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THE LAKEWOOD OBSERVER

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Volume 9, Issue 2, January 23, 2013

McKinley To Be Liquidated - Possibly

Spring School Levy Set For 3.9 Mill

by Jim O'Bryan

Superintendent Jeff Patterson will be asking the Board to start the process to put a 3.9 mill levy on the ballot this spring.

He will also be asking the Board to place McKinley Elementary up for possible sale soon.

The sale of McKinley will lead the Levy as it takes a little more of a process to get the Levy approved, voted on, approved by the state, and onto the ballot. "We could not wait any longer and still have any hope of getting it on the spring ballot," Patterson said. "This will help make up

for the shortfall from the state and taxes over recent years and should provide us with enough to look at some programs we dropped or other ideas." Jeff

went on to explain, with a levy will come lots of expectations some deserved some not. "Our teachers and the union have been more than fair to us over

recent years, and we appreciate that." However anyone would wonder how long the union

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photo by Jim O'Bryan

McKinley is currently being used for storage and police training.

Council Approves One-Year Extension Contracts

by Christopher Bindel

Council President Brian Powers called the January 7, 2013 Council meeting to order at 7:33 P.M.

Police Chief Malley read a communication notifying Council that the city was entering into a Memorandum of Understanding with the United States Department of Justice,

United States Marshal Service to accept \$15,000 dollars in funds to reimburse the City for overtime. The overtime pay is for the police officer assigned to the United States Marshal's Northern Ohio Violent Fugitive Task Force.

Council received and filed the communication.

Next Human Services

Director Jean Yousefi asked Council to consider passing three ordinances that would extend the contracts for the City's three bargaining units for one year. All of the contracts either expired on 12/31/2012 or in the 90 days following, however with the financial uncertainty of the next year it was impractical

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Sleep-Out Good For The Homeless And Teens

Lakewood Congregational Church Youth Raise More than \$4,000 for Local Homeless Agencies

by Robin Suttell

Despite high winds and plummeting temperatures,

more than 30 Lakewood Congregational Church (LCC) youth and parents spent the night outside in a box city in front of the church on Jan. 19 to raise money in support of local homeless awareness agencies.

During the 9th Annual Homeless Awareness Sleep Out, the kids "panhandled" along the street for more than five hours and also raised pledges in the weeks prior to the event. They were joined by their neighbors across the street at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, who also slept outside and canvassed the block for donations.

The evening was full of many memorable moments for the LCC youth, including one in particular: Well past midnight, a vehicle rolled up in front of the church, and the driver signaled to one of the parents tending the campfire. The gentleman had seen coverage of the event on the local evening news, got dressed and went out

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Over the past ten years at the Lakewood Observer we have had the privilege of working with some young, talented people and helping them get a start. This is the work of Tyler Wick, age 20, a Lakewood High graduate. (More on page five.)

Community Diversity Potluck - January 24th

by Melissa Garrett

The Lakewood Community Relations Advisory Commission, Lakewood High School's Race and Diversity (RAD) Club and Identity Club will hold a Community Diversity Potluck on Thursday, January 24, 2013 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Woman's Club Pavilion at Lakewood Park, 14532 Lake Avenue. The theme

for the potluck is "The World Lives in Lakewood."

Attendees are asked to bring a dish (vegetarian or meat) to serve six that represents your family or cultural tradition(s). Beverages and tableware will be provided. This is a great opportunity to meet neighbors and make new friends. There will be fun activities for all ages.

Honoring Chief Kilbane



photo by Jim O'Bryan

Retired Fire Chief John "Jack" Kilbane died at the age of 82. As has become the custom, his funeral procession made one last trip to Lakewood Fire Station Number One. Godspeed Jack!

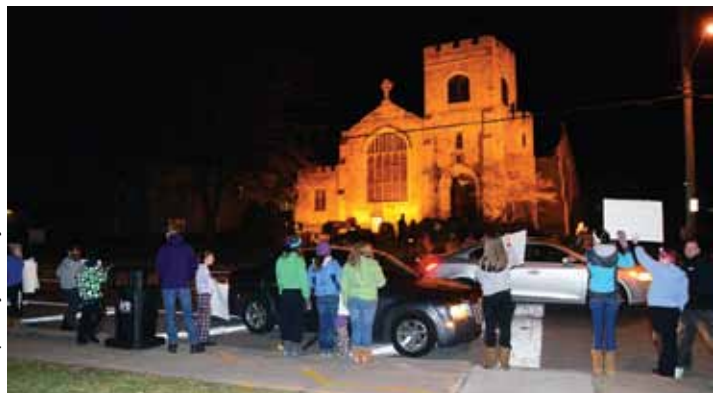


photo by Jim O'Bryan

Teens from Lakewood Congregational Church collect funds for the homeless, while across the street, teens from St. Peter's Episcopal Church join in. Down Detroit Ave. the same was going on at The Pilgrim St. Paul's Church.

Lakewood Events

Christopher Johnson Retires From Library Board

by Leana Donofrio-Milovan

Christopher Johnson, who served the Lakewood Public Library Board of Trustees for over 13 years, has announced his retirement.

"It has been my great honor to serve the citizens of Lakewood on the Library Board for over thirteen years; including two terms as Chair. Over my tenure it has been a pleasure to serve with a committed group of fellow board members, a hardworking and innovative staff and, importantly, a supportive citizenry," Johnson said.

"Lakewood Public Library is a civic gem, a model for citizen libraries throughout the country. I am leaving the LPL at a time when it is poised for continued success. With a strong conservative financial base, world class facilities, a committed leadership team and nationally acclaimed programming in place, LPL will continue to serve Lakewood at the highest level. As a lifelong resident of Lakewood I know the importance of the Library as part the fabric of the city. I look for the next generation of leadership to guide and challenge the Library to even greater accomplishments."

Johnson said his departure is an opportunity to allow a fresh new com-



Lakewood Public Library Board Members at the Grand Opening of the Lakewood Public Library. Retiring Lakewood Library Board Member Christopher Johnson is 2nd from the right.

munity leader the chance to serve.

"I remain committed to the Library and will continue to be involved in other civic ventures in Lakewood," he said. "Thank you to the Library Board, Directors Ken Warren and James Crawford, the dedicated library staff and most importantly to the citizens

of Lakewood for the privilege to play a role with this great institution. It has been an honor and pleasure to serve."

Johnson completed his role as chair of the board last month. The balance of his term, which extends until September 12, 2016, leaves a seat open for interested candidates. The Lakewood Board of Education is accepting letters of interest. For more information please visit <<http://www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.org>>www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.org.

Library To Offer Patrons Help For E-books

by John Guscott

The holidays have come and gone, and perhaps you now find yourself in possession of a brand-new e-book device, but have yet to figure out how to use it (maybe it's still in the box!). Or, maybe you are already a Kindle veteran, or a Nook whiz, but know next to nothing about the free e-book resources available to you as a Lakewood Public Library cardholder. Well, look no further, the library's E-book Doctor is in!

Beginning this February, assistants at both the Main Library and Madison Branch will be on hand to provide personal assistance to help you use your e-book device, as well as how to access and utilize the library's e-book services.

Appointments are starting the week of February 10, and are held at the following times and locations:

Main Library Learning Lab - Sundays from 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Madison Branch - Thursdays from 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Appointments are for twenty minutes, and registration is required.

Call 216-226-8275 (ext. 127) to set up an appointment at the Main Library, or call 216-228-7428 to register for appointments at the Madison Branch.

Straight from the Heart Raffle Features \$100,000 Grand Prize!

Would you like to win \$100,000? How about a two-year lease on a Volvo Convertible or a Motorcycle? Or you could win a Mediterranean Cruise for two! These are just a few of the incredible prizes offered through the annual Straight from the Heart Raffle to benefit the cardiovascular programs at Fairview, Lakewood and Lutheran Hospitals.

Why not purchase a raffle ticket for your chance to win this grand prize and host of many other generous gifts through the Straight from the Heart campaign. Raffle tickets are \$100 each or three tickets for \$200.

Sponsored by the Community West Foundation, the Straight from the Heart raffle will culminate with a drawing of the 40 prize winners on Saturday, Feb. 16, 2013, at The Straight from the Heart red-tie gala at LaCentre Conference and Banquet Facility in Westlake.

To see a full list of available prizes, or the purchase your raffle tickets online, visit www.straightfromtheheartevent.org or contact the Community West Foundation at 216.476.7061.

All proceeds from this raffle will benefit the Heart Centers at Fairview, Lakewood and Lutheran Hospitals. Winners need not be present.



THE LAKWOOD OBSERVER

Your Independent Source for Lakewood News & Opinion

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

Become an Observer!

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

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

Upcoming Submission Deadline
Sunday, January 27, 2013
Sunday, February 10, 2013

Publish Date
Wednesday, February 6, 2013
Wednesday, February 20, 2013

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LO News

Being A Lakewood Ambassador: A “How To”

by Peter Grossetti

A few weeks ago, publisher Jim O'Bryan announced my new role as Lakewood Observer Associate Editor for Community Engagement this way on The Observation Deck: “Peter is a person who enjoys lifting up the veneer to see what is underneath.”

Guilty as charged! But I can't imagine going through life any other way!

So when I was asked to deepen my involvement in The Lakewood Observer Project, I was honored to be asked and eager to oblige.

How did I get to this point? Let's take a quick trip back in time to May 1985.

I was 27 years old, newly married, deeply committed to the notion of “being of service,” and a Coast Guard Public Affairs Specialist Third Class stationed at USCG Headquarters in Washington, DC.

Then it happened. I received orders to my next duty station... Ninth Coast Guard District Office/Cleveland.

“Cleveland,” I remember thinking to myself, “This ought to be interesting!” I knew a little something about the region (like the weather there would be similar to what I experienced growing up in Western Massachusetts)... but, honestly, all I could envision was polka bands



“Where I do I see The Lakewood Observer Project heading? That, fellow Lakewood-ite, is largely up to you!”

and pierogis and steel factories and Browns football in that storied old lakefront stadium.

Anyway, a few weeks later, my wife Jeanne (also a Coastie) and I were on the last day of our ten-day house-hunting trip (afforded military members who make a move from one duty station to another and who will not be living in barracks or base housing at the new assignment) and after looking all over greater Cleveland for a place to live—including Willoughby, Parma, Eastlake, North Ridgeville, etc.—fate found us driving into Lakewood and up Lincoln Avenue where we saw a For Rent sign

on the tree lawn. John and Mary Juris (grandparents of Ward 3 Councilman Shawn Juris) invited us in and showed us around the upstairs apartment. Our first impressions of Lakewood were the warmth and welcoming nature Mary and John, a lovely retired couple, showed us. Yep; we had found our new home. Twenty-eight years later, Jeanne and I are still here.

I've always felt that its people are what make Lakewood such a great place. I should have realized that as soon as I met John and Mary Juris. Little did they know that they were frontline ambassadors for Lakewood. In our own individual way, aren't we

all Lakewood Ambassadors?

And that brings me back to me being uber-geeked about my new role as Associate Editor for Community Engagement. You see, I simply love people and I deeply believe in democracy. In my mind, however, democracy is not so much a form of government as it is a form of Citizenship.

In a nutshell, my charge will be to find ways for The Lakewood Observer Project to help our community (individuals, government entities, non-profit organizations and businesses) look beneath and beyond the headlines and peer into a collective crystal ball as we all pursue “a better Lakewood.” If you know me at all, you know I am fond of saying, “If you want ‘a better Lakewood’—however you define that—you are my ally.”

Over the next year, I will be helping The Lakewood Observer Project with numerous community engagement issues including outreach, event planning, strategic initiatives and increased coverage of City Hall. By the way, have you noticed me using the term The Lakewood Observer Project a lot? That's because The Lakewood Observer Project is more than our bi-weekly newspaper, The Lakewood Observer. The paper is just one of the

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The University of Akron Lakewood

OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, February 9
1:30 p.m.

High school students, please join the University of Akron in Lakewood for an Open House on Sat., Feb. 9th at 1:30 p.m. Information will be provided on admission, financial aid, degree programs, and courses.

- Tour UA Lakewood
- Meet Jim Tressel
- Refreshments, Prizes and Zippy
- Talk with advisors about traditional college or college while in high school - PSEOP and dual enrollment

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The University of Akron Lakewood

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UA Lakewood is located on the first floor of the historic Bailey Building in the heart of Downtown Lakewood.

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City News

Council Passes 16 Budget Items

Editor's Note: According to Mayor Summers, at the time of this publication, the estimated 2.7 million shortfall predicted at the December 17 Council meeting has been adjusted. Heading into the new year the City of Lakewood has a surplus.

Council President Brian Powers called the December 17, 2012 meeting of Council to order at 7:32 p.m. They began the meeting by making appointments to a number of boards and commissions including the Board of Building Standards and Building Appeals, Civil Service Commission and the Planning Commission. All left-over appointments were left to be made in the New Year.

Next Councilwoman Mary Louise Madigan (Ward IV) read a report from the Finance Committee regarding the 2013 Budget. She stated that in the last several years they were able to create a structurally balanced budget, but not without struggle and sacrifice. The City is facing the loss of a sizable amount of revenue. In 2013 Lakewood will face the continued loss of the local government fund and the elimination of the estate and commercial activities taxes. In addition property tax re-evaluations have trended down causing more revenue loss. Lakewood is estimating \$33.3 million dollars in revenue for 2013. That is \$2.75 million dollars less than in 2012. To help manage the shortfall the City will have to take a varied approach and they need the help of everyone at every level in the City. Some of their strategies include not filling nine vacant positions, expecting city departments to cap spending at 2012, if not 2011 levels, and not giving cost of living increases. In addition the City will investigate what services it provides that are not necessary or can be altered for cost-saving purposes.

The Finance Committee unanimously recommended the adoption of the full budget. Council then proceeded to pass 16 items from the budget.

Councilman Tom Bullock (Ward II) asked Council to consider a substitution ordinance for one of the budget items. He presented them with a copy of his proposed ordinance that included \$50,000 dollars from the Economic Development Fund for the installation of sharrows on Detroit Avenue, \$10,000 for the installation of park benches on Detroit Avenue in the downtown area, and \$150,000 from the Capital Improvement Fund for improvements to Foxx Field and Kauffman Park. With no other Council members seconding

Councilman Bullock's motion, Councilman Brian Powers (At-large) did so with the explanation that he was only doing so because he believed his colleague deserved the right to be heard, even though he planned to speak against the motion.

Councilman Bullock continued to explain that his changes would not increase the total of expenditures for 2013 but rather would define what those funds should be allocated for. In addition he said that the projects that he has named are all projects that in one way or another have been approved by Council, whether directly in an ordinance or indirectly through an approved plan, however no funds have been allocated for them yet.

Councilman Powers responded to Councilman Bullock's motion saying he believed he had the right to be heard, but that he would be voting against it. He said that it was not necessarily because he disagrees with it. In fact, he said he wasn't sure where he stood on any of the proposals because neither he, nor any of their other colleagues on Council, had time to consider it. Though he agreed they sounded like worthy proposals, they did not have the time to consider where they fell, based on priority, with other projects waiting to be done, or any other positive or negatives to choosing these projects. The reason, he said, that they did not have time to properly vet this proposal is because they received it in an email at 6:26 P.M. that night, 4 minutes before their last Finance Committee meeting to discuss the budget, one hour before the Council meeting started. He said it was not fair to pass the substituted ordinance without giving it the proper discussion it deserved, and urged his colleagues also to vote against it. He did urge Councilman Bullock, however, to resubmit his proposal, in whatever format he deems appropriate, at the start of 2013 so it could be properly discussed and considered. He reiterated that the timing of the proposal was his main issue, and reason for voting against it.

Councilwoman Madigan then had a few words to say. She began by saying although she appreciates the discussion, and respects Councilman Powers for seconding the motion, that she would be voting against it. She gave her reasoning as being the timing of the proposal as well. She stated that the 2013 budget process had been going on

for some time and there were plenty of opportunities to include these points in the discussion along the way, not to mention numerous other meetings all year long that led up to the budget process. She said she can understand his frustration with "years of suggestions," but said it would be better to work on them over the year rather than propose them at the last Council meeting of the year. Agreeing that she believes that the proposals do seem important, she said she knows the budget is really tight and she didn't know where the money was coming from and therefore feels she could not make any decision without really considering them further. She closed her statement saying "although I am open to your dialogue I am not open to your math or your logic, or last minute Hail Mary to put this out there."

Councilwoman Monique Smith (At-Large) then said she would also love to discuss his proposals, but agrees it should be done as Councilman Powers suggested, in the New Year. She said she would like to get a better understanding of what the trade-offs are in the budget if they do implement some of the proposals. She also said she would like to hear where the administration stands on the items. For those reasons she decided to vote no.

Councilman David Anderson (Ward I) also said he looks forward to discussing the proposals in early 2013, and thanked Councilman Bullock for bringing them to their attention. He continued, saying that if they are truly merit-based there was a good possibility that they would be approved by the Council in the coming year, regardless of how they voted that night.

Councilman Bullock then had his chance to respond to his fellow members of Council. He started by thanking them for the beginning of the discussion and said he would be glad to bring the proposals back after the start of the year as individual ordinances. He then said, "There is no need to find controversy in legislating...Council sets the budget, this is our primary function as a governing body. If we want a say, and guarantee that our priorities are carried out by the directors, now is the time." He then continued saying, "It puzzles me why some of my colleagues act as though they think it is inappropriate to amend or legislate, that is what we do!" He agreed that the administration had done a great job putting a good budget together, and that Councilwoman Madigan and the Finance Committee did a great job of deliberating over the proposed budget. However the city charter not only allows the Council to oversee the budget process from the Administration, but also initiate its own spending, which is what he is asking they do. He reiterated that he was not asking for additional money, or even a lot of money, but just proposing projects where some of the money

already included in the budget should go. Concluding his statement, he apologized for taking up their time and withdrew his motion.

Councilman Powers said as the person who seconded the motion, he concurred with the withdrawal of the motion. However he thought he should also say that he certainly did not mean, nor did he think any of the other members that spoke indicated, that Councilman Bullock's motion was inappropriate. He wanted to state for the record that they have plenty of time to affect the budget throughout the year before voting on it. Though the proposal was appropriate to submit, he said he does not feel it can get the proper consideration when it is submitted within minutes of when it is to be voted on, which is why he would not be voting for it.

Finance Director Jennifer Pae made a point to make Council aware that there was about \$1 million dollars allocated to parks improvements in the 2013 budget. Of that, \$150,000 dollars of it, although it says in the budget that it is for Foxx Field, is indeed for all of Kaufmann Park.

Moving on from budget matters, Director of Planning and Development, Dru Siley asked Council to pass a resolution which would extend a current agreement with Cuyahoga County. The County gave Lakewood a grant to help purchase and rehab 3 homes in a Neighborhood Stabilization area. That agreement gave the city until January 11, 2013 to complete that process. However only two of the houses have been purchased and are in the process of being rehabbed. The County agreed to extend the agreement til December 31, 2013 upon passage of the resolution by Council.

The resolution was referred to the Housing Committee for consideration.

As Council President Powers came to the end of the agenda items, two members of the public wished to address Council. Lorna McLain and Elvis Serrano, the owners of the Jibaro food truck, asked Council to consider changing the current ordinances to allow food trucks to operate in the city. They said they have had a lot of success working with the city and businesses in Cleveland and cultivating a great working relationship there. They hope, as they just opened a stationary shop in Lakewood, that they might consider making it easier for food trucks to set up in Lakewood. They emphasized that when their truck is set up to sell food it is non-mobile. They emphasized this because the current ordinance on the books that excludes food trucks from operating in the city was initially written to exclude ice cream trucks, which were mobile while selling their food. They also mentioned that when they started it was only her and her husband and now they have nine employees.

With no further business to discuss Council President Powers adjourned the meeting at 8:36 p.m.

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City News

Citizen Academy Offers Unique Look Inside Lakewood’s Police Dep’t

by Melissa Garrett

The Lakewood Division of Police is offering Lakewood residents a unique opportunity to gain some first-hand information about the role of Lakewood’s safety and law enforcement department. The Lakewood Police Citizen Academy is a twelve-week program starting Wednesday, February 6, 2013 and continuing each Wednesday through April 24. The Academy will be held from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Lakewood Police Department, 12650 Detroit Avenue.

The Police Citizen Academy is a 12-week course for Lakewood residents or people who work in Lakewood, 21 years of age or older, who are interested in learning more about the Division of Police. Classes are held once a week for 2 hours. There is no fee to attend. During the sessions, students are presented with information from a number of speakers to familiarize them with a variety of policing issues in Lakewood. In addition to speakers from the Division of Police, Mayor Summers, the Department of Law, and Judge Carroll also address the class. At the end

of each session, the graduates are permitted to schedule a ride-along with a patrol officer for one evening.

According to Police Chief Tim Malley, “The Lakewood Police Department is committed to establishing close working ties with the members of the community we serve and establishing channels to be responsive to the needs and desires of our community.” In addition to the Lakewood Police Citizens’ Academy, Chief Malley noted that the Lakewood Police Department develops and presents crime prevention seminars, personal safety programs, neighborhood block watch meetings, traffic and bicycle safety education programs and child safety seminars. Lakewood’s Police Department also serves as a liaison with community organizations and groups through the use of foot patrol, community-oriented policing, shadowing programs and sponsoring and participating in special events designed to promote positive relationships between the police and school-age children.

To register or for more information, visit www.onelakewood.com or contact Officer Ortiz at (216) 701-3063.

Inagural Observed



More coverage of the Inaugural Balls and festivities. The Observers have set up a Washington Office with some ex-pats up there and we look forward to a year of great coverage from them. More of Tyler’s photos are online in the Lakewood Observer Photo Blogs, off of our front page. Isn’t it time you joined this community project?

Council Approves One-Year Extension Contracts

continued from page 1

cal to negotiate new contracts. The City was able to negotiate a one year extension contract which freezes all wages and health insurance contributions at 2012

levels through 2013.

Council passed all three of the ordinances, approving the contracts.

With no other items on the agenda Council President Powers adjourned the meeting at 7:56 p.m.



All proceeds to benefit the Heart Centers at Fairview, Lakewood and Lutheran Hospitals.

Straight FROM THE Heart

Saturday, February 16, 2013

Raffle tickets can be purchased for \$100 each or 3 for \$200.

For more information or to register, visit www.straightfromtheheartevent.org or call 216.476.7061.

Fairview Hospital
Lakewood Hospital
Lutheran Hospital
Cleveland Clinic hospitals

Community West Foundation
Illuminating Hope

Win \$100,000 or one of 39 other great prizes.

- 1 Grand Prize: \$100,000 Cash
- 2 24-Month Lease: C70 Volvo Convertible, arranged by Westside Automotive Group
- 3 24-Month Lease: Mazda CX7, arranged by Westside Automotive Group
- 4 \$10,000 Cash
- 5 Harley-Davidson Motorcycle, arranged by Lake Erie Harley-Davidson
- 6 European Mediterranean Cruise for Two from Barcelona
- 7 \$5,000 Cash
- 8 7-Night All Inclusive Trip for Two to Cancun, Mexico, donated by Dr. E. Dean Nukta
- 9 7-Day Trip for Two to Waikiki, Hawaii
- 10 Channel Set Diamond Hoop Earrings, arranged by Rivchun Jewelers
- 11 \$3,000 Cash
- 12 7-Night Canadian Cruise for Two from New York
- 13 Diamond Cluster Pendant, arranged by Rivchun Jewelers
- 14 7-Night Caribbean Cruise for Two
- 15 5-Day Trip for Two to California Wine Country
- 16 \$2,000 Cash
- 17 5-Day Trip for Four to Walt Disney World
- 18 5-Day Golf Package for Two to Hyatt Grand Cypress, Orlando
- 19 \$2,000 Cash
- 20 Stock Your Cellar with 100 Assorted Wines, arranged by Rozi's Wine House
- 21 \$1,500 Cash
- 22 Weekend Getaway for Two to New York City
- 23 3-Night Trip for Two to Las Vegas
- 24 \$1,500 Cash
- 25 Treadmill and Workout Essentials, arranged by Health & Fitness
- 26 His/Hers Movado Watches, arranged by Rivchun Jewelers
- 27 \$1,000 Cash
- 28 \$1,000 Travel Voucher
- 29 Weekend Getaway for Two to Chicago
- 30 \$1,000 Cash
- 31 47" HDTV Television
- 32 \$1,000 Cash
- 33 \$1,000 Cash
- 34 Apple iPad 16GB
- 35 Nook E-reader and iPod
- 36 \$1,000 Cash
- 37 Laptop Computer
- 38 Bose Digital Music System
- 39 Sony Blu Ray Home Theater
- 40 Cannon Powershot Digital Camera and Toshiba Camcorder

* Cash options available for 2, 3, and 5, at 75% of prize value
All trips arranged by Independence Travel
All electronics arranged by CompSource

Lakewood Public Library

compiled by Leana Donofrio-Milovan

January 29

School in the Cinema: “Mad Hot Ballroom” (2005)

Directed by Marilyn Agrelo

Rated PG

Witness the transformative power of dance as 11-year-olds from three different New York City public elementary schools learn to foxtrot, merengue, rumba, tango, and swing. While many start on an unsure footing, once the music kicks in they become determined to win the city-wide championship.

Tuesday, January 29 at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

January 31

20 Minute Resume Tune-Ups

Get one-on-one help with your resume from professional career consultant, Vernice Jackson. She'll show you how even minor changes can vastly improve your hire-ability by better reflecting your skills and potential. Space is limited. Call 216-226-8275 ext. 127 to sign up for a twenty minute face-to-face appointment.

Thursday, January 31 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Learning Lab

February 2nd-February 15th

February 2

Lakewood Public Cinema: “The Magic Christian” (1969)

Directed by Joseph McGrath

Rated PG

“Would you walk away from a fool and his money?” From the legendary writer of Dr. Strangelove and Easy Rider comes the rare screen adaptation that outshines the original book. Peter Sellers, the richest man in the world, adopts a homeless Ringo Starr and sets out to show him that money can make people do the strangest things. With music by Paul McCartney and Badfinger, Raquel Welch brandishing a whip, a couple of up-and-coming Monty Pythons and Yul Brenner in drag, this is the film that we believe definitively marks the end of sixties.

Saturday, February 2 at 6:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

February 3

Sunday with the Friends: Mame Daiko

Multiple generations of the Japanese American Citizens League come together to perform taiko, the ancient art of drumming, on traditional instruments they’ve built themselves. Movement, rhythm and tone combine to tell faraway stories close to home.

Sunday, February 3 at 2:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

February 6

Health and Wealth: Numerology: A Three-Part Journey to Self-Discovery –Part 1

Numbers are the foundation of society and civilization, but they also have a profound spiritual aspect that is rarely discussed in business meetings. Laura Varcho steps out of the shadow of Navarre G. Devureaux to show you how to cast your own chart and interpret the results for personal success.

Wednesday, February 6 at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

February 7

Documentary Film: “The Woodmans” (2010)

Directed by Scott Willis

Young Francesca Woodman was a photographer ahead of her time. She began in the 1980s, with avant-garde black-and-white nudes while the rest of the photography world obsessed over glossy, vibrant color. Once her work was finally recognized, it became widely influential and has been ever since. But this came years after her tragic death. The child of two talented artists, Francesca defined herself and her art by different standards and made such an impact that it’s hard to believe she did it all in 23 years.

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

February 9

Western Movies: The Golden Age, Part 1: “Shane” (1953)

Directed by George Stevens

Wyoming homesteaders are peaceably working their farms when a cattle baron decides to confiscate their land. The locals fight back under the leadership of Van Heflin, but when feared gun thug Jack Palance is hired to target Heflin the farmers begin to unravel. Just

then Shane rides up to the homestead looking for a job. Heflin’s young son Joey idolizes the stranger and sees him as a mythic hero. But is Shane just another hired gun?

Saturday, February 9 at 6:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

February 10

Sunday with the Friends: Walkin’ Cane Blues

Austin “Walkin’ Cane” ladles up a hot blues gumbo seasoned with jazz, folk and rock ‘n’ roll. These are the Delta blues, served over slide guitar with a side of baritone vocals. Classic songs mix with originals inspired by a meal shared with Robert Lockwood Jr. where “the stories flowed like grease off our plates.”

Sunday, February 10 at 2:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

LPL Children/Youth Events

compiled by Eric Knapp

January 26

Mark Wade, Ventriloquist

For the whole family

America’s #1 Children’s Ventriloquist, Mark Wade, who has appeared on Good Morning America, CBS Evening News, and 60 Minutes, is coming to the Library to tickle the funny bones of young and old alike. No registration necessary. Performances are free and open to the public.

Saturday, January 26, 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room.

February 2

Can You Win It In A Minute?

For youth sixth through twelfth grade

You may have seen the show but did you know how huge a role physics plans in the competition? Learn the physical laws involved in creating the games and design one yourself to challenge your fellow participants. To register, please stop in or call (216) 226-8275, ext. 140.

Saturday, February 2, 2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room.

Ongoing through March 28

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.

Can You Win It In A Minute?

by Kathryn Tatnall

Even if you don’t watch television on a regular basis you have likely heard of the game show Win It In a Minute. The show’s fun and challenging games have become entertainment at parties and science lessons in schools all over the country.

In the past, the Lakewood Public Library has had a more competitive program where teams of participants competed to see who was the best. Who could win it in a minute. This year we would like to explore the principles of physics displayed in the games. Of course, we want to experiment as well so after briefly discussing how the games actually work, we will create a game based on that principle and see if our fellow participants can, in fact, win it in a minute.

The program is open to teens in sixth through twelfth grade. It will be held on Saturday, February 2, from 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose room. Registration is required so please stop in, or call (216) 226-8275 ext. 140. Join us for a bit of education and a whole lot of fun.



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Lakewood Public Library

New Year, New Job, New You

by Susan Dunn

Are you looking for a new job? Do you need to write your first resume or maybe you just want to update your current one? Get started at Lakewood Public Library's 20 Minute Resume Tune-Up on Thursday, January 24 or Thursday, January. Join us in the Technology Center Learning Lab for 20 minutes of one-on-one help from a professional career consultant. Appointments are available from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Whether you would like to improve your resume, need help writing a cover letter, want to learn a new language or need to study for a standardized test the Library has the program for you. On Saturday, January 26, at 2 p.m. we will be offering The Learning Express Library and Career Accelerator Workshop. This three hour block of time can be used for any educational purpose and a staff member will be available if you need assistance. The Learning Express Library is a valuable tool that offers tutorials for many popular software programs as well as GED prep, workplace improvement lessons and much more. It is also home

to the Career and Job Accelerator. This application helps not only with the process of finding the perfect job but with designing your resume and cover letter to grab the attention of potential employers. Learning Express Library and Career Accelerator

are also available through the Library's website: <http://www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.org>. If you can't make it in January, the Library is also offering a Job Search Skills class on Tuesday, February 5 at 7 p.m. in the Main Library Learning Lab.

An instructor will be on hand to help you access the Library's employment resources. To register for any or all of these classes, please stop in or call the Technology Center at (216) 226-8275, ext. 127.

Great Lakes Theater Premieres Hansen's "Double Heart" At Library

by Elaine Rosenberger

In Shakespeare's beloved comedy, *Much Ado About Nothing*, longtime adversaries Beatrice and Benedick are tricked into revealing their love for each other. But how did Beatrice and Benedick become adversaries, and what was their early relationship like? Find out on Tuesday, February 19 at 7 p.m., when Lakewood Public Library hosts the Great Lakes Theater's world premiere of David Hansen's *Double Heart* in Lakewood Public Library's Main Auditorium.

An imagined prequel to Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing*, Hansen's *Double Heart* envisions

the early courtship of Beatrice and Benedick, providing a fascinating backstory to Shakespeare's timeless tale. Written in poetic verse, this one-hour touring play is appropriate for audiences of all ages and backgrounds.



A graduate of Bay Village high school, David Hansen holds a degree in Theater from Ohio University. He

has worked as an actor, director, and playwright, and he is a 2010 recipient of the Creative Workforce Fellowship from the Community Partnership for Arts and Culture. Hansen is also the Supervisor of the Great Lakes Theater's School Residency Program. The world premiere of *Double Heart* will take place in Lakewood Public Library's Main Auditorium at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, February 19. Admission is free.

Being A Lakewood Ambassador: A "How To"

continued from page 3

Project's tools. The Lakewood Observer Project also includes the online Observation Deck—where "good neighbors talk over the digital fence."

The other exciting part of my role here is to help The Lakewood Observer Project reassess its Mission (to attract, articulate, and amplify civic intelligence and community good will in the city of Lakewood and beyond) and Goal (to help Lakewood residents and neighbors learn as much as possible about the city).

As this Project moves forward toward our tenth anniversary in 2014,

we will explore other venues/tools/platforms. The opportunities and possibilities are endless...and with your input we intend to explore them all.

We will be bringing back our informal bi-monthly coffee meetings...but can we/should we kick it up a notch by sponsoring and presenting a more formal series of in-depth community forums?

Are more collaborative public-private partnerships in our future?

Could The Lakewood Observer Project produce cable access television programming?

Can our efforts intertwine with the Community Vision Update currently

being undertaken by the Department of Planning and Development?

What role can we all play in helping encourage start-up entrepreneurship in Lakewood?

How do we all coalesce? How do we connect the proverbial dots?

I could go on forever with possible scenarios and potential opportunities. So... where I do I see The Lakewood Observer Project heading? (*shoulders shrugged, arms extended, and palms pointing upward*) That, fellow Lakewoodite, is largely up to you! I'm just here to help guide the process. I'm here to prod, to nudge, to moderate, to instigate... and dare I say, here to stir the pot?

I invite you to join us. However you want to help, there is a place for you. I urge you to contact me at petergrossetti@lakewoodobserver.com with any and all ideas, thoughts, questions, comments, concerns, compliments and/or criticisms. I

promise your voice will be heard. (I just ask for your patience, because as with most of us who "work for" the Observer – this is a part-time, labor-of-love, volunteer gig.)

You first step? Stop by the Lakewood Observer online at: <http://lakewoodobserver.com>, check out our hundreds of photoblogs by friends and neighbors, so many great photos. Check out the calendar, check out the reviews and our archives of great stories covering a decade of Lakewood If you would like to share your stories, photos, illustrations or ideas become a Member.

More to come! See you around town!

Employment Opening:
Cleaning/Janitorial
Lakewood Public Library

Lakewood Public Library is seeking an energetic, organized individual to perform maintenance routines including dusting; floor care; collecting trash; cleaning restrooms; shoveling snow; basic electrical and plumbing; must be able to lift 75 lbs. Valid Ohio driver's license required. Evening and weekend work. 40 hours per week. Salary is \$12.00 per hour.

Application deadline is Tuesday, February 5, 2013. Qualified and interested applicants may call Jody Wilkerson at (216)226-8275 ext. 104 to arrange for an application.

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Lakewood Schools

13 LHS Musicians Chosen For Honors Band; Jazz Festival Date Set

by Christine Gordillo

Not only are the Lakewood High School sports teams doing well in their first year in the West Shore Conference, but our band students are making their mark in the conference as well. The following students were selected from the school's Wind Ensemble to participate in the West Shore Conference Honors Band: Madison Burns, Wes Carney, Georgia Cole, Khalil Cromier, Lindsay Furtado, Alyssa Hasman, Joy Hoile, Kyra Mihalski, Casey Miller, Jack Miller, Max Mulready, Lily Pollock, and Danny Toner.

The honors band of 95 students will have representatives from all eight West Shore Conference schools. The band will rehearse all day on February 4 and then perform under conductor Dr. Barry Kopetz from Capital University in Columbus that evening. The concert will take place at 7 p.m. in the Rocky River High School auditorium.

Big Band Jazz Festival



The Lakewood High Jazz Band will perform in the Big Band Jazz Festival on Feb. 6 under the direction of Brian Maskow.

The annual Lakewood High School Big Band Jazz Festival will take place on Wednesday, February

6 at 7:30 p.m. in the Civic Auditorium. This is the first concert of the year of the LHS Jazz Workshop

and LHS Jazz Band. Selections will include Moondance, Cold Duck Time, Papiro, That Old Black Magic, and Jordy. Special guests will include The Youngstown Boardman High School Jazz Band, an outstanding group, and The Swing City Big Band from Lorain.

The Swing City Band is a semi-professional 18-piece big band that features three vocalists. Their repertoire includes selections from Ella Fitzgerald, Linda Eder, Barbara Streisand, Frank Sinatra, Bobby Darin, Michael Bublé and instrumental standards from the 40s, 50s, and 60s. Many of the musical arrangements are the same ones used in famous recordings, Vegas shows or from these stars' musical tours. The band has many West Side band directors as members, including former Harding Band director Brian Griebel.

Please come for an awesome evening of jazz!

LHS Vocal Quartet Crooning For 25 Years

by Christine Gordillo

Hats off to Lakewood High's Vive L'Four acappella group for celebrating 25 years of entertaining audiences with its wide variety of

song selections.

Vive L'Four was started in 1988 by then LHS Choral Director John Drottletff, who directed the group until 1994. Since then, 69 young men



Current LHS Vive L'Four members (from left) Luke Lemmeier, Sam Aprile, Aaron Roos and Max Mulready.

have participated in the group, carrying on the barbershop tradition in Lakewood. Vive alumni Peter Hamp-

ton (2001-2003) is the group's current director.

continued on page 11

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• all at The Lake Erie
Screw Factory

H2O (Help to Others) is a service-learning program for Lakewood middle and high school students. H2O engages youth in volunteer work, empowering them with lifelong values of belonging and contributing to their community.

Current LHS Choir Director, Peter Hampton (second from left) is flanked by fellow 2002-2003 Vive L'Four members Ned Petrie (left), Dave Forni (second from right) and Greg Falcione (right).

Join the Discussion at: www.lakewoodobserver.com

Lakewood Schools

Spring School Levy Set For 3.9 Mill

continued from page 1

can go without asking for something.

When I asked about a pending Bond issue Jeff honestly said, we will need another Bond Issue to finish the schools, and we have to finish the schools to get the 31% that is owed to us from the state-- roughly \$50 million dollars. On top of the money to finish the schools, the State School Construction Committee will also ask to see at least 1% of the total cost added to the bond to help maintain them.

It seems to me a very cruel trick the State is playing with communities, as the State leads them off on these pathways that only pay MAYBE, based on a number that changes year-to-year. When I mentioned this to Superintendent Patterson he said, "Many communities cannot pass bond issues, so they will fall in ranking and we

should rise up probably high enough that we will be on the list to be paid." I again mentioned it has to be tough to go back to the well, and hope the state picks us for the bill they owe and decided to pay, balance a levy, run the schools, and keep a smile. Patterson merely showed me a beaming smile.

Not to bore everyone with details, but the Superintendent and I went through many, many different ways to finance things, and discussed different ways levies could be structured. With each way, he could point out the good and bad in them, and he had looked at those and many, many more, in the end, the District will ask for a simple levy, not one that builds in stages, or one of the many other ways they can be put together. "Jim, this is the fairest way we can put a levy out there," Patterson said, "easy to understand, easy to implement,

especially if we have done our job and the voters appreciate the hard work we have done to this point."

The sale of McKinley School will be more difficult and possibly more dire in its outcome. The school has recently been appraised at \$1.7 million and while the Board looked at the possibility of tearing it down to get around state law they found out that it would only add to their bottom line, paying for the demolition and still having to offer it to any charter school in the community, or any charter school willing to come in and serve the community. In my opinion, this could be a disaster, not because of the competition, but the money that could be drained from the levy to help pay for kids going to the charter school.

As the school has not yet been stripped of asbestos, it will be costly

for anyone to come in and purchase it.

If the school does not sell to any charter school for a fair asking price, it can then go out to bid and there seems to be some interest on that side. It is rumored that a couple developers have gone through it expressing an interest. One is Andrew Brickman from Abode Living (Eleven River and Clifton Pointe). When I spoke with Andrew last week as was reported earlier, he said, "It is an interesting piece of property and of course I have an interest in it, Lakewood is really coming together and has been good for Abode Living, but there is still much to discuss and look at."

All of this and more will be discussed at the School Board meeting January 22nd.

Kindergarten Parent Info Night: February 13

by Christine Gordillo

The Lakewood City Schools will be hosting a Kindergarten Parent Information night for parents of preschoolers interested in learning about the District's kindergarten program. The event will take place on Wednesday, February 13, at 7 p.m. at Horace Mann Elementary School's Cafetorium. Horace Mann is located at 1251 W. Clifton Blvd.

Mark Gleichauf, the district's Director of Teaching & Learning K-12, will host the evening and review what is addressed in the curriculum, how a typical kindergartener's day unfolds, what the registration process is, how to determine which school a child will attend and what parents can expect from a Lakewood City Schools' education.

Following the formal presentation, parents will be welcome to ask questions about this important milestone in a child and parent's life. Although the event is geared to parents who are unfamiliar with the District's kindergarten program, any one is welcome to attend. For more information, visit the district web site at www.lakewoodcityschools.org or call 216-529-4203.



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The Lakewood Project Presents Hits From '60s & '70s

by Christine Gordillo

Are you ready for a dance party? The Lakewood Project will entertain you with favorite Motown and Disco hits from the '60s and '70s at its annual winter concert, Saturday, January 26 at 7:30 p.m. in the Civic Auditorium. Joining The Lakewood Project will be special guests,

DaFunk'd, a soul band from Coventry High School.

Advance tickets are \$7 and can be placed by calling the LHS bookroom at 216-529-4047. Tickets will be available at will-call the night of the show. Full price \$8 tickets will be available at the door the day of the show as well.

Grant PE Class On Four Wheels



Grant fifth-graders Anna Trentel (left) and Peyton Leaf make a bridge for classmate Mackenzie Davis during an hourlong skate session after school recently. Grant just finished up a 5-week Skate Time USA program that PE teacher Genni Lach brought to the school. Skate Time provided the equipment and Lach and parent volunteers the instruction.

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Lakewood Cares

Help To Others (H2O): Drops Of Kindness Create Ripples Of Change

by Chrissy Kadleck Pursifull

This is the first story in a three-part series featuring special people who have a unique relationship with Help to Others, H2O, a Lakewood institution that is celebrating its 20th year of teaching and inspiring middle- and high-school students to volunteer and do what they can to make the world a better place.

Thousands of people have been touched by H2O's service learning program during the past two decades. Here is just one of those stories.

Meet Jamie Zychowski. At 23, she spent more than a third of her life participating in H2O, first as a camper, then as a junior counselor during high school, and as a counselor in college.

From her first days as camper in the summer program when she imagined one day running H2O as an adult to her first time participating in Relay for Life as a counselor, Zychowski says being a part of H2O charted the trajectory of her life and shaped her into who she is today.

A graduate of Hiram College with a degree in communications with a concentration in journalism and public relations, she moved back to Lakewood after graduating to take her dream job with American Cancer Society. Zychowski now works with volunteers



Jamie Zychowski

on fundraising events and manages three Relay for Life events throughout Northeast Ohio.

"Nothing could be more powerful or more comforting as being on the Relay for Life track with all these candles lit remembering people who you have lost with hundreds of people who are going through the same thing and supporting you," she says, adding that her grandmother was three-time breast cancer survivor before she

passed away two years ago from her fourth recurrence. Her dad also is a cancer survivor. "I saw the impact Relay makes on people and how it helps people heal. I knew I could help people through that and that's what I wanted to do."

When her mom signed her up for summer camp when she was in fifth grade, she didn't know anything about volunteering or what she could do, as a 10- or 11-year-old kid, to help people.

"After the first day I didn't want to leave, I would have stayed overnight there," she says. "Every day when I was in camp, I got to see firsthand everything that I was doing and the impact that I could make. H2O really instilled in me that I can make a difference. Even if you just go to a food bank for one day, you are still making an impact. People are going to eat because you gave up four hours of your life to pack food."

Join the celebration as H2O kicks off its 20 years of service to the Northeast Ohio community with a night of fun, festivities, and philanthropy at the H2O Tributary Bash, Saturday, February 23, 2013, 7 to 11 pm, at the Lake Erie Screw Factory, 13000 Athens Avenue in Lakewood. A special VIP event will take place 5:30 to 7 pm in a smaller, more intimate setting of the Screw Factory.

Tickets for the main event are \$50. A very limited number of \$100 VIP tickets are available. Sponsorship opportunities, starting at the \$100 level, are also available. For more information, to purchase tickets, or to sponsor the event, visit www.thelakewoodfoundation.org/H2O/ or call 216.529.6870.

Remember Sandy?

by Tricia Granfors

Were you prepared for Superstorm Sandy? Be part of the solution for yourself, your family, and your neighbors. Community preparedness starts with you, whether it's preparing for a hurricane, an extended power outage, a pandemic, or a severe winter storm. The Westshore Regional Community Emergency Response Team (WSC) is offering free classes on topics such as disaster preparedness, basic injury assessment and medical treatment, search and rescue procedures, fire suppression, disaster psychology, and much more. The 20-hour FEMA course is conducted by local safety professionals. Westshore residents who are over 18 years of age, successfully complete training, and pass

a background check are eligible for team membership.

Do your part to keep our region safe and prepared. To indicate your interest in the free classes or for more information, contact WSC Coordinator Tricia Granfors at (440) 716-4135 or granforst@north-olmsted.com. Space is limited.

Training begins Saturday, February 23. The five consecutive Saturday morning classes will be held at St. John Medical Center, 29000 Center Ridge Road and the City of Westlake Service Center, 741 Bassett Road, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Tricia Granfors is the West Shore Regional Community Emergency Response Team Coordinator.

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Just one example of some of the damage seen right here in Lakewood in the wake of Hurricane Sandy.

Lakewood Cares

Startup Funding Up For Grabs For Women In Northeast Ohio

by Apryl Beverly

Micro-lending organization Bad Girl Ventures (BGV) is accepting applications until January 31 from Northeast Ohio women's startups for the Cleveland Spring 2013 BGV course. Selected applicants will be considered for a \$25,000 low-interest business loan and will participate in the organization's nine-week business course for free.

BGV offers business education and funding to women entrepreneurs seeking capital and training to grow their startups. Interested business owners can RSVP to attend a free informational session January 23 at 5:30 p.m. at the Market Garden Brewery in Ohio City.

The micro-lending organization selects 10 female entrepreneurs to participate in its nine-week business course every spring and fall at no charge. During the course, selected applicants connect with other local

business owners, learn how to run a business, and develop a business plan. At the end of each session, one woman-owned startup is awarded a \$25,000 low-interest loan.

"Past participants say networking is one of the most valuable takeaways from the course," said Reka Barabas, Director of Bad Girl Ventures Cleveland. "In addition to education and possibly funding, our participants walk away with a business plan and 50 to 100-plus connections. This helps prepare them for growth whether they're awarded the loan or not."

Classes for the spring course start February 23 and will be held Saturday mornings from 9 a.m. to noon at the Cleveland State University (CSU) downtown campus. CSU faculty, students and alumni will serve as business coaches, mentors and discussion facilitators.

"We select women entrepre-



neurs across a range of industries who demonstrate strong leadership capabilities," said Barabas. "We encourage all applicants to research their business ideas and share details about the target audience, competitive edge and likelihood for success of their products/services."

Only women-owned startups less than five years old can qualify to receive the \$25,000 business loan and participate in the course at no charge. Past loan recipients include the catering company and microbrewery Hungry Bee, baby equipment rental company Babies Travel Too, online apartment rental service Renter's Boom and strength training program Birdtown Crossfit.

BGV business classes are open to the public. Male and female aspiring entrepreneurs and current business owners can register for classes at any

time. Individual sessions cost \$35 each. The full nine-week business course costs \$225. CSU faculty, staff and students receive a \$25 discount off the course.

About Bad Girl Ventures

Bad Girl Ventures (BGV) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit dedicated to its mission of building and sustaining well-managed, profitable women-owned businesses by providing female entrepreneurs with guidance, education and access to capital. BGV Cleveland has educated more than 200 entrepreneurs and awarded or facilitated \$115,000 in loans since 2011. Visit <http://www.badgirlventures.com> for more information.

Apryl Beverly is a full-time freelance writer in Northeast Ohio. She also is a blogger who provides business tips to women entrepreneurs and freelancers at www.themommylancer.com.



Classes are up and running at Birdtown CrossFit, the winners of the Fall 2012 BGV session. The Spring 2013 BGV course is accepting applications through January 31.

Kauffman Park Master Plan Community Meeting February 13

by Meg Ostrowski

Come hear what Lakewood Alive's Design Committee and Kauffman Park Friends have been up to since the community provided their input into the process of developing a Master Plan for Lakewood's seven-acre, downtown greenspace.

Lakewood resident and urban planner, Bryan Evans will present a new vision for Kauffman Park on Wednesday, February 13th at 6:30 p.m. in the Multi Purpose Room at Lakewood Public Library located at 15425 Detroit Avenue.

LHS Vocal Quartet Crooning For 25 Years

continued from page 8

Vive has performed everything from traditional barbershop music, to spirituals, to show tunes. Every year the group participates in the OMEA Solo and Ensemble Competition, where it consistently earns a superior rating.

Vive members audition from within the Symphonic Mixed Choir and are made up of two tenors and two baritones. Current members are

seniors Sam Aprile, Luke Lemmeier, Aaron Roos and junior Max Mulready.

The group throughout the year has performed with other men's choirs, barbershop groups, and SPEBSQSA (Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Shop Quartet Singing in America) sponsored ensembles. In addition, the group regularly sings at nursing homes, churches, and other non-school events.

The Living Miracles Relocate To Lakewood

by Marc Mannheimer

In October of 2012, the Living Miracles Peer Support and Empowerment Center moved from the border of Cleveland and Lakewood to Lakewood proper. Located now at 11801 Clifton Boulevard on the second floor above Huntington Bank, the mental health organization enjoys a bigger meeting space, a craft room, a multi-purpose room and other new amenities to accommodate our growing membership.

A non-profit dedicated to bringing hope and motivation to mental health consumers through peer support and education, the Living Miracles strive to improve our members' self-insight and quality of living. Through diverse educational and supportive programming, along with social activities, the staff, consisting of mental health consumers and folks with a deep connection to the issues surrounding mental health, educate and model the concept of recovery and self-help. The concept of peer support in mental health is rapidly being recognized as a best practice in conjunction with clinical and medical treatment. The Living Miracles are proud to state that 97% of

our members who attend the Living Miracles twice a week or more have had no psychiatric hospitalizations in the past year. Staff and members are also involved in a variety of outreach services in the community, such as mentoring at local psychiatric hospitals and mental health crisis shelters, speaking at various community forums, educational programs in middle and high schools, and several other training, advocacy and stigma-reducing projects.

Our education and support groups at The Living Miracles are free of charge, with a nominal fee for some of our recreational activities.

If you are a mental health consumer or have an interest in mental health concerns and are 18 years or older, you are welcome to join us at our new location.

New members can drop in on Mondays between 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. for a brief orientation; hours of operation are 1-5 p.m. Monday through Friday and some Saturdays. Monthly calendars of daily activities and other information are posted on our website, www.thelivingmiracles.org. We can be reached at (216) 221-6323.

Lakewood Is Art

Beat The Winter Blues!

Do Something Fun And Creative At Beck Center This Season

by Fran Storch

This winter, beat the blues, get out of the house and join us at Beck Center for the Arts for some creative fun! Learn a new skill, develop a hidden talent and make lifelong friends. We offer more than 200 award-winning classes, lessons and programs for all ages and abilities in dance, music, theater, and visual arts. From early childhood to teen classes and adult courses, there is something for everyone this semester at Beck Center. If you or a family member has always wanted to learn how to act, dance, draw, paint, or play an instrument, now is the perfect time to give it a try.

Creative learning is fun but also provides valuable tools for students to develop academically. According to Americans for the Arts, the nation's leading nonprofit organization for advancing the arts and arts education, "Involvement in the arts is associated with thinking, problem-solving, concept understanding, information processing, and overall intelligence." Lifelong learners of all ages will enjoy stimulating their



Students of all ages discover and develop their artistic talents at Beck Center.

creativity and imagination through an arts education experience at Beck Center.

Whether it's a one-day workshop or full 18-week semester, our outstanding faculty and staff look forward to welcoming you to Beck Center in the New Year. The complete winter/spring 2013 class catalog is now available online at beckcenter.org.

Winter/spring 2013 classes begin the week of January 28. Classes fill up quickly so register today. For easy reference, take a moment to view the online at-a-glance class schedules by department to select activities by day and time for students ages six months and beyond.

There are three easy ways to register including easy convenient

online registration; by mail, simply download a registration form from Beck Center's website and complete and return it with payment; or by phone, call Customer Service at 216.521.2540, ext. 10. Hours are 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday through Thursday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Friday and Saturday. Sunday hours vary depending on show schedules.

Private music lessons in all band and orchestral instruments are also available and registration is ongoing throughout the year. To learn more or to schedule private lessons, call the Music Office at 216.521.2540, ext. 37.

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



Youth ballet dancers practice at the barre at Beck Center.

the good goat gallery Presents

“Happy Valentine’s Day, Jerk!”

by Nancy Cintron

the good goat gallery presents, “Happy Valentine’s Day, Jerk!,” a fun art opening depicting a humorous look on the pits of love. There will be fine art and jewelry for the loved/unloved, broken hearted & humorous spirit.

Art opening is February 9th with the artists’ reception from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Fun Fine Artwork by: A. Nancy Cintron, Ana Luisa Sanchez, Anomaly, Darrelle Centuori, Julie Simon, Knight, Linda Zolten Wood, Lindsay Parker, Saffron, Rafael Valdivieso and Victoria Stanbridge

Jewelry by: Brock Winans, Francine Ruth, Jennifer Worden, Jill Winans, Kelly Bilyeu, Ramona Pacheco, Suzy Q & Sally Too. **Music Cds by:** Russell Swallow and the Wolf, Doug Wood.

Nancy Cintron is an artist and owner of the good goat gallery, in Lakewood (17012 Madison Ave). She just opened the doors and had her grand opening on November 10th. The gallery consists of independent artists and artisans, and has fine art, handmade goods & fun stuff. They are planning many great events to share with the community.



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Business News

Holiday Bid & Buy Online Auction Supports Chamber's Economic Development Fund

by Valerie Mechenbier

For four weeks in late November and early December, people across Northeast Ohio were “shopping local” – i.e. “shopping Lakewood” – from their homes, workplaces, Wi-Fi hotspots, or via their smartphones during the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce’s 4th Annual Holiday Bid & Buy online auction. Were you the lucky winner of the “Supper Club for Two at Gatherings Kitchen”? Were you the one who beat out the many bidders vying for the coveted “Residential Cleaning Package” from Lemon Tree Cleaning? Did you win the “Ohio Grown Fraser Fir Christmas Tree” from Lakewood Garden Center? If so, congratulations! Thanks to everyone who donated,

sponsored, and bid in support of the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce’s economic development efforts. Although our auction has ended, the mission of our organization – to serve as the leading membership organization for the advocacy and advancement of business interests in the greater Lakewood community – has not. We greatly appreciate our members and friends who continue to support the Chamber by giving their time, talent, and resources to the organization. Special thanks to our Holiday Bid & Buy online auction Grand Prize sponsor: Abode Modern Lifestyle Developers And thanks to our auction sponsors:



- Steve Clark, Clark Financial Services
Hospice of the Western Reserve
Lakewood Hospital
And a big thank you to these generous auction item donors:
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Christina Kowalski, Dollar Bank

Lakewood Chamber Of Commerce Hosts Business Book Club

by Valerie Mechenbier,

How do you make people like you? How can you win people over to your way of thinking? How do you challenge and change people without arousing resentment? The answers to these questions lie within a book written over 75 years ago. The Lakewood Chamber of Commerce announces our first business book club selection, “How to Win Friends and Influence People,” by Dale Carnegie. Written in 1936, this seminal self-improvement book continues to guide people of all walks of life in the universal challenges of face-to-face communication. “How to Win Friends and Influence People” is continually listed as one of the top ten most influential business books of all time. We encourage readers from all walks of life to dust off a copy and read (or re-read) this classic and join the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce as we host a panel discussion with area business leaders at the Lakewood Public Library on Tuesday,

January 22, 2013 at 7 p.m. in the Main Library Meeting Room. We will discuss whether the principles Dale Carnegie outlined in his book can stand the test of time and are still relevant today.

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, January 22nd Business Book Club

How to Win Friends & Influence People, by Dale Carnegie
Lakewood Public Library
Main Library Meeting Room
15425 Detroit Avenue
7p.m., Free

Tuesday, February 12th Fat Tuesday Business After Hours Networking Event

Burntwood Tavern
19304 Detroit Road, Rocky River
5:30-7p.m., Cash bar
Sponsored by Cox Business

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Opinion

Early Identification Of Mental Illness: Toward Making Sandy Hook A “Never Event”

by Mark Moran

In recent years, the medical community has adopted the concept of “never events”—inexcusable medical mishaps and errors (such as performing surgery on the wrong side of the body or giving a fatally wrong dose of medication to a patient) which have actually happened more often than you might like to imagine, but whose risk for occurrence can be reduced to as close to zero as possible through the diligent, routine, systematic application of risk reduction strategies in medical settings. It is an approach borrowed from the airline industry which has used similar strategies to dramatically reduce the number of airplane crashes—that industry’s version of a “never event.”

I thought about this in the days following the shocking atrocity in Newtown, Connecticut. Sophists of a certain kind will advise us that school shootings, though they capture our attention, are really very rare events, and they will remind us that there is no way to eliminate entirely the risk for murderous mayhem by sick or evil people.

That’s true. But mass shootings in America are not, sadly, rare enough, and I am sure I am not the only one who harbors a dismal foreboding that it may happen again. And in any case, I believe we should not be satisfied with “rare.” I believe we should regard what happened at Sandy Hook Elementary School as a “never event.”

In order to do that we will have to commit to a systematic strategy aimed at rendering the risk for recurrence of such an event to as close to zero as possible. Such a strategy would have to encompass every aspect of this problem, and it is gratifying that many people are recognizing the important part that untreated mental illness plays. This country’s mental health system has long been the poor step-sister of a larger system that is itself inequitable. And apart from the lack of services and insurance, loved ones of anyone over 18 who is severely mentally ill

cannot have him or her committed to hospitalization against his or her will—even if he or she is clearly, obviously and frighteningly delusional—unless the individual is of immediate “danger to self or others,” which can be difficult to prove. As the columnist Charles Krauthammer (a former practicing psychiatrist) wrote in a recent column, we let the mentally ill die in our streets “with their rights on.”

But what is really imperative is to identify at-risk young people long before they get to the point where they need to be committed. One of the most promising areas of psychiatric research today involves an effort to identify individuals—invariably adolescents—who are at very high risk for severe mental illness and to engage them in treatment. The collective experience from these programs has allowed researchers to put together a risk profile that is highly predictive of schizophrenia (the most serious mental illness), and to get many young people into treatment before they become seriously ill. This profile includes a family history of severe mental illness (especially schizophrenia or bipolar disorder), a sudden, unexplained drop in grades or job performance, social withdrawal, and intermittent delusions, hallucinations or episodes of disorganized thinking. Throw in substance abuse and the risk becomes even greater.

This research effort holds enormous potential for preventing violence. I wonder if this formal research endeavor might serve as a model for what communities could try to do in a more informal way. School administrators, teachers, guidance counselors, primary care and mental health clinicians in the community, and personnel at hospital emergency departments (where domestic violence, suicide attempts, and drug overdoses will make their appearance) might collaborate to develop a similar risk profile and work together to identify at-risk young people in the community and shepherd them into services. Combined with a

public education campaign about the signs and symptoms of severe mental illness, such an effort could help to put the community’s “eyes out” for our most troubled young people.

That’s important because the age at which an at-risk individual is most likely to have an acute psychotic episode—16 to 25 years of age—is also the age at which they begin to drop off the radar of schools and social service agencies that serve as the community’s “eyes” on children and adolescents. It is really this age group of at-risk, impaired young people (especially, alas, young men) that communities need to reach out to: weightless in the world, with no formal rites of passage to shepherd them into manhood, they watch as their peers attain the milestones of young adulthood—college, job, career, marriage—and begin to internalize their own brokenness and to spiral downward.

(Until very recently, such young people were also likely to fall off the radar of our healthcare system, losing coverage under their parents’ health insurance. So consider it one of the benefits of the Affordable Care Act that now many of these vulnerable people need not join the ranks of the uninsured.)

The obstacles to this kind of approach are many, including a dearth of services, legal impediments to the sharing of information across institutional boundaries, and concerns about civil liberties with regard to involuntary commitment. But communities that care about the safety and welfare of their children—as well as that of their troubled, at-risk adolescents and young adults—will have to start somewhere. One place to begin is for community leaders to engage those people who have seen mental illness up close—the families and loved ones of the mentally ill—and the organizations that represent them, such as the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill. (The website for NAMI-Greater Cleveland

is <http://www.nami.org/MSTemplate.cfm?MicrositeID=202>). For more on this subject and other relevant issues I would recommend to you an important article in The Atlantic Monthly entitled, “In Psychiatric Illness Families Are Our First Responders,” by Lloyd Sederer, M.D., the medical director of the New York State Office of Mental Health (<http://www.theatlantic.com/health/archive/2012/12/in-psychiatric-illness-families-must-be-our-first-responders/266628/>).

And there are at least a few reasons to be hopeful. Among the President’s proposals around gun violence is a promise to enforce the Mental Health Parity Act of 2008, which ensures that insurance companies must offer coverage for mental illness that is comparable to that for general medical care, and a new initiative to train school personnel to identify at-risk youngsters and refer them for treatment.

What happened at Sandy Hook Elementary School is a rebuke to anyone who claims (as I do, emphatically) that America is the most blessed place on earth to raise a child. We need to commit to a strategy that includes early identification of the most troubled young people in our community to reduce the risk for reoccurrence of calamitous events such as what happened at Newtown to as close to zero as possible. The alternative is to relive horrors that in a saner society would be regarded as never events.



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AARP Free Tax Aide Help

by Joan Miller

AARP TAX-AIDE brings you free electronic filing of your tax returns. The IRS-certified volunteers are ready to help income taxpayers of all ages. You do not need to be an AARP member to receive this service. A photo I.D. and Social Security number are required at time of visit. Bring last year's tax return with you if possible.

AARP TAX-AIDE help is available Monday and Tuesday, Noon to 3:30 p.m. starting February 4th at the Lakewood Senior Center West, 16024 Madison Avenue. Entrance with handicap ramp and stairs located on the Northland side of the building. No appointment necessary. Walk ins welcome.

AARP TAX-AIDE help is also available by appointment at The Barton Center 14300 Detroit Avenue. Thursdays 9:00 a.m. until Noon. Call 216-221-3400 after January 2nd to schedule appointment.

AARP TAX-AIDE help is also available by appointment at The Lakewood Public Library Madison Branch 13229 Madison Ave., Tuesdays from Noon to 4:00 p.m. Call 216-228-7428 after January 2nd to schedule appointment.

Opinion

Why You Need the Second Amendment

by Jared Denman

Here's the scenario: You're suddenly awakened in the middle of a Friday night after a particularly rough week. You're not sure why and you're about ready to roll over and resume the Zs when you hear a noise in the downstairs living room. You're frozen. Do you go downstairs to investigate? Do you try to get up and get your phone? What about the kids? Maybe their room is at the top of the stairs. Either way, it doesn't matter. Police are at least ten to fifteen minutes away, if you're lucky.

Unfortunately, scenarios like these are not uncommon. According to the US Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Statistics, approximately 600,000 burglaries and 5 million assaults, simple or aggravated, occurred in 2011 (<http://bjs.ojp.usdoj.gov/index.cfm?ty=pbdetail&iid=4494>). One can't help but think things would have been different if just one teacher at Sandy Hook Elementary had a 9mm. Bravado tends to wither when someone is shooting back.

But while the practicality of owning a gun in these scenarios may be self-evident, the real reason behind the Second Amendment is often lost in the emotion of the issue. Below are three facts concerning the Second Amendment (and why you need it):

"A well regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed."

1. Guns are not meant for hunting or sport shooting. Forget what supposed constitutional experts say. Read what the founding generation (and Ghandi) thought about it:

"And what country can preserve its liberties, if its rulers are not warned from time to time that this people preserve the spirit of resistance? Let them take arms....The tree of liberty must be refreshed from time to time, with the blood of patriots and tyrants." (Thomas Jefferson, *Letter to William S. Smith in 1787*)

"No clause in the Constitution could by any rule of construction be conceived to give to Congress a power to disarm the people. Such a flagitious attempt could only be made under some general pretense by a state legislature. But if in any blind pursuit of inordinate power, either should attempt it, this amendment may be appealed to as a restraint on both." (William Rawle, *A View of the Constitution* 125-6)

"Among the many misdeeds of the British rule in India, history will look upon the act of depriving a whole nation of arms, as the blackest." (Mahatma Gandhi)

In fact, the right to a firearm has been the consistent tradition since the founding of the thirteen colonies. Tellingly, the first "gun control laws" in the United States were a part of the "slave codes" and were designed to keep guns out of the hands of African slaves.

2. Government is one of the greatest threats to your existence. R.J. Rummel, a professor of political science

at the University of Hawaii, has extensively researched democide, or death by government. He concluded that in the 20th century alone, governments have been responsible for the death of over 260 million people (<http://www.hawaii.edu/powerkills/20TH.HTM>). If averaged out annually (2.6 million deaths a year), it becomes the fifth leading cause of death in the world (the first being heart disease, at 7.25 million deaths a year; <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs310/en/index.html>). In every instance of democide, the regime's leaders from Hitler to Stalin to Chiang Kai-shek enacted gun confiscation billed as gun control.

3. A "well regulated militia" does not refer to the military or police we have today. When the Constitution was drafted, the founders had just finished fighting what was considered the strongest military force of the time. The idea of a standing army was considered too much of a temptation to power. Section 8 of the Constitution states, "To raise and support Armies, but no Appropriation of Money to that Use shall be for a longer Term than two Years." This was seen as a necessary check on the power of the federal government. As we can see here, a distinction is drawn between armies and militias; the militias being understood as composed of ordinary citizens:

"The right of the people to keep and bear...arms shall not be infringed. A well regulated militia, composed of the body of the people, trained to arms, is the best and most natural defense of a free country..." (James Madison, *I Annals of Congress* 434)

"What, Sir, is the use of a militia? It is to prevent the establishment of a standing army, the bane of liberty... Whenever Governments mean to invade the rights and liberties of the people, they always attempt to destroy the militia, in order to raise an army upon their ruins." (Rep. Elbridge Gerry of Massachusetts, *I Annals of Congress* 750)

"...but if circumstances should at any time oblige the government to form an army of any magnitude, that army can never be formidable to the liberties

of the people, while there is a large body of citizens, little if at all inferior to them in discipline and use of arms, who stand ready to defend their rights..." (Alexander Hamilton, *Federalist* 29.)

The argument that high-caliber, high-capacity weapons were not intended by the Second Amendment because a) current military technology could not be envisioned or b) that only today's un-Constitutional standing army should possess these weapons is the exact opposite of the true intention of the Second Amendment, which was an insurance policy against government intrusion of our more fundamental rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

The great Russian author Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn, who wrote "The Gulag Archipelago" detailing his time as a political prisoner of Stalinist Russia, had this to say, "And how we burned in the camps later, thinking: What would things have been like if every Security

operative, when he went out at night to make an arrest, had been uncertain whether he would return alive and had to say good-bye to his family? Or if, during periods of mass arrests, as for example in Leningrad, when they arrested a quarter of the entire city, people had not simply sat there in their lairs, paling with terror at every bang of the downstairs door and at every step on the staircase, but had understood they had nothing left to lose and had boldly set up in the downstairs hall an ambush of half a dozen people with axes, hammers, pokers, or whatever else was at hand?... The Organs would very quickly have suffered a shortage of officers and transport and, notwithstanding all of Stalin's thirst, the cursed machine would have ground to a halt! If...if...We didn't love freedom enough. And even more – we had no awareness of the real situation.... We purely and simply deserved everything that happened afterward."

Homeless And Teens

continued from page 1

to purchase 10 dozen doughnuts for the participants and also presented the church with a \$100 donation.

By the end of the church's Sunday worship on Jan. 20, the LCC youth raised more than \$4,200 for the Northeast Ohio Coalition for the Homeless "Homeless Stand Down" program and Family Promise of Greater Cleveland. They will

continue to accept cash or check donations through the end of the month. Checks, made payable to Lakewood Congregational Church with the memo line: HASO, can be sent to Lakewood Congregational Church, 1375 West Clifton Blvd., Lakewood, OH 44107.



Teens and parents at The Pilgrim St. Paul's church collecting funds for the homeless. Inset: Parents gather around the fire as the temperatures dropped into the 20s.

Pulse Of The City

The Massacre Of The Holy Innocents Matthew 2: 16-18

by Gary Rice

"A voice is heard in Ramah, weeping and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because they are no more."

This column is dedicated to all the victims of school violence.

According to the book of Matthew, Joseph was forewarned in a dream to take his family from Bethlehem to Egypt because King Herod wanted to kill the baby Jesus. What reportedly followed was a massacre ordered by Herod of all boys under two years old in Bethlehem. While questions remain as to whether the massacre actually occurred (due to lack of corroboration from other sources), it is nonetheless recorded that, at some point in his reign, Herod may have even killed his own sons. As Bethlehem had a population of about a thousand souls at that time, estimates place the possible child death total of such a massacre at about twenty innocent souls.

Twenty. The Biblical parallel with recent events in Connecticut would be hard to miss.

Whether by royal decree, deranged mind, or both; whether by sword, or by spear, or by gun, the terrible results of human fear, loathing, hatred and evil are the same throughout history. Holy Innocents are all too often the first to suffer.

It's so easy to isolate some particularly monstrous evil as being a stand-alone event. It's so easy to come up with quick-fix solutions to specific and horrific problems in life. At the same time, it is so impor-

tant to realize that there are many degrees of evil in the human race. Every single day, there are millions of children, other Holy Innocents, who are verbally or physically brutalized, as, at various times, are spouses, employees in the workplace, the homeless on our streets, and the elderly in some nursing homes. It's easy to blame guns too, and many will, but were all the guns to be gone, then the swords, knives, paperweights, ball bats, and box cutters would all readily take their place. It's not just the choice of murder weapon that's involved here either, it's also the glorification of evil in our society that needs to be addressed.

Believe it or not, as recently as the 1950s, many American schools, including the Lakewood schools, had rifle clubs competing weekly in our school gymnasiums. It was no big thing to see a Lakewood student carrying a .22 rifle, open and unloaded, through the halls of Emerson or Horace Mann on his way to the gym for supervised target practice. The National Rifle Association was originally chartered by an act of Congress in order to help young Americans prepare for the national defense, and rifle training was encouraged in the public schools well into the late 1950s. At that time, no one ever thought of a gun being used in school in a "bad" way. That just was not in our national paradigm. The evil that America faced

back then supposedly came from beyond our shores.

These days? America appears to be doing very well with creating its own evils. In the 1950s for example, compromise was considered a solid American virtue. Nowadays? You tell me. So many movies, video games and television shows are so graphic with gore as to leave only the smell to one's imagination. In the 1950s, one seldom, if ever, heard a swear word on the screen, let alone some graphically depicted evil. Back in the 1950s, black and white TV sets and careful plot-setting may have implied evil, but they were severely limited in showing evil's terrible effects. Then along came color TV and movies, and with them came ever more blood and gore. The glorification of evil turned out to be a real money-maker too, as testosterone-driven young males would pay good money to satisfy their primal urge to experience, at least vicariously, the thrill of violent evil. For some, the urge became so much more than vicarious. Presented with those constant on-screen and in-print triggers, facing ongoing medical and treatment issues, and living with ever-present problems of social understanding and acceptance in our increasingly conformist society, the seriously mentally unbalanced among us sometimes became even more so.

The triggers that cause evil deeds to occur in contemporary American

society are indeed many and varied, and concrete solutions are so often mired in the no-compromise political world that we have created for ourselves. WE MUST KEEP THE FOCUS ON FIRST THINGS FIRST.... SAVING INNOCENT LIVES IN THE FUTURE.

After Columbine, there was a national effort to make our schools more secure, and they really are...but the fact remains that there are TWO MORE things that most districts could do in every school building (and many have probably NOT done yet) that could really help with overall school safety. One would be to have portable weapon detection equipment available, and the other? To implement a police/guard presence.

In the past, both of those proposals were set aside or stalled by any number of districts, often due to budgetary considerations and public relations variables. Some districts (and taxpayers) were convinced that this sort of thing could not happen where they were. But it has, of course. Many times, and in many places.

People who, to this point, did not want their neighborhood schools turned into lockdown prison-like institutions are now starting to reconsider. In a crisis event, seconds do count. Trained and rapid response is critical in the saving of innocent lives. The deterrent factor can never be over-emphasized

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Saturday, February 9, 2013
12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Lakewood Living

History Channel Series “The Men Who Built America” Has Lakewood Connections

The History Channel’s highly acclaimed television mini-series, “The Men Who Built America,” features two men especially important to Lakewood.

Lakewood’s Alexander Winton and Marcus Alonzo “Mark” Hanna, brother-in-law of Lakewood’s Robert Rhodes, were both highly significant in the series.

Winton was an automotive pioneer and among the first to develop a reliable automobile. In the mini-series, Winton’s automobile is challenged by automotive upstart Henry Ford to a ten-mile match race to determine their respective automobiles’ durability and speed.

The match race was considered a David versus Goliath event. As opposed to unknown Henry Ford, Winton was well known as an automotive pioneer and had raced his cars numerous times with great fanfare and success.

As portrayed in the series, on Oct. 10, 1901 in Grosse Pointe, Michigan, Ford’s “Sweepstakes” won the race. By winning the match race, Ford was able to attract investment which enabled him to refine and improve his automobile and its manufacturing capabilities. Winton, on

the other hand, faded from the automotive scene and stopped producing cars altogether in 1924. In 1930 the company was sold to General Motors at which time the company decided to refocus its efforts into marine diesel engines.

Winton had constructed an impressive estate along the southern shore of Lake Erie in 1902 when Lakewood was just a hamlet. After his death in 1932, “Roseneath” gradually fell into disrepair and was sold to developers who, on May 25, 1962, broke ground on the 30-story luxury high-rise Winton Place. It remains today one of greater Cleveland’s premier addresses.

The History Channel series also mentions another man with deep Lakewood ties, Marcus A. Hanna. Hanna was not a Lakewood resident, but his brother-in-law and daughter both lived here.

In 1896 the Democratic candidate for president was reformer William Jennings Bryan. Bryan campaigned on a theme of redistributing the country’s wealth and breaking up the industrialists’ ill-earned trusts.

Fearing Bryan’s election, America’s wealthiest and most powerful titans of business, John D. Rockefeller, Andrew Carnegie and J.P. Morgan, actively sought a candidate to protect their interests.

That candidate was Ohio Governor William McKinley. McKinley’s campaign manager and confidant was Mark Hanna. Hanna, who had been a high school classmate of John D. Rockefeller, rallied America’s wealthiest behind the McKinley candidacy. Morgan, Carnegie and Rockefeller each donated, through Hanna, an unprecedented \$250,000 to the McKinley campaign, a massive sum in those days.

Hanna met Charlotte Augusta Rhodes in 1862 and they married on Sept. 27, 1864. In 1867 Hanna began work for Rhodes and Company, his in-laws’ family mining business. Eventually he became head of the enterprise and the company name was changed to M.A Hanna Co.

Hanna was very active in Ohio Republican party politics and assisted numerous politicians, including James Garfield and William McKinley. Even-

tually Hanna became a United States Senator.

The Rhodes and Hanna families were very prominent in western Cuyahoga County. One of Hanna’s brothers-in-law, James Ford Rhodes, won a Pulitzer Prize in literature in 1918 for his “History of the Civil War, 1861-8165.” A Cleveland High School is named after him.

Robert Rhodes worked closely with his brother-in-law Mark Hanna in the family business. His lake-front estate, now Lakewood Park, was located at Belle and Lake. Upon Rhodes’ death in 1918, Rhodes’ widow sold the estate to the City of Lakewood for \$215,000. The Rhodes’ estate served as City Hall until the mid-fifties when City Hall moved to Detroit Avenue. The home was demolished except for the picnic pavilion which was refurbished and rededicated on Nov. 19, 1993.

Mark Hanna’s daughter, Mabel, married her father’s personal assistant Harry Parsons. Their home, located at 17890 Lake near the Clifton Club, was built in 1911 and was one of the most magnificent mansions in Clifton Park. The home reportedly had a bowling alley in its basement and an imported marble fountain in the entranceway. The estate was demolished in 1965 about the time of the construction of the Clifton Park Bridge. New homes were built on the site of what now is known as Clifton Park Lane.

Hanna, Winton, Rockefeller, Carnegie, Ford and others are fading from memory, but as the History Channel series suggests, their footprints mark today’s America. Their contemporaries Winton and Hanna hark back to a time when the Cleveland area was the center of the industrial universe and Lakewood was a familiar path for many of these same industrialists. The namesakes of Rockefeller Center, the Hanna Theater, Ford Motor and other American landmarks, each in varying degrees, passed through Lakewood.

Cleveland Metroparks

by Josh Yellon

Having recently moved back to Cleveland after 10 years of living in Berlin, Germany, one of things I enjoy doing most in my free time is visiting the amazing park system. For those of us living in Lakewood, the parks are easily accessible and offer us space for such a variety of activities (walking, jogging, fishing, sports and meeting with family and friends). And if you haven’t gone recently I recommend finding the time to visit.

The creation of the Cleveland Metropark District was due to the initiative of a young, self-taught engineer who had conceived the idea of an outer chain of parks with connecting boulevards. His name? William Stinchcomb. This idea first came to light in 1905 and has developed into what we now enjoy and know as the Cleveland Metroparks.

Josh Yellon is a professional saxophonist and avid photographer. <http://joshyellon.500px.com/>.



Hawk in Lakewood Park



Above: Bird’s Eye View - Rocky River Reservation
Below: Nightfall in Rocky River Reservation



photo by Josh Yellon

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Lakewood Living

Your Oak Tree Needs Your Help

by John Palmer

For those of you with oak trees on your property, be on the lookout for Oak Wilt, a pathogen (fungus) that attacks oak trees. It looks to be on the move here in Northeast Ohio. I diagnosed and treated a number of oaks last year. Oak Wilt is caused by *Ceratocystis fagacearum*, a fungus lethal to Oaks (*Quercus* sp.). The disease is most serious to members of the Red Oak family, including red oak, scarlet oak, black oak, and pin oak. Members of the White Oak family, including white oak, swamp white oak, and burr oak, are generally not as susceptible, they just die slower. Identifying the difference between the two families is fairly simple. Leaves with pointed ‘lobes’ are from the Red Oak Family, rounded lobes are from the White Oak family.

Researchers tend to believe that once oaks become infected with the Oak Wilt fungus, there is little that can be done to save the infected trees. Hence, efforts should be directed toward saving non-infected trees.

The Oak Wilt fungus can be transmitted by insects (varieties of bark and

“picnic” beetles), and by root grafts between trees. Beetles are attracted to injured or cut wood. One way to slow the transmission of the fungus is to NOT prune oaks during the warm months (generally April - October). So, if you have oaks damaged by the recent storm, don’t think you’re doing your oak, or the tree company any favors by waiting until the weather warms up. Doing it before April Fool’s Day will reduce the risk of transmission. Oak Wilt can kill a 100 foot tall oak in a matter of months.

Oaks become high risk during the warm months when they’re “injured” through human practices, especially pruning, and through storm damage. April, May and June are the months that pose the greatest risk but other warm season months can as well. Several species of picnic beetles are attracted to fresh wounds caused by trimming and storm damage, and their activity transmits the fungus to healthy trees.

Because of the size and value of mature oaks, constant vigilance is needed to protect against the threat of Oak Wilt. If you notice anything



An example of Oak Wilt on White Oak leaves.

unusual with your oak, get help. It’s also crucial to spread the words, DO NOT PRUNE during the warm season. Storm damage should be assessed and repaired promptly. It’s also highly recommended that community efforts be established to mitigate the threat of Oak Wilt.

The most common ways the fungus is spread are injury and human activity. Not disinfecting tools after pruning an infected tree can transmit the fungus to a healthy tree. Except for emergency situations, cessation of pruning during the warm season can help. If it’s necessary to prune during warmer weather, apply a pruning paint or sealer (not spray paint or other household chemicals!) to the clean cut to help keep away sap beetles. Repair storm damage as quickly as possible during this time. Pruning and storm damage repair during the dormant (Fall/Winter) season is recommended. Pruning sealer is generally not necessary at that time.

The fungus is also spread via root grafts. Roots from adjacent trees contact each other and actually graft together. Preventative treatment is the best way to save oaks. Once you determine a tree is infected, treat any adjacent oaks to protect them. Sadly, many times the carrier oak will not be able to be saved. Trenching down 3 to 4 feet to sever grafted roots is also an option, but it’s noisy, expensive, and leaves a yard a mess.

Identifying Oak Wilt can be quite difficult, even for experts. According to Michigan State University Extension, submissions to diagnostic labs often result in negative tests for Oak Wilt. On a good day, even with expert plant diagnosticians analyzing excellent sample submissions, Oak Wilt fungus may only be confirmed about 40% of the time from actual affected trees. Contacting an Arborist with experience in disease recognition is your best bet.

Here’s what to look for. Symptoms in recently infected trees include leaf margin browning, progressing

inward and from the leaf tip to the leaf base. There is a sharp delineation between living and dead tissue, with a very distinct line between the bronze and green tissues, almost like someone painted them. Leaves on branches may appear to be wilting. Some leaves may turn green or brown and drop, while others remain attached. Discoloration in the sap may or may not be present, and branch cross sections will show spots or dark areas in the xylem. But, these symptoms can be descriptive of other problems and misdiagnosis is not uncommon. Fungal mats, called pressure pads, may develop beneath the bark by the following spring. These mats, composed primarily of mycelium (thread-like growths), form beneath the bark. Sometimes the mats raise and crack the bark, giving off a fermenting odor that attracts insects. These mats serve as sources for transmission by beetles to healthy trees.

The tree tries to fight off the fungal infection by plugging its vascular system to stop the fungus from spreading, and it literally kills itself. Treatment is also difficult because a healthy vascular system is necessary to transport systemic fungicides throughout a tree. Oak Wilt has to be caught early to be treatable.

Infected trees should be removed promptly. Wood can be used for firewood, but only if it’s done properly. It must be debarked, or covered and sealed during the warmer months. Diseased trees with bark can serve as a source of further infection for neighboring trees.

The main period of infection is in the spring, when new vessel wood is being formed. Symptoms in red oak occur as early as May, so as warmer weather arrives, keep an eye on your oak, and if you have any questions, make sure to get help. An ounce of prevention might be worth a few hundred board feet of cure.

John Palmer is an ISA Certified Arborist and a Mayoral Appointee to Lakewood’s Tree Task Force.

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Lakewood Living

Leave Your Lights Up

by Joe Gombarcik

We have just enjoyed the brightest time of the year. Holidays mean good will toward everyone. They embody the basic form of the Christmas spirit. A time to rejoice in the midst of an oncoming cold and the colorless sameness of blanketing snowfalls. It is a commitment to show the neighborhood that you care enough to brighten the nights. Our city is meant for colorful lighting, a sign of hope and cheer, as a physical display of its joyful resolve to be good neighbors. The lights are a reminder of our sense of community, a community which should not end with the passing of a month or two. Every year, it has been a disappointment to see them come down.

The lights, indoors and out, have shown our city's dedication to the holiday spirit for several weeks now, pleasing everyone - especially children - every spectacular night. But it does not have to end as suddenly as the tradition dictates.

Other cities have kept their outdoor lights up and shining brightly now and have no intention of taking them down anytime soon. Granted, much of this has to do with the cold weather, but there is a growing movement among our city dwellers to show their pride in this town by defeating the dullness of the oncoming weather by leaving up the colorful lighting displays they had during the holiday months. Lakewood itself continues to liven up the avenues with creative

lighting displays. Other cities have taken up the challenge as well. Various places around the state have left the best holiday lights up. And, various homes around town should be commended for doing the same to their own spaces -- some even being so bold as to leave their trees up. Now that is true spirit!

If more people thought that way, perhaps we would have a better city, maybe a better world. After all, it is one of the symbols of peace, love and joy. So consider leaving those lights up, even when the weather gets mild enough to tempt you to take them down. Your resolve now will reflect on how great the city will be when the snow flies again. Think about how noteworthy Lakewood could be if it held firm to its commitment to a beautiful city. It would be beneficial to everyone, especially the children, to see the lights go on every night.

Who knows, the dull stretch of winter might last a while, with the lights being the only break in a town where everything looks the same. Yes, the snowy landscapes are praised at first, but some people think they grow old after a long, cold while. Even these diehard lovers of snow will crave some variety. You could be the reason for a city reborn. So leave your lights up, and enjoy the appreciation of your town. Keep them up just a little longer than you normally would. After all, it wouldn't be any additional effort - they are already up.



Betty Rozakis, author and graphologists brings her talents to the Lakewood Observer, as we look at even more ways to understand this community.

New Column! Coffee With The Subconscious

by Betty Rozakis

Life is about relationships...
Waiting for my cappuccino at the Blackbird Bakery I noticed a man seated at the large table. He had an imposing stature, an energized demeanor. I didn't know his name. He was often there when I arrived. Then one day I had a need.

It somehow got revealed to this man that I was hitting roadblocks getting into the Author's program at Lakewood Library. Without a skip of the heart...He made a phone call. With a sense of urgency, he sent me running to meet with James Crawford, Director of the Lakewood Library. Fait accompli! Mission Accomplished!

Who was this guy? He didn't know me. But something told me to give him a copy of my book, Coffee with the Subconscious.

A few weeks later I got a phone call. An enthusiastic phone call. Jim O'Bryan wanted me to meet someone. Trying to coordinate our schedules, I could feel his energy through my i-phone. I had no clue about who or what to expect.

Seated at the oversized table next

to Jim, I noticed a comparatively smaller man physically frozen in his seat. I didn't know who he was but he had a keen understanding of my work. From Hippocrates...Le Senne... Jung...Freud...St. Morand Planetary Types...Maslow...Horney...Fromm... Adler...Enneagram...We couldn't stop exchanging thoughts!

This was the man Jim O'Bryan chose to write my book review for The Lakewood Observer... Kenneth Warren.

Toward the end of our time together, Ken felt comfortable enough with me to give me a sample of his handwriting. He wrote a few lines in my sketchbook along with his signature. There was some discussion about me writing a column. What type of column would it be? I wasn't sure.

I'm trained in European Depth Graphology. I see the character and personality of a person through their handwriting. What about a column about relationships? Both Kenneth Warren and Jim O'Bryan wrote for me. Who are these two? What's their connection?

I will discuss their handwriting in my next column.

The Massacre Of The Holy Innocents: Matthew 2: 16-18

continued from page 16

either. It's been my experience as an educator that the more anti-violence countermeasures (including classroom conflict-resolution lessons) that are in place, the less likely that trouble will start.

With respect to our school security, Lakewood is probably more fortunate than some outlying districts, in that police help is only minutes away. At the same time, at the risk of reiteration, seconds do count.

The complex issue of gun control, on the other hand, is one that will probably take quite a bit of time to work out. We just can't wait for that to happen. We need to always keep

the short focus on pragmatic ways that schools can keep improving their security.

Having portable weapon detection equipment available and an increased police/guard presence in EACH and EVERY school building are ideas that need serious consideration, with the only caveat being that school professionals would need to carefully research such equipment to be sure it is up to date and in full compliance with the most modern health standards of repeated exposure to magnetic or other forms of radiation.

Hopefully, these and other security questions are already being addressed by Lakewood's schools, as we move forward in these difficult times.

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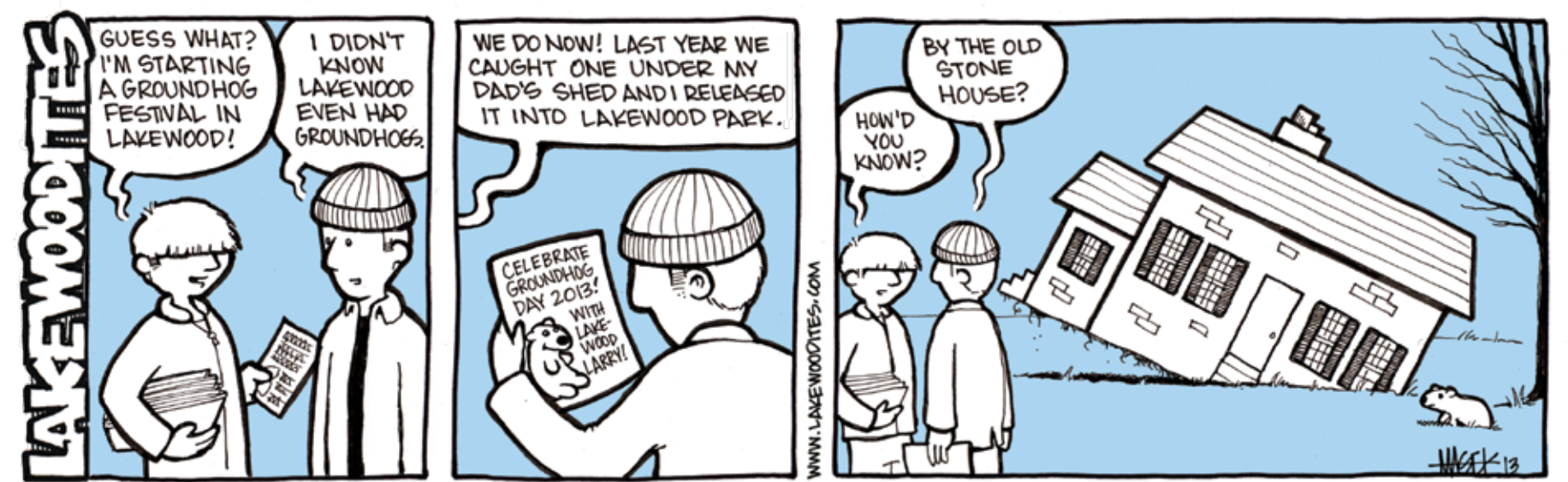
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