike the two squat and relatively ugly Civil War vessels that slugged it out at Hampton Roads, the Michigan was gorgeous to behold. Powered by both paddle-wheel steam and by the wind, the Michigan's naval architecture was sleek and beautiful. One of the first ships built in modular form, the Michigan's parts were shipped from Pittsburgh down the Ohio River and then up the Ohio and Erie Canal to Cleveland, and then over to Erie for final assembly. A funny thing happened when they tried to launch that heavy iron ship into Erie Bay. She got stuck going down the launching ramp and would not move! Abandoning plans to launch her that day, the builders were

surprised the next morning to find her sitting peacefully out in the bay, having launched herself during the night!

Because the Michigan was built to carry very sophisticated and heavy armaments, plans for her potential firepower immediately ran afoul of the Canadians, who insisted that her gun power be reduced to comply with an agreement in place between America and Canada. The Michigan had to carry light arms for a number of years until hostilities with the South became imminent. Up to that point, the Michigan was perhaps America's most powerful warship to sail on the Great Lakes. A very important duty of the Michigan was to help guard the Confederate officers' prison camp at Johnson's Island. Her mission there will be the focal point of this column.

After the war, the Michigan completed a variety of missions and even endured a 20th century name change to the "Wolverine" when it was decided that her former name would be used for one of America's first modern dreadnought battleships. Amazingly, America's first iron ship lasted for over 100 years and remained in active service for most of that time! Decommissioned in 1912, she was in Pennsylvania State Militia service until 1923. Although she was finally run aground at Erie and eventually taken apart for scrap (in 1949!), her bow was salvaged and continues to be on display at the Erie Maritime Museum at Erie, Pennsylvania, along with the reconstructed flagship Niagara, of War of

1812 fame. That museum is reportedly open M-F 8:30-5:00 (call ahead to be sure) and their website is the following: [http://www.eriemaritimemuseum.org/flagship\\_niagara\\_league/visitor.htm](http://www.eriemaritimemuseum.org/flagship_niagara_league/visitor.htm)

The Michigan's main mast also continues to rise above Ohio at our nearby Fairport Harbor Marine Museum. A Fairport Harbor website relating to this information may be found here: <http://www.fairportharbor.org/lighthouse-and-marine-museum.php>

How the fascinating tale of the U.S.S. Michigan/Wolverine relates to us concerns her relationship to a large Confederate officers' prison camp on Johnson's Island on Sandusky Bay. During the Civil War, it seems there was a conspiracy to break those officers out of that camp and form a Confederate army that would then proceed to attack Ohio's north coast, including our area, of course, as well as the Port of Cleveland. Part of that plan involved two hijacked passenger steamers (the Philo Parsons and the Island Queen) as well as an intent to take over the U.S.S. Michigan as she was sitting out in Sandusky Bay guarding the camp. Fortunately for the United States, the plan was discovered in time. The Michigan was able to help foil the plot before it went too far, and therefore took an active part in saving Cleveland and the rest of northern Ohio from a major military disaster. The Confederate prisoners on Johnson's Island were then forced to remain in their prison until the cessation of hostilities, and Ohio's north coast was saved!

Ten thousand or more prisoners were reportedly processed through the Johnson's Island prison during its existence. There were relatively few successful escapes during the history of that camp. After the war, the camp's buildings and supplies were either salvaged or sold off, and the island reverted to private ownership. In the years since the Civil War, an attempt was made to turn Johnson's Island into a "pleasure resort" to compete with Cedar Point. That attempt was not successful, and the island properties have since been subdivided into private developments. The only evidence remaining on the island of the prison camp's existence are a few historical signs, along with a well-maintained Confederate cemetery containing the graves of over two hundred souls who perished there during the War Between the States. The island and that cemetery are accessible by a causeway from the mainland (\$2.00 fee required for island access), and because all other areas of the island are private, the cemetery is the only part of the island generally open to the public, although a good part of the prison tract of land was purchased by the Friends and Descendants of Johnson's Island a decade ago and is currently being researched.

The Johnson's Island Museum (Open 1-4 p.m. weekends and holidays from Memorial Day to October 1st) has been moved to the beautiful Ohio Veterans Home in Sandusky. The Johnson's Island Preservation Society maintains an informative website at <http://www.johnsonsisland.org/index.htm>

continued on page 19



O'Neill Management

Locally owned and managed by the John O'Neill Family, serving seniors in the West Shore area since 1962.

To reach any of our facilities, call

**(440) 808-5500**



BRADLEY BAY Health Center

Bay Village



Center Ridge Health Campus

North Ridgeville



Lakewood Senior Health Campus

Lakewood



Wellington place

North Olmsted



Lakewood Senior Health Campus

Assisted Living Building | 1381 Bunts Road, Lakewood

(Campus is on NE corner of Bunts & Detroit)

**(216) 226-4010 | [www.LSHC-OH.net](http://www.LSHC-OH.net)**

Welcomes



Cleveland Sight Center

**Traveling Store**

**Wednesday, February 29, 2012**

**10:00AM - 2:00PM**



Lakewood Senior Health Campus is a 150-bed Skilled Nursing Facility, 54-suite Assisted Living and 60-suite Independent Living Continuum of Care Retirement Community.

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



# Lakewood Living

## Local Families Make “I Love Clean Air” Valentines

by Marnie Urso

This Valentine’s Day, Cleveland area families gathered at Bela Dubby in Lakewood to make valentines that declared their love for clean air. Afterward, they delivered handmade valentines to Ohio’s US Senators in support of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and new federal clean air standards.

“Some in Congress are working on provisions to block new clean air stan-

dards and I want to be sure that Ohio members of Congress don’t take my breath away, but instead support the US EPA and a clean and healthy future for my children,” said Anna Mauser Martinez of Cleveland Heights. She joined her sons at a Valentine Card party to create clean air valentines. “Taking the time to make a handmade valentine was my way of personally reminding our Senators that I, and the many families that I represent, care deeply about clean air

and the agencies trying to protect it.”

Congress is currently considering several legislative proposals to prevent the EPA from protecting the public health with new clean air standards that would reduce air pollution from toxic substances like mercury, arsenic, soot, smog, carbon and other pollutants. Many of these new standards would save thousands of lives each year.

The new mercury and air toxins standards will save as many as 11,000

lives, prevent as many as 130,000 asthma attacks among children, and prevent as many as 4,700 heart attacks each year according to the EPA. The Cross State Air Pollution rule will save as many as 34,000 lives, prevent as many as 15,000 heart attacks, and prevent as many as 400,000 asthma attacks by reducing dangerous air pollution in communities downwind and often in other states from dirty power plants. The new standards for car emissions will reduce industrial carbon pollution that threatens thousands of lives and will spur innovation that will improve automobile mileage and create jobs in the auto industry.

“Families in Ohio support the US EPA because we love clean air and because we love our children,” said Marnie Urso, mother of two and spokesperson for Audubon Ohio. “We are asking Senators Brown and Portman to have a heart and protect the health of our kids here in Cleveland, and across the state, by making sure that the strongest clean air protections are enacted.”

*Marnie Urso is an environmental activist and political organizer and loves living life on the shores of Lake Erie.*

## Mama Mia, Spaghetti Dinner Coming Already!

by Gordon Brumm

On Saturday, March 3, from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m., several hundred Lakewoodites will congregate at the Masonic Temple (Andrews and Detroit). All ages will be represented at

this traditional gathering, from teenage Key Club members attending tables to retirement-age Kiwanis members behind the serving pans.

The occasion is of course the Lakewood Kiwanis’s annual all-you-

can-eat spaghetti dinner, prepared under the chefsmanship of Tom Arnold from Don’s Pomeroy House in Strongsville. Salad, dessert pastries, coffee and soft drinks will also be on the menu.

Tickets are \$8.00, and can be bought at the door or from Kiwanis members. Children under five years of age can eat all they want for free.

A 50-50 raffle will be held, with proceeds going to The Eliminate Project which strives for the elimination of maternal tetanus in third-world countries.

In addition, a \$30 gift certificate to Angelo’s Pizza will be raffled off.

## Woof! Pet-Friendly Worship At Faith

by Mark Rollenhagen

Faith Lutheran Church is going to the dogs – and cats and other pets that will be welcome at a new Sunday afternoon worship service.

Faith’s first pet-friendly worship service will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 4. After that, the service will be offered on the first Sunday of each month and possibly more frequently if there is interest.

Pets and their owners will gather for worship on the tiled floor of Fellowship Hall in the church’s lower level. The best entrance is the one facing

Hilliard Road, near the driveway exit. When the weather warms, the service will move out to the lawn.

The pet-friendly worship service is open to all (with or without pets) and will include a few familiar hymns, prayers and a brief message, as well as a blessing for pets and their people.

Faith is located at 16511 Hilliard Road, at the corner of Hilliard and Woodward.

*For more information, call the church at 216-226-6500 or visit its website at [www.faithlakewood.org](http://www.faithlakewood.org).*

## Northwesterly Celebrates Valentine’s Day With A Full Royal Court

by Annette Kelly

Northwesterly Assisted Living residents celebrated a very special Valentine’s Day with friends and family while singing and dancing the night away. The dining room was temporarily transformed into a mini-ballroom where residents danced to their favorite tunes throughout the night. Dave Michaels was invited to perform at the event, serenading residents with classic oldies but goodies. Residents and staff of Northwesterly voted prior to the event to crown a King and Queen, and Prince and Princess. Northwesterly is home to 6 sets of couples who were in the running for King and Queen.

Wally and Lillian Wirtz took the crown at the end of the evening, sharing a romantic dance and their 67th Valentine’s Day together. Jerry O’Malley and Gloria Rizzo were crowned Prince and Princess of the evening and enjoyed the time with family and friends. According to Michael Saunders, Northwesterly’s Life Enrichment Coordinator, “The greatest healing therapy is friendship and love, and we certainly had that all night.”



Northwesterly’s Royal Court: Prince Jerry O’Malley, Princess Gloria Rizzo, King Wally Wirtz, Queen Lillian Wirtz.

## Shannon Okey To Speak At SXSW

**continued from page 16**

Allen’s “Knitting for Dummies.” She was named one of five “New Guard of Knitting” in Vogue Knitting’s 25th anniversary issue, is the former editor in chief of Yarn Forward magazine and has appeared on numerous crafty TV programs, including DIY Network’s “Knitty Gritty.” Her most recent book is “The Knitrrl Guide to Professional Knitwear Design.”

# MONEY MARKET SPECIAL

# 70

% APY\*

120 DAY RATE LOCK

Contact our Lakewood branch for details

14806 Detroit Ave.

(216) 221-7300

**FIRST FEDERAL LAKEWOOD** *FFL.net* 

We’ve Been Here. We’ll Be Here.

\* Annual Percentage Yield (APY) and rate is 0.70%. Minimum balance to open and retain rate = \$10,000.00. The deposit into the account must be new money. The maximum deposit allowed to earn rate is \$250,000.00. If balance exceeds the \$250,000.00 limit, the balance over \$250,000.00 will earn the prevailing rate paid on our Money Market Account. To earn rate, customer must have another account relationship with FFL (checking, savings, CD, loan, Investment Services). The rate is locked for 120 days. After 120 days, the rate will be the same rate currently offered on our Money Market Account. If the account is closed before 120 days, a \$50.00 fee may be assessed. Fees could reduce earnings on this account. APY and rate accurate as of 2/16/2012. Subject to changes without notice, other restrictions may apply. Contact a Lakewood branch representative for full details.

PROUD TO BE LAKEWOOD OWNED AND OPERATED!

# HRI

## HOME RESTORATION INVESTMENTS

Roofing/Repairs • Painting/Siding • Home Restorations

Hire a local company for your storm damage!

**FREE SAME DAY ESTIMATES ON ALL CALLS**

**216-376-2404**

VISIT US AT [HRIroofing.com](http://HRIroofing.com)

LICENSED BONDED INSURED



Lakewood Living

Hands Off My Bike!

About a month ago, a close friend of mine had his brand new Bianchi Volpe stolen from him. This was to be his summer touring bike, for a cross-country trip he's been planning for almost a year now. Many hours of work and saving went in to the ultimate purchase of this fantastic ride, only to have it taken away a mere few weeks later.

Many of you have likely at least heard of this particular theft already. Our cavalry of friends went immediately to action, posting fliers, searching craigslist, calling local bike shops, asking everyone we knew to keep a look out. While we still haven't found the bike, and it seems the odds of that happening become slimmer by the day, it brought to light an issue that doesn't come up until it hits home. Even though the bike only belonged to one of us, it felt like a stab at our neighborhood, a violation that we all felt on some level.

Being wrapped up in that situation has led me to research and read more on the topic of bike theft...why does it happen, where and when is it more likely to happen, where do stolen bikes end up, and most importantly, what can we do to prevent it from happening?

Starting with prevention, there is a seemingly obvious solution: lock up your bike. But my friend's bike was locked. With two locks, both cable

locks, both cut through in a matter of seconds. The lesson here? Spend the extra money on a heavy duty lock, and just as crucially, learn how to lock your bike in a way that makes it as difficult as possible for a thief to maneuver it.

As far as locks go, there are countless options on the market, ranging from the flimsy cable lock to heavy duty U-locks (that can weigh up to five pounds), to what's been dubbed the "New York Chain." Named after what some believe to be the number one city for bike theft, the New York Chain is just what you might imagine; a heavy duty linked chain that is secured by a tiny U-lock. While extremely effective in preventing bike theft due to the almost impossibility of sawing through it by hand, the sheer weight of one of these beasts keep most small city people from even considering it. Really, no matter what type of lock you personally choose to use, just look for something sturdy, not susceptible to wire cutters, without any obvious weak points. And if you go for a U-lock, try it out on your bike before purchasing to be sure that you can lock up your front wheel as well as the frame.

The next issue to address with locking your bike: What are you locking it to?

While Lakewood is currently in the process of providing its residents with a wide array of bike racks, for the time being you may often find yourself in the position of choosing between a tree, a parking meter, a street sign...and while this may be unavoidable at times, some decisions will bode better than others. Lock your bike to something that cannot be lifted up and taken away. If you're locking to a street sign, give it a good shake to make sure it's solidly grounded. Don't lock to something that your bike can be lifted over, such as a parking meter. And something else to consider: be careful of how you lock your bike when leaving it close to the street. The back of the frame can sometimes slide easily into the street, leaving it to be freely slammed into by anyone driving by in a car.

A major prevention measure that many of us don't take seriously is bike registry. If your bike was stolen, unregistered and recovered by the police, it may be impossible for you to get it back unless you have some other sure-fire way of proving that it belongs to you. In addition to registering your bike with the city of Lakewood, there is also the National Bike Registry ([www.nationalbikeregistry.com](http://www.nationalbikeregistry.com)). The National Bike Registry is



a database that can be accessed by police departments in any city in the U.S. If your bike was stolen in your hometown recovered by police hundreds of miles away, they can link it back to you in a matter of minutes. While both city and national registration costs money, it's likely to be the only form of insurance you'll have for your bike, and it's worth it.

If you end up having to deal with the unfortunate circumstance of having your bike taken from you, make sure to report it immediately, with the most detail possible. In my reading on the subject, I found that countless bike thefts go unreported (or at least under-reported), because the owner of the bike feels a strong sense of embarrassment, of being taken advantage of. Another piece of advice I came across many times: don't fall in love with your bike, fall in love with the ride. While you can't replace the feeling of riding, you can ultimately get another bike to experience that with. Even though I can easily see the logic in this, I'm extraordinarily guilty of loving my bike, I mean come on, it's my bike.

The ultimate lesson here is to practice caution with your bike. Don't make obvious mistakes such as leaving it outside unlocked "just for a minute." Keep it in your house instead of on your porch or in the garage. Take an extra minute to make sure you've locked it securely, in a place that is easily visible to many people. Love your bike, but love the ride just a little bit more.

LEAF Community Open House 2012

by Annie Stahlheber

**When: March 4, 2012, 2:00-4:00 pm**  
**Where: Lakewood Public Library, Main Branch Multi Purpose Room**

The Details: Each year, the Lakewood Earth and Food Community assists neighbors to access fresh, local food and knowledge about sustainable living. The Open House is the first event of the year, to showcase the programming planned for the upcoming year. All are welcome!

**Highlights:**  
LEAF Community coordinates with several farms and programs that provide fresh, locally produced products weekly at LEAF Nights. These Community Supported Agriculture

(CSA) programs serve over six hundred families in Lakewood each year. The Open House will host several CSA programs that will be offered in Lakewood in 2012. Representatives from the various programs will be available to answer questions and talk about their farm or program, and sign up members.

LEAF CSA members will be promoting the "LEAF CSA Payment Plan" at the Open House. This is a payment plan offered to limited income individuals who are interested in participating in a CSA, but are deterred by the lump sum payment required. An application is required. LEAF will pay the upfront cost of joining the CSA, and then the member will pay LEAF back weekly. The member

participating with the "payment plan" will receive all of the same benefits from the CSA program as other members.

LEAF Community coordinates community gardens at four of Lakewood's public parks, and at The Westerly. Several representatives from the LEAF Community Garden leadership will be available to discuss the community gardening program and register gardeners. Information will also be available about the Learning Garden, which is located at Madison Library and maintained by LEAF Community volunteers.

At the LEAF Community table, representatives will be available to discuss the many initiatives and opportunities that are planned for 2012, and provide an overview of what LEAF is all about. This includes the various volunteer, educational and fundraising opportunities available in numerous committees.

New this year at the Open House will be a seed swap! Bring sealed (such as taped envelopes) packages of seeds, and trade with fellow gardeners. Please include important information on the label, such as variety, year produced, etc. If you don't have seeds to swap, but are interested in getting some seeds, unswapped seeds will be available for a small donation.

Johnson Island Prison

continued from page 17

In addition to the websites mentioned and the seemingly endless internet information available regarding both of the above topics, there are two great books that detail fascinating information regarding the U.S.S. Michigan (Strange Adventures of the Great Lakes by Dwight Boyer) and the Johnson's Island prison (Rebels on Lake Erie by Charles E. Frohman).

I need to mention a special appreciation for Dr. Dave Bush's help with this column. Dr. Bush has been a tireless advocate, speaker, and researcher regarding all things concerning Johnson's Island. For the past 23 years, Dr. Bush (an archaeologist, professor of anthropology, and director of the Center for Historic and Military Archaeology at Heidelberg University) has led "digs" and scholarly research

on Johnson's Island while facing heat, mud, snakes, and many other adversities. Dr. Bush is also the Chair of The Friends and Descendants of Johnson's Island Civil War Prison that was formed in 2001 to purchase as much of the prison compound as it could. In 2002, the FDJI purchased 17 acres of the island and have begun a long term historic interpretative plan for this property. Dr. Bush informs me that the public can only visit that area during organized programs which are announced on the web site of the FDJI ([www.johnsonsisland.com](http://www.johnsonsisland.com)).

The archaeological and historical research which Dr. Bush has been doing for the past 23 years is now accomplished through both the FDJI and Heidelberg University's Center for Historic and Military Archaeology. Information relating to that research can also be found on the

**Neubert PAINTING**  
*Quality Painting. That's All We Do!*

Lakewood's housepainter for over 35 years!

Interior • Exterior



**216-529-0360**  
[www.neubertpainting.com](http://www.neubertpainting.com)  
12108 Madison Ave., Lakewood, Ohio 44107

**R. Analytical Services Inc.**  
[www.R-Analytical-Services.com](http://www.R-Analytical-Services.com)

**Let Us Help You Plug Into The Future!**

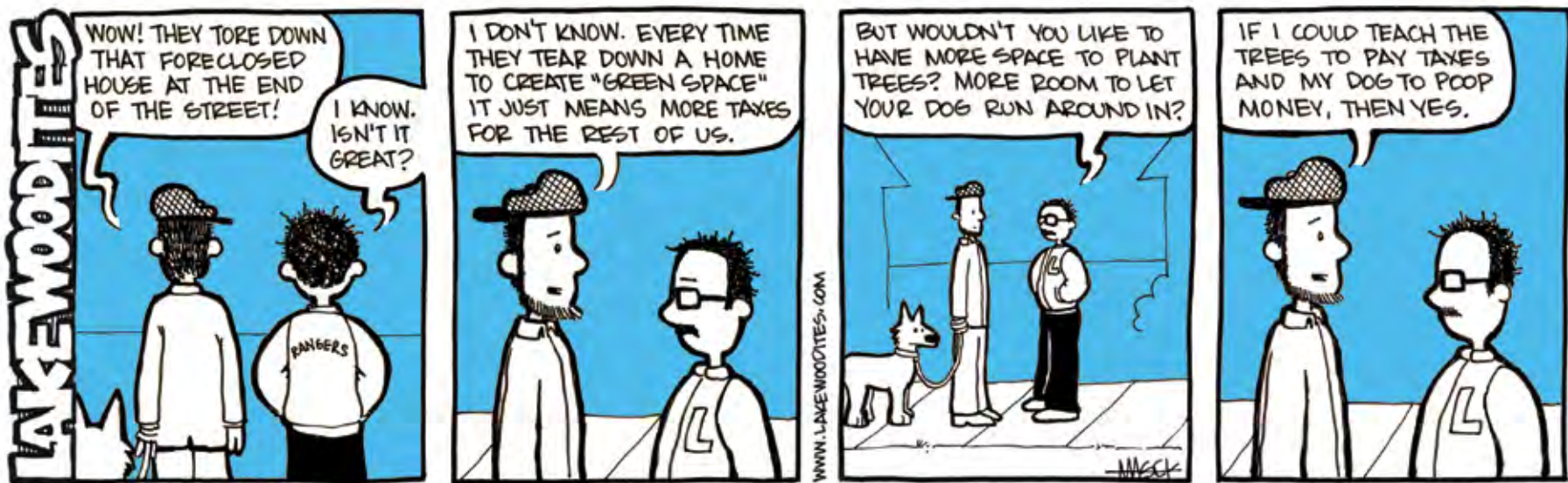
- Software training
- E-mail solutions
- Data Backup
- Maintenance programs

- Repair of desktops & laptops
- Virus and spyware removal
- Wireless & LAN networking
- Shared internet office solutions
- High-speed cable Setup
- DSL modem Setup

**Call Today! (216) 521-7902**  
Lakewood Owned and Operated!



The Back Page



HOME ALONE  
PET SITTING, INC.

In Home Pet Care  
While You Are Away  
Experienced  
Veterinarian Technician  
Bonded & Insured  
216-548-1543  
d.hokin@sbcglobal.net  
homealonepetsittinginc.com

**Italian Creations**  
Restaurant, Catering, and Take-out

Making life simple...  
Catering from  
Italian Creations

**216-226-2282**

16104 Hilliard Road • Lakewood  
www.ItalianCreation.com

Italian and Classical American Cuisine

**The Lakewood Observer Serving  
Lakewood Residents & Businesses Best, For 8 Years  
In Print & Online  
And Now In 15 Other  
Communities!**

Isn't it time your business  
partnered with this history making,  
award winning LAKEWOOD project? **Call 216.712.7070 Today!**

Espresso  
Coffee  
Tea  
Beer  
Food

15118 Detroit  
in Lakewood.  
www.theroot-cafe.com

Our menu is completely vegetarian,  
and our ingredients are local and  
organic when available.

**ALLURE PAINTING**  
INTERIOR/EXTERIOR COMMERCIAL/RESIDENTIAL

- Interior Painting
- Plaster & Drywall Repair
- Staining
- Wallpaper Removal & Installation
- Skim Coating

**FREE ESTIMATES**  
**216-287-7468**  
216-228-0138 office

**www.allurepainting.net**

**HEATING & COOLING**

SERVING LAKEWOOD SINCE 1922

**CALL US TODAY!**  
**216-521-7000**  
24 HOUR EMERGENCY SERVICE

**\$15 OFF**  
any service call

**\$125 OFF**  
any furnace or A/C installation

**SALES ■ SERVICE ■ INSTALLATION**

**Rozi's** *Rozi's Front Porch*

**OPEN ALL YEAR!**  
**Rozi's Front Porch Café**

Choose a select bottle (or glass) of wine or draft beer from the Porch menu and enjoy.  
~OR~  
Browse the House & hand pick a bottle of wine or beer of your choice and take it back to the Porch to enjoy.

**Store & Café Hours:**  
Monday - Thursday  
7am - 7pm  
Friday & Saturday  
7am - 9pm  
Sunday  
11am - 5pm  
Café service ends 15 minutes prior to closing.  
14900 Detroit Avenue  
Lakewood OH 44107  
216-221-1119

**Rozi's invites you to  
HAVE A DRINK  
WHILE YOU SHOP!**  
Sample hand-picked wines and beers from our bar.  
Enjoy your glass as you browse through the store!

Thank you for making Rozi's Wine House, Inc.  
Northeast Ohio's #1 Ranked Wine Store  
Cleveland Magazine, The Free Times, and Scene Magazine

Also visit us at: Rozi's Wine & Liquor House  
21860 Center Ridge Road, Rocky River, OH 44116