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Volume 8, Issue 24, November 27, 2012

Lakewood Passes Resolution Opposing HB 601

by Melissa Garrett

Lakewood City Council unanimously passed a resolution at their regularly scheduled council meeting on November 19, 2012 opposing House Bill 601, a bill that would pave the way for the State of Ohio's eventual centralized control of municipal income tax by essentially rendering the City of Lakewood

powerless over its right to govern its own finances.

As stated in the resolution, “Only municipalities can ensure the prompt and proper auditing of local tax returns to ensure all applicable deductions and declarations are reported, thus also ensuring that all taxpayers pay their fair share without causing higher costs of compliance for all, and must be

able to do so without burdensome and costly restrictions included in House Bill 601 created with the only purpose of restricting municipalities from correcting and auditing returns or making assessments.”

The resolution continues, “Only municipalities can aggressively pursue those non-compliant and delinquent taxpayers who, by their omission or deliberate deceit, drive up the costs of compliance to all.”

If passed, House Bill 601 would not only cause a substantial loss in cash flow and revenue in the amount \$570,000 for year 2014, but would also sabotage Lakewood's ability to collect on delinquent tax filings. State politicians have systematically placed ever-increasing tax burdens on cities with the massive depletion of the local government fund, the abolishment of the estate tax, and the expedited phase-out of tangible personal property tax reimbursements. This bill seeks to further siphon vital dollars from the City by increasing the City's burdens while lessening the State's own.

“HB 601 is yet another attempt to crush cash-strapped Ohio towns like Lakewood by preventing us from enforcing the local tax laws that we have levied on ourselves,” stated Council President Brian Powers. “In House Bill 601, down-state politicians are attempting to gut the home-rule guarantees of the Ohio Constitution by imposing a State-mandated tax scheme on

local governments.”

The resolution directs the Clerk of Council to forward the resolution to Governor John Kasich, Lieutenant Governor Mary Taylor, the Clerks of both the Ohio House and

Senate, Ohio Tax Commissioner Joe Testa, the Councils and Mayors of neighboring cities and villages to formally declare strong opposition to HB 601.

Winter Concerts To Warm The Holiday Season

by Christine Gordillo

If you are looking for an affordable way to enjoy some holiday entertainment, the Lakewood City Schools music department provides a wonderful way to enjoy some uplifting holiday music for just a few dollars.

All the middle school and high school concerts take place at 7:30 p.m. at the Civic Auditorium. The season kicks off on Wednesday, November 28 with the Freshmen Choir & Band Concert.

The following week, the 6th graders kick things off on December 5. This year the middle schools will use a new format for their concerts with both middle schools joining together for grade-level concerts of the band, orchestra and choir. Also new this year is a Music Boosters fundraiser with Mitchell's Ice Cream. After each middle school concert, Boosters will be in the East Cafeteria scooping Mitchell's flavors for only \$3.

The Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Band follow the 6th graders on December 6. Featured will be music by Karl King, Robert Sheldon, Clarence Barber, Danny Elfman, and Darius Milhaud. The highlight of the evening will be Milhaud's Suite Francaise performed by the Wind Ensemble.

The 8th grade ensembles take the Civic stage on December 11. The LHS Choral Winter Concert will be December 12 and will feature Concert, Symphonic Treble, Symphonic Mixed and Chamber choirs and Vive L'Four quartet. The concert will include the traditional candlelight procession, a



photo by: Randy Vercio

The LHS Orchestra program performs its holiday concert on Dec. 19 this year.

highlight of the season, and end with carols sung by the combined choruses and alumni.

The 7th graders and the LHS Orchestras wrap up the holiday concert season with concerts on the 17th and 19th, respectively. The orchestra program will include a Bach Concerto and other classical pieces along with some holiday favorites.

Tickets for all Civic Auditorium performances are \$3 for adults, \$2 for seniors and \$1 for students.

Lakewood High Choir Students Perform With Northeast Ohio Regional Honors Choir



by Stergios Lazos

Wittenberg University professor, Dr. Adam Con, leads the Northeast Ohio Regional Honors Choir during its November 17th performance at Cleveland State University. Several Lakewood High School students had stellar

performances with this choir including sopranos Olivia Lawrence, Grace Lazos, Riley Faulhammer, altos Kayte Heidler, Madison Burns, tenors Harnold Ramazani, Shawn Lopez, and basses Matt McMaster, Will Crosby.

2012 Light Up Lakewood Queen & King



Megan Barrett

by Ken Brand

The Light Up Lakewood Queen and King Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce the winners of the 2012 Plantation Home Scholarship. Congratulations to Megan Barrett and Tyler Krebs!

Megan Barrett is a Junior at Lakewood High School. She volunteers her time at H2O and LCAC. Megan is also a



Tyler Krebs

Westshore Young Leader, a member of the LHS Volleyball team and is on Student Council. The LUL Sponsorship Committee is extremely inspired by Megan's love for Lakewood, her internal strength in overcoming adversity, and the amount of time she gives back to others in the City of Lakewood.

Tyler Krebs is Junior at St. continued on page 18

Lakewood Chamber of Commerce Announces Winner Of Fourth Grade Essay Contest

by Valerie Mechenbier

Cara Harmon, a fourth grader at Hayes Elementary School, is the winner of the 2012 "Why I Love Lakewood" Fourth Grade Essay Contest. In addition to winning a \$100 cash prize, Cara will ride in the Light Up Lakewood parade and will help "flip the switch" with Santa to turn on the lights in Downtown Lakewood this coming Saturday. Congratulations, Cara!

Why I Love Lakewood
by Cara Harmon
Hayes School

How could I not love Lakewood? Lakewood is my "hometown." I could have been born in any part of this world, yet I was born at Lakewood Hospital. My mom has lived in Lakewood her whole life. The

house that I live in right now is the house that my mom and my grandparents lived in. My mom lived in this house for 40 years but there are many other reasons why we live in Lakewood.

First of all, there are always nice people not only in the schools, but in the neighborhoods too. We have safe schools and good teachers, and my parents know I get a great education. Students love when the firemen come to our school to teach about fire safety. If you are a kid in Lakewood, there are also extra clubs at school and outside classes to sign up for, like dance at Silhouette Studio, or acting at the Beck Center.

Another reason why people love to live in Lakewood

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Lakewood Observer

The Miraculous Metamorphosis Of Caterpillars To Butterflies

by Julia Kompier and Mrs. Berry's and Mr. Schreiner's Second Grade classes at Grant

My class (Mrs. Berry's) and Mr. Schreiner's class got caterpillars and we put food in there, and we were assigned partners. I was partners with Casey. We watched the whole entire cycle, starting with baby caterpillars, then bigger caterpillars, and then chrysalises and then finally, butterflies. We let them go in a butterfly ceremony in Grant's garden, where we sang songs and released them into the sky.

We decided that all of us wanted to write an article about it for the Observer. Here it goes, first Mrs. Berry's class:

Sam Nelson and Max D'Apollo: "Inside the chrysalis the caterpillar changes its head, loses the jaw used for chewing, and develops compound eyes."

Rhiannon Riker: "The caterpillar chews and the butterfly drinks nectar with a long tube called a proboscis."

Aidan Ginley: "I was amazed that the butterflies pumped blood through their wings as soon as they came out of the chrysalis."

Julia Kompier: "It is amazing that butterflies taste with their feet!"

J'Vien Martinez: "I was amazed that the butterflies flew toward the sun when we released them."

Casey Funk: "Watching them fly



Casey read her essay explaining what was happening. Those are the hats we made.



Mr. Schreiner and Mrs. Berry and both second grade classes get ready. away was a beautiful sight."

Gehad Abuaun: "I was amazed when we watched the first chrysalis twitch and the butterfly wiggled out."

Sophie D'Apollo: "I am amazed that the caterpillar grows WINGS inside its chrysalis!"

Mitchell Bookman: "I found it amazing that caterpillars molt and shed their skins as they get bigger!"

John McMarlin: "I am amazed that the caterpillars grew wings that had brown and orange scales."

Mishela Dajlanaj: "I loved watching the butterflies fly higher and higher into the air around our school."

Meredith Wheeler: "I was shocked that the butterfly with the crumpled wings was able to fly."

Calyn Smith: "I was surprised that not all caterpillars spun a silk button and chrysalis at the same time."

Madalynne Sorge: "I learned that we had to be very careful when the caterpillars were in their chrysalides. If we shook the table, a chrysalis could fall and damage the developing butterfly."

Ahmed Mansour: "I learned that butterflies have to be warm in order to fly."

Autumn Clute: "I learned that butterflies help pollinate flowers."

Larry Jones: "I was surprised that butterflies use their antennae to fly and find food."

Now here's Mr. Schreiner's class:
MacKenna Banhidy: "I like when the butterfly emerged from the chrysalis."
Kennedy Cahal: "I learned that

some caterpillars die while in their chrysalis."

Max DeLuca: "I learned that butterflies start their life cycle in eggs."

Muhammed Alhanash: "I enjoyed watching the butterflies fly away while we sang."

Ava Bruening: "I liked when one of the butterflies flew onto my foot!"

Lydia Watkins: "I liked releasing the butterflies."

Mohammed Sabeiha: "I liked putting mallow in the cup for the caterpillars to eat."

Ben Nelson: "I loved watching the caterpillars grow bigger and bigger everyday."

Nathan Stillman: "I liked watching the caterpillars become butterflies."

Kaleigh Rivera: "I learned that when butter-

flies first flap their wings, they pump their wings full of blood."

Rebecca Mannion: "I liked watching the butterflies fly away."

Isabelle Reay: "I liked watching the butterflies come out of their chrysalis."

Duniya Abukhalil: "I liked when the butterflies were released and one flew onto my finger!"

Greg White: "I liked taking pictures with the butterflies."

Ma'LieK Delaney: "I liked wearing our butterfly hats and singing our butterfly songs."

Cayleigh Austin: "I liked singing the songs and watching the butterflies fly away."

Alejandro Nieves Bucey: "I liked pressing the mallow into the cup and singing butterfly songs."

Ada Davidson: "I liked holding the butterfly on my finger."

Lavelle White: "I enjoyed watching the butterflies fly away."

The last thing that was cool was that when I got home from school, I saw one of them in front of our house living in the world on its own.Som



Some of the butterflies landed on our hands.

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Join the Discussion at: www.lakewoodobserver.com

Lakewood City News

Summers' Administration Submits 2013 Budget To Council

by Melissa Garrett

On November 15, 2012, Mayor Summers' Administration delivered the 2013 city budget to Lakewood City Council. The submitted budget is structurally balanced with projected revenues exceeding projected expenditures. The budget book, known as the Estimate of Expenses, is required by the City Charter to be submitted by November 15 of each year. This document supports the appropriations or budget ordinances that will be presented at the November 19, 2012 Lakewood City Council meeting.

The projected 2013 General Fund revenues of approximately \$33.30 million are nearly \$2.75 million less than the \$36.05 million projected revenues of 2012. This reduction in revenue is attributed to the State Legislature's elimination of the Estate Tax, a 50% reduction of the Local Government Fund and a 4% reduction of property tax due to decreased valuations. The \$2.75 million revenue loss means the City in 2013 will be operating with revenues comparable to the 2002 levels.

The City has been working hard since Governor Kasich's budget was introduced in February of 2011 to reduce its expenses in response to these revenue reductions. The City will continue to look for ways to lower costs including optimizing energy and fuel consumption, expanding recycling, leveraging technology to improve

effectiveness, negotiating fair, balanced and affordable labor contracts and analyzing the best use of City facilities to optimize space and customer service accessibility. One tool the City's introduced and began implementing this year is LEAN Lakewood, a process which challenges current methods in an attempt to lower costs and stream-

Overlook Park Neighborhood Association

by Gaynel Mellino

Overlook Park, a newly formed neighborhood association had its first Annual Members Meeting September 30th at The Winking Lizard. This association was formed in 2011 and encompasses Edgewater and Lake from Belle to Nicholson including all the smaller streets north of Lake including Nicholson, Wilbert, Homewood, Roy, Cliff, Edgewater and Kirtland Lanes, Estille, Roy and Parkside. It has 4 goals: more social interaction and opportunities among neighbors; increased communication among neighbors; an identity in the community; and a block-watch.

In its first year, there have been 4 social events - a KickOff Blocktail Party in August; a football clambake in November; bowling party in February and a wine/beer social in May. We now have a name and a logo which we hope to use in our neighborhood soon. Blockwatch kept residents informed during a recent spate of burglaries

line processes and workflows.

"Local government has to begin a whole new way of thinking," stated Mayor Mike Summers. "Delivering services with substantially less resources is very challenging. But we are confident we can continue to provide the level of service that our residents have come to expect. Our focus will remain on lower-

ing costs and making the best use of our revenue sources as we respond to these significant cuts from the state. Additionally, we are challenged to create a capacity to invest in Lakewood's future."

The budget document is available at: http://www.onelakewood.com/pdf/Finance%20Reports/2013_Lakewood_Comprehensive_Budget.pdf.

and hopefully prompted increased security measures on each resident's part. Lastly, communication has been greatly enhanced via an interactive website (www.overlookpark.org), periodic email blasts, and a quarterly newsletter mailed to each member.

Overlook Park has 150+ members (households) out of a possible 267 households. Dues are \$50/year which primarily covers the newsletter and promotion of social events with leftover monies going toward neighborhood projects. Each social event is provided at cost to the members with the exception of the Blocktail which is free and open to all.

The Annual Member Meeting provided members their first opportunity to see the Board in action and was a great success. Reports were presented from the President, Treasurer, Social and Long Range Planning. Beautification Awards were also awarded to 4 members in the Association.

The Overlook Park Award which

recognizes lifetime achievement for continuous excellence in landscape design and maintenance went to the following members:

Silvia Spotts and Gerry Weber at 13431 Lake Avenue; the Hickories Award which recognizes excellence in landscape presentation and maintenance (the ship shape award) was awarded to Jan and Don McWilliams, 13955 Edgewater Dr.; the Rose Cliff Award which recognizes creativity and beauty in the presentation of landscape flowers was awarded to Susan and Chas Withers, 1020 Estill; and the Special Recognition for Historical Preservation Award which recognizes excellence in exterior historical preservation, major landscape renovation, etc. was awarded to Marion Carroll and Mark Hamm at 1020 Homewood Ave.

Be sure to travel through Overlook Park on December 24th after dark when a magical luminaries display lights up our little piece of heaven.

Gaynel Mellino, President, Overlook Park Neighborhood Association.



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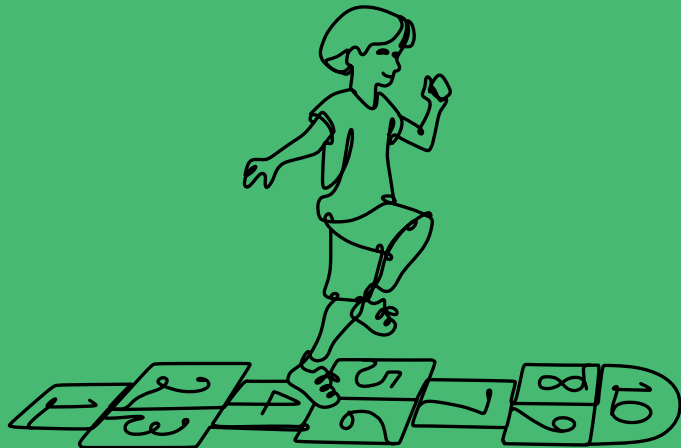
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Lakewood City Council

Council Stands Up To The State Of Ohio

by Christopher Bindel

The November 19, 2012 Council meeting was called to order at 7:37 P.M. by Council President Brian Powers.

Councilmen Powers (At-Large) started the meeting off by introducing a resolution that would oppose Governor Kasich's new 'one size fits all' tax plan. The introductory communication that Powers read was signed with the support of the Mayor and six out of the seven members of Council. Powers started by citing past changes made by the Governor that have had a negative impact on Lakewood and several other communities. Some of those changes include slashing the budgets of urban and inner-ring suburb schools systems, attempting to stop the collective bargaining of public employees such as police, firefighters and teachers and by slashing income to several cities, including Lakewood, by massive depletions of the local government fund, the abolishing of the estate tax and the phasing out of the tangible personal tax reimbursements.

He continued, saying that the "same politicians are making yet another attempt to crush cash-strapped Ohio towns like Lakewood by preventing [them] from enforcing the local tax laws that [they] have levied on [themselves]." Ohio House Bill 601 would gut the home-rule guarantees of the Ohio Constitution by imposing a universally mandated tax code for Ohio local governments. Powers said they oppose the proposed system for the following reasons:

- They believe that House Bill 601 is a 'Trojan Horse' piece of legislation that adds 129 pages of revision to the Ohio Tax Code allowing the State to plunder Lakewood revenues by withholding them for their own purposes;

- They believe only municipalities can perform prompt collecting and auditing of taxes to ensure everyone is paying their fair share;

- They believe only municipalities can effectively and efficiently pursue delinquent tax payers; and

- They believe a small locally-managed tax system is more efficient, effective and responsive to the needs of the residents.

After Councilman Powers finished reading his statement, Council Members Tom Bullock (Ward II), David Anderson (Ward I) and Monique Smith (At-Large) all thanked him for bringing forth this resolution and gave supportive comments about why they feel so strongly about this issue. Mayor Summers, who worked with Powers to develop this resolution, also said a few words about the work his administration did researching the impact House Bill 601 would have on Lakewood, and also conversing with other communities about fears over the legislation.

Before putting the resolution to a

vote, Councilman Powers added that, as he understands, House Bill 601 could impact the city with a reduction as high as half a million dollars of the tax revenue.

Council then passed the resolution unanimously.

Next Councilman Ryan Nowlin (At-Large) read a lengthy report on the Public Safety meeting regarding a number of ordinances that would change Lakewood's Traffic Code. The state of Ohio recently made a number of changes to the Ohio Traffic Code, and Law Director Kevin Butler reviewed the changes and thought it would be in the city's best interest to adopt many of the changes into our own code. Some of these changes include a law that makes it easier to cite drivers for excessive stereo volume, a number of changes regarding Driver's licenses, including not having one or having multiple, expired or suspended licenses, also a number of minor changes were made regarding traffic signs and signals.

Once Councilman Nowlin finished reading his report, which included his committee's recommendation to pass all of the resolutions, Council did so.

Councilman Powers then introduced an ordinance that would amend the current ordinance governing the city's boards and commissions. Earlier this year Council approved the formation of an ad hoc committee to discuss the current approved list of boards and commissions for the city. Their job was to make recommendations of ones to get rid of or add. The ordinance Powers introduced was the culmination of their work. It mostly eliminates boards and commissions that are unused but still in the ordinance.

Council referred the ordinance to committee to be considered.

Councilman Sawn Juris (Ward III) then asked Council to pass a resolution recognizing the Police, Fire and Public Works Departments of the City for their hard work handling the damage and power outages following superstorm Sandy. He said that "while these departments do a tremendous job every day, this experience exemplified how these men and women are prepared to step up in a time of need."

Before voting, Councilman Powers also shared his deepest gratitude for the great job done by the departments. Council then passed the resolution.

Next Mayor Summers announced his appointments to the new Tree Task Force. He then followed up by telling Council that his administration had put a tally together of the number of trees, public and private, that Lakewood lost in superstorm Sandy, and said that it was at least 550. That loss, he made the point, exemplifies why the city needs this task force.

Fire Chief Gilman then asked Council to pass a couple of resolutions. The first would adopt the Countywide All Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan for Cuyahoga County, 2011 update,

continued on page 6

Students, School Board Member Honored By Lakewood Board Of Education And The State

by Kristine Pagsuyoin

At the second regular Lakewood Board of Education meeting of November, the Board recognized this year's National Merit Scholars. Each year, 1.5 million students take the PSAT (Preliminary SAT), the qualifying test for National Merit Scholars. Only 16,000 students will qualify as semi-finalists, and of those, 15,000 students will become finalists making them eligible for scholarships from all over the country. Lakewood High School is proud to have two semi-finalists representing the district, Ellen Latsko and Sheila McMahon, and Morgenna Zubay as Commended Scholar. Special recognition for the Merit Scholars was handed out by State Representative Nickie Antonio and State Senator Mike Skindell on behalf of the Ohio House of Representatives and the Ohio State Senate.

Also, recognized for his achievements and service to education by Senator Skindell and State Rep. Antonio was former School Board Member, Matt Markling. Senator Skindell read aloud just a few of Markling's achievements while serving on the Lakewood Board



Sheila McMahon, Semi-finalists with her parents left, and Morgenna Zubay, Commended Scholar, and her family right, with Superintendent Jeff Patterson, State Rep. Nickie Antonio, State Senator Michael Skindell, and members of the School Board.

of Education such as being bestowed the lifetime distinction of Master Board Member Award by the Ohio School Boards Association, the 2011 Ohio School Board Association Outstanding Board Member Award, serving as President and Vice President of the Lakewood School Board, as well as the Chairpersons for several Board committees, is among the less than one percent of Ohio attorneys who have earned the prestigious distinction of being renowned as an Ohio State Bar Association Certified Specialist in Labor and Employment Law, and is an adjunct faculty member of

the University of Akron.

Rep. Antonio also highlighted Markling's status as Master Board Member as being an important achievement for Lakewood's School Board as well as for the entire city. Mr. Markling thanked and addressed the Board by recognizing the leadership of Senator Skindell on the Senate Finance Committee as well as the leadership of Rep. Antonio on the House Education Committee stating, "We are blessed to have great advocacy at the state level."

continued on page 10

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Lakewood Public Library

compiled by Leana Donofrio-Milovan

December 1
Friends Holiday Bags of Books Sale
Saturday, December 1 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
in the Friends Book Sale Room

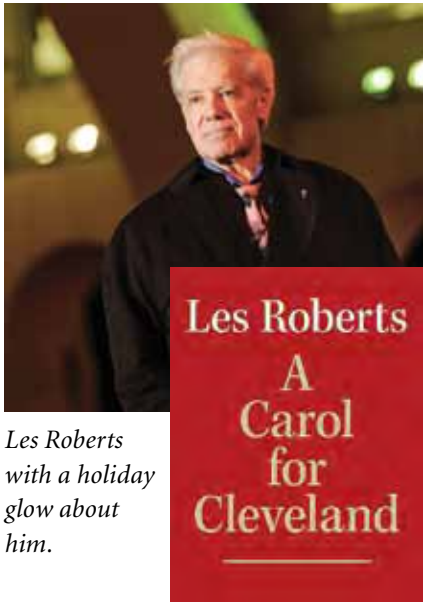
Adapting A Carol For Cleveland With Les Roberts And Eric Coble

by Ben Burdick

Bestselling author Les Roberts and playwright Eric Coble discuss their collaboration, turning Roberts’ heart-warming novella, *A Carol for Cleveland*, into Cleveland Play House’s latest Holiday treat. The two collaborators will appear at the Lakewood Public Library on Sunday, December 2 at 2:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium. The book, long out of print, has been reissued by Gray & Company and will be available for sale and signing at the event.

The new play runs at the Allen Theatre from November 30 to December 23. Adapted by Eric Coble from an overlooked gem by Roberts, the story hits home in the tradition of Dickens by confronting the audience with a striking moral dilemma and resolving it with generous humanity. No punches are pulled. But after all is said and done, there is real hope for Ed Podolak, an unemployed Ebenezer Scrooge, after a cash-strapped Christmas Eve leads him to commit a desperate act.

Les Roberts is the author of 16 mystery novels featuring Cleveland detective Milan Jacovich, as well as 11 other books. The past president of both the Private Eye Writers of America and the American Crime Writer’s League, he came to mystery writing after a 24-year career in Hollywood. He was the first producer and



Les Roberts with a holiday glow about him.

head writer of the Hollywood Squares and wrote for The Andy Griffith Show, The Jackie Gleason Show, and The Man from U.N.C.L.E., among others. He has been a professional actor, a singer, a jazz musician, a teacher, and a film critic. In 2003 he received the Sherwood Anderson Literary Award. A native of Chicago, he now lives in Northeast Ohio.

This free event will be held at Lakewood Public Library at 15425 Detroit Avenue in the Main Library Auditorium. Visit www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.org/calendar for more events. No registration is needed. Call (216) 226-8275 ext. 127 for more information.

December 8
Lakewood Public Cinema
“To Kill a Mockingbird” (1962),
Directed by Robert Mulligan - Rated PG
A courtroom drama with a man facing death because of the color of his skin certainly isn’t a new story, in life or art. But through the eyes of children who still find time to play in the same summer that they learn about race and hate, the fallibility of justice and the surprising strength of their father, this American classic soars past cynicism and lands in our hearts. Celebrate fifty years of Gregory Peck’s most honest performance.
Saturday, December 8 at 6:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

December 9
Sunday with the Friends: When the Moonstone... Cleveland’s Forgotten Sons and Psychedelic Culture (1968-1973)
Psychedelic music evolved in Los Angeles, San Francisco and even Detroit. But what about Cleveland? This mindblowing lecture by Dr. Mike Skladany explores the scene as it unfolded from 1968-1973. Ray Benich of The Damnation of Adam Blessing provides the music and his own firsthand accounts.
Sunday, December 9 at 2:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

December 15
Lakewood Art House Cinema
“Spitfire Grill” (1996), Directed by Lee David Zlotoff - Rated PG-13
After being released from prison, a young woman named Percy looks for a new beginning. She finds it in the rural town of Gilead, Maine where she is taken under the wing of the owner of the Spitfire Grill. This clannish town is wary of outsiders, especially those like Percy who seems to be able to see right through people. Winner of an audience award at Sundance, this overlooked film examines the meaning of redemption.
Saturday, December 15 at 6:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

December 16
Sunday with the Friends: Mike and Mary
Mike tickles the ivories while Mary sings gems from the Great American Songbook. There’s nothing they like more than rescuing a good song from a forgotten Broadway show and sharing it with new friends.
2:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

***December 22nd- January 4th* - No Programs**

December 24
Christmas Eve – Library closed

December 25
Christmas – Library closed

December 31
New Year’s Eve – Library closes at 6 p.m.

January 1
New Year’s Day – Library closed

Children/Youth Events

compiled by Eric Knapp

Saturday, Dec. 8
Tail Waggin’ Tutors - For school-age children
Bone up on your reading skills by reading to a dog. Drop in for a one-to-one session with one of our dogs and owners that have been certified through Therapy Dogs International.
11:00 A.M. – 12:30 P.M. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room.

Madison Branch Bright Days
For students in kindergarten through fifth grade
As the leaves begin to fall, come to Madison Branch for books, crafts, fun and games. Madison Branch Children’s and Youth Services
Tuesdays and Thursdays, ongoing through March 28 at 4:00 p.m.

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.

Strokes Of Genius Comes To A Close



Front Row: L to R: Julia, Megan Sulak, Theo Hoelker, Maylis Vasquez, back Row: L to R: Delaney McCoy, Eden Sutliff, Emily, Edan Perry, Amanda Chanter, Not Shown: Sam Thomas, Julian Gamez, Jack McCarthy, Clare McCarthy, Emma Murray, Owen Murray, Amanda Gandarilla.

by Marge Foley

The seven week Fall session of Strokes of Genius at the Lakewood Public Library came to a close in November as participating second, third, and fourth graders proudly showcased their talent at an art show for family and friends. Each week students learned about the life and work of a different artist and then completed an art project in the style of that artist. Artwork created by Rembrandt van Rijn, Claude Monet, Henri Matisse,

Vincent Van Gogh, Pablo Picasso, and Piet Mondrian provided the inspiration for the students’ creative efforts. Oil pastels, watercolor paints, cut paper, markers, and crayons were some of the art mediums used. Each participant took home their creative work, a certificate, and a purple ribbon.

Look for information about our Spring session of Strokes of Genius in the Lakewood Public Library’s Spring/Summer mailer!

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Lakewood Public Library

It All Began With A Name

by Susan Dunn

In 1985 Deborah Abbott received an invitation to attend a family reunion. She did not recognize the sender but she did recognize her great aunt's surname. Knowing only this much she went to the reunion in North Carolina, met new family members and heard stories about people she didn't even know existed. This fascinating experience inspired Abbott to trace her maternal heritage and to embark on a long, genealogical journey.

Today Abbott is a teacher, researcher and scholar who loves to share her expertise with others. She has conducted numerous classes, workshops and forums in the Cleveland area. Abbott will be coming to Lakewood Public Library on Novem-

ber 27 to present a class on starting a family history using Ancestry.com Library Edition. We asked her to share a little about herself and her studies.

LO - Tell us a little about your background.

After retiring in 2009 from Cuyahoga Community College (Western Campus) as a Professor of Counseling, I turned my interest solely to genealogy. I now give lectures all across the country and currently serve as an adjunct professor at the Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research (IGHR) at Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama where I teach in both the African American and Researching the South week long courses. I serve as the Cleveland District Trustee for the Ohio Gene-

alogy Society and am the immediate past president of the African American Genealogical Society of Cleveland (AAGS). I am finishing a family history genealogy project that has taken seven years to research. This project traces an African American family from slavery to the present with the migration of the family from Kentucky to Illinois to Ohio to New York.

LO - What advice do you have for someone starting a family tree?

I always tell people to be patient. Interview family and friends, look for home sources and collect as many vital records as possible. This is not a hobby that moves quickly; it will take time and careful research and they should not expect to trace their entire family tree on the internet. They will have to visit libraries and courthouses at some point.

LO - What is the most important thing to remember when researching your family history?

To always keep an open mind

about it. Everything that we "think" we know or have been told (an oral history) may not be true. We have to be ready for surprises, both good and bad. Documenting where you find your information is also important.

LO - What do you do when you aren't researching or teaching classes on genealogy?

Sometime I think that I'm always researching. I enjoy going to the theatre, cooking and taking cooking classes, as well as watching old television programs and black & white movies. I also attend genealogy conferences and institutes in order to continue learning and keeping up with newest techniques and technologies pertaining to the world of genealogy.

Join us Tuesday, November 27 at 6:00 p.m. in the Main Library Learning Lab and Abbott will show you how to unlock the secrets of Ancestry: Library Edition. Space is limited so please call (216) 226-8275 ext. 127 to register.

Lakewood Public Library Gets Psychedelic With Dr. Mike Skladany

by Lisa Calfee

The illicit drug LSD blazed a light trail across American culture in the 1960's. It promised a chemical shortcut to mystical realms, but losing touch with reality proved dangerous and even deadly. By the late 1970's LSD had left the party but not before its influence created a culture of psychedelic music, art and fashion.

Dr. Mike Skladany, a professor of sociology at Cleveland State University, is going to discuss the psychedelic movement that started in California, traveled the country and came to Cleveland neighborhoods in a multimedia presentation, "When the Moonstone Echoes Softly..."- Cleveland's Forgotten Sons and Psychedelic Culture (1968-1973) on Sunday, December 9 at 2:00 p.m. at the main branch of the Lakewood Public Library.

The interactive discussion will start with a prelude at 1:45 p.m. of the Joshua White Liquid Light Show, a multicolored feast of freeform shapes, light and movement representing the surreal visual art of the era. Once your

eyes and mind adjust, the conversation with Dr. Skladany will continue with more visuals, discussion, audience participation and music. Lots of music.

From "The Journey to the Center of the Mind" by Amboy Dukes to Cleveland's own nationally renowned Damnation of Adam Blessing's "Cookbook," the music that was born from the psychedelic culture will be seen on our big screen and carried through our speakers.

The discussion will raise the questions, where did the psychedelic culture come from? How and why did it begin and what was its message? The answers are sure to bring back memories for some and spark the imaginations of others.

So please join us for our Sunday With The Friends program on December 9 at 2:00 p.m. for this unusual multimedia presentation with Dr. Mike Skladany as he unearths this curiosity of Cleveland's counterculture past and explains how the psychedelic movement still resonates in the music, art and fashions of today.

Lakewood Public Library Is Looking For A Few Good Bricks



by Katie Juray

The Lakewood Public Library Children's and Youth Services Department is beginning to build a great new program, The Lakewood LEGO® League. The club, which will be for children in grades K-5, will meet once a month beginning in April 2013. But before we can build, we need the bricks!

The library is currently accepting donations of LEGO® bricks in new or good condition. Donations can be dropped off at the Children's desk of the Main Library at 15425 Detroit Ave. or at the Madison Branch (13229 Madison) during regular library hours. Please contact the Children's Department at (216)226-8275 ext. 140 for any questions.

TumbleBooks And Computer Connections

by Marge Foley

What happened 2,664 times last month? Patrons of the Lakewood Public Library viewed "TumbleBooks." TumbleBooks is an interactive, read-aloud website that offers a wide variety of animated, talking picture books. This website is simple enough for young children to use independently. When a particular e-book is activated, the text is highlighted as it is being read aloud to the listener. Pictures from the stories colorfully appear on the screen. There are also tests and activities associated with the books.

TumbleBooks can be used in the Main Library Computer Connections Room or remotely through the Library's website. Children who visit the library are welcome to frequent the Computer Connections Room. In addition to TumbleBooks, this fun space allows them to select from over 35 educational computer games designed to encourage literacy, math, and problem-solving skills. Use of this room is available 7 days a week, from opening until 8:30 p.m. Bring your children to the Computer Connections Room and let them enjoy all the library has to offer.

Council Stands Up

continued from page 4

for Lakewood. The second resolution would authorize the City of Lakewood to establish the Cuyahoga County Department of Public Safety and Justice Services, Office of Emergency Management to be its countywide emergency management agency.

Council adopted both resolutions. Next Finance Director, Jennifer Pae, introduced several items for the 2013 budget. Council referred them all to the Finance Committee to be considered.

Coming to the end of the agenda items and with no one from the public there to make a statement, Council President Powers adjourned the meeting at 8:26 P.M.

Addendum: Mayor Summers has updated the tally on the number of trees lost in Lakewood. The total number of public trees lost is 50. The number originally reported at Council was an estimate of public and private trees. There is not yet a tally of all of the private trees lost.

Schools



Cold Hands, Warm Hearts: St. Ed's Students Give Up Saturdays To Rake Leaves

by Laura Krawczyk

On November 3rd and 10th, students from St. Edward High School arose early and met to rake leaves for Lakewood homeowners. LakewoodAlive coordinated the group and works with other volunteers to pair them with homeowners who have asked for assistance. While many volunteer groups have helped to paint, repair porches and other similar tasks, several groups rake yards for elderly or disabled residents that are unable to do the work themselves or are unable to pay for the service.

Founded in 1949, St. Edward High School is an all-male Catholic school located at 13500 Detroit Avenue. The school incorporates community service into yearly requirements for each of its more than 800 students. "Our students participate in service trips and activities around the Greater Cleveland area, around the county, and even around the world," said Liam Haggerty, vice president of mission effectiveness at St. Edward's. "It is extremely important to us that we are an active member of

the Lakewood Community, and we are always looking for ways to be involved in the city." Students in the past have served community meals and tutored students at Garfield Elementary School.

"We are so grateful to the students for giving their time," LakewoodAlive's Director of Housing Outreach Hilary Schickler said. "There is so much need and so many opportunities for volunteers, and to have St. Edward's come forward and offer their assistance is wonderful." So far this year, LakewoodAlive's Housing Outreach program has coordinated more than 1,100 hours of volunteer service for painting, housing repairs, and leaf raking.

Individuals or groups interested in volunteering can email Laura Krawczyk at info@lakewoodalive.com.

If you are a homeowner in need of assistance, or have a referral of an elderly or disabled homeowner, please contact LakewoodAlive's Housing Outreach Program at (216) 521-1554 or email Hilary Schickler at hschickler@lakewoodalive.com.

Bullying Discussion Coming To Lakewood

by Christina McCallum

Middle school students in Lakewood regularly discuss issues of bullying through school-sponsored programs and workshops. On Wednesday, December 19 at 7 p.m. in the Garfield Middle School Library, parents and other adults have an opportunity to learn more as Garfield Middle School presents "What Parents Can Do When Their Child is Being Bullied."

The program will feature Mr. Todd Walts, who works with students from all over northeast Ohio through his business, Campus Impact. Mr. Walts will address several issues related to this often murky problem. He will discuss the difference between conflict and bullying; roles in a bullying situation; ways students can reduce bullying; and what parents can and should do when their child reports being bullied.

Campus Impact is a 13-year old business that has worked in Lakewood City Schools since 2008. During the 2012-13 school year, Garfield students will participate in Campus Impact programming every other month. Students will learn about diversity; respect; cyber bullying and internet safety; and conflict recognition and resolution. When students have a workshop, parents can read an lesson overview in the "Garfield Gazette" newsletter to know specifically what is covered.

The December 19 presentation is a not-to-be-missed opportunity for parents and adults to learn more and have any questions answered. It is free and open to any Lakewood resident interested in attending. Please RSVP your attendance to GarfieldMiddleSchoolPTSA@gmail.com by Monday, December 17.

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Lakewood Schools



Petition For Hoodies At Lakewood High, And Other Lakewood Schools

by Andrew Nolan

There is a petition flying around against the hoodie rule at Lakewood High School, and the other Lakewood City Schools around Lakewood, Ohio. It is clear and to the point, and is slowly getting attention. It reads:

"We feel that it is important to express our feelings in this way, as it seems to be the only way to grasp your attention. Hoodies are a way to express one's self, and in the high school's condition, a warm way to cross Franklin to and from the modular units. We feel that these rules are unjust, and unfair. Most of us don't have jackets, or winter coats without hoods, and although winter jackets are allowed, hoodies are a cheaper solution to the expensive winter coat, and get the job done well. Lakewood BoE and LCS need to lower their grips on these laws for these particular reasons. We don't all have money for winter jackets, and even then, all winter jackets don't even include a hood of some sort, that is why we are grabbing your attention.

In the case of the middle and elementary schools, it is just a matter of presenting yourself in the way you want people to see you. I (a high-school junior) open up my dresser, and

have to go to the bottom after skipping the hoodies that keep me warm, whilst a middle-schooler wants something warm, and comfortable during classes. This is why we ask you to lift these bans.

Kids all around the United States of America get to choose what they wear each day, including those from Bay Village and Westlake. Why are we so strict against dress code? In a classroom, when a student gets told to remove his/her hoodie, it is more distracting than the student actually wearing the hoodie itself, it eliminates a lot of class time for those who really would love to learn.

All together, hoodies aren't a distraction, but teachers telling students to remove them are the distraction, and frankly, it's a waste of paper writing referrals for such things. We students simply ask you to remove these rules against hoodies and hats for these reasons stated above.

This is a big movement, and deserves more attention. Pick your side, for or against the "hoodie rule." Place your signature at: <http://www.change.org/petitions/lakewood-city-schools-lift-the-ban-of-hoodies-and-hats-from-the-lakewood-city-schools> and make a difference today!

LHS Model UN Club Earns Conference Honors

by Christine Gordillo

The Lakewood High School Model UN Club turned in another fine performance at the Cleveland Council on World Affairs fall conference held on November 14. Seniors Grace Yousefi and Rachel Ritter won an excellent Delegation Award, as did seniors Moira Horn and Caroline Canale.

Winning Honorable Mention awards were the following delegations: sophomores Renee Klann and Francesca Bodnar; seniors Morgenna Zuby and Bea Aldrich; seniors Bilal Shaw and Elliot Smith; and sophomores Devon Chodzin and Laert Fejzullari.

Competing with a young team against 11 other schools, the Lakewood delegation received the third-highest number of awards. According to club advisor Dr. Chuck Greanoff, co-presidents Grace Yousefi, Rachel Ritter and Ellen Latsko did an excellent job with all aspects of training and organization. Secretary Irina Vatamanu and training coordinator Bilal Shaw were also instrumental in the success of the club. Garfield Social studies teacher Joshua Thornsberry once again volunteered his time and invaluable expertise to the club's training.

"Spirit" Of Past And Present Honored At All Saints Auction



Guests enjoy dinner in the transformed school.

by Gretchen Bulan

On Saturday, November 3, about 340 guests gathered at the Lakewood Catholic Academy (LCA) campus for this year's All Saints Auction, "A Celebration of Spirit," to support the school and recognize the parishes of Saint Clement and Saint Luke for their 90-year anniversaries in Lakewood. Guests were greeted by beautiful decorations, including historic images from the parishes' early years and handmade "stained glass" lamp shades and table lamps that lit up the event's dining room. A nostalgic menu of foods that reflected the Irish and German heritages of the parishes' founding members and Lakewood favorites was prepared by Gatherings Kitchen of Lakewood.

The parishes of Saint Clement and Saint Luke were chosen as the 2012 recipients of LCA's highest honor, the Insignis Award, to celebrate each parish's 90-year anniversary of ministry in Lakewood and to recognize their commitment of service to the school and community. The auction event was highlighted by the presentation of the Insignis Awards by LCA Board of Directors Chairman, Christopher Johnson. Rev. Joseph P. Workman, pastor of Saint Clement and Saint James Parishes and Rev. Francis P. Walsh, pastor of Saint Luke Parish, accepted the awards on behalf of their respective congregations.

In his remarks, Father Walsh thanked LCA staff, faculty and parents for the award. He also recognized LCA benefactors, the Sisters of Charity, for being instrumental in the founding of both Saint Luke in the early 1920s and of LCA in 2005. The Sisters taught at the former Saint Luke School for nearly 50 years and remain essential partners of LCA today. "I am happy to accept this award on behalf of Saint Luke Parish. I believe LCA has many great years ahead," said Father Walsh.

Father Workman noted a feel-

ing of pride in the school as the key that brings together families, parishioners and supporters to strengthen LCA. "It doesn't matter which parish we come from," Workman said, "it takes cooperation and a commitment from all to support the 632 students of LCA."

Saint Clement and Saint Luke Parishes, along with Transfiguration (which joined as a supporting parish in 2010) and the school's third founding parish, Saint James, have been central to the school's formation and growth since its opening in 2005.

As desserts were finished, a lively auction featured priceless items including a trip for six guests to Tuscany's Il Milano de Grace Winery and a private dinner in an exclusive dining room at the top of Cleveland's Terminal Tower. At the conclusion of the live auction, a special appeal to begin the renovation of the school cafeteria received enthusiastic support and raised \$40,000 towards the project which will begin in Summer 2013. The evening concluded with a drawing for two roundtrip tickets to anywhere in the United States and a generous hotel gift card. Airline tickets were donated by Abode, Modern Lifestyle Developers, developers of the Clifton Pointe Ecohomes.

The All Saints Auction is LCA's largest fundraising event and raises funds to support the students, faculty, and programs of Lakewood Catholic Academy. Net proceeds from the 2012 All Saints Auction were \$100,000. Event sponsors included Frantz Ward Attorneys at Law, Huntington Bank, Saint Ignatius High School, Skylight Financial Group, EnnisCourt, Ripcho Studios, and the Sisters of Charity Foundation of Cleveland.

To see more photos of the auction and also renderings of the upcoming cafeteria renovations, please visit the auction's Facebook page by searching "LCA All Saints Auction."

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Kids Corner

Harding's Election Simulation

by Sofi Dunay and Abby Allio,
6th Grade Energy Program,
Harding Middle School

Did you ever vote in a presidential election when you were in 6th grade? Well, we did just that in Mr.Spooner's 6th grade class at Harding Middle school. I'm Sofi Dunay, I was randomly chosen as a Republican and I'm Abby Allio, I was a Democrat, and we got to take part in the election simulation. Our class participated in an election simulation. The simulation was a process including learning about real world issues, learning to run a campaign, being an educated voter, and participating in society.

To start off the campaigns, our roles were somewhat randomly chosen because we put in what we wanted our roles to be and Mr. Spooner randomly chose our roles according to who wanted to be what, though he chose our parties without any input from us. The roles we could choose included: candidate, campaign manager, speech writer, policy analysts, finance manager, and P.A.C. member-sponsor/mudslinger. Each student had an important part in making the elec-



Obama and her advisors field policy questions from the voters.

tion simulation work. Not only did everyone have to perform their roles in the campaign, but we each had to be an undecided voter. The Democrats had a question and answer session, explaining their views on the solutions for real-life issues. The Republicans had a rally, trying to get people excited about voting for Mitt Romney. So, now that you know what the Election Simulation is, let's tell you about our experiences.

I'm Sofi. As a Republican P.A.C.

November Is National Adoption Awareness Month

The Decision To Adopt: A Personal One

by Jenna Purdum and
Sherrie Tamunday

Thanksgiving is my favorite holiday. I love the smell of turkey all through the house. I love watching football with my kids and I love hearing my sister-in-law get my husband in trouble all over again for things that happened when they were growing up. I'm excited to watch my kids grow up and carry on all the traditions that were passed on to us. I look forward to all of those after dinner conversations where they will reveal the real stories that they're not ready to come clean about just yet.

We'll spend Thanksgiving with our loved ones. We'll celebrate the day off work and the feast for dinner, but will we stop to think about those who are spending the holiday with strangers or alone?

In Cuyahoga County there are approximately 1800 children separated from their families (<http://cfs.cuyahogacounty.us/en-US/statistics-reports.aspx>). Many of them will be spending the holiday in foster care or a residential treatment facility. Some have aged out of foster care never having been adopted and are struggling with the unfamiliar responsibilities of independent living. The reasons they have been taken from their homes vary, as does the amount of time they've been gone. Some of these children patiently wait for the day they will be sent back to their families. Some know that day will never come. They look forward to a new family; someone who will adopt them into their home and make them a part of new traditions and provide them with new stories.

I remember wondering if adoption was right for our family. We have two biological kids. Could we love a "chosen" child like we loved our boys? Could

we look at an adopted child and call her our daughter? We knew nothing about adoption. Where do we start? How long will it take? What's the process? How will we afford an adoption? I didn't have any answers, but I had a desire. I felt that tug that told me adoption was right for our family. It's that feeling that wasn't there right away, but grew over time. It grew with every thought, dream and discussion I had, every random billboard I saw or conversation I overheard.

My husband and I started the adoption process in January of 2010. We talked to friends and countless agencies. We filled out paperwork, learned the process, filled out paperwork, saved our money, asked for help from friends and family, filled out paperwork, went through training, prayed, and did I mention we had a lot of paperwork to fill out?

We brought home a little girl at the end of 2010. She is my daughter. She might not have my blood, but she definitely has my heart. It was a sometimes stressful process, but a process I wouldn't trade for the world.

People tell us we did such a wonderful thing. We saved this little girl from a life of uncertainty. We gave her a home when she didn't have one. We're changing her life. The reality is that she is changing our lives. It gets better each day. So I have to wonder...what are you waiting for?

Are you curious about the adoption process? Would you like to talk to someone to get more information? Have you ever felt that tug?

Please contact Donna Rakerd at the Lakewood Division of Youth at 216-529-6108 or visit: <http://www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.org/lkwdfamcollab/index.html>. How many lives can you change with a phone call?

member, mudslinger, and undecided voter I got a lot out of the Election Simulation. It was a great chance to learn how to work better in a group. It was great to learn about real world politics while having fun in the classroom too. It was cool to compare the real-world candidates/parties' views to the opinions inside of the classroom. We also learned to be fantastic problem solvers when Hurricane Sandy took our time away. We still had to have some kind of debate and voting before the real results came out. We decided to take a couple class periods to further research the platforms. Then, we individually, made a pro and con list for each candidate. We were told to vote for the candidate with the most pros.

The next issue that came up was that my classmates and I were confused on what we were to vote on; the real world issues and the candidate's solutions for them, or the campaigning in the classroom? We ended up voting for both! I thought it was the perfect solution because it helped clear up the confusion and eliminate the possible mistakes. Our results ended up reflecting the results in real-life. Almost all of the ballots that Mr.Spooner read said for campaigning in the classroom: Mitt Romney, for real-world issues: Barack Obama. The Election Simulation was a big opportunity to grow as a student and I liked it!

I'm Abby. Being in the election simulation was really fun and at the same time, taught me many things on what an election is really about. As a speechwriter for the Democratic party, I learned how to work inside a group or party and how to do my part in the campaign to make it successful. I also played the part of being an undecided voter where I gathered information to help me make a decision on electing a president. I needed to use the thought process in it so my decision

could be the right and successful one. Although those roles are very important, as a 6th grader I must say that when it comes down to it all, being a student is the most important role in this simulation because I'm learning about the components of an election and learning how to be successful in it. Now, what I thought of actually participating in the simulation was that it was fun and it really taught us about elections because we were experiencing one not only in the classroom, but in real life. I would have to say that I personally really had fun, as a student, speechwriter, and voter. To all you teachers or people who want to be teachers out there, this was a great learning experience, and you should try it because I think your students will love it.

Coming from two students from different perspectives in the simulation, we both think that this was an awesome learning opportunity. We grew in so many ways, learned a lot, and had fun at the same time!

Sofi Dunay and Abby Allio are students in Mr. Spooner's 6th grade Energy (Gifted and Talented) program at Harding Middle School.



Romney and his team outline their issues at their rally.

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Lakewood Is Art

Lakewood Designer Chosen For Global Design Intensive

by Charity D'Amato

Lakewood, Ohio resident and business owner Charity D'Amato was recently selected as part of a global design intensive crafted by Iggesund, a leader in European paperboard manufacturing. D'Amato traveled to the heart of Sweden for a week of packaging and graphics immersion.

Finish Your Holiday Shopping, Keep It Local At Final LEAF Night Market

by Margaret Brinich

LEAF's final market for the season will be held in the Garfield Middle School Cafeteria (located at 13114 Detroit Ave) from 5:30- 8 p.m. on Tuesday, December 18. We will feature the City Fresh Holiday share distribution, along with lots of additional local farmers, artists, and producers. Lakewood High School's H2O will also be hosting a table to raise funds for their programs. Get a cookbook and all of your locally made goodies and gifts at this volunteer-run event.

The main attraction will surely be the LEAF Cooks: Recipes From the Community, local foods cookbook which will arrive just in time for the market! Many thanks to our wonderful sponsors, the cookbook, a beautiful, handy, customized kitchen resource, is available for only \$15! Additional LEAF merchandise will be for sale at the December 18th holiday market as well. Local vendors include many of your favorites from the 2012 LEAF Nights, plus lots of new faces ready to fill all of your last minute, local holiday gift giving (and cooking) needs. Vendors: Maggie's Farm, Berry Good Farms, Handmade on Mars, Plant Kingdom Bakery, We & The Bean, Mo Bite Products, Blaze Gourmet, Zombie Socks, Greensmart Gifts, Lise Anderson Jewelry, STEM Handmade Soap, Ruby Red Handmade, Brandi McElhatten of the Lovely Wrecks, and Berry Good Farms. (More to be added. Subject to change.)

Students, School Board Member Honored

continued from page 4

The last item under the Superintendent's Report was the Hayes Elementary Building report presented by Principal Robert Curtin who gave an overview of Hayes Elementary State Report Card. Hayes teachers Meredith Wojkun and Diane Redin presented an overview of co-teaching, which is when two or more professionals with equivalent licensure and employment status share teaching duties. According to the teachers, co-teaching provides for better learning outcomes among their students such as increased attention due to a 1:15 student-teacher ratio, and providing positive peer and adult role models showing how people work collaboratively. Wojkun and Redin gave several examples of how co-teaching methods works within the classroom ranging from the "one teach, one assist" approach (one teacher focuses on delivering content while the other teacher circulates through the room providing assistance) to "station teaching" (both teachers actively engaged with all students while students switch learning stations).

During the public communication portion of the agenda, Christina McCallum, President of the Lakewood PTA Council, reported that PTA would extend the current coat drive until December 7th due to school closings earlier in the month. Coats of all sizes, especially for boys and older students, can be dropped off at any Lakewood school building. McCallum presented the Board with a box to be placed at the Board building on Warren Road to serve as an additional coat drop-off site.

The meeting continued with three members of the Lakewood Board of Education voting on the Consent Agenda, approving items presented during the first regular meeting of November including the Approval of the Five-Year Financial Forecast. For more information and to view the report visit the Lakewood City Schools website at <http://www.lakewoodcityschools.org/userfiles/2312/5YEAR%20FORECAST%20June%202012.pdf>.

The regular meeting adjourned with the Lakewood Board of Education recessing for an Executive Session, "For consideration of the purchase of property or sale of property at competitive bidding, if premature disclosure or information would give an unfair competitive or bargaining advantage to a person whose personal, private interest is adverse to the general public interest."

The next Lakewood Board of Education meeting will be held Monday, December 3rd, 7 p.m. at Harding Middle School.

Tease Kicks Off The Holiday Season With Artists' Reception

by Susan Shaw

Tease Hair + Body Parlor kicks off the holiday season during Light Up Lakewood with a festive reception featuring the work of local artist Brooke Figer, on Saturday, December 1.

Figer, who has worked as a graphic designer, sculptor, painter and mural artist, will show selections of her latest work during the reception beginning at 6 p.m.

"I enjoy doing portrait work and have been most recently inspired by the organic and colorful shapes of otherwise ordinary fruits and vegetables," she said.

The reception coincides with Lakewood's annual lighting ceremony and holiday kickoff on Detroit Ave. Lakewood's festivities starts with a parade at 5:30 p.m.



Lakewood's annual lighting ceremony and holiday kickoff on Detroit Ave. Lakewood's festivities starts with a parade at 5:30 p.m.

Tease Hair + Body Parlor is located in the heart of Lakewood, 15112 Detroit Ave. Refreshments will be served and the event is free. For information, call the parlor, 216-228-2440.

About Brooke Figer

Brooke Figer holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts and a Minor of Business Administration from Baldwin Wallace College. Over the past decade, she has pursued her love of all things creative and currently works as a digital artist for Kalman & Pabst Photo Group. When away from the digital darkroom, Brooke enjoys illustrating and painting. She has shown her work in various galleries and publications both nationwide and internationally. Much of her work is available for sale on her Etsy page: www.etsy.com/shop/brookefiger

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Light Up Lakewood

A Labor Of Love

by Tamara Karel

As I sat in my office last week, watching tiny snowflakes glide to the ground, I was reminded of the 2009 Light Up Lakewood when huge snowflakes fell from the sky so silently and created such a beautiful setting for our community event. I had such a great time walking around with friends as my family participated in activities. Unfortunately, my reminiscing was short-lived, and I was propelled back to the present where I'm constantly and frantically thinking of all those

Twinkling Lights

Twinkling lights, great Christmas sights,
Making our world seem right,
And you wonder why, till you look in the sky,
At those amazing twinkling lights.

Now it's that time of year,
When the air's crisp and clear,
And the snow cascades down, from above;
There's that feeling inside,
That you can't seem to hide,
Cause it's Christmas, and you're filled with love;
All the stores are aglow,
And you just seem to know,
It's for Santa, they wait, to arrive;
All the people in smiles,
As the kids crowd the aisles,
Makes you glow, cause you feel so alive;

With twinkling lights, great Christmas sights,
Making our world seem right,
And you wonder why, till you look in the sky,
At those amazing twinkling lights.

As you exchange each gift,
It gives you such a lift,
Cause His love's being shared all around;
So look up at that sky,
To learn the reason why,
His eyes twinkle, as He's looking down;
At twinkling lights, great Christmas sights,
Making our world seem right,
Yes you wondered why, till you looked at that sky,
At those amazing twinkling lights,
And His beautiful twinkling "eyes."

The music and lyrics to "Twinkling Lights" were written by Bill Knittel, the City of Lakewood's Poet Laureate.

last minute things that need to be done for the 2012 Light Up Lakewood Festival. It is a state of being that I welcome, only because of what results.

Last year, when I agreed to Chair Light Up Lakewood, and Shannon Strachan and I were driven to turn our event into a full-blown festival, I laid out three goals: further the mission of the festival host, LakewoodAlive; promote the businesses in Lakewood; and most importantly, create a fantastic place for Lakewood and area residents to have a magnificent time ringing in the holiday season, laughing with friends, and enjoying what our City means to all of us-- community. I was utterly filled with joy when, on December 3, 2011, I stood in the middle of Detroit Avenue in the heart of the festival and past me ran a group of 6-8 kids, carrying candy canes and laughing with each other! Mission accomplished!

This year, planning the festival means so much more to me. And I'm learning that it means so much more to all of the folks who are helping plan the festival and execute what will be the biggest winter event Lakewood has had to date. It means dreaming BIG! It means working through struggles and obstacles. It means overcoming our fear of asking people for help. It means meeting new people and learning about new businesses. It means learning new skills and technologies. It means going the extra mile. It means finding so many people who want to contribute. It means building relationships.

Light Up Lakewood, in all facets, encompasses one of Lakewood's greatest assets -- our community. This is why I love Lakewood. Mission accomplished!

Tamara Karel chairs the Light Up Lakewood Festival.



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2012 Light Up Lakewood

Ceremony Agenda - (times are approximate)
Welcome by Festival Host, LakewoodAlive!
6:00 p.m. – Musical Performance by Peach, Ivy Rook, Jordyn Haycroft, & Kevin Kelley
6:05 p.m. – Crowning of the 2012 Light Up Lakewood Queen and King –
6:10 p.m. – Vocal performance by Vive I’ Four Quartet
6:15 p.m. – University of Akron
6:20 p.m. – Bill Knittel and the Peddlers of Mirth
6:25 p.m. – The ‘Why I Love Lakewood’ Fourth Grade Writing Competition Winner
6:30 p.m. – Buddy the Elf – what’s your favorite color?!
6:35 p.m. – Santa
6:40 p.m. – Flip the Switch - Lighting of the Hospital grounds and FIREWORKS!

Lakewood Public Library - Programs:
9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. – Friends Holiday Public Book Sale (Book Sale Room)
6:00 – 8:30 p.m. – Holiday Crafts & Activities (Multipurpose Room)
6:00 – 8:00 p.m. – Outdoor Holiday Classic Movie (Library Porch)
6:30 – 8:00 p.m. – H2O’s “Twigbee-Style” Shop (Homework Room)
6:30 – 8:30 p.m. – Santa Visits/Photos (Bring Your Camera)
6:30 – 8:30 p.m. – Story Time – every half hour

Musical Performances:
5:45 – 6:15 p.m. – Harding Middle School Jazz Band (Lower Auditorium)
6:00 – 6:30 p.m. – Stringin’ Along Middle School Strings (Children’s Section)
6:30 – 7:30 p.m. – LHS Four Seasons String Quartet (Multipurpose Room)
6:30 – 7:00 p.m. – Hayes Choir (New Book Room)
6:30 – 7:00 p.m. – LCA Advanced Band (Lower Auditorium)
7:00 – 7:30 p.m. – LCA Singing Saints Choir (Lower Atrium)
7:00 – 7:30 p.m. – LHS Chamber Choir (Atrium)
7:30 – 8:30 p.m. – Pianist – sing along to Holiday songs! (Multipurpose Room)

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Lakewood Event Schedule

Masonic Temple - Programs:

- 6:30 p.m. – Welcome
- 6:35 p.m. – Lincoln Elementary Singers
- 6:45 p.m. – Silhouette School of Dance Performers

- 6:55 p.m. – Harding Middle School Choir
- 7:05 p.m. – Horace Mann Elementary Singers
- 7:20 p.m. – Garfield Middle School Choir

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ACTIVITIES

FOOD & DRINK

1 Barnstormers

2 Huskies

3 Ice Carver (3)

4 Live Music* (2)

5 Live Reindeer

6 Ohio City Singers

7 Salvation Army

8 "Why I Love Lakewood"

9 Drum Circle

10 En-DEER Yourself

11 Face Painting

12 Holiday Karaoke

13 Pictures with Santa

14 Sports Games (3)

15 Twigbee Shop

16 University of Akron Lakewood

17 Fired Up Taco Truck

18 Funnel Cakes

19 Hot Cocoa Station (3)

20 Kettle Corn

21 Mad Mouth Gyros

22 Quaker Steak & Lube

23 Umami Moto Food Truck

* Live Music will be from 6:30pm – 8:00pm

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Uptown Lakewood Presents... Candy Cane Lane

by Robby Zettler

*City Sidewalks, busy sidewalks
Dressed in holiday style
In the air
There's a feeling of Christmas
Children laughing
People passing
Meeting smile after smile*

Christmas is a time to celebrate. Concerts, parties, even shopping turns into an event during the holidays. And nobody does it better than the Lakewood community. People come from all over the Cleveland area to join in Lakewood's merriment. "They sure know how to put on a party," said Sharon Schreiner, a Brecksville resident who attended Lakewood's Chocolate Walk and plans to be back for the holidays in Lakewood.

Light Up Lakewood is the kick off shindig and sure to be a spectacular event. But the party doesn't end there!

To the contrary- the festivities are just beginning!

Next up: Candy Cane Lane!

Uptown Lakewood, is a newly established area of Lakewood. Spanning between Elmwood and Arthur Ave on Madison Ave, created by a group of local ambitious entrepreneurs, Uptown Lakewood is a shopping district with something for everyone. The area is a manageable walking area, covering just three city blocks for the time being. "We are looking to grow over the next year, including additional streets, businesses and events," Said Renee Lavelle, proprietor of The Little Bling Shoppe and one of the business owners in the district.

Candy Cane Lane is the Inaugural Event for this thriving new neighborhood. "We are easy to find," Lavelle points out. "We are decked out in candy canes, bows and red and white stripes of all kinds. They are on the

buildings, the meters, the trees, the telephone poles- and white lights in all the windows."

Candy Cane Lane takes place on Thursday, December 13th from 5 - 8 p.m. The event is free and there will be something for all ages to enjoy. Music, wine tasting, giveaways, holiday eats and treats, hot cocoa for kids and adults alike, holiday shopping specials and perhaps even a "special" appearance by a certain someone.

There will also be a holiday drive for the Lakewood Community Service Center all month long. "We are collecting personal hygiene products.

They seem to be the items in short supply for those in need," said Lavelle. You can drop off anything from toilet paper, tampons or pads, deodorant, shaving cream, lotion, soap or any related item. Just stop in any one of the participating business in the district and they will gratefully accept your donation.

For more information you can go to Uptownlakewood.com. Find us on Facebook at facebook.com/uptownlakewood or contact Robby Zettler at 216-228-2348 or metrostage@gmail.com.

Cheers! See you on Candy Cane Lane!

Christmas On Madison Avenue

by Christin Sorensen

The holidays are quickly approaching, and what better place to visit than Madison Avenue! Here on Madison, we have just about everything you could need to complete your holiday shopping, from gift shops to great restaurants. We boast an eclectic list of shops, perfect for everyone on your gift giving list. Don't forget the many salons and barbershops, you want to

look your best when entertaining!

Not only will shopping local assure you of finding the most unique gifts, but it will also help stimulate your local economy. For each dollar spent, more than 60% stays right here in Lakewood. When shopping at the mall, less than 40% remains. Totally a win win situation to shop Madison Avenue!

Many shops will be hosting late night Thursdays till 9 p.m. Be sure to stop in, meet your local business owners and see just how good buying local can be! To find out more, visit MAMA Lakewood (Madison Avenue Merchants Association) on Facebook.

Chris Sorensen is owner of Crafty Goodness & MAMA Co-Chair.



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Lakewood Is Art

Shop Local And Support The Arts In Our Community

Give The Gift Of The Arts This Holiday Season!

by Fran Storch

Shopping for that perfect gift for someone special? Look no further, stop by Beck Center 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, December 8 as the center hosts its second annual Beck the Halls!, a unique holiday boutique featuring original artwork by local artists and artisans. Select from a variety of media. Artists will display and sell their wares, including beautiful hand-made jewelry, ornaments, original photography, pottery, and watercolors, in Beck Center's main lobby. Buy unique, one-of-a-kind gifts for that special someone on your list and support the arts in our community. Shop local this year and avoid the crowded malls and big box stores. Admission is free and convenient and onsite parking is available.

While parents shop, children can explore their creativity at Super Saturdays at Beck Center – a free monthly arts experience for children ages 1 to 8. Super Saturdays

take place 9 to 11:30 a.m. and include special art activities in collaboration with Beck Center's community partners. On December 8, children can create a holiday-themed craft with Usborne Books. Super Saturdays are sponsored through the generous support of the Lakewood Arts Festival Association.

Not sure what to buy that hard-to-shop-for person who has everything? Purchase Beck Center gift cards! They make great holiday stocking stuffers. Gift cards are available at Customer Services and may be redeemed for classes, programs, and shows including the holiday family favorite Annie on the Mackey Main Stage, December 7 through January 6. This season, give, or better yet get, a gift that doesn't end up at the bottom of the toy box or at the returns counter. Be sure to tell your friends and relatives that this year you want a gift that keeps on giving: the arts! For more

information, visit beckcenter.org or call 216.521.2540, ext. 10.

After you finish shopping at Beck Center, be sure to stop by Heirloom Home, just a few blocks west at 18119 Detroit Avenue, and browse the wonderful assortment of interesting antiques, decorative collectibles, vintage jewelry, and personalized watches. Established on Lakewood's West End in 2010, Heirloom Home is a unique resale shop with a philanthropic purpose. All items are donated, many finding their way from owner Brenda Ellner's own collection of family memorabilia, and all proceeds benefit the student scholarship fund at Beck Center for the Arts.

Over the past two years, store sales have helped many area children who may not otherwise have had the financial means to enroll in arts education classes at Beck Center. Heirloom Home is open 12 to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday. Donations are gratefully accepted



Handmade pottery is one of the many artistic media on sale at Beck the Halls!

and volunteers are needed. For more information, please contact Brenda at heirloomhome@gmail.com or call 216.406.7530.

“Going Medieval: A Ye Olde Comedie” Beck Center Youth Travel Back In Time In The Studio Theater

by Fran Storch

Beck Center Youth Theater presents “Going Medieval: A Ye Olde Comedie,” an original com-

edy written and directed by resident playwright Rachel Spence, in the Studio Theater December 14-16 and 21-23, 2012. Show times are 7:30

p.m. Fridays and 3 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Tickets are now on sale. Seating in the Studio Theater is limited and tickets for youth holiday

shows sell quickly.

Armed with only a role-player's handbook and multi-sided dice, three modern day fantasy geeks are magically transported back in time and forced to save the kingdom of Nerdvana. From the beloved author of past season hit plays, All Greek To Me and Once Upon a Decade, you'll laugh along with this original fantasy spoof performed by Beck Center's talented youth. Going Medieval features a cast of 27 young actors ages 6 to 12 who are students at Beck Center. Start a new family tradition this holiday season and enjoy live theater at Beck Center. Huzzah-Ha-Ha!

“The Nutcracker” Holiday Tea Party At Beck Center Dance Workshop Performs Excerpts From Tchaikovsky Ballet

by Fran Storch

The Dance Alliance of Beck Center invites children and their parents (and grandparents) to a Holiday Tea Party on December 1 and 2, 2012 in the Recital Hall of the Music-Armory Building at Beck Center. Guests will enjoy entertainment by the Beck Center Dance Workshop as select dancers perform excerpts from Tchaikovsky's classic ballet, The Nutcracker.

There are two preview per-

formances on Saturday, December 1 at 4 and 7 p.m. which include complimentary beverages and desserts. High tea will be served at two seatings on Sunday, December 2 at 1 and 4 p.m. including sandwiches, baked goods, tea, punch and an encore Nutcracker performance. Tickets for the Saturday preview performances are \$8 per person; Sunday seatings are \$12 per person and \$10 for children 11 and under (accompanied by an adult). Reserved seating is limited and tickets are selling fast.

The Dance Alliance was founded to support the Dance Education program



Addy Steffen is Clara as Beck Center dancers perform excerpts from “The Nutcracker” at a Holiday Tea Party.

at Beck Center through fundraising and volunteerism. DABC members are primarily parents of dance students and adult dance students, but also include unaffiliated friends of the program. All are welcome to join this volunteer organization. Dues are \$5 per year (starting in September). To join DABC, contact Melanie Szucs,

associate director of Dance Education at mszucs@beckcenter.org.

Tickets for the Holiday Tea Party may be purchased online at beckcenter.org or by calling Customer Services at 216.521.2540, ext. 10. Beck Center is located at 17801 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood. Free onsite parking is available.

Tickets are \$10 for Children and \$12 for Adults and may be purchased online at beckcenter.org or by calling 216.521.2540, ext. 10. Beck Center is located at 17801 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood. Free onsite parking is available.

This production of “Going Medieval: A Ye Olde Comedie” is made possible by the generous support of Cuyahoga County residents through Cuyahoga Arts and Culture and the Ohio Arts Council.

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, and gallery exhibits featuring regional artists. For more information about Beck Center, visit beckcenter.org.

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Donate New Unwrapped Toys To “Toys For Tots” At Lakewood Dog Park

by Alanna Faith

Donate new unwrapped toys to Toys for Tots at Lakewood Dog Park, on Saturday, December 8th & Sunday, December 9th, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. both days.

Friends of the Lakewood Dog Park (FLDP) is sponsoring this Toys for Tots donation drive as part of their 2012 community outreach mission. FLDP is the non-profit volunteer organization that supplies amenities at Lakewood Dog Park and manages the dog park web site, Facebook page, Twitter feeds and electronic and in-park communication to members and park visitors.

Lakewood Dog Park, 1699 Metropark Dr., Lakewood, Ohio, is located just south of the Emerald Necklace Marina in the Rocky River Reservation of the Cleveland Metropark, and adjacent to the City of Lakewood, Ohio Waste Water Treatment Plant.

Pete Beuck, Friends of the Lakewood Dog Park member and



Friends of the Lakewood Dog Park sponsors Toys for Tots donation drive.

Chairperson for the 2-day event commented, “It’s such a great cause at this time of year. We hope people will be really generous and stop by Saturday and Sunday with lots of toys for the

kids. We have a lot of military veterans who visit the dog park and young adults that are spreading the word and are volunteering to help.”

Laurie Sekeres, 2012 sponsor of

Friends of the Lakewood Dog Park says, “I’ll have a Subaru Outback at the dog park parking lot on Sunday, December 9th. We want to ‘Stuff the Subaru’ to overflowing with new toys!” Laurie, a tireless volunteer and supporter of Lakewood Dog Park and area animal groups, is a Sr. Sales Consultant at Ganley Westside Subaru.

The mission of the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program is to collect new, unwrapped toys each year, and distribute those toys as Christmas gifts to needy children in the community in which the campaign is conducted.

Over the 58 years of the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program, Marines have distributed more than 332.5 million toys to 158.7 million needy children. This charitable endeavor has made U.S. Marines the unchallenged leaders in looking after needy children at Christmas.

Over its 14 year life span, the Marine Toys for Tots Foundation has supplemented local toy collections with more than 55.5 million toys valued at more than \$284 million; plus has provided promotion and support materials valued at over \$3.2 million.

Please support the Marine Corps Toys for Tots by bringing a new unwrapped toy to Lakewood Dog Park on Saturday, December 8th, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. or Sunday, December 9th for “Stuff the Subaru” from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Or, Mail your check to:

Marine Toys for Tots Coordinator
5572 Smith Road
Brook Park, OH 44142

Make check payable to: Marine Toys for Tots Foundation

Or, Donate on-line at: www.brookpark-oh.toysfortots.org/local-coordinator-sites

All donations are tax deductible.

Visit www.LakewoodDogPark.org for information, to join Friends of the Lakewood Dog Park or to make a donation to support Lakewood Dog Park.

Rotary Club Donates Funds To Help With Hurricane Sandy Relief In Staten Island

by Lynn Donaldson

Members of the Rotary Club of Lakewood and Rocky River have donated nearly \$4,000 to help victims of Hurricane Sandy in Staten Island, NY, one of the areas hardest hit by the storm.

The funds were sent to the Staten Island Rotary Foundation, which is using donations to ensure that the appropriate goods and services (including alternate housing arrangements) reach those affected by Sandy in the most efficient manner possible.

Earlier this month, Phil Ardussi, president-elect of the local club, contacted Professor Dong-Joon Lee, a past district governor and member of the Staten Island club, to learn how Rotarians here could help.

Every dollar donated to the Staten Island Rotary Foundation is used to

assist those in need.

“Though the destruction to Staten Island has been quite devastating,” Professor Lee wrote, “I have also been struck by the kindness that Rotarians and others have shown in the hurricane’s aftermath.”

Immediately, the Staten Island club mobilized to help with relief efforts, purchasing water, blankets, soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, underwear, socks, sweatpants, and flannel shirts – as well as food items – which were delivered to distribution centers and shelters where the needs were greatest.

Now, all five Rotary clubs on Staten Island are working together in a coordinated effort to bring assistance and relief to the victims of Sandy by supplying food, supplies and labor to help in the cleanup.



Staten Island Rotary Club volunteers prepare to distribute cleaning supplies.

“In certain neighborhoods, houses and cars were swept away; in other areas, seawater completely ruined entire floors, including all of the household’s furniture and possessions, which now line the sidewalks as heaps of garbage,” Lee added. “It’s a tragic sight.”

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Lakewood Cares

Christmas Sale On The Grounds

by Paula Reed

December starts with a bang as the front door of the Nicholson House, 13335 Detroit Avenue, swings open promptly at 10 a.m. on December 1st for all the savvy customers lined up to vie for fabulous holiday items at the best prices you can find anywhere. Browse

the merchandise beautifully displayed in Lakewood’s oldest house, circa 1835, decorated with fresh greens—you’ll enjoy the shopping experience AND be able to check off lots of entries on your gift list. Oh, and maybe find a tiny little something with which to treat yourself! Lakewood Historical Society’s

Christmas Sale on the Grounds has become a tradition, featuring antiques & collectibles perfect for one-of-a-kind gifts; gleaming silver, sparkling crystal and lovely china for setting a festive table; serving pieces; cookie tins and plates—everything you need for holiday entertaining. There are

beautiful ornaments (including lots of delicate vintage ones) and nativity sets; wreaths, garlands and pre-lit trees. Of special note at the sale are a Victorian settee; a Hitchcock rocker; a vintage winter wedding dress and fur hats. Accessorize for holiday parties and New Year’s Eve—and if you’re hosting the party, get your champagne glasses here!

Christmas Sale on the Grounds is Saturday, December 1, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. (that gives you plenty of time to make the 5:00 p.m. start of the Light Up Lakewood Parade) and Sunday, December 2, noon to 3:00 p.m. Sunday is half-price, except for items in the antiques room. Not only will you be delighted with your purchases, you’ll benefit the programs and properties of the Lakewood Historical Society, as all proceeds from the sale benefit the organization.

Parking is available across the street at St. Ed’s. For more information, call Paula Reed at 216-334-9495.

Hen Hopefuls: Robert And Karen Porter

by Annie Stahlheber

Here is a biography of another wonderful Lakewood family hoping to responsibly keep hens. This interview was compiled by the Hens in Lakewood committee.

What street do you live on? Robinwood (north of the high school).

How long have you lived in Lakewood? My wife and I have lived in Lakewood since 1989. We are still living in the same house that we purchased 23 years ago.

Why do you choose to live in Lakewood? Prior to settling here, my wife grew up exclusively in Elyria and I spent a few years living briefly in Strongsville, Brookpark, and Cleveland (along with stints in cities in several Mid-East and East Coast states). The decision to move into Lakewood was relatively simple: affordable housing, good schools and public utilities, and a “compact” city center that made everything from going to the grocery store, to the post office or a restaurant easy. We’ve lived on a street where we know our neighbors and have been able to enjoy impromptu gatherings on our front porches or the sharing of potluck dinners.

Why do you want to raise hens in Lakewood? I grew up in a family that believed in and practiced self-sufficient living before it ever became the darling of the “green” movement. Organic gardening, canning and preserving foods, participation in food co-ops, etc. were part of my upbringing back in the 60’s and 70’s, whether we lived in a townhouse or had the luxury of a few acres of land. I have enjoyed the benefits of knowing where the food on my plate has come from and appreciate the work that it takes to produce it.

As a healthcare professional--I’m a pediatric occupational therapist--I see this as an opportunity to continue to educate the children I work with about the benefits of proper nutrition

and an awareness of where our food comes from. I already do gardening and other horticultural activities with them in order to redirect their attention from the electronic world to the natural world around them. It continues to amaze me when a child thinks that carrots grow on trees like icicles or that chocolate or skim milk comes from different cows than the ones that produce whole milk.

Why do you think Lakewood is a community that should allow responsible hen keeping? I feel that overall the Lakewood community could/would be accepting of this element of “urban farming.” Already it has become more noticeable in the development of the community gardens and the increased proliferation of small, private vegetable gardens incorporated into the regular home and commercial landscape here in Lakewood. People have been more supportive of local farmers’ markets and community supported agriculture (CSA), as evidenced by the number of people who go to the Lakewood Farmers Market or participate in Lakewood Earth and Food (LEAF) Community programs. I think that if people are open to the revival of the “victory garden,” then being able to raise chickens is another doable aspect of personal food production.

There are now hundreds of other communities in the U.S., the same size as or more densely populated (such as Seattle or Dallas) than Lakewood, that have embraced the idea of having chickens for personal use. I have seen the same on visits to cities overseas in Europe. My parents lived in Charlottesville, VA, where I was able to meet “city” people who were raising hens in spaces even smaller than my own, with no hostility from others in their neighborhoods.

Do you want to mention anything else? I was originally approached a few years ago about piloting a hen

project. I had received approval from neighbors on all three sides and across the street. One of my neighbor even wanted to help make the coop. It is a lack of education about the viability of this element of urban farming that makes this a “touchy” issue. This is not an attempt to commercially raise chickens. I know that with responsible management, raising chickens is not really any different than taking care of any other domestic animal (e.g. dogs and cats). Besides, my neighbors want all the fresh eggs that they can get.

Lakewood Rocky River Rotary Members Complete Beck Center Landscaping Clean Up For Mayor’s Ball

by Larry Faulhaber

For the forth year in a row, members of the Lakewood Rocky River Rotary Clubs spent the morning before the Lakewood Mayor’s Beck Center fund raising ball trimming bushes, mowing and raking the lawn, and cleaning out bushes and flower beds around the Beck Center for the Arts building. Led by project coordinator, Sunrise Rotary Club member, Bill Gaydos and his consultant son, Matt Gaydos of Gardens by Gaydos, eleven members of the Sunrise Club and two from the Monday Noon Rotary Club volunteered to impress the quests as they arrived for the annual Mayors Ball. Participating Sunrise Club members were Lynda Carter, David Clements, Doug Cooper, Chuck Drumm, Bill Gaydos, Mike Hamed, Todd Kiick, Sharon Marell, Bill Minnich, Dave Schiska. and Bill Wagner. Phil Ardussi and Jim Harris from the Noon Club pitched in as well.

This is just one of the many community service activities of the Lakewood Rocky River Rotary. Bread donated by Breadsmith Baking Company has been delivered to churches and meal programs around Lakewood and Rocky River and will be added to the Thanksgiving and Christmas food delivery of the Lakewood CharitableAssistance program. Rotary members will also help bag and deliver the food. Upcoming toy parties by both clubs will provide gifts for children in both cities. Clubs also support international service activities of Rotary.

The Sunrise Club buys and annually packages 75 gift boxes for “Children of the Dump” in Nicaragua. The Rotary Sponsored Interact Club at Lakewood High School helps with many school and Rotary services projects during the year. The Clubs are supporting three Rotary Exchange Students from France Equator and Russia, continued on next page

Serving the City of Lakewood

Lakewood Seventh-Day Adventist Church

1382 Arthur Avenue, Lakewood, OH

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

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Bible Study begins at 10:00am

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Business News

Lakewood Chamber of Commerce Hosts 4th Annual Holiday Bid & Buy Online Auction

by Val Mechenbier

How would you like to entertain 24 friends, family members, clients or coworkers in an open air suite at a Lake Erie Crushers game? Are there fashionable people on your holiday shopping list who would love a gift from The Ranger Shop, MODA, Paisley Monkey or The Designer Consignor? Would you like to give the gift of Deagan's, Pacers, Angelo's, India Garden, Melt, Ranger Café, Around The Corner, Georgetown, 56 West, Aladdin's, or Jammy Buggars to people on your holiday shopping list? Would you like to be the lucky winning bidder of "LEAF Cooks: Recipes from the Community"? If the answer to any of these questions is yes, then the 4th Annual Holiday Bid & Buy online auction is for you!

Avoid the slush and the rush! Shop from the comfort of your own home

for locally donated items, services, and unique experiences, and support the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce's economic development programs. New items are being added every day! Not only is it an easy way to shop, it's also a great way for the Chamber to highlight the generosity of our donors and to promote local businesses with weeks of inexpensive online advertising. Each donated item is featured on its own bidding page for easy viewing (the more items you donate, the more pages you have!) – plus each donated item also includes the donor's company logo and a direct link to the donor's website!

An exciting feature of the Chamber's Holiday Bid & Buy online auction is the Grand Prize Raffle for a Kindle Fire HD, sponsored by Abode Modern Lifestyle Developers (welcometoabode.com). Tickets are \$5 each or 5 for \$20,

and the winning ticket will be drawn on December 13th, just in time for the holidays!

Don't be left out in the cold! Check out the variety of locally donated items – Beck Center tickets, Geiger's Ski/Snowboard rental packages, home-made holiday cookies, Sweet Designs

Chocolates – even an Ohio Grown Fraser Fir Christmas Tree from Lakewood Garden Center- all in one place: the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce's Holiday Bid & Buy online auction! To donate an item, bid on items, and buy Kindle Fire HD raffle tickets, visit www.lakewoodchamber.org.

Lakewood Chamber Of Commerce Upcoming Events

November 11 - December 7
Holiday Bid & Buy Online Auction

Shop, bid and enter to win a Kindle Fire HD, courtesy of our Grand Prize Sponsor Abode Modern

Lifestyle Developers
December 13
Lakewood Chamber of Commerce Holiday Party
Sweetwater Landing from 6-8 p.m.

2012 Light Up Lakewood Queen & King

continued from page 1

Edward High School, where he is very involved with the God Squad, Kanakuk Haiti, and Andre's Giants. Tyler is also on the St. Ed's Golf Team and is a member of Model UN. We are very impressed with Tyler's passion for life and commitment to the City of Lakewood, and he was the clear choice for this year's Light

Up Lakewood King.

As the 2012 Light Up Lakewood Queen and King, Megan and Tyler's commitment to the community will continue during 2013. Please join us at the Main Stage at 6:00 p.m. on December 1, 2012 for the crowing of the 2012 Light Up Lakewood Queen and King!

Downtown Merchants Host Holiday Open House

by David Stein

The Holidays are upon us. Follow the search light to Downtown Lakewood Thursday, December 6 from 6 - 10 p.m. The Downtown Lakewood Business Alliance is proud to sponsor a holiday open house for all. Join participating merchants for extra special treats and savings, carolers, jugglers, a holiday nut roaster, kettlecorn, mini donuts and watch for Santa and his

elves. Come downtown and support your local businesses- Christmas shop, have a bite to eat or just stroll the lively downtown district. Shopping local shouldn't be just a trendy fad! Let's all make it a way of life. All your downtown Lakewood merchants are eager to assist you with all of your holiday shopping needs- stop in and say hello, we're anxious to see you. Happy holidays to all!

Lakewood Rocky River Rotary Members Complete Beck Center Landscaping Clean Up For Mayor's Ball

continued from previous page
at Lakewood High School.

The Lakewood Rocky River Rotary Clubs meet and the Rocky River Civic Center at Noon on Monday and 7:15 a.m. on Wednesday. If you would

like to find out how you can be part of the community and international service activities of Rotary contact Kathy Berkshire, sloopyohio@cox.net for more information or just come to one of the meetings.



Lakewood Rocky River Rotary members tidy up outside the Beck Center in preparation for the Annual Mayor's Ball.

Lakewood Resident Earns Reward

Michael Bodnar, President and owner of Gordon Tower Insurance has earned the Senior Partner designation from Grange Insurance five years in a row, placing the agency in an elite group. This honor places special status upon independent agencies that sell Grange products based on their experience, professionalism and superior performance.

A member of Lakewood Chamber of Commerce and a 14 year Lakewood resident, Bodnar is actively involved in giving back to the community through leadership in organizations including Boy Scouts of America and Family Promise/Interfaith Hospitality Network, a local homeless shelter for families in need. Lakewood resident Lisa Sierk says "We have all of our insurance with Michael Bodnar. We had been with the same agent for decades who retired without informing us. Michael is professional and experienced and we wanted someone who would be in our corner and we have that with Michael."

Grange only sells its products through independent insurance agents like Michael because they offer the best local insurance guidance, can offer coverage from a variety of companies to find the best fit for each individual, family or business and support the community where they live and work.

"We believe customers would rather trust an independent agent from their community to counsel them on important insurance decisions than some big company website, 800 number or captive agent", said Tom Welch, Grange President and CEO. "Our independent agent partners- especially our Senior Partners – are people you can trust and count on when needed." Located at 15887 Snow Rd in Brook Park, Gordon/Tower Insurance Agency serves customers in Lakewood and the surrounding area. Michael can be reached at 216/663-7777.

Data from this Press release was issued by Grange Insurance. Grange Insurance, with \$2 billion in assets and \$1.1 billion in annual revenue, is an insurance provider based in Columbus, Ohio.

A D V E R T I S E M E N T

Business News

Capital Preservation: Still Important Four Years Later?

by Jonathan Clark

On the doorstep of the 4th anniversary of the market crash in 2008 it is important to reflect on the lessons learned about the value of preserving your capital. Your capital may have come from your IRA, 401(k), Deferred

Comp, and after-tax (non-qualified) monies. Despite all the negativity from the election, Europe's financial problems, or the doom and gloom on the television your accounts may have recovered some of the losses from 2008. It is easy to fall back into old routines

of complacency towards your financial accounts. If you have been riding your stocks or mutual funds for the past four years it could be time to rebalance those accounts to meet your needs moving forward. Over the last year we have worked with our clients to hedge a part of their monies designated for growth into market neutral strategies.

Normally, investors that seek stock-like returns have been forced to accept stock-like risks, which include high levels of volatility and participation in bear market losses that can range from 20% to over 50%. Market neutral strategies use alternative methods for growth, but with an equal priority of maintaining capital. During bull markets market neutral accounts will likely fall behind growth from pure stock market accounts. Some managers of market neutral strategies believe that avoiding big market losses in bear markets will allow it to outperform traditional stock accounts over a full market cycle. Some managers will be right and some wrong but when designed correctly some market neutral accounts can help reduce the standard deviation otherwise known as the measure of expected volatility. It is important to mention all investments involve risk of losses as well as the potential for gain. Prior performance cannot guarantee the future results of a particular investment.

The importance of capital preservation in your portfolio is dictated by a combination of risk tolerance, age, net worth, and current market conditions. There is value in having part of your wealth in accounts that can complement traditional strategies. Beyond market neutral accounts, there are other investment alternatives that put a priority on capital preservation. One of the real challenges for the average investor is finding an investment professional that can offer these alternative strategies.

Four years ago was the start of having to listen to retirees tell me about how their portfolios and savings were down by 25% even 40%. My father and I have always put a priority on preserving capital. We would rather tell our clients that we made a little less during a bull market, so we can say we lost a little less during the bear. Using investments that pay dividends, market neutral strategies, and CDs that are linked to an index are methods for growth that can complement traditional stocks and mutual funds. Capital preservation is still definitely important. Just how important is it to you?

Jonathan M. Clark is an Investment Advisor Representative with Investment Advisory Services offered through Brookstone Capital Management LLC, an SEC Registered Investment Advisor.

Moon's Food Store Launches Charitable Christmas Campaign

by Sarah Speice

Lakewood's Moon's Food Store is sponsoring a holiday canned food and donations drive from Wednesday November 21 through Saturday, December 15, 2012. Moon's is asking customers and Lakewood residents to bring in nonperishable canned foods to donate to the Cleveland Food Bank.

There will also be wristbands for sale for \$2 that say "Moon's Food Store" with white and blue coloring. Moon's will be donating 50 percent

of the proceeds from the wristband sales to Toys for Tots to help bring joy to local children this holiday season.

Contributors will receive the wristband at discounted price of \$1 for bringing in a canned item to donate.

"We want our community to have a nice holiday season, and don't want anyone to feel left out," said Moon Shamsi, the store owner. "By having this drive we hope that we can help put more food on tables and bring more smiles to faces and make our community proud."



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Pulse Of The City

The Pew

If church pews could only talk...

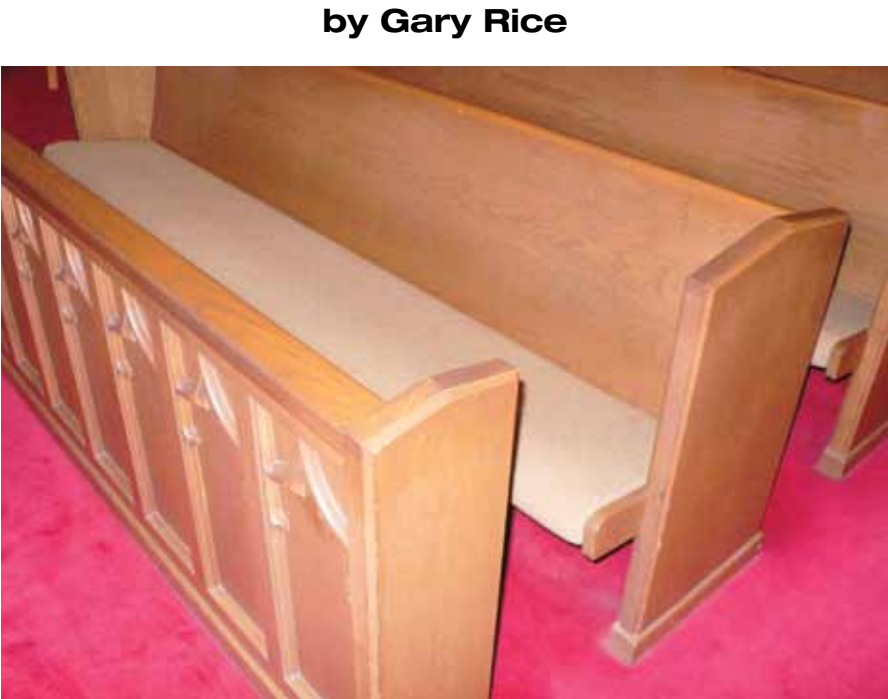
Ever think about all of the church pews in Lakewood? It seems as if they might soon be on the endangered species list. There once were plenty more of them than there are now. It seems somehow, in the last 20 years or so, that both churches and their pews have fallen on hard times. Even with those churches that have not closed around here, their trustees and other powers-that-be have been taking a hard look at the hard surfaces of those well-worn wooden pews. The latest church fad seems to be to replace those old pews with movable chairs so that sanctuaries can occasionally be re-purposed easily, and also so that people will feel more comfy, welcome, and private, with those padded seats and their fortress-like arm rests.

Churches these days seem to forget that the original purpose of a hardwood pew was twofold. First of all, you weren't supposed to feel too comfy in church. You were there to reconcile with a loving God. Your creature comforts were not the priority for that hour of worship. As well, pews were intended to be communal and not individual, as chairs are. You were supposed to share your pew, as well as your faith, with other parishioners. Chairs can bring to mind individualism and separation. Pews, on the other hand, symbolize unity, and communion with others.

Constructed in the days when it was nothing to fell mighty domestic first-growth oaken timber and rip those trunks into heavy lumber, many of those old pews comprise an amazing snapshot of time in America. That was a time in this country when faith in God ruled the roost, and there was little concern as to what the long-term effects of deforestation might do to the environment. There was simply so much timber around that people thought nothing about an America that seemed to go from tree to shining tree.

That, of course, was then.

Nowadays, while fierce political debates continue to rage concerning the effects of global warming on the environment, nearly everyone is in agreement that, in past times, we simply have not managed the earth's resources as responsibly as we otherwise could have. A great deal of that environmental



The Rice family pew.

depletion came as a direct result of the 20th century world wars, when countries began their mad scramble to attain raw materials- when it became critically apparent to each of them that the possession of those materials meant power and earthly wealth beyond measure. In that mad scramble, matters of God and faith were put on the sidelines in favor of fossil fuels and minerals, not to mention guns and ever-bigger bombs.

In World War II, wood was still fairly plentiful in our country, but was being used more and more for any number of critical wartime necessities, not the least of which was paper. My WWII veteran father well remembers his Army unit traveling all over the country in a "Salute to Wood" caravan battle show, highlighting the importance of wood as a raw material. During that war, paper companies and others noted the importance of wood as a renewable resource, and huge tracts of land were set aside for tree growth. Of course, these were not the same first-growth trees that our older church pews came from, but it was a step in the right direction of proper ecological resource management.

Let's take a look at just one pew for a moment. The pew that you see in the picture is one that was inhabited on Sunday mornings for many years by my family down at Lakewood United Methodist Church, at the corner of Summit

and Detroit. As pews go, it is little different from the thousands of others that were installed across our country... except that...it was "ours".

I squirmed in that pew as a young man, under the occasional withering glare of my otherwise tender loving mother. Close friends of ours also shared that pew over the years, until at the last, one by one, they either moved away or passed on- as indeed, did my dear late mother. The pew remained. Over the years and the tears, as time and life's circumstances indeed took their toll, I found myself sitting in that pew on fewer and fewer occasions. Thousands of others apparently have sat in their own pews less and less, as well. In post war America, mainstream churches have lost tremendous numbers of parishioners, even as independent denominations have sprung up like daisies. It's not as if people have abandoned God either. People will always search for the sublime and omnipresent Love that passes all understanding. They just so often stopped finding it where they most hoped that it might be found...in their home pews.

In an effort to be more modern and responsive to the needs of a changing world, many churches have simply decided to get rid of their pews. Pews, it seems, are so often now thought to be "part of the problem". The "tradi-

tional worship experience" no longer seems to appeal to some people. Chairs, tables, donuts and espresso machines now characterize many modern so-called worship experiences, with little or no mention of penance, guilt or any form of reminders of the consequences of falling away from one's faith. Worship, these days, so often turns into an in-your-face entertainment experience, with loud music, interactive big screens, and an informal home-like living room atmosphere. That this form of "worship" might be inspirational to some people who have been "turned off" by traditional worship experiences, there would be little doubt. I've even enjoyed playing music at some of those new kinds of services myself. Still, one can only wonder what form of memories that people might carry away from these new experiences- that would not be essentially different from sitting around their living rooms?

It will remain to be seen exactly how long my own family's pew will remain at Lakewood United Methodist Church. Having both successful traditional and contemporary services, extensive plans are in the works to transform their main sanctuary into a shared worship space for both services. (Presently, the contemporary "IMPACT" service meets downstairs in the church basement) In order to do that, it has been proposed that a number of pews be removed and "re-purposed or sold". One of those is "our" family's pew.

As congregations struggle with that never-ending dichotomy between old and new, traditional and modern, objects like these old, beautiful, and irreplaceable pews have become vital and even emotional parts of those discussions. I would suspect that never again in our world will we see the seemingly unlimited financial and ecological resources that permitted the construction of so many of those old pews. Once gone? They will, quite likely, never return.

What replaces those pews had better be good.

One thing's for certain: If people fail to remember that they need to share the sublime and omnipresent Love of a beneficent Creator with each other, it won't matter much what they sit on.

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Lakewood Living

Mr. Nice: Catching The Dream On The East Side

by Kenneth Warren

Hinged to Highland Avenue is a dynamic staging ground for 21st Century Lakewood’s snake land of economic development and shamanic arts. The East End of Lakewood is a portal to the otherworld communitas of tribal occasion. Buried at the Phantasy Theatre is the not so dark secret of Jake the Snake’s 2008 meltdown at the Firestorm Pro Wrestling fiasco. Ghost Busters and Goths were quick to lay claim to the city’s haunted East End doorway, still hot on the heels of Jake the Snake’s failure to emerge in a new skin at Firestorm. Today though, ffrom biker entertainments at Rawhide Cycle & Leather to fruity Columbian refreshments at Helvetica, from ammo art at Galaxy to Somali immigrant dreams of New World resurrection at an apartment complex called “the Snake Pit,”



Mr Nice with Ken showing off his copy of Ken’s book, “Captain Poetry’s Sucker Punch.”

the East End is an astonishingly serpentine launching pad to soul in the city.

Indeed there is a hint of shamanic journey in the very title of the Jane Jacobs urban planning classic—The Death and Life of Great American Cities (1961). While death and rebirth are the markers in shamanic journey, the dream of economic development is to be grasped, more concretely, as the struggle over capital accumulation and control of resources needed to sustain humane circuits of exchange and imagination in the city. Yet with the building of each dollar store comes the feeling that high weirdness inside Lakewood storefronts is slipping away. To read about “Main Street’s Landlord” in The New York Times (September 29, 2012), moreover, is to get the dispossessed sense that high weirdness in Lakewood’s storefronts is doomed to Bert Stratton’s dream of monopoly rent on Detroit Avenue.

Caught between shamanic journey and capital accumulation are Lakewood’s dreamy indie shop proprietors whose edgy desires make extraordinary ordinary commercial transactions. As dream catchers, Lakewood’s indie shop proprietors offer sanctuary from the numbing monotony of corporate cut-outs now lining up along Detroit Avenue.

The death of Local Girl Gallery is, to be sure, cause for grieving the failure of the cash mob to breathe new life



Mr. Nice with a portrait of himself that you can buy. Mr. Nice did the framing himself. He also has some other interesting pieces in the shop.

into the ambient safety net of art along Detroit Avenue. Fortunately, however, the passing of Local Girl Gallery does not completely signal the end of local art in Lakewood, but merely a transmigration of soul by way of eternal desire to another dream-catcher.

Robed in leather Mr. Nice is the high priest of high strangeness currently manifesting through the dream of affordable local art at the Galaxy, 11831 Detroit Avenue. While the Galaxy has been open for nearly a year, Mr. Nice was providentially handed

the keys to this dream chamber for biker art when the owner’s daughters lost interest in running the place.

Having faced down the Grim Reaper in a motorcycle accident, Mr. Nice was suspended on the other side of this world in a near death experience. He saw the twin pillars of good and evil. His choice to serve the good pillar by making healing art and supporting the community of local artists is evident in Galaxy.

The whole art of Hades pulses inclusively at Galaxy. Along with a photograph of a gentle brown squirrel, the Prince of Darkness, Charles Manson, and the magic word—Abracadabra—hang in cosmic balance on the walls. Positively affordable prices for original art range from \$10 for photographs to \$350 for canvas paintings.

“Art of all kinds is accepted here at Galaxy,” explains Mr. Nice. “Music, drawing, painting, sculpting, photography, videography, poetry, writing, journalism, any form of creative design and/or Artistic Expression. The sky is no limit here at Galaxy, from the lands, and seas, to the clouds, and stars, and into our Galaxy and beyond.”

Skull-topped ammo art is a specialty made on-site mostly from 22 and 38 caliber casings. “I’ve got a new caliber coming at you soon,” joked Mr. Nice, who will graciously accept already fired shell casings, taper them down, and make a bracelet as a token of gratitude for the donor.

When Hurricane Sandy dumped the cold, dark waters of Saturn in Scorpio upon the store’s window display, Mr. Nice was a first-responder to art’s implacable enemy. “The first thing I did was save the whales,” he says, pointing to an oversized lush blue painting of whales now safely stashed in a dry place, the price cut from \$650 to \$350.

Mr. Nice has harrowed the the “highway to hell.” In Galaxy he has emerged with humble traveling mercies, ever so glad to bless his hand-crafted magnetic hematite necklaces with holy water.

“The flying cross is my logo,” Mr. Nice professes over his winged piece of magnetic hematite jewelry. “I keep seeing it in my dreams.”

Lakewood Artist Opens Holiday Pop-up Gallery In Gordon Square

by Charles “Anthony” Scaravilli

My name is Anthony Scaravilli, I am a Lakewood resident and artist/owner of Scaravilli Design and Studio Gallery on Madison Ave. I have recently filled the walls of a thousand square-foot storefront space at 6604 Detroit Ave., donated to me by the Detroit Shoreway Community Development Organization in the Gordon Square Arts District. I have placed over 500 plus framed and unframed fine art prints of my photo art images on the walls. These images include over 40 years of my artwork.

My portfolio of work includes all of Western Europe, including mostly

Italy (150 villages where the Cleveland Italians immigrants were born), Ireland, France. I have traveled extensively throughout the USA and have been documenting Cleveland and surrounding neighborhoods for many years. Currently, I am polishing up several composites of Lakewood that should be ready by the beginning of December.

My other themed images include musical instruments, clocks, 26 years of old bicycles, etc. Some images include digital manipulation and use of multiple images as a treatment which I use to create my personal style.

The pop-up shop is only there through the winter holidays, and Gordon Square is right down the street. If you want to see Lakewood in a new light-- and possibly bring it home in a frame as a holiday gift-- and get to know one of your new neighbors, stop in, take a look around, and say hello.

Left: Clocks,
Left Top:
Gordon Square
Left Bottom:
Doors of Italy



Lakewood Living

Lakewood’s Clifton Lagoons And The Missing Scotch

The perceived evils of alcohol led America to pass the 18th Amendment, commonly known as the Volsted Act, which banned the substance for thirteen years between January 16, 1920 and the Act’s repeal in 1933.

Despite it being illegal, many Americans found ways to either make or import alcoholic beverages. Lakewood residents and Clevelanders were no exception.

One of the main avenues for the illegal bootlegging trade was through the Great Lakes, and Lakewood’s Clifton Lagoons, located at the mouth of the Rocky River and Lake Erie, have a colorful past in this regard.

On June 10, 1921, according to writer Alan May, a Canadian boat, the Tranquillo, was anchored at the base of Clifton Park Hill with between 2000 and 2400 bottles of Johnny DeWar Scotch. Three days later based on a tip, the Lakewood police boarded the suspicious boat. Initially the police found everything in order, but after spotting three shadowy figures lurking nearby, the police put the craft under surveillance. When the figures returned again later and apparent gun shots were fired, a more detailed inspection of the boat revealed the unlawful cargo.

At 4 a.m. that morning, May continues, an unknowing Patrolman

Floyd Wright visited the boat in order to relieve officers who had spent the night on surveillance. When he arrived he surprised Detective Lt. Howard Amstus and others who had begun divvying up the cache.

Meanwhile other Lakewood police and members of the fire department had learned of the cache and were making trips to the boat. According to the Cleveland News, “a wild orgy of drunkenness on seized bootleg whiskey, and the theft of dozens of cases of booze by members of the Lakewood Police Dept. has been revealed.”

The News further reported that, “a riot of boozing on the seized Canadian yacht left the wharf littered and the water covered with straw wrappings of the looted bottles of Scotch. Drunken firemen were seen falling into the river and drunken policemen were guzzling the booze and passing out on the boat and in neighboring boat houses. Still, other policemen were seen staggering to their automobiles with armloads of liquor to take home or to share with other officers.”

Lakewood Police Chief Peter Christensen first denied any knowledge of the wrongdoing, but following a Cleveland News front page story on

the scandal, a tearful Christensen acknowledged the affair.

May reported that on July 8th, Christensen resigned as Lakewood’s Chief of Police. Others involved in the incident followed with their resignations.

On July 20 warrants were issued for 16 people involved in the incident.

Mayor Louis E. Hill was holding mayor’s court at City Hall when confronted about the scandal by a Cleveland News reporter. Hill stopped the proceedings and exchanged words with the reporter and attempted to bar him from the court. Hill called Law Director Robert Curren to find what legal grounds he had to expel the reporter from the court and was told he had none. An angry Hill was forced to turn over public records pertaining to the situation.

Meanwhile writer May continues, on August 18, 1921 another Canadian vessel, the Venice, was raided by Cleveland Police at Whiskey Island after being sighted going back and forth at dusk waiting for a place to dock once nightfall set.

Police discovered the Venice to be owned by the same man who owned the Tranquillo, one William Curry.

Police suspected other vessels to be involved in the bootlegging operations including a lake freighter which allegedly ran booze between Montreal and Cleveland.

On Jan. 7, 1922 Federal Judge D.C. Westenhaver fined former Police Chief Peter Christensen, Streets Commissioner George Cavelle, former Police

Lt. Howard Amstus and former patrolman Floyd Wright between \$300 and \$500 for transporting and/or possession of liquor. Others received either fines or prison terms. William Curry was held over on charges of violation of the Volsted Act.

Surprisingly, Mayor Louis E. Hill was re-elected by Lakewood voters.

In the late 1930s near the same location which the Tranquillo was raided, one of America’s greatest law enforcement officers and crime fighters, Eliot Ness, bought a Clifton Lagoons boat house. Ness with his “Untouchables,” had made a name for himself in Chicago by thwarting mobster Al Capone’s illegal bootlegging operations. He purchased the boat house, later owned by Vernon Stouffer, owner and founder of Stouffer Foods, after being appointed Cleveland’s Safety Director in 1935.

Ness had difficulty dealing with the pressures as Cleveland’s Director of Public Safety, an unsuccessful run for mayor of Cleveland and personal issues.

Ironically Ness, a man who became nationally famous by enforcing laws prohibiting the consumption of alcohol, later succumbed to an alcoholism induced heart attack himself at age 54.

In 2012, Lakewood’s safety forces are true professionals of the highest integrity. It should be noted that unlike in 1921, today’s police officers are thoroughly screened, tested, and evaluated prior to and during employment. When one considers the police’s number of daily interactions with the public, many of which are in unpleasant circumstances, and the number of temptations presented, it is worth noting the absence of improprieties.

Tom George can be reached at TJGeorge1369@msn.com or 440-734-8177.

Holiday Toiletry Drive For North Coast Health Ministry

by Elizabeth O’Brien

Here come the lights and decoration, holiday songs and social engagements. Welcome to the busiest time of the year. Between the parties and gift wrapping that come this month, consider the small things you might do that would make a meaningful difference in your community. At North Coast Health Ministry, our patients appreciate not only the excellent care they receive from our dedicated staff and volunteers, but also the little things like toiletries and personal care items that we are able to distribute to them. Please consider contributing to our Hol-

iday Toiletry Drive as your contribution will make a difference. Needed items included new toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, deodorant, feminine hygiene products, shampoo, lotion, pocket size facial tissues, etc. Trial- and travel-size products as well as full-size items are both welcome.

Donations may be dropped off throughout the month of December at First Federal Lakewood, 14806 Detroit Avenue during regular banking hours or at NCHM, 16110 Detroit Avenue weekdays between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. No contribution is too small and every little bit helps!



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Lakewood Residents Participate In Roller Derby Charity Bout December 1

by Dana Shaffer

Several athletes from Lakewood will strap on skates December 1 for a wild night of roller derby action, all while helping a local charity.

The Burning River Roller Girls, Cleveland’s first flat track roller derby league, will present Black & Blue 7, the group’s seventh annual charity bout at the Ohio Nets Sports Complex in Parma.

All of the teams of the Burning River Roller Girls will regroup into Team Black and Team Blue for one of the most popular roller derby events of the year. Among the skaters will be Lakewood residents Amanda Leone (skater name Cup-Quake), Jessica Constantine (J.Poww!), Amy C. Hawks (Molotov Hot-tail), Ilona Westfall (Rainbow Fright) and Nicole Sovizral (Sovizral).

But the highlight of night will be

the halftime show, in which the new recruits of the Burning River Roller Girls will engage in a battle of full-contact musical chairs—on skates! Lakewood residents Jodie Schneider (Dee Crypt) and Marissa Evans (Enemy-lou Harris) will be proving what they are made of as they join the rest of the first-year skaters in the brutal battle for the last chair.

This year, the league will be donating a portion of every ticket sale to Beech Brook, a Northeast Ohio agency.

Tickets are available for \$12 in advance for adults at www.brown-papertickets.com/event/292991. Tickets are \$15 at the door for adults. Discounted tickets available for children 12 and younger.

For more information, visit www.burningriverrollergirls.com.

Lakewood Chamber of Commerce Announces Winner Of Fourth Grade Essay Contest

continued from page 1

is because the houses are unique and we live near Lake Erie. In Lakewood there are always fun activities to go to so you are never bored. You don't need to leave Lakewood to go grocery shop-

ping or find good restaurants. Another exciting thing is that Lakewood has started to add more bike racks. That is a good thing because it is great for the environment. I hope I get to live in Lakewood for the rest of my life.

Lakewood Living

Wrapping Up Your Home For The Holidays

by Chris Bergin

In the movie “National Lampoon’s Christmas Vacation,” Clark Griswold may have gone a little overboard with his Christmas lights, but if he was selling his house, he may have had the right idea.

“Great decorations really set the tone for the holidays, a time when you can showcase your house in a different way to highlight areas that normally may not stand out,” said Amy Cornwell, President/ Lead Designer for Creative Impressions, which specializes in seasonal decorating.

By creating a festive atmosphere, a home seller allows perspective buyers to envision what their holidays will be like in the property—complete with a beautiful tree, stockings hung from the fireplace mantle and the smell of Christmas cookies in the air.

“[Buyers] associate a sense of ‘home’ through the traditions and memories of holiday décor,” Cornwell said. “It’s a great way to attract buyers.”

Nighttime is when many perspective buyers are driving around looking at houses, and nothing will slow them down more than a great Christmas light display. “A well-designed display adds festive elegance to a home, and highlights the already-present features of the property,” said Brandon Stephens, vice president of Marketing at The Decor Group, Inc., Lubbock, Texas, specializing in interior and exterior holiday decorating.

In fact, consider holding an open house at night, when you can serve hot chocolate and better show off the Christmas lights, holiday decorations and all that the house has to offer.

Here are some simple suggestions to ensure your home captures the holiday spirit without interfering in the real estate process:

Keep decorations to a minimum so you don’t block views, make rooms feel smaller and disrupt the natural flow of the home. Consider a smaller tree and store gifts in another room.

Incorporate fresh evergreen or rosemary into your decorating for a classic look and to promote “the Christmas tree smell.”

Make sure light strings and extension cords are tucked away for everyone’s safety.

Eschew religious or cultural decorations to not alienate prospective buyers who don’t share your beliefs.

Leave a plate of holiday cookies and warm cider or cocoa for prospective buyers.

The holidays are emotional times for most people, including home shoppers. Holiday decorations, presented tastefully and sensibly, can help you wrap a bow on your home for just the right buyer. Remember you can keep tabs on the local market at www.HomeValuesInLakewood.Info.

Happy Holidays!

Chris Bergin is a licensed Real Estate Agent with Prudential Lucien Realty in Lakewood.

Fall Turns To Winter Which Turns To Spring

by Eric Lowrey

So we have reached that point in the real estate market where everything seems to be on hold. The old stale listings are still here, either over priced or in poor condition. Everyone has seen them and they are waiting for fresh new houses to hit the market. This year seems particularly stale because a good home, intelligently priced, has sold very quickly with a price at, near, or above asking price. Those who did not get the homes are waiting, waiting, waiting...

Many of the homeowners with homes yet to be sold contemplate taking their homes off the market. They reason- why go to the bother having a house on the market during the holidays? After all, no one is looking and I just want to enjoy the holidays.

My response to this is always, “You can be sure you won’t sell your home if it is off the market, but can you be sure it won’t sell if it still being actively marketed?” This is usually met with silence followed by a sheepish grin.

These homeowners should be asking themselves if it is time to lower the price. Maybe I should fix up that cruddy bathroom. The multiple layers of contrasting striped wallpaper really aren’t that pleasing to the eye. Maybe instead of using the holidays as an excuse, maybe you should reflect upon why your home has not sold.

If you are going to take your home off the market it should be for a real reason. Take time to get the home in proper market shape. Really look at the market and determine a market sensitive price so it will sell this time. Listen to your Realtor and the feedback you have from showings and develop a real plan to sell your home.

After you have done this and implemented the plan do not wait. Put your home back on the market. Why wait till April where everyone and their brother is your competition? Put it out there in January when the pickings are slimmer and you will be the bright shiny penny. If a buyer is slogging through the cold and snow you can be sure they are serious buyers and ready to buy your bright, shiny, improved, and perfectly positioned house.

For more information and a market analysis visit NorthEastOhio-Agent.com.

Garfield Middle School PTSA Holiday Craft Show

by Tracey Logan

With the Holidays only a few weeks away it’s time to start thinking about those last minute gifts.

Garfield Middle School PTSA will help people get those last minute gifts during the First Annual Holiday Craft Show, 10:00 a.m. to 3 p.m., on Saturday, December 8th. The Craft Show will be held in the Garfield Middle School gymnasium, 13114 Detroit Ave.

Garfield Middle School would like to help bring holiday shopping closer to home for our school community. The idea is to provide a place for local crafters and local home business owners to sell within their own community for a great cause! The table fees and all proceeds from food sales will go towards field trips, school supplies, and educational enhancements for the students of Garfield Middle School.

Admission to Garfield PTSA’s Holiday Craft Show is free and open to the public. There is a raffle planned that will include items donated by some of our crafters and home-based businesses. Raffle items may be reviewed and raffle tickets may be purchased during the Craft Show. Food items, including baked goods donated by Garfield’s staff and parents, may be purchased during the Craft Show.

The Garfield PTSA would love the

Craft Show to be your one-stop holiday gift center. “Buy Local” is the new rallying cry to help our economy here in Northeast Ohio, so with that in mind, stop by any time between 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. on December 8th. You can cross some “to buy fors” off your holiday shopping list while supporting our middle school and local business owners.

If you have any further questions please feel free to contact Tracey Logan and mommatlogan@gmail.com

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The Back Page

LAKWOODITES

A DIABOLICAL ENEMY HAS ROOTED ITSELF IN LAKEWOOD, SPREADING FEAR AND DESTRUCTION AS FAR AS THEIR BRANCHES CAN REACH! IN ANSWER, MAYOR SUMMERS HAS ASSEMBLED A CRACK TEAM OF SPECIALISTS, WHOSE AIM IS TO ELIMINATE THE THREAT FROM WITHIN: TREEORISTS! INTRODUCING THE LAKWOOD TREE TASK FORCE!

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