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To approach a city, as if it were [an] architectural problem is to make the mistake of attempting to substitute art for life. The results are neither life nor art. They are taxidermy. - Jane Jacobs

THE LAKEWOOD OBSERVER

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Volume 8, Issue 17, August 21, 2012

Lakewood Community Festival Saturday, September 8 At Madison Park

by Melissa Garrett

The 25th annual Lakewood Community Festival is scheduled for Saturday,

September 8, 2012 from 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM at Madison Park, 13029 Madison Avenue. The festival celebrates com-

munity, cultural heritage and families. It is a day of fun and activities for everyone.

Craft and game booths, bounce houses, pony rides, children's games, Alpacas from the Starburst Suri Alpaca Ranch, will all be part of the festivities, as well as a variety of delectable foods including stuffed cabbage, pierogies, potato cakes, cabbage and noodles, kielbasa and sauerkraut, pizza, french fries, funnel cakes, Vietnamese cuisine and other dishes. An assortment of traditional ethnic baked goods and other desserts will be available.

Entertainment for the day will include Silhouette Dance Studio, The Chardon Polka Band, The Birdtown Boys, The Polka Pirates, The Pop Tarts, Riley Brothers Band and more.

The festival, sponsored by the Lakewood Community Festival, Inc. and the City of Lakewood, is traditionally the last event of the summer. Proceeds from the festival will be donated to various local organizations. In the event of rain, the festival will be held on Saturday, September 15, 2012.



The Community Festival Is about food and friends.

Tour Lakewood's Most Beautiful Homes And Win An Instant Wine Cellar

by Polly Stringer

The "Come Home to Lakewood" tour will be Sunday, September 9, from 1 to 6 pm. In its 11th year, this event is highly anticipated by not only Lakewood residents but home and garden admirers from all over Northeast Ohio. The house tour weekend festivities are the Lakewood Historical Society's largest fundraiser and are only held every other year. Tickets are only \$20 and offer the rare opportunity to view eight of Lakewood's most beautiful historically or architecturally significant structures. This year's tour includes:

- A thoughtfully renovated lakefront.
- A stately Tudor that houses a fascinating collection of Asian pieces.
- A Clifton Park Arts and Crafts with its Prohibition-era basement speakeasy.
- A majestic Clifton Park Colonial Revival.
- A 2-bedroom gem with a lush outdoor living space.
- A Carlyle condo featur-



One of the homes on the tour.

ing both east and west views.

• Two Madison Avenue commercial properties with a contemporary flair that provide both efficient work space and a home away from home for employees.

Since this tour typically sells out, purchase your tickets soon from the following:

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Lakewood Student-Athletes Make Great Buddies



Buddy Walk Team "Crazy for Kellyn" in the dugout at Progressive Field by Sandy Donahoe

We all need a buddy every now and then. On July 28, at Progressive Field for the 12th Annual Northeast Ohio Buddy Walk, my daughter had a whole team of buddies to support her. The Buddy Walk is a one-mile walk with the purpose of promoting acceptance and inclusion of people with Down syndrome, the most

commonly occurring chromosomal condition.

Kellyn Donahoe is my eight year-old daughter, who happens to have Ds, so our family has participated in the Buddy Walk for years. This summer, thanks to many Lakewoodites, this walk was our most memorable ever. Our team, "Crazy for Kellyn," grew in size with the participa-

continued on page 8



Lakewood's "ITS" dog Emma Davis takes the plunge at the last Dog Swim to Benefit Friends of the Lakewood Dog Park.

Pooch Pool Plunge - Dog Swim Benefits Friends Of The Lakewood Dog Park

by Alanna Faith

Get your doggy ready to take the POOCH POOL PLUNGE!

It's "The most anticipated event of the doggy year" and by far the wettest!

This annual dog swim benefit event draws 100's of pooch lovers and their hounds. Dogs enjoy taking the plunge in Foster Pool as it's closed

for end of the season. It's dog gone fun entertainment, whether you bring your dog or just come to watch the canine antics and have lots of laughs.

Tuesday, September 4

Foster Pool @ Lakewood Park

14532 Lake Avenue Lakewood

5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

\$10 FIRST DOG; \$5 each additional dog

continued on page 2

One Night Only! "CLUE: The Musical" At Beck Center Benefits AIDS Taskforce

by Fran Storch

Beck Center for the Arts proudly presents the AIDS Taskforce's production of CLUE: The Musical at 8 p.m. Monday, Aug. 27 on the Mackey Main Stage. Based on the classic board game by Parker Brothers, this benefit production features many favorite performers from the Cleveland theater community. Tickets are now on sale. All proceeds benefit the AIDS Taskforce of Greater Cleveland.

Directed by Curt Arnold with musical direction by Butch Marshall and choreography by Allison Butler, CLUE: The Musical includes a comic cast of well-known area actors including Tricia Bestic, Brian Bowers, Patrick Ciamacco, Amiee Collier, Dan Folino, Dana Hart, Jonathan Kronenberger, and Rachel Spence. Music Director Butch Marshall leads band members Gregory Cross (percussion), Vicki Hamm (cello) and Tim Keo (bass) in playing the show's many toe-tapping tunes.



art by Chuck Ayers

Like the popular Parker Brothers game, CLUE: The Musical tries to solve the mystery of Mr. Boddy's murder. The audience plays along, trying to figure out which of the suspects committed the crime, in what room, and with what weapon. Match your wits against fellow audience sleuths as you analyze the clues presented by the colorful characters – Miss Scarlett, Colonel Mustard, Mrs. White, Mr. Green, Professor Plum, and Mrs. Peacock. Music, merriment and mayhem abound, as the clues are revealed and the audience attempts to solve the crime.

There's no way to know what will happen next in

continued on page 16

Events

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Pooch Pool Plunge - Dog Swim



A day for the dogs always brings friends together!

continued from page 1

Proceeds benefit Friends of the Lakewood Dog Park, Inc. - the non-profit volunteer organization that provides amenities at Lakewood Dog Park.

It'll be a SPLASH ZONE - BYOT (bring your own towels)

Friends of the Lakewood Dog Park, Inc. supports Lakewood Dog Park by supplying shelters, "clean up" supplies and tools, water bowls, toys, hand sanitizer dispensers, and day-to-day maintenance at the dog park. FLDP hosts numerous social events for dog owners, public guest speakers, and holiday events. FLDP maintains the Lakewood Dog Park website, Facebook page, email communication and in-park bulletin boards.

Friends of the Lakewood Dog Park annual membership is \$10. FLDP 2012

T-shirts and Hoodies will be available at Pooch Pool Plunge: T-shirts: \$20 non-FLDP members, \$15 members Hoodies: \$35 non-FLDP members, \$30 members

Cash and personal checks are accepted at events. Or, you may join FLDP or make a generous donation at: www.LakewoodDogPark.org

Here's some details about the Pooch Pool Plunge: *3 dogs per ADULT owner/handler limit for safety & supervision

***ALL DOG MUST BE LICENSED** (license must displayed on collar which must be on dog), **CURRENT ON VACCINES, AND IN GOOD HEALTH (NO dogs in HEAT or ILL)**

***All Lakewood Dog Park Rules** apply at this event

***DOG OWNERS/HANDLERS ARE REQUIRED TO SIGN A WAIVER TO ENTER**

EVERY SUNDAY

ALL YEAR

Sunday Mass



Join with Lakewoodites, and riders from all around for a leisurely ride through Cleveland neighborhoods.

Leaves Lakewood Park every Sunday at 11 a.m. and typically includes a stop for coffee or brunch. Distances are typically under 15 miles. Contact Erika Durham, Facebook Bike Lakewood.



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Your Independent Source for
Lakewood News & Opinion

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

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.

Upcoming Submission Deadline

Sunday, August 26

Sunday, September 9

Publish Date

Tuesday, September 4

Tuesday, September 18

www.lakewoodobserver.com - 216.712.7070

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From The Publisher's Desk

From The Publisher's Desk:

Schools Are Open - Back To Work

I try not to abuse my position with the Lakewood Observer, I believe-- as all of the founders did when we started this project-- that the words of residents, businesses, civic leaders, and City Hall are far more important unfiltered than anything we could distill and feed to you as a "report." However, occasionally, and with the urging of some leaders in the community, I am starting to put a series of Observations, thoughts, and images into the Lakewood Observer, and onto the streets. Please understand, these are my views, they are not the collective views of the Lakewood Observer, Observer Projects or AGS/Human Tribe. They are simply things I feel we all need to think about as they apply to our city, schools, and our lives.

"Superintendent Sees Need For All Schools"! And like so many things in this bipolar community, some people are too happy, some people are too sad. Dancing in the streets, before the ball has even passed the 30 yard line. This often happens when important events in life take on the feeling of a sporting event. At the same time so many issues in this day and age seems desperately in search of WINNERS and LOSERS, instead of what it means to us as residents and a community.

by Jim O'Bryan

Many tried so hard in the recent "competition" between Lincoln and Grant Schools, that some in the city were brought yet again to the verge of a civil war, that got positively uncivil too many times. So when the news came out that enrollment was up, and that Lakewood City Schools' Superintendent Jeffrey Patterson was advising against closing any school right now there were cheers and jeers, but let's look at the facts, and see what's really going on.

One of the many reasons that the city is filling up again, is that after the housing boom, Lakewood took a 30% hit in the price of homes, as did many cities across the nation, so those who have work and great credit can buy homes in the best community in Ohio. Those without the best of credit, or who have realized owning is not for them are filling in the rentals which accounts for 52% of the living units in Lakewood. And then we have Mayor Summers' initiative to tear down properties and replace them with Habitat for Humanity homes for those that cannot afford to buy but can put some sweat equity into living in Lakewood. No matter the reason, enrollement is

up and more people in Lakewood is a good thing!

So while families are growing, and schools are needed to be kept open, the actual dollars coming into the system are greatly reduced. Throw in the cuts made to eduction on the state level, and we see that cuts already imposed by the schools are still not enough to carry us through the coming years. Administration has cut so much it is becoming very uncomfortable to cut even more! We must continue to support the very things that make Lakewood the best place to live and raise a family.

While I was talking with Superintendent Jeffrey Patterson he said, "Earlier this year I had the opportunity to speak with over 800 community and staff members about what they value most as we looked at making financial reductions going into this school year. Overwhelmingly, the responses included maintaining our core curriculum, the gifted program, art, music and extra-curricular activities. There was also a strong push to keep our primary class sizes as low as possible. Our trend of increasing enrollment is a sign that our community believes we are on the right path and that the District is providing a

quality education for Lakewood's youth."

School Board President Betsy Shaughnessy stated, "In my 19 years of being on the School Board, I have never seen such a coming together of everyone to help make the cuts we have all been forced to make. The Lakewood Teachers' Association, all the administrators and staff have been great through all of the negotiations. However, with an additional school to pay for now, it has just gotten much tougher, not easier, on all of us."

In the spring, I am sure we will hear talk of an operating levy, and we are in that part of the endless cycle caused by HB 920 which makes the schools ask for more money.

And in reality, any gain from a 10 point levy will be eaten away by what we have lost through state cuts, but in Lakewood, since the day I was born here, Lakewood has stood for "The best place to live, and raise a family" and that means educating both the children and the residents. That means supporting the schools.

Now is the time to pay attention to what is happening in the Lakewood City School District. Maintaining our outstanding schools will take support from all of us. Stay informed and get involved.



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Home and Garden Tour

Sunday, September 9

1pm - 6pm

Advanced tickets are \$20 / per person and must be purchased by September 8 at noon. A limited number of tickets may be available the day of the tour at the Nicholson House, 13335 Detroit Ave. for \$25 / per person. To purchase Home Tour, Patron Party and Instant Wine Cellar tickets visit: lakewoodhistory.org or for convenient ticket outlet locations call 216.221.7343

Join the Discussion at: www.lakewoodobserver.com

Lakewood Public Library Events

compiled by Leana Donofrio-Milovan

September 1 Documentary Film

Force of Nature (2010), Directed by Sturla Gunnarsson - All Ages
An icon of Canadian culture and science, environmentalist David Suzuki is coming to Cleveland to accept an award from the Inamori International Center for Ethics and Excellence. In his honor, we are proud to partner with Case Western Reserve University to screen this moving documentary portrait of the man and his passion.
Saturday, September 1 at 6:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

September 2 Sunday before Labor Day – Library Closed

September 3 Labor Day –Library Closed

**September 4
Health and Wealth: Access Your Benefits! How to Save On Monthly Expenses**
Having trouble making ends meet in this economy? If you are over 55 or living with a disability, Don Hill and Ann Gillet from the MetroHealth Benefits Enrollment Center want you to take advantage of a free service that offers significant savings on monthly food, health and utility bills. After the lecture, sign up for one-on-one appointments in the Learning Lab.
Tuesday, September 4 at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

**September 5
Lakewood Historical Society
Looking Back from the Future: How Cultural Resource Management Will Transform Our Future**
In the past, preserving cultural heritage meant recreating history. This was often accomplished by period costumed docents giving tours of historic sites, hearth-cooked meals and other quaint practices. Today, we are beginning to understand the importance of integrating the past into the context of everyday living. Current trends in historic preservation demonstrate how public policy has switched from a focus on saving what is deemed elite to protecting the whole historic fabric of neighborhoods. Jonathan Wotring, Executive Director of the Lakewood Historical Society, will discuss the positive economic impact of these trends that are creating new industries and professions as we switch the cultural focus from redevelopment to revitalization.
Wednesday, September 5 at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

**September 8
Lakewood Public Cinema
Tetro (2009), Directed by Francis Ford Coppola - Rated R**
The director of The Godfather and Apocalypse Now awakes from a long slumber to create the greatest film of his career using snatches of autobiography, dreams, travels, anecdotes and lies to fashion the operatic story of a family with a secret. When Bennie turns eighteen, he races to Argentina to seek out the older brother who disappeared from his life so long ago. But Tetro, a happy failed writer, does not want to look back. A simple embrace reopens old wounds. Bennie thinks he can solve the mystery of his family by finishing a script that Tetro

abandoned—but sometimes the truth can destroy what little we have left. And sometimes it can restore us.
Saturday, September 8 at 6:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium
**September 9
Sunday with the Friends: Tracy Marie & Friends**
She has the voice of storied heartbreak, but somehow she makes it all sound very inviting—a wail that will knock you off your feet and pick you up again. You won't forget her... Mike Barrick, Carl DeScott and Mike Jacobs join Tracy for a special afternoon of blues, rock and jazz. How did she get them all in one place? It's that voice!
Sunday, September 9 at 2:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

**September 12
Health and Wealth: What You Need to Know About Your Hearing**
Audiologist Kathy McGowan and hearing instrument specialist Michael Walleit care about your hearing. It's even more important than you think. Learn how hearing works and what happens mentally and physically when you suffer from hearing loss. Consider the impact diminished hearing can have on your family. Find out what you can do to prevent damage to your ears. This illustrated presentation will also cover what is involved in a screening and lay out possible solutions to hearing loss.
Wednesday, September 12 at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium
**September 13
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. Space is limited. Call 216-226-8275 ext. 127 to sign up for a twenty minute face-to-face appointment.
Thursday, September 13 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Learning Lab

The Lakewood Library Learning Garden Story Time: For The Whole Family

by Julie Strunk
Make the Learning Garden a part of your family time with stories, finger plays, and music about vegetables on Friday August 24, at 10:30 a.m. This story time will replace the Family Weekend Wonders program, weather permitting, on this date. There is no need to register in advance. The story time will be held in the Madison Branch during inclement weather. The Learning Garden is a garden where families can read, learn and enjoy together and is located behind the Madison Branch. This garden is a collaboration between the Lakewood Public Library, LEAF Community, and the City of Lakewood. The Learning Garden was made possible by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, and by the State Library of Ohio.



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Lakewood Public Library Events

Summer Reading Wraps Up



View The World With Different Eyes:

A New Season Of Documentary Film

by Morgan Maseth

The magic of film is that it transports us into the limitless world of the imagination. From Hollywood blockbusters to mind-bending Art House Cinema, the Lakewood Public Library is dedicated to bringing this magic to the public. As enlightening as it is entertaining, our documentary film series offers the chance to experience life from another’s perspective. This season, view the world through the eyes of a scientist, an author, a family of artists, or students from around the country. The lives they lead may be as different as night and day but they all strive to leave their mark in the world.

First join us as we pay tribute to environmentalist David Suzuki. An icon of Canadian culture and science, Suzuki is coming to Cleveland this September to accept the Inamori Ethics Prize. To honor him and his accomplishments, the Library is partnering with Case Western University to screen the documentary, Force of Nature, on Saturday, September 1 at 6:00 p.m. This film, directed by Sturla Gunnarsson, was the winner of the People’s Choice Award at the Toronto International Film Festival in 2010. It offers a glimpse into the events that influenced this accomplished man’s life and is framed by Suzuki’s deliverance of his Last Lecture, what he describes as, “a distillation of my life and thoughts, my legacy, what I want to say before I die.”

October kicks off our School in the Cinema series. Presented by the Lakewood PTA council, this film series highlights documentaries that look at education from different viewpoints. Spellbound, directed by Jeffrey Blitz, follows eight hopeful students as they make their way to the Scripps Howard national spelling bee championship. Not only showcasing the lives of the students, Spellbound also takes a glimpse into the lives of the ones who support them on their journey. Continuing in November is the film Up Heartbreak

Hill. In this documentary directed by Erica Scharf we follow the lives of three Native American teenagers struggling with the decision to stay in their Navajo, NM community or leave to pursue other opportunities. Witness the struggles these three students face as they examine what it means to be Native American in the world today. In January we conclude the School in the Cinema series with Mad Hot Ballroom, directed by Marilyn Agrelo. Immerse yourself in the transformative world of dance along with elementary school students from New York.

Also in January, local author James Renner and his friends track down the elusive writer J.D. Salinger in the film Catching Salinger. Directed by Renner and Charles Moore, it focuses on the road trip Renner, Moore and their friend Rob Lucas took in 2005 retracing the steps of Holden Caulfield with their final destination being New Hampshire in order to knock on the door of J.D. Salinger himself. It’s unavailable on DVD, so don’t miss your chance to see it on the big screen and catch the West Side debut of this funny and illuminating film.

February brings the end of this season’s documentary film series with The Woodmans. Directed by Scott Willis, this film not only takes a look into the too short yet accomplished life of photographer Francesca Woodman, but also examines the impact her life and death had on her family of talented artists. With unlimited access to Francesca’s work, private diaries and experimental videos, The Woodmans captures the young photographer’s voice. Through her distinctive work and her parents’ determination to keep her legacy alive, Francesca’s spirit lives on.

All films are free and open to the public. Films will be shown in the Main Library Auditorium located at 15425 Detroit Ave. Go to www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.org/film or call 216-226-8275 ext. 127 for more information.

by Arlie Matera

Thank you, Lakewood youth, for sharing your summer with the Library! This year we had a record 3,012 participants in our Summer Reading Club. 747 children completed the challenge, logging in thirty hours of reading (or thirty books for younger readers). Our end of the summer party was also a huge success—350 attendees enjoyed games, treats, and a special “soak the staff” event. It’s been such a blast we’re already looking forward to next summer. Keep reading, kids. We’ll see you at the Library!

Children/Youth Events

compiled by Arlie Matera

Friday, August 24
Learning Garden Story Time - For the whole family
Make the Learning Garden a part of your family time with stories, music, and activities about vegetables, fruits, and flowers! This story time will replace the Family Weekend Wonders program, weather permitting. The story time will be held in the Madison Branch in case of inclement weather.
10:30 a.m. in the Madison Branch Learning Garden

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) 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. We will provide materials and ideas for those wishing to continue the fun at home. Programs are offered every weekend throughout the year and there is no need to register in advance.
Madison Branch Children’s and Youth Services
Saturdays at 11:30 a.m. and Sundays at 3:30 p.m.

Homework ER
For students in kindergarten through eighth grade
Need a little extra help with your homework, or just want a quiet place to work? Come to the Library for help and resources. There is no need to register. Homework ER will be closed for school holidays and vacations.
Madison Branch and Main Library Children’s and Youth Services

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Lakewood Schools

Fitness Fits Everyone!

by Corey Rossen

On Sunday, September 30 from 1 – 5 p.m. the 3rd Annual Fitness Fits Everyone! (formerly Recess ROCKS!) presented by Jordan's Family Foundation will turn Lakewood Park into a large playground and feature dozens of energizing activities for kids and families to have fun and play while also learning a bit about healthy living.

Last year's event was attended by 3000+ guests with over 75 organizations (including the Cleveland CAVS, Cleveland Indians, American Heart Association, Cleveland Clinic and many others) participating in the fun. The event will give elementary and middle school aged kids an opportunity to commit to better health through games and activities while offering parents a host of new ideas for keeping the whole family healthy.

Fitness Fits Everyone! is a heart-healthy and activity-based event and just one way Jordan's Family Foundation is fighting childhood obesity, which in turn, can lead to heart disease. We are estimating approximately 4000 – 4500 children, along with their families, will take part in the event this year.

All those in attendance will be given a large menu of options for their day at the "playground" ranging from physical challenges and sports to educational information and nutrition. A portion of Lakewood Park will be divided into activity stations where

each station provides an opportunity to quickly engage kids in healthy activities while not detracting from the real purpose of the day – playing. There will also be informational booths set up throughout the event to distribute promotional material about your organization and healthy living.

Ultimately, the goal of Fitness Fits Everyone! is to create a fun environment for families to learn about healthy living and for kids to make a commitment to be healthy while having fun with other kids in the community.

There is still time to sign up your company or organization. Please contact me at JordansFamilyFoundation@yahoo.com or by calling (216) 221-0147.



Dunk the school administrator is always a big favorite. But when the principal from Grant gets near the tank, the line sure fills up with a lot of boys throwing pretty hard.

Board Of Ed, PTA To Host Ice Cream Social

by Christine Gordillo

Summer may be ending but there's always room for another scoop of ice cream! Please join the Lakewood Board of Education and the Lakewood Council of PTAs for an Ice Cream Social on Tuesday, September 4, from 6:15 – 7:00 p.m. in the Grant Elementary School gym. Members of the Board of Education will be dishing out the free scoops of ice cream while musicians from the Garfield Middle School bands provide the entertainment.

The evening is a great chance to get to know the Lakewood school board members and share thoughts about the Lakewood City Schools. Following the event, the Board will hold its regular meeting and the Council of PTAs will hold its first meeting of the school year. The public is welcome to stay for either meeting.

"This is a great kickoff to the school year and something that we Board members really enjoy and look forward to every year," said Board president Betsy Bergen Shaughnessy.

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Lakewood Schools

Honors Roll In For LHS Bands

by Christine Gordillo

Lots of Lakewood band news happening, including the LHS Ranger Marching Band wrapping up its band camp in anticipation of its first performance of the season at the football season opener on August 24. Over the

summer, LHS band students Hugh Campbell, Steven Moncol, and Taylor Wolhfiel participated in the 2012 All Ohio State Fair Band. These students were selected based upon their Solo & Ensemble Contest scores and band director recommendation. More

than 200 students from across Ohio were part of the State Fair Band. The band spent two weeks in Columbus rehearsing and giving multiple performances a day at the 10-day fair. Congratulations to the three musicians on this fine accomplishment.

Also on the marching band front, the Ranger Marching Band has been invited to join the Ohio State marching band at its “skull session,” or final rehearsal at St. John Arena before the Buckeyes’ October 6 football game versus Nebraska. The skull session is a combination rehearsal/ pep rally open to the public. Throughout the season, high school marching bands are invited to play for the crowd prior to the OSU band’s rehearsal.

The marching band is not alone in receiving select invitations to perform. The LHS Wind Ensemble has been chosen by the band faculty at the University of Akron to perform as part of the 2012 Ohio Band Directors Conference. The conference is an annual event hosted by University of Akron for Ohio band directors that features the performance of new music by several guest,



LHS students Stephen Moncol (from left), Taylor Wolhfiel and Hugh Campbell spent two weeks in Columbus this summer as part of the All Ohio State Fair Band. The three were nominated by their band director, Brian Maskow.

Jammy Buggars Reaches Out To Lakewood Refugee Students!

by Jessica Stringer

In partnership with Asian Services in Action (ASIA), a non-profit advocacy organization, neighborhood restaurant Jammy Buggars opened its doors to teach Lakewood refugee students restaurant etiquette while enjoying a fantastic meal.

In early Spring 2012, Jim Sprenger, owner of Jammy Buggars, was contacted to take part in the Career Passport Project to help Lakewood refugee students learn cultural literacy skills, job skills, and academic skills.

“I was eager to assist the project,” Sprenger said. “This was a great opportunity for the kids to learn restaurant etiquette without the pressure of a public forum.”

To help the students learn restaurant etiquette, Sprenger prepared a menu that was unique to Jammy Buggars and also sensitive to the students’ diverse cultural backgrounds. “I wanted to give them a taste of traditional American food, something they may not be served all the time,” Springer said.

Students enjoyed a sampling of appetizers such as French fries and

chicken fingers, and had choices that included the Jammy Buggars version of the traditional cheeseburger and grilled cheese.

Kitty Leung, the manager of children, youth, and family services for ASIA, was ecstatic that Jammy Buggars joined the Career Passport Project. “I am so grateful that Jim would open his restaurant to our children to help them learn these skills,” Leung said. “We are so grateful for his generosity.”

Students in the Career Passport Project used this summer to learn about other academic and employment opportunities in the Lakewood and greater Cleveland communities by visiting the police and fire departments in Lakewood and at Cleveland State University. Stringer hopes that next summer the Career Passport Project will improve upon the great work that has already taken place.

“I hope that we can share our excitement and hard work with other community members and find more businesses and community agencies willing to open their doors to the wonderful and culturally diverse students in Lakewood.”

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Lakewood Student-Athletes Make Great Buddies

continued from page 1

tion of some second grade classmates and numerous Lakewood High athletes. They came to support and encourage Kellyn with the same level of enthusiasm they see from her in their classroom and in the stands during a game.

For all of Kellyn’s schooling, she has been in a general education classroom, allowing her to learn alongside her peers, build friendships and make significant academic gains. For most of Kellyn’s life, she has also been attending soccer and basketball games at Harding, Garfield, and Lakewood High. She is an avid fan; when the game ends, she is usually the first to greet many of the players with personalized handshakes,

high-fives and exuberant hugs. On a Saturday morning in the middle of the summer, her Emerson classmates and high school soccer and basketball players seeking a break from summer conditioning could decide to sleep in. On one special Saturday in July, however, these Lakewood students made a different choice and instead went the extra mile to help raise funds, celebrate friendships, and make one little girl feel like she was the MVP of the day.

Thanks to the Lakewood buddies who participated in making our walk truly special. Until next year’s Buddy Walk, Kellyn will see you in the classroom, in the stands, and out on the field or court, eager to share a celebratory handshake, high-five, or hug.

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Lakewood Sports

Youth Scholarship Softball Tournament

by Debra Clark

The day started under gloomy skies and misty rain but the grounds crew had the fields ready and the Lakewood Commissioner's 1st annual Youth Scholarship Tournament was under way. Six Co-ed teams started the tournament at 10:00 a.m. Pillars of Lakewood, who not only put a team together to play in the tournament but donated Wing Crawl passes for the winning team, had a tough day on the field and finished in 6th place. Irish Kevin's, a last minute replacement team, put up a good fight but after an injury to a key player exited the tournament in 5th place. Kenilworth, a strong team from the Lakewood Sunday league, fought their way into the elimination round but finished in 4th



Tournament Champions Pug Mahone's.

place after falling to the eventual tournament champions. West Park Station, the 2nd seeded team in the tournament after winning their pool play earlier

in the day, was the next victim of the tournament champs and finished in 3rd. Riverwood Café, the powerhouse of the earlier rounds and the number 1

seeded team could not find the magic in the championship game and finished 2nd to the tournament champion Pug Mahone's.

It took six consecutive wins but Pug Mahone's met the challenge and took home the hardware. At the end of the day teams met at Around the Corner, a major sponsor of the tournament, for the awards ceremony and what started as a gloomy day ended with smiles on the perfect day for softball.

The Lakewood Recreation Commissioners would like to thank all teams who participated as well as the Around the Corner, 5 Guys, Serpentine's Winterhurst Arena, Cleveland Botanical Gardens, Geiger's, Anytime Fitness, Lakewood Recreation Department, Lakewood Pillars, Shawn Juris Insurance Agency, Slife Heating and Cooling, University Tee's, and Don Sharp and family whose generous contributions not only helped make this tournament possible but raised funds to support the Lakewood Youth Scholarship fund.

It's A "Red-Out" For LHS Football Game

by Michael Long

On Friday, September 7, 2012 at 7 p.m., hundreds will gather to see a match-up between the Lakewood Rangers and the Norwalk Truckers Football teams; however, this year will be a little different. Rather than purple

and gold on one side of the field facing blue and gold on the other, this year there will be RED in the stands to bring awareness to heart disease.

During the game, we will honor and remember loved ones while helping to fight heart disease and stroke.

Teams, students, and community members are encouraged to purchase and wear a red out event t-shirt to school, to work, and to the game in honor of our loved ones and to support the American Heart Association.

Heart disease kills more people in

the US than the next 5 leading causes of death combined - including cancer. This Red Out event, proudly sponsored by Jordan's Family Foundation, is a great way to celebrate the lives of family and friends we have lost in our community to this devastating disease while helping others.

If you cannot attend the game but would like to show your support, you can log on to <http://honor.americanheart.org/goto/lakewoodredout> to make a donation in the school's name. All proceeds go to the American Heart Association.

If you would like more information on how you can get involved, please contact your American Heart Association Youth Market representative at michael.long@heart.org or visit www.heart.org.

Saint Edward's High School Announces Varsity Soccer Team, Plays At LHS Sept 29

by Mark Darby

Saint Edward's High School has announced its 2012 varsity boys' soccer team roster. The roster by grade and hometown is: Kevin Murray (12), Mikey Bowden (12), Ronan Forrestal (12) (Lakewood), Zac Cairns (12) (North Olmsted), Robert Daggett (12), Christopher Allen (10) (Avon Lake), Matt Ramser (11) (Cleveland), Antal Petrik (12), Nathaniel Brown (11) (Columbia

Station), Timmy Jonas (10) (Fairview Park), Julian Castro (10) (Lorain), Nikolai Dhillon (12) (Medina), George Bruck (10) (North Ridgeville), Gregory Moilov (11) (Olmsted Falls), Stuart Ford (12) (Shaker Heights), Patrick Darby (11) (Strongsville), Sean Cann (12) (Vermilion), and Braden Davies (11) (Westlake).

St. Edward's plays at Lakewood High School in the annual Community Cup match on September 29. Game time

is 7 p.m. for the varsity and 5 p.m. for the junior varsity. St. Edward's opens its season against Avon Lake on August 22 at Coughlin field on the St. Edward's campus. Game time is 6 p.m. for the junior varsity game and 8 p.m. for varsity. For more information about the St. Edward's boys' soccer program and a complete schedule please visit the St. Edward's High School website at http://alumni.sehs.net/?page=SEHS_Soccer_Home.

Lakewood YMCA Youth Fall Sports

by Chris Switzer

Interested in getting involved in youth sports during the fall season? The Lakewood Family YMCA along with the YMCA of Greater Cleveland have great opportunities for you and your family.

NFL Flag Football

NFL flag football is for boys and girls ages 3-14. Fast paced, 5 on 5 games are played every Saturday morning, for an 8 week long season. League games begin September 8th and will group participating children by the following age groups: 3-4, 5-6, 7-8, 9-11, and 12-14. Registration deadline is Saturday, August 25. The league is for members of the YMCA Lakewood, West Shore, and West Park. All games will be held at the West Shore YMCA.

Cost will be \$45 for YMCA members and \$85 for YMCA program members. Price includes a NFL reversible mesh jersey. REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS AUGUST 25, with a \$5 late fee after deadline. Each participant will be required to register on the NFL Flag's web-site as well, further

details after registration.

Fall Youth Soccer

YMCA Fall Youth Soccer for boys and girls ages 3-8, for kids who want to learn more about the game of soccer and teamwork. Soccer league will have an emphasis on fun and character building. Games will be played on Saturday mornings beginning at 10 a.m. The first game will take place on Saturday, September 8 at the West Shore YMCA, and will last for 8 weeks. The league is for members of the YMCA Lakewood, West Shore, and West Park.

Cost will be \$45 for YMCA members and \$85 for YMCA program members. REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS SEPTEMBER 1, with a \$5 late fee after deadline.

Volunteering/ Coaching

We are actively looking for volunteers for the positions of Head Coach and Assistant Coach for NFL Flag Football, as well Youth Fall Soccer League. You do not need to be a member of the Y to be a volunteer, but you are required to submit to a back-

ground check. This goes a long way to ensuring proper coaching, and to develop teamwork skills for all of our children.

We are very thankful for your interest in YMCA programs, and we look forward to you joining us as we

continue to build strong communities in our area. If you have any questions contact, Program Director Chris Switzer, Lakewood YMCA @ 216-521-8400, or by e-mail @ cswitzer@clevelandymca.org

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On Deck Photos



A couple people posted rainbow photos yesterday, but no one nailed it like Art Pagsuyin’s shot from downtown Lakewood!



Clockwise from left: Lakewood Police teamed up with State Police for a Sobriety Check Point on Detroit Ave., Diners at 56 West cared more about food and conversations. For a while they were averaging about a possible drunk every ten minutes or so!



Earlier in the day the streets were filled with Wing Walkers. Pillars had their annual Wing Walk, and the great weather, good times and great wings got them out and all over the streets, smiling, talking and eating wings!



State Rep. Nickie Antonio stopped by to talk about the Romney/Ryan ticket and what it could mean to her constituents

Below: A photo from the long awaited opening of Quaker Steak and Lube. What a party it was, check them out!



Lakewood Car Kulture Show 2012



This year the show was bigger than ever, and with the perfect weather record crowd, record number of cars, and record number of people having car fun in Lakewood, Ohio.



Why A Car Kulture Show Anyway? Who Really Cares?

by Jim O'Bryan

For years the Lakewood Observer and I have been involved in Lakewood Car Kulture Shows and other car and motorsports events. People often ask why, and I have my reason reasons: it's fun, marketing, and you get to meet great people, like the Koenigsmark family who first came up with the Lakewood Car Kulture Show and have run the since day one. The LO was not involved this year but I attended and ran into a young man taking a picture of a pretty girl next to a hot rod, after all what goes together better than cars and girls? I asked if it was their car, and she remarked it was her father's. I asked if she could send some information, and she sent the following story, and this is why car shows matter, why art shows matter, why it all matters. Another great Lakewood event that gets better every year!

Thank you, as always to the Koenigsmark Family and City Hall



Cars that everyone loves and loves to look at. Families everywhere having fun.



Everyone was there. Here is Peanuts from Scene Magazine, his niece Karen, and drummer extraordinaire, Wally Gunn.



Councilwoman for Ward 4, Mary Louise Madigan was judging for the mayor. Here she checks out the Giorgi's Mini Moke.



It was great seeing them come in from all over. These three were headed back to I-90, they came in from all over!



Samantha Reedy sits in her father's (Danny Reedy) 1927 Paige. Her dad found parts of in an old hardware store in Akron while working for an auctioneer. He saved it from being scrapped. It sat for awhile before he decided to put together a frame for it. The engine block (a Chevy 305) came from his neighbor across the street..out of an old work truck he was scrapping. Almost everything on the car except the radiator and carburetor are found items or stuff friends have given him. There is a total of less than \$2,000 spent building the car in its current condition, all parts and materials included...Everything the old fashioned way, the way a true hot rod should be. Danny was raised by his grandfather Darrell Ward, who used to restore model T and model A Fords so he grew up in the garage around vintage cars. When he brought this pile of parts home, his Grandpa wanted him to get started right away putting it all together but Danny had a lot going on at the time and just couldn't get to it. His grandpa ended up getting cancer and passing away. It was only after his grandfather passed that Danny realized the importance of putting the car together and keeping his word to his grandfather that Danny would make something out of it. He and his grandpa built about 8 or 9 cars together... all of them ended up getting sold or traded off. When Danny became a father, he quickly understood the importance of the things he had learned out in the garage with his grandpa and has tried to instill those same values in his kids. Hard work, self-reliance, honesty, loyalty and creativity. All of the things that he had learned from old cars.

This story came from Danny himself, who says, Thank you for your interest in my car...I've built a lot of stuff and sometimes it's just another project..it's only when others enjoy it that it becomes more than a pile of rusty parts.

Thanks! Danny, Samantha & Jacob



Bill Gaydos shows his son Matt, the Rat Fink image, originated by Big Daddy Ed Roth.

Lakewood Cares

Hen Hopefuls: Frank And Jen Revy

by Annie Stahlheber

The Hens in Lakewood committee is highlighting some "hen hopefuls," so that Lakewood can learn about who wants hens, and why. Frank and Jen Revy, are our featured family of this issue, with others in the coming weeks.

What street do you live on? Riverway Drive.

How long have you lived in Lakewood? Frank: I was born and raised here, bought my first house in Cleveland about 10 years ago, and moved back July of 2011 with Jen and the kids.

Why do you choose to live in Lakewood? Frank and Jen: great schools and a wonderful, open minded, diverse, interesting community.

Why do you want to raise hens in Lakewood? Frank and Jen: We have committed our property to an edible food forest using permaculture and its principles of ecological soundness that promotes economically prosperous human communities. Hens are a part of our commitment towards self sufficiency. It makes us less dependent on factory farmed agriculture. The hens provide natural, and organic fertilizer, therefore they are an important link to the lush and edible plantscape we envision. They are a natural pest deterrent, they gobble up carpenter



Jen and Franky Revy with Tallulah and Frank Jr. at Summer Meltdown hope to be able to share the experience of raising hens with their kids here in Lakewood.

ants like crazy! And finally, fresh and organic eggs - will make our neighbors quite happy when we start sharing with them.

Why do you think Lakewood is a community that should allow responsible hen keeping? Frank and Jen: All communities should. We have reached a critical point in our human history. We need to prepare now for the new future of dwindling and exhausted resources and the uncertainty that climate change brings. Our past, is now our future. We need to see how our ancestors lived before industrialization changed everything, and we need to incorporate that into our daily modern life. Hens are a small, but integral part of this new reality we face.

Do you want to mention anything else? Frank: I love Lakewood. I am so happy and grateful to be back.

Children Of The Dump Project

by Jayne Gaydos

August 2012, marked the fifth year that the Sunrise Rotary Club has participated in the Children of the Dump Project. In the late 1990's, A missionary Father Marco Dessy, noticed the children in the city of Chinandega Nicaragua were rummaging through the City dump each day looking for something to eat or usable items to salvage. A civil war and the 1998 hurricane had left the city in ruins and a cycle of poverty had developed. During a visit to the area on an another humanitarian project, Past District Governor of Rotary, Jack Young learned about an effort to help these children and their families. Sunrise Club Member, then Assistant Governor, Bill Gaydos initiated a project within the Lakewood Rocky River Sunrise Rotary to help.

On August 8, 25 Sunrise Club members met and filled specially marked Rotary "shoe boxes" with clothing, toys and school supplies. Thirty five individual members adopted a child of a specific age or size and filled a large box with toiletries, and an outfit of clothes, school supplies and optional items like games or toys depending on the age. Through fund raising efforts the Club purchased items and filled an additional 40 boxes. The total of 75 were packed and prepared for shipment to Nicaragua. The packing night has also become a social with Rotary families gather-



President Elect, Chuck Drumm, left, and Bill and Jayne Gaydos, project coordinators look over the 75 Shoe Boxes destined for Nicaragua for the Children of the Dump.

ing to help with the packing and enjoy pizza and pop while they work. PDG Jack Young has made arrangements with a Rotarian in Michigan to get the shoe boxes shipped. Last year 11 clubs in the northeastern Ohio District participated and eventually with the help of other Ohio and Michigan Rotary Clubs 28,000 "shoe boxes" were sent to the city of Chinandega, Nicaragua.

In order to receive one of the gift shoe boxes the child must be going to school and meeting at least minimum grade levels. It is the goal of this project that the cycle of poverty will be broken through providing food, education and programs to encourage good health. PDG Jack Young has made plans to be in Chinandega in November, 2012 to help distribute the boxes and see how the lives of these children and families have improved through the efforts of the Sunrise Club and other Rotary Clubs who participate.

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Lakewood Cares

St. James Lakewood, Ohio - Reopened-Restored

by Joni and Toni Sabo

On July 25, the feast day of St. James the Apostle, the doors of St. James church on the corner of Granger and Detroit reopened after parishioners' 3 year quest to save the building and the parish. The organ and the choir, joined by an overflowing crowd of 1,400 people, made a joyful noise in celebration of a beautiful homecoming to the place that had nurtured their Catholic faith over the years and in some cases generations.

In March of 2009, immediately after Bishop Lennon announced the closing of St. James, parishioners filed an appeal to the Congregation of the Clergy asking for a reversal of the bishop's decision. This appeal process, rooted in canon law, gives parishioners a right to challenge the suppression of their parish. Back then when asked about the chances of winning the appeal, Christine LaSalvia, the author of the document, would answer, "Slim, but we have to try."

From that time forward Friends of St. James (FOSJ) adopted the mantra, "With God all things are possible," and we began to pray. We prayed inside the church until it was shuttered on June 25, 2010. Then we prayed out-

side. Every week we prayed the Rosary in the church courtyard. When the weather became inclement, we prayed the rosary with our friends from St. Patrick, another shuttered Catholic church, at the Sisters of St. Joseph on Rocky River Dr. We had many prayer services on the church steps including 2 Christmas Eve services that were attended by scores of parishioners. We prayed in solidarity with shuttered parishes throughout the diocese. Parishioners also flooded the Vatican with hundreds of letters.

Friends of St. James also took their plight to the community. We reached out through booths at the Lakewood Arts Festival, and the Madison festival, we marched in the Fourth of July and St. Patrick day parades. Lakewood officials were very supportive of our effort to save our historic church. It was the first building in Lakewood to have its interior landmarked; thanks to new legislation sponsored by Kevin Bulter, then Ward 1 councilman, and passed by Lakewood city council.

FOSJ also did fundraising to forward the cause and to keep our parish community together. We kept everyone informed through quarterly newsletters. We sold yard signs, t-shirts, mugs,



photo by Lad Trepal

Overflowing crowd of 1,400 that packed the church for the opening mass.

calendars, DVD's, and Christmas cards. We held Murder Mystery dinners, Breakfasts with Santa, picnics, and whatever else we could think of to keep hope alive.

With these funds FOSJ hired two Canon Lawyers in Rome and Peter Borre, an activist who works with many parishioner groups of closed parishes throughout the country. They were our guides through the unfamiliar territory of the Vatican. Their help was invaluable to moving the cause forward in Rome.

After 3 long years our miracle happened. In March of 2012 the Vatican Congregation for the Clergy upheld the appeals of 11 Parishes in the Cleveland diocese, and ordered that the churches be reopened. Our prayers had been answered. The news echoed across the country, because it was an unprecedented decision that not only reopened churches but restored the parish as well.

Now the doors are opened and the parishioners of St. James look forward to the unique opportunity of rebuild-

ing the parish from the ground up. The new pastor, Reverend Joseph Workman, and the parochial vicar, Reverend Thomas Kowatch, will lead the community forward in the joyous task of restoring the parish to spread the good news of Jesus to the community.

The parish celebrates Mass every Saturday at 4:30 p.m., Sunday at 10:30 a.m., and on Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 8:15 a.m. For the time being the offices of St. James will be located at St. Clement Church: the phone # is 216-226-5116 and email is stclementlakewood@cox.net. Father hopes to have our offices up and running in the former St. James convent as early as November.

The Friends of St. James are grateful to the community who has supported us in countless ways over the last three years in our efforts to bring St. James back as a living Lakewood parish. We deeply appreciate your encouragement and suggestions, your contributions of time, special skills and resources, the many letters you have written, and of course your prayers.

Cuyahoga County Board Of Elections Launches Effort To Hire 6,000 Election Day Workers

by Mike West

The Cuyahoga County Board of Elections is seeking reliable and civic-minded people to serve as poll workers during the November 6th General Presidential Election.

To help make the public aware of these job opportunities, poll worker applications will be available at over 100 locations throughout the county.

Poll workers earn \$172.10 for their service, which includes; successfully

completing a poll worker training class, attending a meeting the night before the election, and working Election Day from 5:30 a.m. until about 8:00 p.m.

Poll workers must be at least 17 years of age and registered to vote in Cuyahoga County. State law does not allow convicted felons to serve as poll workers.

Applicants may apply on-line at www.boe.cuyahogacounty.us or call the Board of Elections Poll Worker Department at 216-443-3277.

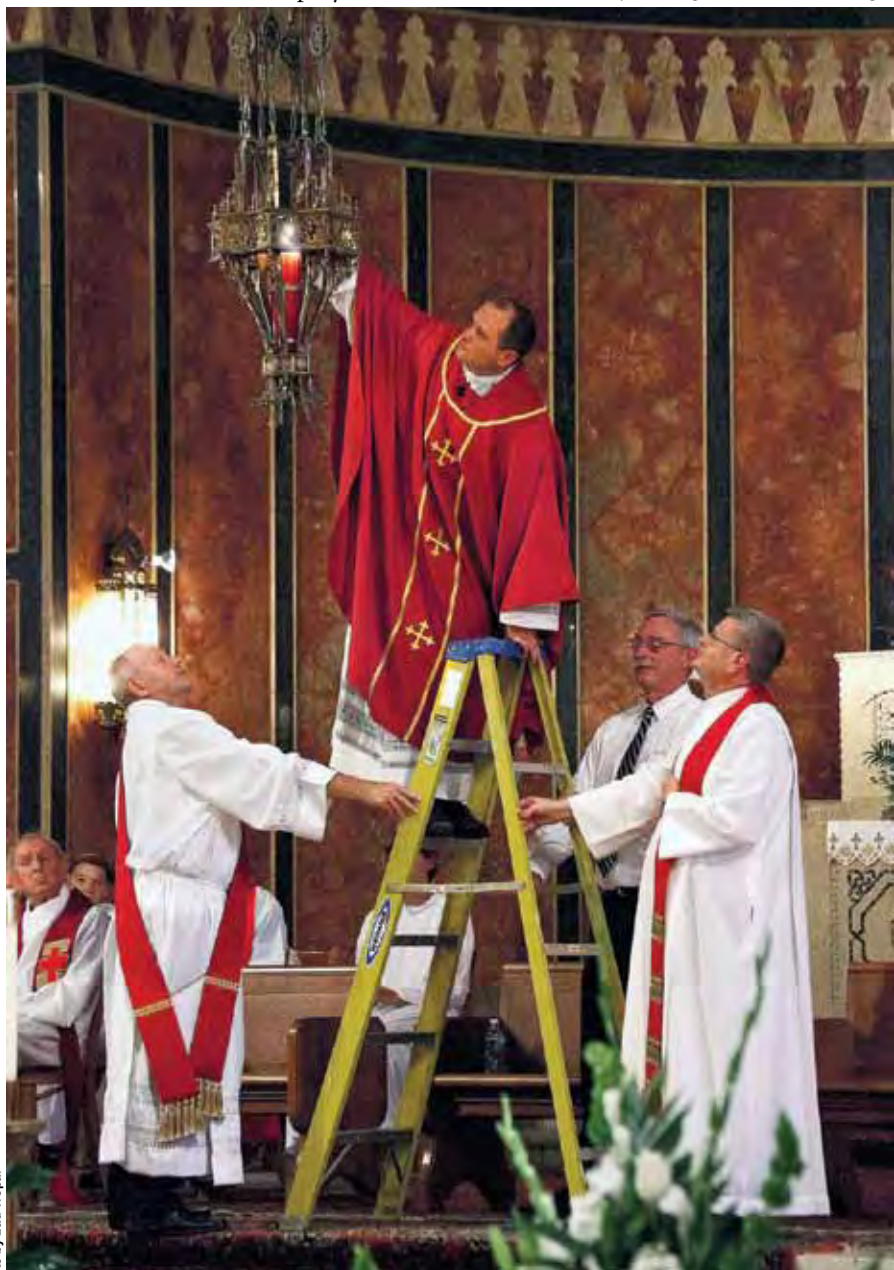


photo by Lad Trepal

Father Joseph Workman lighting the sanctuary lamp symbolizing that Jesus is present in the Blessed sacrament. After the lamp was lit the crowd burst into spontaneous applause. by Lad Trepal

Lakewood Cares

Chance To Win An Austrian Holiday To Support North Coast Health Ministry

by Elizabeth O'Brien

The winning ticket holder of North Coast Health Ministry's Austrian Holiday raffle will enjoy a week-long holiday at St. Johann's Alpenland Sporthotel in the Salzburg Province of Austria and a \$3,000 travel voucher redeemable for round-trip airfare.

In summer, enjoy Salzburg's castles and palaces, mountain tours and hiking. In winter, enjoy a ski-lover's paradise. Accommodations are for up to 4 people in a one-room efficiency unit with queen-size bed and sofa sleeper. The vacation package prize may be redeemed through December 15, 2014.

Tickets are \$25 each, three for \$50, or eight for \$100 and can be purchased online at <http://www.nchealthministry.org/austria>. Ticket order forms can also be obtained by contacting NCHM Development Director Jeanine Gergel at 216-228-7878 ext. 107 or via email at jgergel@nchealthministry.org.

The winning ticket will be drawn on Thursday, August 30, 2012, at North Coast Health Ministry's Summer Garden Party Celebration gala at LaCentre Conference and Banquet Facility in Westlake, Ohio. Winner need not be present to win.

Accommodations are donated by Thomas and Lynne Sexstella; airfare voucher sponsored by Fairview Hospital and St. John Medical Center. All

proceeds benefit North Coast Health Ministry, a free clinic serving the low-income uninsured in western Greater Cleveland.

About North Coast Health Ministry
North Coast Health Ministry provides free health care to low-income uninsured individuals and families

on Greater Cleveland's West Side. In 2011, NCHM served 2,740 patients who had no other route to health care. With the support of 140 volunteer physicians, nurses and other caregivers, NCHM is able to provide primary health care, specialty referrals, prescription assistance, behavioral health

care and social service referrals to the medically underserved. NCHM strives to be the medical home for its patients providing preventive care and chronic disease management as well as care for acute illnesses and injuries. NCHM's primary location is at 16110 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood, Ohio.

Starry Night Event Shines

by Kristin Broadbent

Lakewood Hospital Foundation, which raises fund exclusively for Lakewood Hospital, hosted the seventh annual Starry Night event on August 3. Recognized as one of the West Side's biggest and best street parties, the event boasted nearly 650 guests and raised \$150,000. Net proceeds will directly benefit patients through the Lakewood Hospital Diabetes and Endocrine Center's Diabetes Assistance Initiative and community education efforts.

"Diabetes is a disease that afflicts one out of every eight people in Northeast Ohio and is likely impacting the life of someone you know – a friend, neighbor or family member," says Kristin Broadbent, executive director of the Lakewood Hospital Foundation. "The community's generous support of Starry Night makes a significant difference in the lives of diabetes patients in need by providing the funding necessary for supplies, daily medications and the comprehensive diabetes education



Jim Ryan, Heidi Finniff, Vince Tripodi, and Patty Ryan.

that is essential for those living with this disease.

Starry Night festivities included New Orleans-inspired comfort food and gourmet delights, lively jazz entertainment by The Killer Watt Hours, and both silent and live auction. Monica Robins of WKYC-TV 3 was the Mistress of Ceremonies. During the event Regency Construction Services Inc. was recognized for five years of strong support as the Signature Sponsor of Starry Night.

According to Tari Rivera, president of Regency Construction, builder of the Diabetes and Endocrine Center as well as other Cleveland Clinic Health System projects, "We're proud to support Lakewood Hospital and the Diabetes Assistance Initiative, which provides help to a growing number of residents of Lakewood and the greater west side communities – we're pleased to make a difference in our community."

About Lakewood Hospital Foundation
Established in 1956, Lakewood Hospital Foundation is an independent 501(c)(3) organization that raises funds exclusively for Lakewood Hospital. Lakewood Hospital Foundation provides the channel for interested individuals, businesses and foundations to directly support the life-changing patient programs and services offered through Lakewood Hospital, a part of the world-class Cleveland Clinic health system. Visit lakewoodhospital-foundation.org or call 216.529.7009.

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Lakewood Cares

Lakewood Women’s Club Sponsors Raffle

by Margaret Wetzler

The Lakewood Women’s Club kicked off a raffle to benefit Lakewood Community Services Corporation at the Lakewood Arts Festival.

Featuring a beautiful confetti quilt, hand-made by Stitch Cleveland, the Lakewood Women’s Club hopes to raise \$500 for LCSC, which works to provide emergency food assistance, job assistance, and referrals to agencies for rent and utility assistance.

“The purchase of a raffle ticket will help LWC support LCSC and the much needed work they do to help struggling families in Lakewood,” says Heidi Massingill, owner of Stitch Cleveland. Ms. Massingill contacted LWC and suggested the idea of partnering to raise money to benefit Lakewood families. The Modern Sewing Social, which meets



The winner of the raffle will win this beautiful confetti quilt, made at Stitch Cleveland.

monthly at Stitch Cleveland, created the quilt and lovingly donated it to the cause.

Raffle tickets are available until October 26. If you would like to purchase raffle tickets, please stop in

at Stitch Cleveland at 18117 Detroit Avenue, at Lakewood Community Services at 14230 Madison Avenue, or contact any member of the Lakewood Women’s Club. The cost of each ticket is \$2.00, or 3 for \$5.00. For more information, please email lakewoodjuniors@gmail.com.

The winner will be drawn on Sunday, October 28, at the Eighth Annual Pumpkin Fun Run, following the race at the Women’s Pavilion at Lakewood Park. Winners need not be present.

About Lakewood Women’s Club: Founded in 1962, with roots going back to the early 1900’s, Lakewood Women’s Club (formerly known as Junior Women’s Club of Lakewood) has provided, and continues to provide, a philanthropic organization for women who are interested in serving their community while enjoying programming geared to fun and friendship. The Club supports Lakewood through three distinct programs: an annual scholarship awarded to a female high school senior pursuing a higher education; funding for Project H2O, Help to Others, a program dedication to strengthening and enriching Lakewood by engaging its youth as community builders; and support of a Lakewood based non-profit organization selected by membership through an application process.

Access Your Benefits!

by Elaine Rosenberger

Are you having trouble making ends meet in the current economy? If you are over fifty-five years of age or are living with a disability, free one-on-one help is available right here in Lakewood. Donald Hill and Ann Gillett, from the MetroHealth Benefits Enrollment Center, want you to take advantage of a free service that offers significant savings on monthly food, health, and utility bills.

On Tuesday, September 4, at 7:00 p.m., Hill and Gillett will be discussing the Access Your Benefits Enrollment Center in the Main Library Auditorium. Access Your Benefits Enrollment Center is a service that helps to determine eligibility for benefit assistance programs available to seniors and persons with disabilities. MetroHealth Advantage is a screening location, and Donald Hill is the Access Your Benefits Coordinator. Ann Gillett has volunteered with the MetroHealth Advantage program for five years, and she helps seniors apply for benefits through the Access Your Benefits program.

Their talk will take place in the Main Library Auditorium at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 4, 2012.

The presentation is free and open to the public; no advance registration is required. After the talk, participants will be able to sign up for free one-on-one appointments, which will be held in the Main Library Learning Lab. At these one-on-one appointments, after verifying your income to determine that you meet program requirements, volunteers will help you enroll in programs that offer significant savings on monthly food expenses, Medicare premiums, prescription drug costs, and utility bills. These one-on-one appointments will be held on Tuesdays from September 11 through November 27 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Main Library Learning Lab. For more information call the Main Library at (216) 226-8275, ext. 127.

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Lakewood Is Art

Beck Center Opens 2012/2013 Theater Season A 1980s Roller Disco? “Xanadu” Is Heaven On Earth

by Fran Storch

Beck Center for the Arts kicks off its 2012/2013 Professional Theater season with the first locally produced production of Xanadu, the award-winning Broadway hit musical based on the Universal Pictures cult classic movie of the same title, which starred Olivia Newton-John and Gene Kelly. Xanadu runs on the Mackey Main Stage September 14 through October 14. Show times are

8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 3 p.m. Sundays. Tickets are now on sale. Winner of the 2008 Outer Critics Circle Award for Outstanding New Musical, Xanadu tells the story of Kira, a beautiful Greek muse, who descends from the heavens of Mt. Olympus to Venice Beach, California on a quest to inspire a struggling artist named Sonny Malone to build his greatest artistic creation of all time – the first ROLLER

DISCO. (Hey, it’s 1980!) But when Kira falls into forbidden love with the mortal Sonny, her jealous sisters take advantage of the situation and chaos abounds. Directed by Beck Center’s Artistic Director, Scott Spence, with musical direction by Larry Goodpaster and choreography by Martín Céspedes, Xanadu stars Kathleen Rooney as Kira and Sam Wolf as Sonny Malone. Greg Violand portrays the hard-hearted



Danny Maguire who sells out Sonny when Kira’s evil sisters tempt him to strike it rich by building condos in place of the roller disco. Rooney and Violand appear courtesy of the Actors’ Equity Association (AEA), the union of actors and stage managers.

It’s hilarity on wheels for dreamers of all ages. Broadway’s master storyteller, Douglas Carter Beane, weaves an electrifying tale of endless fun that will make you laugh out loud while the chart-topping tunes lift you out of your seat. The original hit score composed by pop-rock legends Jeff Lynne and John Farrar includes memorable songs like “Magic,” “All Over The World,” “Evil Woman,” “Have You Never Been Mellow,” and, of course the title song, “Xanadu.” You’ll want to keep the music in your head, and Xanadu in your heart, forever.

Tickets for Xanadu are \$28 for adults, \$25 for seniors (65 and older), \$17 for students (with valid ID), and \$10 for children (12 and under). An additional \$3 service fee per ticket is applied at the time of purchase. Preview Night on Thursday, Sept. 13, is \$10 with general admission seating. Group discounts are available for parties of 13 or more. Purchase tickets online at beckcenter.org or call Customer Services at 216.521.2540, ext. 10. Beck Center is located at 17801 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood. Free onsite parking is available.

Beck Center’s production of Xanadu is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International and is sponsored by the Ohio Arts Council and Cuyahoga Arts and Culture.

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

Fall Into The Arts At Beck Center!

by Fran Storch

Visitors at the 35th annual Lakewood Arts Festival last Saturday enjoyed music, entertainment and visual arts demonstrations by talented Beck Center faculty and friends including clay throwing on a potter’s wheel, a drop-in drum circle, international music, and improv comedy by Something Dada improvisational comedy troupe. The arts center also provided a free children’s craft and other visual arts activities for festival goers. Beck Center instructors were on hand to demonstrate life drawing and print making - just two of the many visual arts classes offered at Beck Center for the Arts.

Beck Center is creating art experiences every day. Registration is now open for fall classes at Beck Center which begin the week of September 5. Over 200 classes, private lessons and

programs are offered in dance, music, theater, and visual arts; as well as early childhood offerings and creative arts therapies for students with special needs. Individuals of all ages, abilities and interests are invited to sign up

“CLUE: The Musical” Benefits AIDS Taskforce continued from page 1

CLUE: The Musical. Even the cast doesn’t always know what’s going to happen next! But from past sold-out shows, AIDS Taskforce benefit organizers know that people will be talking about CLUE: The Musical for a long time after they leave the theater. Don’t miss out, buy your tickets today!

General admission tickets are \$25. VIP and sponsor level tickets are also available. Tickets may be purchased online at aids-taskforce.org or by calling Rebecca Murray-Strong at

today. Classes fill up quickly. Convenient online registration is available at beckcenter.org, call Customer Services at 216.521.2540, ext. 10, or stop by the Beck Center at 17801 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood.

CLUE: The Musical is presented by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc., with the book by Peter DiPietro, music by Galen Blum, Wayne Parker and Vinnie Martucci, lyrics by Tom Chiodo. Equity actors Tricia Bestic, Dan Folino and Dana Hart appear courtesy of the Actors’ Equity Association (AEA), the union of actors and stage managers, through Theatre Authority, Inc.

Since 1994, the AIDS Taskforce of Greater Cleveland has provided a compassionate and collaborative response to the needs of people infected, affected and at risk of HIV/AIDS through leadership in prevention, education, supportive services and advocacy. The ATGC is the community leader in providing or facilitating effective HIV/AIDS services, prevention education, and advocacy which is accomplished through a combination of training, resource coordination, capacity building, and the collaborative participation of consumers, funders, social service professionals, volunteers, government, and other constituents.

Located at 17801 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood, Beck Center for the Arts is a not-for-profit 501(c)3 organization that offers professional theater productions, arts education programming in dance, music, theater, visual arts, early childhood, and creative arts therapies for special needs students.

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3 Items	\$7.75	\$10.00	\$13.25	\$15.75
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contributed gifts of time, talent or treasure to the
success of Starry Night on August 3, 2012.

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Nearly 650 guests were all jazzed up, helping to raise more than \$150,000, net proceeds of which will directly benefit our patients through the Lakewood Hospital Diabetes and Endocrine Center's Diabetes Assistance Initiative and community education efforts. This generous support will make a significant difference in the lives of diabetes patients in need by providing the funding necessary for supplies, daily medications and the comprehensive diabetes education that is essential for those living with this disease.



Business News

Lakewood Chamber Of Commerce Hosts 56th Annual New Teachers Luncheon

by Valerie Mechenbier

Each August the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce continues the long standing tradition that began in 1957: the Annual New Teachers Luncheon. The business community recognizes the importance of preparing students for the workforce demands of the 21st century, and it demonstrates that awareness by inviting all teachers, support staff and administrators who are new to Lakewood's public and parochial schools to a banquet in their honor. This year the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce invited more than 40 new educators, administrators, and



Over 100 Chamber members, teachers, administrators and guests attended the 56th Annual New Teachers Luncheon at Garfield Middle School.



Lakewood City School's Superintendent Jeff Patterson addresses Chamber members, teachers, administrators and guests.

staff members to the 56th Annual New Teacher Luncheon.

This year's luncheon, sponsored by Ohio Educational Credit Union, was held at Garfield Middle School on Friday, August 17 and was catered by Italian Creations. Each new teacher received a complimentary meal, an

Ohio Educational Credit Union tote bag full of school supplies and other goodies, and a door prize - all donated by local businesses.

"The New Teacher Luncheon is always one of our most popular events," said Patty Ryan, CEO & President of the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce. "I'm

always impressed with how generous our local businesses are when it comes to our teachers, and the teachers very much appreciate the warm welcome from the Chamber and the business community."

In addition to hearing remarks from Lakewood City Schools Superintendent Jeff Patterson and Tony Toy from Ohio Educational Credit Union, the new educators and staff also had the opportunity to visit tabletop displays of Chamber members Beck Center for the Arts, Gentner Chiropractic Center, FFL Investment Services, Clark Financial Services and UA Lakewood and to learn more about the programs and services that these organizations have to offer.

This year's New Teacher Luncheon was an exceptional opportunity for Lakewood businesses to show their great corporate spirit by welcoming the new teachers to Lakewood, offering their support and words of encouragement, and thanking them for the service they provide to our community.

Member Spotlight: Mark Dubis, The Dubis Group

by Valerie Mechenbier

Serving as a Marketing Executive with two of the largest banks in the country (KeyBank & National City Corp.) helped Mark Dubis hone his skills in the

corporate environment and also provided insights that have translated into running a small, limited resource company. Helping small business owners with websites, social media marketing, newsletters, blogs and various other advertising and promo-

tion channels excites Mark and lets him "help level the playing field for entrepreneurs and business folks looking to gain extra value from every dollar they spend." To view samples of Mark's web work, visit golakewood.com/web.

Upcoming Events

Monday, September 10
2012 Annual Scramble for Lakewood Golf Outing

Red Tail Golf Club, Avon
11:30 Shotgun Start
Sponsorships are available — call 216-226-2900 for info.
Presented by Lakewood/Rocky River Rotary, Pillars of Lakewood, and the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce
www.lakewoodchamber.org

Did You Know...

The Lakewood Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce our first Business Book Club. In partnership with the Lakewood Public Library, we will host a community read in late fall 2012 for the book, *How to Win Friends and Influence People*, by Dale Carnegie. Written in 1937, this seminal self-improvement book continues to guide people of all walks of life in the universal challenge of face-to-face communication. Visit www.lakewoodchamber.org for more details.

Friday, September 21st
Lakewood Chamber of Commerce Luncheon Meeting
Brennan's Catering & Banquet Center: 13000 Triskett Road, Cleveland
Registration & Networking: 11:30am, Lunch & Program: Noon
\$15 members, \$20 non-members
www.lakewoodchamber.org



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LHS Kids Fixing Horns!

by Sharon Marrell

Back To School! I hear whistles of the football practice across the street. Students are entrenched in marching band maneuvers and getting ready for the football season. Other parents will have budding young musicians starting a band or orchestra program. For me it's a busy time as I get ready to rent out many instruments to new players. But one of my favorite things during the school year that I really enjoy sharing with high school students is

teaching them how to repair musical instruments. The Instrument Repair Apprenticeship Program is something I created a few years ago to provide students opportunities to learn and have hands-on experience as instrument repair technicians. They take apart and reassemble musical instruments. Five young men and women have participated over the years and some have been so proficient at re-padding a clarinet and ultrasonically cleaning brass instruments that they earned a little

extra cash preparing the rental stock during the summer.

Imagine the shock on an apprentice's face when I took an old trumpet or trombone bell and smashed it against the edge of a table. You're probably wondering why in the world I did that. Well, to practice removing dents I had to have something dented. After the shock wore off, a few students went a little crazy and had fun making their own dents. When asked about their experience, they said it had them look

at their horn differently. They had a better understanding of problems that arise and they were more likely to get them fixed right away. When asked if they realized this could be a career, they said yes but had no idea how much schooling and practice it takes, and how hard it is to reassemble an instrument. The favorite thing they did – smashing a horn!

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

Guide To Shampoo Buying

by Bonnie FencI

You can buy shampoo many places. If you are buying a professional brand outside of a salon it could be a counterfeit product. The places that make the fake shampoo often are good at making the packaging look like the real thing, but often real junk is inside the bottles. Another reason to buy shampoo in a salon is that professional shampoos are designed to get very specified results.

All shampoos clean of course. The first differences to consider are age and gender. Children often use a baby shampoo which is one of the strongest cleansers as there is often cradle cap on a babies scalp needs that strength to cleanse. A good back to school shampoo- just in case- is a lice repellant shampoo. Men have thicker skin so their shampoos make sure to factor that in. Teens often have the most oil or break outs around hairlines so medicated formulas are great. Women who use hair color should use a color safe

formula.

Curly hair is in need of moisture and brands will specify this. Textures from fine to normal to coarse need different formulas. Often "extra body" shampoos work for fine hair and hair styles that want fullness. Coarse hair needs a heavier formula often listed as a smoothing formula when a sleeker look is desired.

Itchy scalps can benefit from peppermint, tea tree, or medicated with zinc shampoos.

Scent can also be a factor in your choice of cleansers. Lavenders in certain formulas are relaxing, other scents such as lemon are up lifting.

If you are a blonde, a shampoo with toner can keep the color on the cool side or brighten it up. If you like to use a lot of hairspray, or work in an environment with oils or smells there are some shampoos that get rid of build up and chemicals.

Shampoos contain organic ingredients, which makes label reading a must to see what benefits they contain.

If you like to shampoo daily they have formulas for that purpose. Sulfate free shampoo has become popular some of those do not lather well, but there are exceptions.

One question we get often at the salon is when do you change shampoo? The weather around here would be number one. Think of hot summer sweating that's toxins on your scalp so a shampoo that repels insects, and soothes the scalp is good, or if you shampoo very frequently a daily shampoo is good. Cooler weather often means fly away and dry hair so a shampoo with a dry hair or moisture formula is good. If a

heat element such as blow dryer, or flat or curling iron is used consider looking for keratin in the shampoo to help prevent breakage. Also, many lines of shampoo have thermal protection in them to keep hair strong. A professional can help with selection if this seems confusing. The other thing that keeps some lines "professional" is the fact that the manufacturers know that the classes on product knowledge are meant to help with a consumers purchase.

Bonnie Fenci is the owner of Carabel Beauty Salon and Store.



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Detroit Avenue Chow Line©2012

Restaurant Royalty Returns To Lakewood

by Jim O'Bryan

Danny's Deli opened in March with very little fanfare or excitement. It was almost like two ships in the night passing in the middle of nowhere. The Tina sign came down, and Danny's which seemed vaguely familiar went up. I mean, what does another small place to get food matter on the Detroit Avenue Chow Line? Besides, they close at 2 pm! And I never seem to have the time for the little deli at the strip mall.

BOY WAS I BLIND! - Kenneth Warren was in town a couple weeks ago, and told me to meet him at Danny's for corned beef. This is a painful exercise for me, I am a hardcore Slyman's Corned Beef guy. If it is on the Westside, I go to Joe's in Rocky River, though The Place To Be does a nice corned beef. Ken's father was in the restaurant business in New York, and he does have the ability to come up with some good places now and then, but his "corned beef" choices have been seriously mediocre at times.

So I met him at Danny's at 1 p.m., and entered to a nice greeting of some middle aged women welcoming me in, and a nice waitress guiding me over to Ken Warren, at one of the very few tables in this little deli. I looked at the menu, and saw typical deli fare. The waitress asked if I liked pastrami, and I do, but my wife loves it. She suggested a half corned beef and half pastrami reu-



The Classic Couple sandwich, grilled pastrami and corned beef for \$9.00.

ben, so I said sure. She also brought out a plate of fries for the both of us, a Pepsi for me and a Coke for Ken. For those that frequent delis, you know just how special that is.

I was stunned, it was a real New York/Chicago style Corned Beef as made famous in Cleveland by some of the greatest delis ever, The Rathskeller, Hattons, and SLYMAN's-- the only one still cranking out the legendary sandwiches in the same way that Joe Slyman had made damn near world-famous. To this day, Slyman people only want Slyman's, and I have to admit, it is still one of my favorite

places when I am anywhere near it. You know, the mouthwatering, moist, piles of corned beef that seem nearly impossible to get in your mouth, let alone finish. Yet once you taste the corned beef, you just know you will make it through the sandwich and anything else even if it means not having dinner or eating tomorrow. A good corned beef or pastrami sandwich is something to truly enjoy.

As I am looking through the menu, the cook comes out from the back and says, "Hey you! You used to eat at Danny's downtown! You worked for the record company and would come in." I said, "Yeah, I worked at Northern Records, and we did go to a really great little sandwich shop near 38th, but that was 35 years ago?!" "Yeah I used to wait on you, I worked there!" and he walked away. I turned to Ken, amazed. Not only by the cook's memory, but by the memory of these crazy good normal sandwiches that a person would crave now and then. Ham and cheese on rye with mayo and mustard. Egg salad, tuna salad, chicken salad. All fabulous. They had corned beef and pastrami, but were so close to Slyman's we all figured they chose to push the rest of their menu. No matter, that was then and he was in Lakewood cooking now! GREAT!

Then the women behind the counter came over to meet us and say hello asking, "How are the sandwiches?" I told her they were great, and that Ken was always trying to show me "great corned beef" and this time he was right on the money. However, "I am a Slyman guy!" I said proudly. She smiled and said, "Yes many people love the corned beef that comes from my brother's store." I said, "Brother?" She assured me that Joe was her brother, she is a Slyman, and a proud graduate of Slyman University where she worked as a teenager until she met her husband and they opened Danny's nearly 40 years ago. They closed Danny's in Cleveland and retired to Florida where they have been for 5 years. They got bored, missed



Mary with her husband and Danny's staff.

the Cleveland area and at one time lived in Lakewood. So they came back to take over "Tina's" which was originally started by another family member, but it had since gone through many hands, until now it is Danny's! I said, "If you are Joe's sister, then you are also Jeanette's sister!" Jeanette is the owner of Joe's Deli in Rocky River. Many people do not know what a deli-dynasty the family has, and the incredible reputation for being the best wherever they are. She said, "Yes, Jeanette is my younger sister!"

With all of the talk of chains like Quaker Steak and Lube, Menchie's, McDonald's, the new kids such as Melt and Deagan's or even classics like Pier W, we have quietly acquired, without any fanfare, a real gem of a restaurant from one of the crown jewels of the entire region. The place is too small and the hours are too short but the meals are too big, and the food too good! So if you get a chance, you have got to stop by Danny's and get one of the finest sandwiches in the city from a family that has been making millions smile with very full bellies for nearly a century.

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Pulse Of The City

Lakewood, A Half-Century Ago...

Models Of Yesteryear...

by Gary Rice

No Lakewood, this column will not be about those pretty lady models in those centerfold periodicals that came out back in the 1950's and '60's. (You know, the ones that teen-aged boys ogled behind the garage, supposedly safe from the prying eyes of the adult world.) Sorry, but the Lakewood Observer does not come in a plain brown wrapper. This periodical does not cater to those sorts of "observers."

Just as an aside, we kids once caught an uncle who (apparently unaware of the limitations of photography) was trying to "angle" a racy photo in order to attempt to get a peek under a bikini. Of course, that did not work out too well for his embarrassed and dirty old mind!

No, the "models" in this column are those that once consumed the interest of our young and at least semi-innocent minds well before the swim suits and bikinis attracted our attention. Our models were the trains, planes, ships and tanks that we purchased whenever we had a few extra dollars, which really wasn't that often way back when.

Model building was BIG in 1950's and '60's Lakewood. There were many aspects of that hobby, depending on one's interest. You could get into model trains, with their detailed basement or attic layouts, and you could pursue endless creative options. Back then, it was actually possible to send in box tops from your cereal and get a very detailed, build-it-yourself plastic model train.

How detailed? Well, I guess you'll just have to ask my dad. I was a bit young at the time, so the construction details for that train project fell on his shoulders. Between working all day and going to college as well, Dad was not really



photo by : Robert Rice

'60's Gary with model car. With this one, he even built the engine!

motivated to put together an HO gauge model train outfit, but he bravely gave it his best shot. He did a great job, but what finally got him were those micro-springs that were part of each train car's suspension system. My personal vocabulary skills expanded exponentially when I learned a few new choice words from my WWII Army veteran father as those little springs started flying across the kitchen floor while he tried to compress them into each tiny wheel assembly.

Dad also loved to build models as a kid, only in his day, many were made of steel. With his 1920's \$3.00 "Spirit of St. Louis" kit, he could either construct "Lucky Lindy's" plane or any of a hundred other aircraft designs, depending on how he bolted the thing together.

I liked model planes too. One day, Dad bought me a flying plastic German Stuka dive bomber that was gasoline-

powered and string-controlled. That is, I'm sure that some people could string-control fly it. I was not one of those people. After about a dozen rotations flying the plane in the Rocky River Metroparks, I got dizzy, and that expensive dive bomber did exactly what it was designed to do. I would imagine that if you were in the right field down there today, you might still be able to find some of those tiny green plastic Stuka parts embedded in that rich alluvial valley earth, but I digress.

I was not the most patient model builder either. I have to confess I had little interest in wasting time building engines for my model cars. My theory was that engines were hidden under the hood anyway, so why spend a couple of hours building a car engine that would mostly be hidden, when all you had to do was glue the hood shut? My friends thought I was out of my mind, but my cars looked

as good as theirs, at least on the surface. I tended to rush through a model, finishing it in record time. I generally just spread out the direction sheet and used it as a work area. After all, if you were halfway done building a model, and you had to flip the page over, that was not very practical if you had all your parts spread out all over those directions. Who needed to read the directions anyway? You just pulled the kit out of the bag and started gluing. Inevitably, I had plenty of parts left over (especially those engine parts!).

Painting a model made it look really good, but that took quite a bit of time, as well as patience that I so seldom practiced. When it came to painting, however, I loved to camouflage those little tanks and military vehicles. The American tanks generally did not need to be camouflaged, as they were mostly just a boring olive green. With the Soviet and German tanks, however, you could have a field day. My friends and I spent hours building and playing with Eastern Front battle layouts. We would pretend to be German tank commanders, screaming "Panzer LOS!" at the top of our squeaky pre-teen voices as we pushed those pseudo-mud-splattered Tiger tank models across the Russian steppes and re-created the Battle of Kursk. Our counterpart Soviet tank commander friends would respond in kind, as they moved their T-34 tanks in response to our attack. Our imaginations took flight in those Lakewood basements, as we spent hour after imaginative hour re-fighting WWII.

There are many positive outcomes to acquiring model building skills. Kids learned about history, fine-motor skills, the importance of follow-

continued on page 23



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continued from page 1

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• Online at www.lakewoodhistory.org

• By mail to Lakewood Historical Society, 14710 Lake Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio 44107. Please enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Patron Party

As a kick-off to the Sunday House Tour, the Lakewood Historical Society will host a Patron Party on Saturday, September 8, from 6 to 9 p.m. at a stunning private residence that is not on Sunday’s tour. Tickets are \$75 for a regular Patron attendee or you can become a Golden Patron for \$100. Your Patron Party ticket purchase includes a Sunday House Tour ticket valued at \$20 and a portion of your purchase is tax-deductible. Enjoy the best evening party in town while supporting the Lakewood Historical Society.

This year’s house boasts spectacular features, lovely gardens, and a fabulous view of a secluded cove and the Cleveland skyline. Treat yourself to a scrumptious selection of hors d’oeuvres and desserts, and sip a glass of wine or an ice-cold beer while mingling under the stars with friends and fellow supporters of the Society. There will also be a silent auction, and the winner of the “Instant Wine Cellar” raffle will be drawn during the evening.

Patron Party tickets can be purchased by mail or online as detailed above. You may also call 216.221.7343 or stop in at the Oldest Stone House Museum at 14710 Lake Avenue.

Instant Wine Cellar

Fifty bottles of wine valued at over \$1,000 are now being raffled off to

become someone’s very own Instant Wine Cellar! Raffle tickets are \$5 each or \$10 for three tickets. The drawing will be held the night of the House Tour Patron Party on Saturday, September 8. You do not need to be present to win.

Raffle tickets are available at: www.lakewoodhistory.org, Rozi’s

Wine House, 14900 Detroit Avenue, or at the Oldest Stone House Museum.



Another house on this year’s home tour.

Election Costs

by Tom Fahey

The presidential election of 2012 is estimated to cost \$2.5 billion dollars. Given the current state of our economy and the fact that many citizens are unemployed and/or just struggling to get by, the word that comes to mind in describing this outrage is “obscene.” Some say that this entire election cycle might cost as much as \$7 billion. A good deal of this money is being spent on television commercials, especially in battleground states like Ohio. These ads neither instruct nor inform, their only purpose is to demonize “the other guy,” often with innuendo or outright lies. The result is that more and more Americans become cyni-

cal about politics and don’t go to the polls, believing that both candidates are dishonest and incompetent.

To demonstrate our disgust with this process, I encourage everyone to email both the Obama and Romney campaigns and request that each party declare a one day moratorium on TV ads, and that the monies that would have been spent that day to be donated to the poor for food, shelter or medical care. This would certainly be a better way to spend this money than these shrill, strident and misleading commercials. Just by doing this simple act, we can express our dissatisfaction with the current foul and amoral system of choosing our leaders.

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Lakewood Living

What's My Home Worth?

by Chris Bergin

I was getting ready to submit an article titled "Researching the Perfect Neighborhood" when I received my 12th call in six days asking, "Hey Chris, I just received my 2012 Proposed Value Notice from the County. Can you help me?"

By now most of us have received this mailing stating the old County Value on our property and suggesting the new Proposed Value. Some of us went up, some of us went down. So this begs the question, "What's My Home Really Worth?"

It is easy to say that yours is worth more or less because of a recent sale down the street. However, it is important to do more research than just looking at a few recent sales on your street. To do a true comparison you should look at several criteria and compare apples to apples:

- *Similar Sized Homes. If your home is 1500 square feet of above-grade living space, then look at homes just smaller and just larger.
- *Similar number of bedrooms. If you have a 3 bedroom home it does no

good to use a 2 or 5 bedroom home as a comparable.

- *Similar number of baths. A 1500-square-foot 3-bedroom colonial with one full and one half bath is more valuable than one with just a full bath.
- *Style of Home. If at all possible, you should compare colonials to colonials, bungalows to bungalows, and ranches to ranches.
- *Quality & Condition. This is the hard part. Most of us, the County included, have rarely been in all of the

sold comparables. This is where having a relationship with a professional real estate agent is helpful. The best agents tour the entire new inventory weekly, giving them firsthand knowledge of quality and condition.

- *Similar Location. It is always better to use comparables that are closer to your home. However, it may be necessary from time to time to stray to a larger geographic area in order to provide enough quality comparables. This was especially true, and necessary, when the market was extremely slow and the number of sales was depressed.
- *Miscellaneous Details. This is a catch-all category for items such as 1-car vs. 2-car garage, finished basement, or walk-up 3rd floor. And don't forget Seller Concessions. Is the publicly stated Sales Price the true sales price? Perhaps the seller credited the buyer \$5,000 for closing costs so the true sales price can be adjusted from \$150,000 to \$145,000. Once again, your trusted real estate agent can help find these extra details to help drill down to a fair and accurate value.

Get The Facts, Make A Plan

by Monica Woodman

Do you want to buy a house, but you're scared of the commitment? There may be many reasons why people are afraid of making a commitment to home ownership, but in my experience it is usually the money. Buyers will look at houses on line some will even go driving around looking at homes being held open on Sunday afternoon. They will stay up at night calculating and recalculating how many lunches they will have to pack instead of going out with the gang.

Before getting all wound up and losing sleep over the unknown, which

is usually what stops people from moving forward with any big decision, get the facts! Talk to a lender. If you let them know what your lifestyle is and what you are trying to accomplish they can usually suggest a loan product that will fit your needs. If asked, they can help you with realistic calculations that will help you to formulate a plan.

Whatever the situation is, getting the facts and having a plan can give you the perspective you need in realizing the dream of home ownership. The plan may end up being you need to save a little more money or you have a few credit

issues you have to clean up. The point is you will know exactly what you need to do. It may be you are ready to buy. If that's the case, the lender will arm you with a pre-approval letter showing that you are a ready, willing, and able buyer!

Now that the finance part of the plan is in place you will want to talk to a realtor. A good realtor will help you with your plan. They will seek to understand what you want in your home and what you need in your home. They will familiarize you with the market place and show you homes available in your price range. They will explain the buying process and walk you through that process. Once you choose a home your realtor will negotiate on your behalf and help you realize the dream of homeownership.

Models Of Yesteryear...

continued from page 21

through and task completion, and let's not forget those skills learned through peer interaction. You might fight your buddies for two hours on those papier-mâché layouts, but you could always stop and enjoy a grilled cheese and a bottled soft drink together afterwards.

These days, you can buy so many models that are already pre-assembled, painted, and ready to display. I've never quite understood that approach. True, you get a really authentic model, but all

the thinking and doing has already been done for you. There seems to be so little room for creativity and imagination anymore. Kids nowadays have their so-called "fun" battling on the tube with those video games, often without having anyone else around to play with them. So often, too, the only options for them are to be virtually killed or to virtually kill. The virtual blood spurts virtually everywhere on those realistic little screens. So little seems to be left to the imagination in the present day...even with those racy magazines...or so I've been told.

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