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Volume 9, Issue 9, May 1, 2013

25th Annual Sale On The Grounds!

by Paula Reed

Lakewood Historical Society's Sale on the Grounds celebrates its 25th anniversary this year. Its impetus was the acquisition of the Nicholson House, Lakewood's oldest structure, built in 1835. After the death in 1947 of Josephine Nicholson, the last family member to occupy the house, the property passed from the Nicholson family's ownership. It was divided into four rental units, and was tenant occupied until August of 1988. In 1985 the house was saved from possible demolition when it was purchased by the Lakewood Historical Society and the City of Lakewood.

The first Sale on the Grounds included items left behind by tenants, as well as pieces and parts added to the house over the years that were being removed for the restoration. The proceeds from the sale were used to help fund the



Paul Gaydos at the first Sale on the Grounds 25 years ago.

work.

Proceeds from Sale on the Grounds still support the Nicholson House, and the programming provided by the historical society. The society also maintains archives and a library, the Oldest Stone House museum, and offers services to Lakewood residents.

Sale on the Grounds is Lakewood's biggest and best opportunity to find incred-

ible merchandise for bargain prices. There are antiques & collectibles; LOADS of jewelry; household goods, kitchenware, small appliances, linens, toys & games, tools & electronics, lawn & garden, sporting equipment and much more. Throughout the year hundreds of people donate items to the society for this sale, and every year we're able to raise the bar on the quality because we

receive so many quality items.

The sale begins with the Preview Party on Friday, May 3rd. At \$15, it's the best night out in town! Come shop without the crowds, get first crack at the best stuff, and enjoy food and drink with your friends. Rozi's will be handling the bar, and the food is sponsored by Al Hopf and Granny's Attic Estate Sales. Granny's Attic is also the donor of many of the wonderful items featured in our sales. A limited number of tickets to the Preview Party will be sold. They are \$15 in advance; \$20 at the door, if available. You

can pay online via Paypal at lakewoodmuseumstore.com/25th-annual-sale-on-the-grounds/sale-on-the-grounds-preview-party-friday-may-3rd, or send a check payable to Lakewood Historical Society, 14710 Lake Avenue, Lakewood 44107.

The public Sale on the Grounds is Saturday, May 4, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. and Sunday, May 5, noon to 3:00. There's no easier way to support the Lakewood Historical Society and find real bargains than shopping the sale. Don't miss your chance to uncover real treasures!

Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur To Speak At Cuyahoga County Seniors Town Hall Meeting

Barry Wemyss

Plan on joining Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur, and your neighbors, at a Seniors Town Hall Meeting at the Lawther Senior Center in Lakewood. There is currently much heated discussion about the future of Social Security, Medicare and other assistance programs of vital importance to seniors. Congresswoman Kaptur is in town to gain further insight into how these programs impact the lives of our most vulnerable neighbors, family members and friends. We all need to speak up on behalf of our vulnerable older neighbors.

Congresswoman Kaptur will be at the Lawther Senior Center at 16024 Madison Ave., Lakewood, on Thursday, May 2, 2013 from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Please call 216-521-1515 for more information.

Steam Through Lakewood!



Photo by Ed Favre

by Edward Favre

Norfolk Southern Railway has announced the tours of two steam locomotives on its lines this year as part of its 21st Century Steam Program. One will be coming through Lakewood on Mother's Day, May 12. It is Nickel Plate Road #765, a 2-8-4 Berkshire steam locomotive that is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The 2-8-4 designation of a Berkshire-type loco-

tive indicates it has 2 pony or leading wheels, 8 large driving wheels, and 4 trailing wheels. Standing 15 feet tall, the Berkshire is capable of speeds over 60 mph.

The Nickel Plate Road, formally known as the New York, Chicago & St. Louis Railroad, was originally laid through Rockport Township (Lakewood) in the 1880s. In 1964, Norfolk & Western

From Rust Belt Chic To Cleveland Eats: Meet The Authors At LPL

by Leana Donofrio-Milovan

When Cleveland gets some positive press, like being named the second coolest city in the Midwest by MSN, it doesn't take the region's foodies and writers by surprise. They have been leading the charge to defend Cleveland pride all along.

Visiting Lakewood back-to-back are local editors/writers Richey Piiparinen and Anne Trubek with their book "Rust Belt Chic," and Maria Isabella, author of "In the Kitchen with Cleveland's Favorite Chefs." Both books highlight Cleveland's major

talents and help define a region re-emerging as a unique and delicious place to call home.

As growing numbers of young professionals move out of the suburbs and back into the industrial landscapes of Cleveland, Pittsburgh and Detroit, it was only a matter of time before someone coined a term for this urban resurgence. Unwilling to let this new phenomenon be defined by hipsters flitting about between New York and LA, the editors of this anthology put out a call for local voices to set down the truth of what it means to be "rust belt chic." The resulting collection of love letters to our region exposes the beauty and humor beneath the dust and bones that a new generation is working to excavate and bring back to life. With stories by the likes of Michael Ruhlman, Connie Schultz, Laura Maylene Walter and many more of our favorite people, "Rust Belt Chic" will make you glad to call Cleveland your home. Books will be available for sale and signing at the event which



will take place at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 8 in the Main Library Auditorium.

An award-winning author and self-proclaimed foodie asks thirty-five Cleveland chefs, "If you were suddenly to get a call at home from good friends who wanted to stop by, what would you prepare for them in one hour or less?" The answers come in the form of a remarkable cookbook that serves as a whirlwind tour of Cleveland's rising gastro-scene. Photographs and profiles offer a glimpse into the lives of the world class chefs who live among us and like to

continued on 7



Lakewood Observer

League of Women Voters Forum Spotlights Westshore Council Of Governments

by Conda Boyd,
League of Women Voters

On April 16, the League of Women Voters-Cuyahoga Area hosted a lively discussion on regionalization among Westlake Mayor Dennis Clough, Lakewood Mayor Mike Summers, Westshore Council of Governments fiscal officer Steve Presley, and 65 citizens, local officials, and safety forces members. This was the second of three LWV voter education forums on regionalization. While the first event explored collaboration with the county, this forum took a close look at collaboration among cities, specifically members of the Westshore Council of Governments (WCOG).

WCOG was formed in 1971 by six communities -- Bay Village, Fairview Park, Lakewood, North Olmsted, Rocky River, and Westlake -- "to foster cooperation between municipalities in all areas of municipal service." Funding for 2013 is \$330,000, with 10% shared equally and 90% based on population and valuation.

The original WCOG agreement established the Westshore Enforcement Bureau (WEB), which offers police chiefs a framework in which to collaborate on vice and narcotics investigations, as well as to field special



Westlake mayor Dennis Clough and Lakewood mayor Mike Summers respond to questions at the second regionalization forum held at Dwyer Community Center on April 16.

teams including SWAT, Bomb Squad, Hazmat, Special Rescue Teams, and FEMA's Westshore Regional Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). This January, Ohio State Auditor Dave Yost awarded WCOG his Taxpayer Hero Award to recognize their 41-year history of cooperation.

Some projects involve subsets of communities. Since 2006, Westshore Central Dispatch has been offering fire and EMS dispatch services for

the WCOG cities, minus Lakewood but plus North Ridgeville. The Rocky River Waste Water Treatment Facility is a venture of four WCOG cities (Rocky River, Bay Village, Westlake, and Fairview Park). Bay Village and Westlake co-operate a compost facility. Then again, all six cities own and share a tree stump grinder, as well as other equipment too expensive and rarely used for each city to own.

Some interests do not overlap, as shown by the spirited exchange between Mayors Clough and Summers on the impact of a long pattern of migration outward from Cleveland into the suburbs and now the surrounding counties.

Lakewood, with aging infrastructure and housing, faces different problems from Westlake, which has thriving commerce that is feeling the pull of the cheaper land made available via the new Lear-Nagel interchange. The problems of crime and poverty in Cleveland can seem remote, but Mayor Summers argued that without a regional view, a falling tide could beach all boats. Both mayors agreed that the State of Ohio is pushing for regional collaboration and structuring funding to meet that goal.

The next big regionalization project is the proposed fire district merger for four WCOG cities -- Bay Village, Fairview Park, Rocky River, and Westlake. They have applied for a \$100,000 grant to plan the merger; the outcome will be known in May. When asked about Plan B, Mayor Clough stated that each city could ante up a share of the necessary funds. He also noted that the four cities could proceed without amending their charters by going through a trial period before formalizing a merger. Bay Village voters rejected charter amendments last November that would have paved the way for a regional fire district.

The WCOG meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 9:30 am in the Lakewood Women's Pavilion. Meetings are open to the public. And mark your calendars for the LWV-CA's third forum Wednesday June 19, 7 p.m. at Fairview Park Library, when the focus will be on fire district mergers.

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

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

Upcoming Submission Deadline
Sunday, May 5, 2013
Sunday, May 19, 2013

Publish Date
Wednesday, May 15, 2013
Wednesday, May 29, 2013

www.lakewoodobserver.com – 216.712.7070
14900 Detroit Avenue, Suite 205, Lakewood, OH 44107

The Lakewood Observer is powered by AGS's:

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ILLUSTRATIONS - Rob Masek

PRODUCTION - A Graphic Solution, Inc.

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS - Rachel Anzalone, Chris Bergin, Michael Bodnar, Helen Brinich, Curt Brosky, Norma Collin, Charlie Ditchman, Lucinda Einhouse, Marge Foley, Jay Foran, Christine Gordillo, Victoria Hamm, Andrew Harant, Karen Karp, Eric Knapp, Eric Lowrey, Declan Markling, Morgan Maseth, Leana Donofrio-Milovan, Anne and Jack Palomaki, Quinn Pauly, Parker Pennington, Dylan Popovich, Paula Reed, Gary Rice, Barbara Schwartz, Annie Stahlheber, Fran Storch, Kathryn Tatnall, Ken Tomaro, Yianni Varonis, Adam Vasquez, Betsy Voinovich, Denny Wendell, and Barry Wemyss.

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City News

Council Meeting Of Monday, April 15

by Helen Brinich

The meeting of Lakewood City Council was held on April 15th. It was preceded by an ad hoc meeting held for the purpose of reducing the number of committees that have continued to grow through the years, some of which no longer serve any purpose.

A Tree Task Force has just been established. Its purpose is to study and advise municipal officials, and the public recommending action on items involving trees on public and private and public land in Lakewood. It will be disbanded after 12 months.

The Lakewood Youth Committee has been inactive for a long time, and is not required by the City Charter. Its function could be fulfilled by other agencies.

The Dealers License Renovation Appeal Board is composed of three ex officio members of the city administra-

tion. It is there if needed, council will let it stand.

The Fair Employment Wage Board has complicated rules. It requires companies that are doing business with Lakewood to pay their employees a living wage. This would be \$9.20/hr. with health benefits paid by the employer, or \$10.20/hr. without health benefits. Determining which employers are covered by this rule takes a lot of definition. It was agreed to schedule another meeting to determine action on this matter.

The regular meeting was called to order by council president Brian Powers at 7:30 p.m. All council members were present. All the resolutions and ordinances on the agenda were adopted without any nay votes. Many were housekeeping items and routine appointments.

A resolution was adopted to impose a moratorium on granting

permits to operate businesses licensed under Ohio's Mortgage Law, or Small Loan Law. This is an attempt to regulate predatory lending.

An ordinance was adopted to amend some safety laws regarding bicycles and motorized vehicles: no riding on seats of handle bars, no riding on sidewalks, and no riding abreast.

The most contentious item on the agenda was a resolution to rezone a property in Clifton Park to allow the Clifton Point Phase II to proceed. Several residents of Clifton Park voiced objections and complaints. The first speaker complained that rezoning the proposed area for the construction of Phase 2 would allow the buildings to be positioned too close to the property line. They would be too high, much higher than the two-story residences that make up the rest of the residences of Clifton Park, and would make what was once a low-density neighborhood into a high-density one. He also objected to the tax abatement of 50%, which is being offered to the developers. Two other Clifton Park residents voiced similar objections. They also complained that the Sloane sub-

way was often narrowed to one lane because of the presence of construction equipment being used for phase I. There is obviously the risk of a head on collision. The police chief agreed a flagman needed to be positioned there to direct traffic.

Mayor Summers replied to the resident objections. The tax revenues from the property will be a lot more over time when it is developed than what is being currently generated. Clifton Point provides a different kind of housing than is currently present in Lakewood. The success in selling those now being built proves there is a market for this kind of housing. The zoning commission and architectural review board have not yet given their approval. The development plans will be meticulously reviewed to make sure they are an asset to the city.

A resident of Arthur Avenue expressed dismay at the plan to install more attractive streetlights on his street. He resents having to pay a considerable amount of money for what he thinks would be an unnecessary change. He feels that it infringes on his rights as a property owner, and it is a polarizing issue.

The meeting was adjourned at about 8:40 p.m.

Sen. Brown Outlines New Jobs Bill Aimed At Increasing Availability Of Locally-Grown Food At Schools And Farmers Markets

by Yianni Varonis

Local Farms, Food, and Jobs Act Would Increase Business Opportunities, Create Jobs for Ohio's Farmers, Provide Healthy, Locally-Grown Foods to Northeast Ohio Students

Today, U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown (D-OH) joined local celebrity chef Doug Katz, a Geauga County farmer, and students at Washington Park High School to outline new jobs legislation, the "Local Farms, Food, and Jobs Act," that would expand markets for local farmers and producers while improving school lunches through the addition of more locally-grown fruits and vegetables.

"Linking Ohio producers with Ohio consumers like schools and children is common sense," said Brown. "By increasing access to fresh, local foods, we can expand markets for Ohio's agricultural producers while improving health, creating jobs, and strengthening our economy."

Brown outlined how his bill would support ongoing Farm-to-School efforts and increase access to healthy foods. It provides funding to help farmers build the infrastructure—like community kitchens—to process and sell their food locally, breaks down barriers so that

schools can purchase local food more easily, and provides schools with a local school credit to purchase local foods.

The Cleveland Metropolitan School District received a \$45,000 award through the federal Farm-to-School program. Administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Farm-to-School program helps schools connect with local producers and teaches kids where their food comes from. Brown's bill would improve Farm-to-School efforts and would allow school districts to spend a portion of federal funds for free and reduced school lunches on locally-grown fruits and vegetables.

Gauga County farmer Savery Rorimer explained how Brown's bill would help Ohio farmers sell their products directly to consumers and create jobs by assisting farmers engaged in local and regional agriculture by addressing production, aggregation, processing, marketing, and distribution needs.

Brown and the students were also joined by Doug Katz, owner and executive chef of Fire Food & Drink, who has made local food central to his menus year-round, using ingredients from more than a dozen Ohio producers.

Board Of Nuisance Abatement Appeals Seeks Volunteer

by Mary Hagan

Lakewood City Council is seeking an enthusiastic volunteer to serve on the Board of Nuisance Abatement Appeals. Applicants must be residents of Lakewood, have the desire, and the availability to serve their community.

In 2008 the City adopted a rigorous process for remediating issues of noise, litter, disorderly conduct, and matters of health and safety, among other issues related to quality of life. The City may declare a residential or commercial property a "nuisance" if the property owner fails to attend to these matters. The role of the Board of Nuisance Abatement Appeals is to decide resident appeals in determining whether the declaration of nuisance should be upheld. The Board meets annually and within 15 days of receiving an appeal.

The current vacancy is for an unexpired term ending 12/31/15.

A standard application form and information on the Board may be found at the following: http://www.onelakewood.com/Boards_Commissions/Default.aspx. Additional information on the Board of Nuisance Appeals and the City's process for declaring a nuisance may be found within Chapter 510 of the Codified Ordinances of the city, available at the following: <http://www.conwaygreene.com/Lakewood/lpext.dll?f=templates&fn=main-hit-h.htm&2.0>

Applicants are asked to return an application form and any related materials, such as a cover letter and résumé, to Lakewood City Council, 12650 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio 44107 by Friday May 10, 2013 at 5 p.m.

For more information, please contact Mary Hagan, Clerk of Council, at (216) 529-6053.

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Lakewood Public Library

An Evening With Author Stephanie S. Tolan

by Kathryn Tatnall

I am a confirmed book geek. I could pass a well-known athlete on the street without recognition, but if Lemony Snicket were walking down Detroit Avenue I would elbow my grandmother out of my way to get his autograph. Yeah, I am a book geek. I would easily walk around Leonardo DiCaprio, if Cinda Williams Chima was standing behind him. I've met several authors through the years that I have worked for the library. Each time it is like I was a kid on Christmas morning opening gifts. I am so excited I can't sleep the night before, and I am up well before the sun. I am so fascinated to meet someone who has created another world that I get to visit for a few hours. I am so thrilled to listen to someone whose words have resonated in my life. Words that have sometimes made me laugh and sometimes made me cry, sometimes all in the same chapter. I am

so happy to be able to help the readers of Lakewood have the same experience. On Tuesday, May 14th you will have the wonderful opportunity to unwrap such a gift. The Lakewood Public Library Foundation and the Friends of Lakewood Public Library present author Stephanie S. Tolan. You are invited to hear her presentation, "Once upon a time...Happily Ever After, the Magical Life of a Writer." Ms. Tolan is the author of several children's books including "Surviving the Applewhite's," which was named a Newberry Honor book in 2003. The second book, "The Applewhite's at Wits End," came out in May of 2012 and has been very well-received. The author will be available to meet you after her presentation and sign books. The event is free and open to the public. We will meet at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library's Auditorium.

Meet The Author Of "House Of Horrors"

by Morgan Maseth

In October of 2009, the entire nation was shocked by a SWAT team's grisly discovery of eleven bodies in the Imperial Avenue home of Anthony Sowell. Cleveland-based journalist Robert Sberna dared to go down the rabbit hole of the mind of a serial killer with thorough research, interviews with experts and a burning desire to understand how such a horrific crime could have occurred. Join Sberna as he shares his insights on this case at the Lakewood Public Library. Sberna's book, "House of Horrors: The Shocking True Story of Anthony Sowell, the Cleveland Strangler," delves further into the case by examining the lives of the forgotten victims. Often

ignored and demonized because of their lifestyles, the victims are finally given a voice in Sberna's work. After a long journey engaging with police, family members, surviving victims and Sowell himself, Sberna lays bare the unique challenges faced by the police and coroner investigating a series of tragedies and provides readers with an account that is as honest as it is gripping. This program is free and open to the public. It will take place in the Lakewood Public Library Main Auditorium on Thursday, May 16 at 7:00 p.m. Books will be available for sale and signing at the event. For further information go to www.lakewood-publiclibrary.org/literary or call 216-226-8275 ext. 127.

2013 Spelling Bee Winners



Congratulations to all of the Spelling Bee participants who competed on April 12th to find Lakewood's finest speller. This year's winners are: Alex Weber in third place, Zearatus Perry Jr. in second place, and Drew Sheldon in first place. (shown from left to right in photo)



Children who visit the library are welcome to spend time in the Computer Connections Room.

Computer Fun

by Marge Foley

What happened 14,211 times last year? Patrons of the Lakewood Public Library viewed "TumbleBooks." TumbleBooks is an interactive, read-aloud website that offers a wide variety of animated, talking picture books. This website is simple enough for young children to use independently. When a particular e-book is activated, the text is highlighted as it is being read aloud to the listener. Pictures from the stories colorfully appear on the screen. There are also tests and activities associated with the books. TumbleBooks can be used in the Main Library Computer Connections Room or remotely through the Library's website. The TumbleBooks collection can be viewed in English, French, or Spanish. In addition to TumbleBooks, the Computer Connections Room allows children to select from over 35 educational computer games designed to encourage literacy, math, and problem-solving skills. Use of this room is available 7 days a week, from opening until 8:30 p.m. Bring your children to the Computer Connections Room and let them enjoy all the library has to offer.

Lakewood Public Library And Knit & Lit Book Club Join Forces With WBN



by Leana Donofrio-Milovan

On the evening of April 23, Knit & Lit book club members Gail Eaton (current leader), Kathy Dumont, Liz Eberly and Mary Beth Zeni handed out free books as part of the World Book Night, a world-wide organization promoting reading for young and old. Passing out free books in public for one evening of the year, is the method of enlightenment of future readers. Knit & Lit book club functions as a part of the Lakewood Public Library and meets monthly. This year, Lakewood Public Library agreed to be a 'pick up' point for the local 'givers' who participated in this yearly event. A reception was held for the fifteen givers at the library as an appreciation of their dedication to this organization. The library hopes that as word spreads, more people will participate as givers worldwide. The WBN website, www.WBN.org will have next year's sign up around November.

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Lakewood Public Library

compiled by Leana Donofrio-Milovan

Saturday, May 4
Lakewood Public Cinema
“Moonrise Kingdom” (2012)

Directed by Wes Anderson - Rated PG-13

All the world sings of love, then stands stubbornly in the way. On an idyllic island of the coast of New England, two twelve year-olds open their hearts and run away from home to start a new life together. A conspiracy of adults, including Bruce Willis, Edward Norton, Bill Murray and Frances McDormand, follows with mixed emotions. Director Wes Anderson ventures into the world of nature beyond his perfect sets for magical results.

6:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

Sunday, May 5
Sunday with the Friends: Hot Djang!

In the 1930s, Django Rheinhardt was the epitome of cool and the living embodiment of Gypsy jazz. This four-piece acoustic ensemble takes us back to wild, roaring times in Paris.

2:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

Wednesday, May 8
Meet the Author:

“Rust Belt Chic” Edited by Richey Piiparinen and Anne Trubek

As growing numbers of young professionals move out of the suburbs and back into the industrial landscapes of Cleveland, Pittsburgh and Detroit, it was only a matter of time before someone coined a term for this urban resurgence. Unwilling to let this new phenomena be defined by hipsters flitting about between New York and LA, the editors of this anthology put out a call for local voices to set down the truth of what it means to be rust belt chic. The resulting collection of love letters to our region exposes the beauty and humor beneath the dust and bones that a new generation is working to excavate and bring back to life. With stories by the likes of Michael Ruhlman, Connie Schultz, Laura Maylene Walter and many more of our favorite people, Rust Belt Chic will make you glad to call Cleveland your home. Books will be available for sale and signing at the event.

7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

LPL Children/Youth Events

compiled by Eric Knapp

Tuesday, May 14
Meet the Author: Stephanie S. Tolan, Free and open to the public

Meet the author of “Surviving the Applewhites” (Newberry Honor Book, 2003) and “Applewhites at Wit’s End,” two books about growing up in an imaginative, home-school family struggling with the outside world. Tolan was born in Ohio. Books will be available for sale and signing at the event. No registration necessary.

7:00 P.M. in the Main Library Auditorium.

Saturday, May 11
Tail Waggin’ Tutors, For school-age children

Bone up on your reading skills by reading to a dog. Drop in for a one-to-one session with one of our dogs and owners that have been certified through Therapy Dogs International.

11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room.

Family Weekend Wonders

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

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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

Thursday, May 9
Meet the Author:
“In the Kitchen with Cleveland’s Favorite Chefs” by Maria Isabella

An award-winning author and self-proclaimed foodie asks thirty-five Cleveland chefs, “If you were suddenly to get a call at home from good friends who wanted to stop by, what would you prepare for them in one hour or less?” The answers come in the form of a remarkable cookbook that serves as a whirlwind tour of Cleveland’s rising gastro-scene. Photographs and profiles offer a glimpse into the lives of the world class chefs who live among us and like to feed us. With over one hundred recipes, useful tips from the professionals and well-written, easy to follow steps for each dish, In the Kitchen with Cleveland’s Favorite Chefs invites every cook to put down the microwave pierogies and entertain like a Great Lakes gourmand. Books will be available for sale and signing at the event.

7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

BOOKED FOR MURDER: Queens of Crime
“The Nine Tailors” by Dorothy L. Sayers

The greatest collection of crime-solving, lady detectives from yesterday and today will keep you up late, turning the pages. Unburden yourself once a month and share your sleepless ponderings with this friendly, law-abiding group of mystery lovers. Visit www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.org/bookclubs for more clues and full book descriptions.

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

Saturday, May 11
Hitchcock Comes to Hollywood
“Shadow of a Doubt” (1943)

Arriving in Santa Rosa for a visit with his family, Joseph Cotten is on the run from investigators who want to question him about some recent arrivals at the morgue. His family welcomes him with open arms, especially his adoring young niece Teresa Wright. The girl gradually begins to suspect that her beloved uncle may not be who he seems to be. With a screenplay by Thornton Wilder, this is Hitchcock’s personal favorite.

6:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

Sunday, May 12
Holiday: Mother’s Day – Open Normal Hours

Wednesday, May 15
Lakewood Historical Society:
The Battle of Lake Erie: Birth of a Nation and a City

John D. Cimperman, President of the Early Settlers Association of the Western Reserve, commemorates the Battle of Lake Erie, a key turning-point in American history that took place just 60 miles from here. After the United States won its independence, it found itself in a dangerous world without the protection of the Royal Navy. Between 1783 and the conclusion of the War of 1812, American shipping became prey to privateers around the world and close to home. Cimperman recounts our nation’s struggle for survival up until the lasting peace that was struck up between the United States, Canada and England in 1815.

7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

Thursday, May 16
Meet the Author: “House of Horrors: The Shocking True Story of Anthony Sowell, the Cleveland Strangler” by Robert Sberna

In October of 2009, the entire nation was shocked by a SWAT team’s grisly discovery of eleven bodies in the Imperial Avenue home of Anthony Sowell. [See story page 5](#)

7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

Saturday, May 18
Five Star Films
“Far From the Madding Crowd” (1967),
Directed by John Schlesinger-Rated PG

In 1800’s Wessex, the beautiful but capricious Julie Christie inherits a farm and runs it with the help of rejected suitor Alan Bates, a shepherd. In need of adoration, she flirts with older gentleman farmer Peter Finch but falls for handsome, reckless army sergeant Terence Stamp whom she marries. The perfect storm of love, betrayal and jealousy has been set in motion.

6:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

Sunday, May 19
Sunday with the Friends: Northcoast Jazz Collective

What can we say? According to Scene Magazine, these guys are the Best Jazz Group around. Playing straight up modern jazz that’s creative, emotional and accessible, this quartet braves the post-bop world with a hard-working trademark sound that says Cleveland all the way.

2:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

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Lakewood Schools

Harris Named LHS Band Director; A.D. Thayer To Retire

by Christine Gordillo

Two notable personnel moves were approved at the Lakewood Board of Education's April 15 meeting. Among the many human resources actions normally undertaken, the Board approved the appointment of Harding Middle School Band Director Nathan Harris as Lakewood High School Band Director beginning with the 2013-2014 school year and also accepted the retirement of Athletic Director Bob Thayer, effective Sept. 6, 2013. Harris will replace retiring Lakewood High Band Director Brian Maskow, who has been with the district for 30 years.

Harris joined the district this school year, replacing longtime Hard-



Nathan Harris.



Bob Thayer.

ing Band Director Brian Griebel. At the high school, he will be responsible for three curricular bands: Concert Band, Symphonic Band and Wind Ensemble; and four extracurricular bands - Lakewood Ranger Marching Band, Jazz Band, Jazz Workshop and Pep

Band. Harris served as Assistant Band Director for the Marching Band this school year.

"The Lakewood music program has a strong history and a phenomenal staff of directors and teachers," Harris said. "In stepping into the role of Lakewood High's band director, I am committed to honoring the history of the program, while at the same time expanding opportunities for the students, bringing some new ideas to the position, and strengthening the tradition of excellence which has been well-established."

Before joining the district this year, Harris taught in the South Euclid-Lyndhurst City Schools and the Southington Local School District in Trumbull County. He has a Bachelor's degree in Music Education from The Ohio State University and will begin work toward a Master's degree in Music Education at Case Western Reserve University next fall.

Thayer, who joined the district as Athletic Director in 2005, has overseen a significant expansion in the middle school athletic program and upgrades in athletic facilities that have facilitated increased athletic participation among our students.

When Thayer arrived in Lakewood, one combined football team existed at the middle school level

and now a 7th and 8th grade team plays at both middle schools. Similar expansions occurred with the basketball and volleyball programs as well.

Other notable accomplishments under Thayer's direction include a new fitness facility at Lakewood High School that Thayer calls "second-to-none" in the area and a negotiated contract with Lakewood Hospital that has provided free athletic training services to the district for the last five years.

When Thayer recalls what he is most proud of during his time in Lakewood, it is the people that matter most.

"I'm proud of the way our athletes have conducted themselves on and off the field, and one of the things I am most proud of is the quality of coaches I have brought to Lakewood over the last seven years," Thayer said.

He added: "This has been a wonderful opportunity for me, a great experience, and in particular I will always value the relationships I developed with the Booster Club, our coaches and our wonderful student athletes."

Thayer is retiring from public education, but not from athletics. In the fall, he will take over as Athletic Director at Elyria Catholic High School.

Harding Mock Trial Team Earns "Best" Awards

by Christine Gordillo

The verdict is in! Harding Mock Trial team had a great day at the Ohio Judiciary Center in Columbus on April 11. The Harding Mock Trial Defense and Prosecuting Teams won three out of a possible four awards for Best Witnesses and Best Attorney and were awarded an "Outstanding" rating overall, the second-highest rating.

Earning Best witnesses were Henry Bish and Alex Schwarz. Elizabeth Pearlman won Best Attorney as a defense lawyer in the first trial.

Based on the novel, "Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry," students playing the roles of witnesses and attorneys presented their cases in front of actual judges in the Ohio Supreme Court building. Henry Bish earned his award for his portrayal of Marion Sims and Alex Schwarz for his gender reversal

portrayal of the grieving widow, Lynn Barnett. Other participants were attorneys Albert Foster, Melina Lawrence, and Jenna Thomas. Nava Ramazanali, Lily Wood, Amelia McDonnell, and Emma Bressler portrayed characters from the novel as witnesses in the murder trial.

Harding Mock Trial is coached by Ruth Pangrace and legal advisor Pete Kwiatkowski.

Pangrace wished to extend thanks to the district for providing van drivers, additional support from student teacher Fred Blackman and especially to the Harding PTSA for a stipend that covered registration and expenses.

"OCLRE and the Middle School Mock Trial program provides an incredible and unforgettable experience for our students every year," said Pangrace.

Auto Tech Students Qualify For State Competition

by Christine Gordillo

West Shore Career-Tech Auto Tech students Tim Figueira, and Mark Gruber, both seniors, have qualified to compete in the AAA/Ford Auto Skills Student Competition on May 10 at Owens Community College in Toledo. Auto Skills is sponsored by AAA and Ford Motor Company to encourage students to pursue careers as automotive service technicians.

Students first qualify for the competition by taking an online written exam. Gruber and Figueira were the top two scorers. The 10 top scoring

teams from across Ohio move on to the "hands-on" finals where teams are given new Ford vehicles which are uniformly "bugged" with identical malfunctions to diagnose and repair.

Teams are then ranked by the highest quality repair workmanship in the lowest total time. Figueira and Gruber will have 90 minutes to repair a 2013 Ford Focus SE. Student awards include scholarships along with auto tools and supplies. The top finishing school in Ohio will advance to the national competition in Dearborn, Michigan this June.

From Rust Belt Chic To Cleveland Eats:

Meet The Authors At LPL

continued from page 1

feed us. With over one hundred recipes, useful tips from the professionals and well-written, easy to follow steps for each dish, "In the Kitchen with Cleveland's Favorite Chefs" invites every cook to put down the microwave pierogies and entertain like a Great Lakes gourmand. Books will be avail-

able for sale and signing at the event which will take place at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 9 in the Main Library Auditorium.

For more information about all the events going on at Lakewood Public Library visit www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.org.

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The Saturday MBA program is now registering for Fall 2013. The program is designed for working professionals and can be completed in two years -- every other Saturday -- one course at a time.

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Lakewood Schools

Lakewood Rangers Baseball Off to 11-1 Start: Pitching Depth and Timely Hitting Key

by Jay Foran

The 2013 version of Lakewood Rangers Varsity Baseball has gotten off to a roaring start with an 11-1 overall record and a league leading 4-0 record in the West Shore Conference. The upbeat start was provided added luster with the Rangers claiming the 11th edition of the Gruss-DiBiasio Baseball Tournament held April 5th and 6th at Lakewood Stadium.

Getting strong pitching performances from a variety of pitchers and timely hitting up and down the line-up, the Rangers have posted six come-from-behind wins. Indicative of the pitching depth, seven different pitchers each have claimed a pitching victory. In the hitting department, every member of the batting order has contributed to an offensive display that averaged just over 10 hits per contest and a team batting average of .345.

Head Coach Mike Ribar, now in his 3rd season of shaping the Lakewood baseball program commented, “Our guys have totally bought into the team concept. They understand that everybody, regardless of the role they currently are playing (on the field, on the bench, in the bullpen), has something to contribute to helping us win that day. We are taking them one batter, one inning, one game at a time. I truly credit the senior leadership of this team for their unselfish approach and mental toughness. My coaches and I could not ask anything more of the boys.”

The West Shore Conference League schedule is played on Monday, Wednesday and Thursdays with 4:30 pm starts and the fan favorite “Friday Night Under the Lights,” scheduled for Lakewood Stadium on May 3rd and 10th beginning at 7:00 pm. The upcoming schedule includes the following games:

May 1st, 4:30 pm AWAY vs. North Ridgeville; May 2nd, 4:30 pm HOME vs. Vermilion; May 3rd 7:00 pm HOME vs. Westlake; May 6th, 4:30 pm AWAY vs. Elyria Catholic; May 8th, 4:30 pm HOME vs. Midview; May 9th, 4:30 pm AWAY vs. Rocky River; May 10th, 7:00 pm HOME vs. St. Ignatius. Below are

capsules of games played to date:

Lakewood Rangers	3
Independence Blue Devils	2

Despite staking the Blue Devils to a 2-0 lead in the season opener at Independence, the Rangers eked out a 3-2 win in extra innings. Senior Jake Antel (1-0), who relieved a quality start by fellow senior Marty Hartsel, threw four innings of shutout, one-hit relief to earn the victory. Senior Wayne Naida delivered the game-winning RBI single and his third hit of the contest in the top of the tenth. Senior Eric Roder, who also collected three hits on the offensive side, came in to pitch in the bottom of the 10th to earn the save.

Lakewood Rangers	13
Berea Braves	0

Junior Jameson Foran (1-0) took the hill and delivered a one-hit shutout in a convincing victory for the Rangers. Seniors Tommy Fuller and Liam Sullivan closed out the pitching with shutout relief in the final two innings respectively. The game was highlighted by numerous stolen bases by the Ranger base runners that escalated the scoring for Lakewood. Six different Lakewood players collected hits, including three more by senior Wayne Naida. Junior second baseman Chase Osterman added two hits and two RBIs.

Gruss-DiBiasio Tournament	
Lakewood Rangers	9
Crestwood Blue Devils	0

Sophomore Max Lavisky (1-0) successfully made his varsity pitching debut with a shutout victory. Jake Antel added two more innings of relief to preserve the shutout. Senior Brian Hrdlicka was the hitting star with three hits and two RBIs. Hrdlicka opened the Ranger scoring in the third with a two run single. The game featured some impressive defensive plays by senior Marquise Tyus and junior Chase Osterman.

Gruss-DiBiasio Tournament	
Lakewood Rangers	1
Holy Name Green Wave	2

Jameson Foran’s bases-loaded double down the right field line capped a five-run first inning that had the Ranger batsmen off and running. Max Lavisky collected four RBIs while Wayne Naida and Chase Osterman contributed two RBIs each. Senior leftfielder Dylan Bruening pitched in with three hits and showed his speed by beating out two infield singles. Foran also had three hits to go with two RBIs. Brian Hrdlicka (1-0) kept the Green Wave bats in check throughout and claimed the victory.

Gruss-DiBiasio Tournament	
Lakewood Rangers	11
North Olmsted Eagles	10

The Rangers demonstrated their collective fortitude as they persevered in this extra-inning see-saw battle and claimed the Gruss-DiBiasio Tournament trophy with a perfect 3-0 tourney record. Lakewood was staked to a 10-6 fifth inning lead thanks to a three-run homer to left by Eric Roder. But North Olmsted was not finished. They battled back, forcing a tie and extra innings. The Rangers would not be denied as Wayne Naida’s sharp bases-loaded single to left in the bottom of the eighth scored Jameson Foran to provide the walk-off win. Offensive highlights were many as the Ranger squad collected 17 hits. Eric Roder (1-0) had three hits and six RBIs to go with gaining the victory in relief.

Lakewood Rangers	9
Trinity Trojans	2

Senior Marty Hartsel earned his first victory of the year with a solid six-inning outing that included seven strikeouts. Seniors Jesus Denizard, Eric Roder and Tommy Fuller collected six of Lakewood’s 10 hits. The balanced hitting attack scored in four of six offensive innings.

Lakewood Rangers	2
Bay High Rockets (Suspended)	2

In a biting cold wind and rain, the two teams battled for eleven innings before the game was suspended with a score of 2-2. Starter Jameson Foran went eight full innings, surrendering only one earned run. Jake Antel relieved and delivered three hitless innings before the suspension. The game will be resumed when Lakewood visits Bay on April 29th.

Lakewood Rangers	8
St. Edward Eagles	10

After racing to a 6-1 score, the crosstown Eagles had to work overtime before delivering the Rangers their first loss of the season. The Rangers battled back three different times, including scoring four runs in the bottom of the seventh, to knot the score and force extra innings. However, the Eagles were up to the challenge and scored two runs in the first extra frame to take the victory.

Lakewood Rangers	5
North Ridgeville Rangers	4

Coming on the heels of the emotion-filled St. Edward game, the Ranger bats and mitts were in slumber until they pushed across five runs in the fifth inning to capture their first conference win. Danny Zagaria, Chase Osterman, Jesus Denizard, and Wayne Naida each contributed two hits. Senior Tommy Fuller captured the win with three innings of two hit relief.

Lakewood Rangers	3
Vermilion Sailors	1

Junior Jameson Foran pushed his record to 2-0 with a complete-game 3 hitter to help the visiting Rangers notch their 2nd conference win. Senior Wayne Naida had three hits and provided two RBIs in the decisive fourth inning. Foran added an RBI single in the sixth to help his own cause.

Lakewood Rangers	12
Elyria Catholic Panthers	11

Indicative of the mental toughness displayed by the Rangers throughout this season, Lakewood battled back from a 10-1 deficit to claim the victory. Senior Eric Roder blasted a two run double down the leftfield line to plate the winning runs to provide the Rangers their 2nd walk-off win. Senior pitchers Eric Kwiatkowski and Joe Bilinski together facilitated the Ranger comeback by stymying the Panthers offense for four innings, providing the offense a chance to mount the scoring rally.

Lakewood Rangers	14
Euclid Panthers	4

This one was over early as the Ranger bats erupted for six 1st inning runs. Lakewood never looked back as they collected 18 hits in beating their old Lake Erie League foe. Max Lavisky and Wayne Naida were the hitting stars with 3 hits each. Lavisky drove in 3 runs. Jake Antel got his inaugural pitching start and took advantage, running his season record to 2-0.

Lakewood Rangers	7
Avon Eagles	5

“Where there is a will, there is a way,” was never truer than in this contest. Avon, a league title contender, looked to be claiming victory when they had the Rangers in their last at-bats with one out and nobody on base. Six hitters later, Lakewood had scored five runs on some timely walks and excellent baserunning, and secured a 7-5 lead with still only one out. Key blows were delivered by junior Chase Osterman and senior Wayne Naida. Senior Brian Hrdlicka provided a quality start keeping the Rangers in the ballgame and senior Tommy Fuller, who snuffed out an Eagle rally in the 6th, took home the win. Eric Roder closed things out in the Avon half of the 7th to earn the save.

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Lakewood Cares

Local Record Label & Student Activist Introduce Support Network To Gay, Lesbian & Transgender Teens

by Leana Donofrio-Milovan

Community leaders, activists, parents, and students from at least 12 area high schools will take part in the first Stand Up & Reach Out event on May 10. The event, hosted by Fighting Chance Records in partnership with Strongsville student activist Savannah Sherman, was organized to connect local teens with a strong network of gay, as well as straight, community members and peers they can turn to for support.

State Representative Nickie Antonio (HD-13) will be among the speakers providing encouragement to area teens. In 2012, Antonio intro-

duced anti-bullying legislation that would prohibit harassment, intimidation and bullying based on sexual orientation or gender identity. Antonio, the first openly gay member of the Ohio House, will share her stories of challenge and success.

Singer/songwriter Diana Chittester will also share her story of overcoming adversity as the daughter of a Methodist Minister in hopes of encouraging young people to be comfortable with who they are, and to let them know there is a support network for them in place.

"Ten years ago, growing up gay was very different," Chittester said.

"Especially in small towns it was not acceptable or even talked about. For me, it was easier to pretend and hide so I would feel safe. We want teens today to know they don't have to live this way. We're working to expand their network of support by connecting them with strong, successful members of our communities as well as parents and peers they can turn to for advice, encouragement and support."

Other speakers include Jes Sellers, Co-Founder of Cleveland PFLAG (Parents, Family and Friends of Lesbians and Gays), Jessica Rosenblatt, Co-Founder of Fighting Chance Records, Savannah Sherman, a high school

student activist, Marianne Buccini, a parent of a gay child, and other local professionals.

"I can't imagine growing up in a time where I had to hide who I am. Everyone deserves to be treated with respect regardless of orientation or identity. I want to make sure other teens are able to find the resources and support systems they need, especially in their own communities," Sherman said.

Recent surveys show that nine out of ten LGBT students have experienced harassment at school and more than one third of LGBT kids have attempted suicide. The stigma and hostilities youth experience from anti-LGBT bullying make them prone to health-risk behaviors such as skipping school, smoking, alcohol and drug use, and sexual risk. These same risks exist for heterosexual youth perceived to be lesbian or gay, and for non-heterosexual youth who keep their sexual orientation hidden.

"Lesbian and gay youth who openly admit to their same-sex orientations are at a higher risk of bias-related violence, including physical assaults. The hostilities they regularly confront often lead to dangerous behaviors and injurious outcomes. This has to stop, and we're hoping Stand Up & Reach Out will give kids hope and support to grow into confident, successful adults," said Jes Sellers, Co-Founder of Cleveland PFLAG.

Stand Up & Reach Out will be held Friday, May 10 from 4 to 8 p.m. at the Lakewood Public Library Auditorium, located at 15425 Detroit Avenue. A donation of \$5 is suggested at the door. One hundred per cent of the money raised will be donated directly to Cleveland's PFLAG chapter. Food and beverages will be provided compliments of Red, the Steakhouse.

Take The Wheel For Friends Of The Lakewood Dog Park

by Karen Karp

Ganley Ford West and Friends of the Lakewood Dog Park, Inc. are partnering to raise up to \$6,000 for Lakewood Dog Park as part of Ford Motor Company's Drive 4 UR Community program. On one day only, Saturday, May 11, 2013, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., for every person who takes the wheel and completes a test-drive, Ford will donate \$20 to FLDP.

Lakewood residents and neighbors from our surrounding communities are needed to help Ganley Ford West

and dog park members reach their goal of 300 test drives.

Following their test-drive, participants may want to linger at the dog park to visit with volunteers from local animal-related non-profits, speak to some of FLDP's other wonderful sponsors, or enjoy the new benches, several of which are still available for sponsorships. In addition, May 11, 2013 will be the first opportunity to purchase the brand-new 2013 Lakewood Dog Park Tenth Anniversary T-shirts and hoodies.

Friends of the Lakewood Dog Park, Inc. works with the city to care for the dog park, raises funds for park improvements and educates the public about dogs, the dog park and park etiquette. FLDP is an all-volunteer, non-profit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization.

To participate in this exciting event and get behind the wheel of a new Ford vehicle, please visit the Lakewood Dog Park between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. on Saturday, May 11, 2013. The park is located at 1699 Valley Parkway, Lakewood, OH, adjacent to the Metropark's Rocky River Reservation. Ample parking will be available across the street from the park in the Marina Parking Lot.

Please keep in mind that each test-drive will last approximately 7-10 minutes. Participants must be 18 or older and have a valid driver's license. There is a limit of one test drive per household.

Karen Karp is the current president of Friends of the Lakewood Dog Park, Inc. She and her dog, Dudley, are frequent visitors to the park.



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Lakewood Cares

Cleveland Crops Coming To LEAF Night

by Victoria Hamm

It's about 10 a.m. on a crisp April morning. Everyone is focused: heads down, eyes busy surveying the land, visually plotting where the next seedling is destined to grow. Others dig out a new wheelbarrow path, contributing only the steady scrape of their shovels to the aural landscape. Robins dance on the freshly dug beds that stretch across the field, which days before contained rows of hearty kale, collard greens and lettuce. Spring is here, and the workers on Stanard Farm are diligently preparing for the next growing season.

But this farm is unlike any other. Located just outside the St. Clair-Superior neighborhood on the Near East Side, Stanard Farm is a green oasis amidst miles of concrete. Just shy of an acre, Stanard Farm produces poundage of fresh produce in the thousands each year. A cutting-edge example of sustainable urban agriculture, the farm also uses season-extension



Demetrius transplants thyme.

techniques (such as the use of unheated low-tunnels and hoophouses) to allow for harvest beyond the standard Northeast Ohio growing season.

Stanard Farm was the first parcel acquired to start the Cleveland Crops farming operation. The Cuyahoga

County Board of Developmental Disabilities and its non-profit affiliate SAW, Inc., in collaboration with the Ohio State University Extension-Cuyahoga County, developed Cleveland Crops as an agriculture training and employment program designed to provide work opportunities

for adults with developmental disabilities. The program seeks to empower adults with developmental disabilities by teaching them skills that will make them more successful candidates for employment in the community.

Individuals working at Cleveland Crops live throughout Cuyahoga County, and several, like Billy Pearce, a LHS grad, commute via bus from Lakewood to one of the urban farm sites.

Workers are extensively trained on everything related to farming: seeding, watering, transplanting, creating raised beds, harvesting, washing and packing. After harvest is complete, workers accompany a staff member to deliver to area restaurants, often a mere 15 minutes away – the definition of local food. Last year, Crops also began a CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) program, which allows community members to purchase a weekly share of the harvest in exchange for one payment up front at the begin of the season.

But how does Cleveland Crops produce compare to the average store-bought vegetable?

"We can tell that the produce is fresh because it keeps in the refrigerator longer than anything we buy in the store," says Chris Yurick, who participated in the Cleveland Crops CSA program last season. Many CCBDD employees enjoy the perks of having a farm program associated with their workplace, including a weekly farmers market within the Board Administration Building. Many flock to the Crops market stand to purchase heirloom varieties of tomatoes and greens because they have intense flavor that can't be found at the grocery store. Chef Jack Ahern of University Circle restaurant L'Albatros sums up his admiration of Crops produce succinctly, "I'll buy anything you guys grow."

The program will be expanding its reach into the Greater Cleveland Area through its CSA program this year, with drop-of sites including LEAF Night in Lakewood and Walnut Wednesdays, a weekly lunch-time event aimed at downtown workers on their lunch break. Many of the farm sites, including Heritage Farm located in the Glenville neighborhood of Cleveland, also host their own farmers markets on or near the farm site, providing fresh produce to areas that are considered 'food deserts,' or districts with little or no access to large grocery stores that offer fresh produce.

In addition to providing steady work at a decent wage, Cleveland Crops crew members learn life skills. Some have started their own gardens at home or at a relative's house. Others have tried new vegetables that they otherwise never would have ventured to taste.

Cleveland Crops will begin distributing CSA shares and selling fresh produce, flowers and herbs at LEAF Night beginning Thursday, June 6.

For more information, contact Vicki Hamm at (216) 338-4258 or go to www.sawinc.org and click on the Cleveland Crops quick link to download a CSA membership application.

Josie Kothera Selected As Barton Center's Volunteer Of The Year

by Curt Brosky

Josie Kothera was voted by Barton Center members as the 2013 Barton Center Sweetheart, or Volunteer of the Year. She was honored at a dinner held recently to recognize her years of volunteer service at Barton Senior Center. This was the 40th annual ceremony held to recognize Barton Center volunteers and was attended by over 100 members, including 13 previous award recipients.

Josie was born and raised in the Broadway/Union neighborhood of Cleveland. Her parents arrived here from Poland with their oldest son. Their family eventually included two boys and four girls, all of whom spoke Polish at home. Josie took odd jobs to help support her family, including bagging noodles, making bicycles for Western Auto, assembling baby clothes, and ushering at the Stillman Theater. She worked 23 years for Mueller Printing and more recently worked eight years at Bonnie Bell.

Josie married in 1949 and raised a son while remaining in the same neighborhood. When her husband died 15 years ago, her son was working in

Lakewood and told her about Westerly/Barton Center. She moved in and began volunteering immediately, helping with the setup for lunch and dinner programs. Josie continued to help more and more, wherever she was needed. She said she enjoys serving people and takes pride in knowing everyone's preferences. Josie now labels and delivers newsletters to every apartment on 15 floors. She volunteers at BINGO, participates in the Barton Center Singers and has written over 700 cards to soldiers through the USO. Josie attends programs and activities every day. She likes to be around people and does not want to sit alone in her apartment. Josie says, "If you are bored at Westerly/Barton Center that is your own fault." While Josie has always enjoyed life, since she was given Last Rites several years ago, she now really appreciates every day and is happier than she has ever been. Others have commented that Josie is energetic, has a fun-loving personality and is a joy to be around.

Josie invites everyone to visit the Barton Center with its various shops,



including Hodge Podge furniture and resale shop, Greenhouse, Corner Store, Fabric Shop and Book Nook. Membership in the Barton Center is available to anyone age 55 and over. To find out more about Ohio's first senior center, call Barton Center at 216.221.3400. Barton Center is located on the ground floor of the Westerly Apartments at 14300 Detroit Avenue and is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

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Steam Through Lakewood!



photo by Ed Favre

continued from page 1

acquired the Nickel Plate Road and, in 1982, Norfolk & Western merged with the Southern Railway to become Norfolk Southern.

#765 was built for the Nickel Plate in 1944 by the Lima Locomotive Works in Lima, Ohio. Weighing just over 400 tons, the Nickel Plate had some 80 Berkshires. Diesels spelled the end of steam locomotives and, after only 14 years, #765 was retired in 1958. She sat on display in Fort Wayne, Indiana and weathered for over a decade. In 1972, the Fort Wayne Railroad Historical Society was formed to save the deteriorating locomotive and over many years of hard work and several rebuilds, brought her back to her 1944 condition.

In recent years, Norfolk Southern has taken renewed pride in its heritage. Recently, NS painted an entire fleet of new diesel locomotives in the various colors and logos of predecessor railroads, including the Nickel Plate Road and Norfolk & Western. The other steam locomotive running on NS lines this year is Southern Railway #630, another predecessor railroad of NS.

On May 12, #765 will steam westbound from Cleveland and through Lakewood. She is tentatively scheduled to stop and pick up prepaid passengers at the Rocky River depot sometime around 9:00-9:30 a.m. and then continue west through Rocky River, Bay Village, Avon Lake, Lorain, Vermilion and to Bellevue Yard. #765 and her train will return eastbound later in the day.

Great spots to watch in Lakewood will be behind the fences at Cove, Bunts-Merle, Kaufmann, and Webb parks. Remember to stay off the track and railroad right-of-way as that is trespassing, dangerous, and illegal. Expect an increased presence of railroad police and officials.

For further information, go to the Fort Wayne Railroad Historical Society and Norfolk Southern websites.

Rocky River Baby Eagle Update



A new male has replaced the male that was hit by a passenger plane. It started with straw, then fish, and slowly she accepted him and the baby is doing great. This went from tragedy to happy ending! Check for updates on Lakewood Observer Observation Deck and our photo galleries. Where Lakewoodites gather to celebrate everything we love, for the most part about Lakewood. <http://lakewoodobserver.com>

Serving the City of Lakewood
at Lakewood Seventh-Day Adventist Church
1382 Arthur Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio (in the school building)

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

Little One's Ministry
Providing diapers, wipes, and baby toiletries
Current schedule: 10:30am-12:30pm
Tuesdays May 14, May 28, June 11, and June 25
Stay tuned for future dates

Monetary donations are appreciated. Please make check payable to Lakewood SDA Church, note which ministry, and send to the above address, attention Treasurer

For both services, recipients must bring a voucher from
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Put On A Happy Face! See “Bye Bye Birdie” At Beck Center

by Fran Storch

Beck Center Youth Theater presents the Broadway hit musical comedy, *Bye Bye Birdie*, May 10-12 and 17-19, 2013 on the Mackey Main Stage. Show times are 7:30 p.m. Fridays and 3 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays with a special student matinee performance 10 a.m. Thursday, May 16. Tickets are now on sale at beckcenter.org

Winner of four Tony Awards, including Best Musical, *Bye Bye Birdie* is one of the most memorable musicals of our time. A satire on American society in 1958, this musical is set in the fictional small town of Sweet Apple, Ohio. Conrad Birdie, an Elvis-inspired rock 'n' roll singer, has been drafted into the army. As a final farewell to his fans, the teen heartthrob is scheduled to sing a song ("One Last Kiss") and kiss his most devoted female fan live on the Ed Sullivan Show – a last publicity stunt that sends his fans going wild.

With book by Michael Stewart, music by Charles Strouse and lyrics by Lee Adams, *Bye Bye Birdie* features such musical theater favorites as "Put On A Happy Face," "A Lot of Livin' to Do," "One Last Kiss," and "Kids!"

Directed by Russ Stich, this production of *Bye Bye Birdie* features a cast of 56 talented young actors ages 7 to 19 who participate in arts education programs at Beck Center including dance, music and theater classes.

"This show is fast, funny and packed with great songs," remarked Stich. "It's been a lot of fun for everyone involved and I'm certain our audiences will enjoy it as well. There's something for everyone to relate to – this story is timeless." Bye bye Birdie is just plain good old-fashioned fun for the entire family.

Tickets are \$12 for Adults/Seniors and \$10 for Children (18 and under) and

may be purchased online at beckcenter.org or by calling 216.521.2540, ext. 10. Discounted group rates are available for the student matinee on Thursday, May 16. Call Customer Service Manager Rennie Tisdale at ext. 28 for more information and to schedule your student matinee. Beck Center is located at 17801 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood. Free onsite parking is available.

Create! Discover! Explore! Have Fun This Summer At Beck Center

by Fran Storch

Individuals of all ages and abilities can discover their inner artist this summer at Beck Center. Our camps and classes offer a variety of opportunities to experience the arts. Students learn new skills and build self esteem as they create unique works of art, develop new friendships, discover hidden talents, stimulate their imaginations, and, most importantly, have fun!

We offer half-day and full-day camps for children ages 7 to 19 in dance, music, theater, and visual arts including a Ballet Intensive with guest instructor

Presented through special arrangement with Tams-Witmark Music Library, this production of *Bye Bye Birdie* is sponsored by First Federal of Lakewood and is also made possible by the generous support of Cuyahoga County residents through Cuyahoga Arts and Culture and the Ohio Arts Council.

Celebrating 80 years of creating art experiences, 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. For more information about Beck Center, visit beckcenter.org.

10 and continue through mid-August.

Campers have double the fun when they register for two more camps and save 10% off the tuition for each camp (restrictions apply, call for details). All campers receive a Beck Center summer camp shirt and are invited to join our

continued on page 19

LHS Needs Your Vote for \$50K Vans Art Prize



by Christine Gordillo

Lakewood High School is one of 50 schools from across the country named finalists in Vans Custom Culture art competition that includes a grand prize of \$50,000 for the winning high school's art department.

The contest was created by Vans to inspire high school students across the United States to embrace their creativity and draw attention to the importance of art as an integral part of our schools' focus in the face of shrinking budgets. The contest started off with 1,500 schools and is now down to the top 50 from five different regions. LHS is one of 10 schools selected in the Northeast Region, which includes 16 states.

The contest entails creating a custom shoe design for four pairs of blank white canvas Vans, each adhering to one of the contest's four themes: art, music, local flavor and action sports.

A nationwide voting contest will determine the winner, who will receive \$50,000. The top five vote-getters will be invited to New York City for an awards



ceremony. Runners-up will also receive money for their art departments.

Help Lakewood High win a trip to New York and \$50,000 by going to www.vans.com/customculture and voting for LHS. Voting ends May 13 at 11:59 p.m.

Congratulations to the students who created the shoe designs: Lorna Barimi, Grace Dwyer, Aaron Kovach, Katie Millman, Jazmyn Paoli, Raychele Paul, Chelsea Presock, and photographer Paige Olszewski.



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Lakewood Is Art

The Good Day Moon Gallery Opens In Lakewood

Ken Tomaro

My name is Ken Tomaro, and I am the owner of the newly-opened Good Day Moon Gallery. The original idea was to open as a non-profit art gallery to help support people with mental illness. Anyone who has started a non-profit knows this is no easy task.

I decided to open as a regular business with the intent of offering inexpensive classes in the future, not only for people dealing with mental illness, but with cancer or Alzheimer's, or for anyone who wants to participate.

I have discovered over the years that there are a lot of people in the community who need some kind of outlet in dealing with the issues life throws at us. Creating art, in my opinion, is a good way to do this. While it may not cure disease or fix all of your problems, it does allow you to immerse yourself in the creative process, which can greatly improve your mood. A healthy mind is a happy mind.

People dealing with mental illness,



A sampling of some of the pieces on display at the newly opened Good Day Moon Gallery.

cancer, etc., have a lot of bad days. The name Good Day Moon came from the idea that by sitting down for a few hours

to create something, or just to look at art, would enable them to have at least one good day. The moon symbolizes a

source of light down a dark path.

I want this gallery to foster a sense of community and artist involvement. In the coming months I want to involve the artists in some activities that will get the name Good Day Moon, as well as those of the individual artists, out there in the community.

We will be hosting an all day Open House in the next couple of weeks and will invite the public to check out/purchase some great artwork.

Our hours are: 6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, noon - 7:00 p.m. Saturday, and noon - 6:00 p.m. Sunday. Our phone number is (216) 952-2731.

We are located at 1388 Cranford Avenue in Lakewood, just around the corner from Sweet Designs. We have a range of artwork from several local artists, and although art isn't something on people's minds in a bad economy, it is all very affordable. After you get the kids fed and the dog walked, come by and check out the Good Day Moon gallery.

Local Talent To Perform With Stars In Skate Dance Dream Cleveland

by Parker Pennington

Parker Pennington Productions is proud to announce Skate Dance Dream Cleveland presented by the Hampton Inn Cleveland-Westlake. The dance and figure skating show spectacular will be held on Sunday, May 19, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at the Serpentine Arena at Winterhurst.

The event will showcase 2014 Olympic figure skating hopefuls and the best dancers in the World including: 2011 U.S. Figure Skating Men's Silver Medalist & World Team member, Richard Dornbush; 2012 Junior

Grand Prix Final Silver Medalist, Hannah Miller; and U.S. Figure Skating Men's Competitor, Sean Rabbitt. Also starring Gev Manoukian, Season 4 Top 10 Finalist from Fox's "So You Think You Can Dance." *Star cast is subject to change. Joining the Stars will be over 100 of the best local dancers and figure skaters, including The Dance Centre by Heidi Glynnias and the Winterhurst Learn-to-skate program.

Skate Dance Dream is a touring show production experience that blends figure skating and dance. The show gives local aspiring skaters and

dancers the chance of a lifetime: performing with the Stars that they see on television! Over the course of our show weekends, participants can attend meet & greets, seminars, workshops and rehearsals with the Stars, all culminating with the performance in the show right alongside their heroes! "The Skate Dance Dream shows center around the children, aiming to give them a personal experience that they will remember and can carry with them en route to their dreams. Our main goal is to enrich their lives through sport and art, while helping figure skating and

dance grow," says Parker Pennington, Skate Dance Dream Executive Producer & U.S. National Champion at 4 different levels. Skaters and dancers interested in joining future shows can contact us through www.SkateDanceDream.com.

Pre-Sale Tickets are available now through www.SkateDanceDream.com or charge by phone 440-865-2005. Ticket pricing ranges from \$15 to \$85 and vary at the door. Visit www.SkateDanceDream.com for more information!



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Wellness Watch

Holy Basil!

by Rachel Anzalone

For the last few weeks I've been itching to get my hands in the dirt. Now that the weather has settled into a comfortable spring groove (no more 35 degree nights... we hope!) it's finally time to get some planting under way. I'm planning a mix of flowers, veggies and herbs this year and while I consider all the options, one plant stays front and center in my plans - Basil.

Basil is a cooking staple that can take just about any dish up a notch. From pasta and pizza to Thai food to sandwiches to salads. Basil goes with everything. Have you ever tried a basil strawberry martini? Delicious! Homemade pesto? Yum!

Besides being delicious, basil is also highly nutritious. It's rich in minerals like potassium, manganese, copper, and magnesium. It's also an excellent source of iron, calcium and the vitamins A, C and K.

Did you know there are an esti-

mated 50 to 150 varieties of basil? Not all of them are used for culinary purposes but there are enough to try a few and compare the different aromas and flavors.

Most well known and most commonly used is sweet basil. Another variety, Thai basil, has a delicious licorice scent, though not as potently so as the variety, Licorice basil. Lemon

basil has a sweet, citrusy flavor. Boxwood basil has small, flavorful leaves and is perfect for pesto.

Holy basil, also known as Tulsi, has historically been used for a multitude of medicinal properties, including the removal of phlegm to reduce coughing and soothe a sore throat, to strengthen the stomach, to induce perspiration, bring down

fever, as a nerve tonic, to sharpen memory, to strengthen the kidneys and to help expel kidney stones, to reduce cholesterol, to protect against stress and to aid with eye disorders.

You can be sure there will be at least a few basil bushes, perhaps even a few varieties, in my garden this year. I hope you'll do the same!

Walk Into Spring With Live Well Lakewood

Norma Collin

We have been waiting a long time for spring to arrive and now it may finally be here. Most of us are making up our "to-do" list; vacuuming out the car, changing out our cold weather clothes for t-shirts and shorts, cleaning up the yard and perhaps even thinking of planting a garden. Did you leave room on your list for your own well-being? Have a plan for sprucing up yourself? No? Not to worry, Live Well Lakewood can get you started. Our FIT IN FIVE Walking Challenge begins Wednesday, May 8th at the Women's Pavilion

in Lakewood Park. The Challenge is FREE, our only requests are that you dress for the weather and wear appropriate athletic footwear. This spring's Challenge will run for 5 consecutive Wednesdays. It will be followed with a celebration pot-luck dinner on Wednesday, June 12th for participants who walk at least 3 out of 5 sessions.

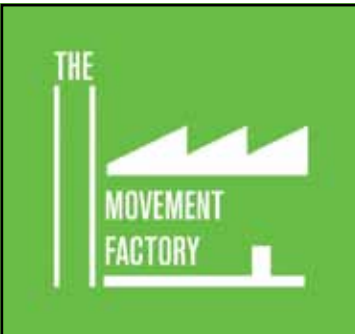
Our first session includes a short health assessment that will take place from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. and we encourage all walkers to come for the assessment! The one mile walk will start at 6:30 p.m. with all subsequent walks and the celebration dinner starting at 6:30 p.m. We will have planned routes, adding one half mile each week for a total of 3 miles by week 5. Haven't exercised or walked in a while? No problem, you can walk at your own pace and adjust the length of the weekly course to your fitness level. Longer routes will have alternate directions for shorter distances. All walks will start and end at the Women's Pavilion in

Lakewood Park. Come out and enjoy the park, our community and company of others as you make walking a regular part of your healthy Spring.

Fit in
5
GIVE FIVE. GET FIT.

LWL 5-Week Walking Challenge starts May 8
Lakewood Park, Women's Pavilion
5:30 – 6:30PM:
Registration & Free Health Screenings
6:30PM: One mile walk at your own pace, will increase each week.

Our Walking Challenge is a FREE event.
Email info@LiveWellLakewood.org or call 216-529-7695 to sign up.



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Business News

Connecting The Body, Mind, Spirit

by Andrew Harant

As you set foot in The Mind Body Sanctuary, shoeless as the note on the door suggests, you may feel the good, healing energy surround you, with pleasant aromas and meditative music in the air. Within this space, Cathie Drumm hopes to cut across all aspects of her clients--body, mind and spirit--to allow their energies to flow freely.

"I've always read about and been interested in healing arts," said Drumm. Following the sudden death of her son, she experienced a health crisis, during which doctors had diffi-

culties diagnosing and treating several of her symptoms. At the suggestion of a masseuse she visited, Drumm took a class in Reiki. That one class soon became dedicated training, and Drumm now boasts having been a Reiki master since the 1980s. After her start in Reiki, she also started seeing chiropractors and other specialists in holistic medicine and related healing arts. She continued to see medical doctors, but used other methods as well. And she started feeling better. "I got better and better using holistic modalities that addressed the 'whole' person," Drumm said. Once she got

healthy, she started studying.

The menu of services offered at The Mind Body Sanctuary reflects Drumm's extensive training and certification in a number of the healing arts. As a certified transpersonal hypnotherapist, Drumm helps clients shift their unconscious thoughts, so they can more easily achieve their goals of living a healthy lifestyle. Additionally, Drumm is both a registered and board-certified Polarity Therapist, and while she has extensive training and experience with Chinese acupressure, she is in the process of getting her clinical certification. Outside of her formal training, Drumm continues to enjoy reading books in her field. Currently, she is reading *Soul Return* by Aminah Raheem, one of her teachers.

Besides seeing clients, Drumm gives back to the healing arts by teaching. She regularly holds meditation and acupressure classes, and she teaches Reiki from beginning through master levels. Recently, she began teaching Seva Stress Release. In Sanskrit, "seva" means selfless, compassionate service, and this specific acupressure technique was developed by Soul Lightening International as a gift to the world to help relieve stress after September 11, 2001. Also in progress for Drumm is a book of her own.



The new location for The Mind Body Sancutary is designed to help fill you with healing, free flowing energy.

Currently, the Sanctuary is located at 15302 Detroit Avenue, above the Verizon Wireless store. Cathie relocated her healing Center just this past December from a smaller one room office just down the street. Her new location in the downtown district has much more room now to accomodate additional practitioners and services, and offers her the opportunity to join the Downtown Lakewood Business Alliance. Drumm enjoys the diversity of people in Lakewood. And while she didn't technically live in Lakewood as a child (she lived in Bay Village,) she often rode the bus here to visit her 14 cousins. Out of high school, her first apartment was in Lakewood, and after spending 13 years in Phoenix, she is once again a Lakewoodite, as both resident and business owner.

Ohio: One Of The Best Places To Live For Home & Auto Insurance Premiums

by Michael Bodnar

We all want to be properly insured should something happen to our vehicles while we are driving around town. Equally important is that our homes and all of our belongings are covered properly, especially if we have a claim like a tree falling on our house during a storm like Hurricane Sandy that ripped through our town last November. Like many Lakewoodites, this is one of the things I worry about since I live only three blocks from the lake and have seven giant oaks in our yard towering over our 100-year-old home on Belle Avenue. Most important of all, we want to be sure our family and friends are covered adequately should an accident occur in either our home or our car. And of course, we want the best possible rate and don't want to pay out the roof (forgive the insurance pun) for it.

The good news is, we are paying less than most of our out-of-state friends when it comes to our insurance premiums in Ohio. People in Ohio continue to pay lower average expenditures for auto and homeowners insurance than our counterparts in the rest of the United States, despite indicators predicting auto and homeowner's insurance premiums on the rise. Ohio ranks 44th in the US in homeowners insurance and 41st in auto insurance, based on average insurance premium expenditures. Not bad. Another thing to consider when appreciating the quality of life here in Lakewood, Ohio.

If you are fully covered on your auto policy, this is a real plus. However, the state is increasing its minimum liability coverage for drivers. This means a higher premium for the 5% of Ohio drivers who carry only minimum coverage on their auto. If you only carry state mandated liability on your vehicle, be aware that you will be required to carry higher limits than in the past. Amazingly, the financial responsibility (FR) limits have been in effect since 1969 and are just now being adjusted to reflect inflationary

changes and rising medical costs.

The new law increases Ohio's minimum financial responsibility bodily injury limits from \$12,500per person/\$25,000 per accident to \$25,000/per person/\$50,000 per accident and increases property damage liability to at least \$25,000 per accident. The new law will double the injury liability and more than triple the property damage amount. That may seem drastic, but the current minimum limits are ridiculously low. In this day and age, it doesn't take much of an accident to exceed property damage or bodily injury that exceeds those numbers.

We will be given some time to make these necessary changes. The new law goes into effect in March, but the higher premiums won't be felt until December 2013, when drivers will be given a grace period in which to comply with the ruling. Now would be a good time to think about any changes in your auto insurance that might be necessary to be in compliance with the new law. Anyway, it makes sense to have your insurance reviewed once a year to ensure you are carrying the right coverage to meet your needs in both auto and home insurance.

Michael Bodnar is the owner of Gordon Tower Insurance and has over 25 years of insurance experience.




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Opinion

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Lakewood Alumni Foundation
Lakewood Early Childhood PTA
Lakewood Music Boosters
Lakewood Teachers Association
OAPSE Union Local #134

Letter To The Editor
LHS Grads Say “Yes” To Levy

To the Editor:
As Class of 1960 graduates from Lakewood High School, we continue to be grateful for the excellent education we received throughout our years in the Lakewood City Schools. As nearly lifelong Lakewood residents, we were proud to watch our two daughters graduate from the same Civic Auditorium stage more than 30 years later. The exceptional educational opportunities offered to all of us enabled pursuit of advanced degrees and successful professional careers.

Our decision to remain, and to retire in Lakewood, has been easy. Outstanding city services, business offerings, restaurants, churches, and our treasured schools provide daily confirmation of the strength and vitality of our community.
Lakewood City Schools Levy, Issue 14, provides us with a special opportunity to “Pay it forward “ for those who follow us. We heartily endorse and support a vote FOR Issue 14.
Sincerely,
Anne and Jack Palomaki

Letter To The Editor
In Support Of Issue 14

To the Editor, Lakewood Observer:
I am writing today in support of the upcoming Lakewood School Levy, Issue 14, on the May 7 ballot. As a parent whose children have attended Lakewood Public Schools their whole lives, I know firsthand the excellent education the schools provide. As a member of the board of the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce and the President of Beck Center for the Arts, I see many ways in which education impacts our citizens and the importance of high quality public schools.
Lakewood schools have lost \$6 million in state funding in just two years and have tackled the problem by making \$8 million in cuts to the bud-

get, including cuts to teachers, staff, and course offerings. They also negotiated base pay freezes and bigger health care contributions from their employees. I worry that more funding cuts will damage the excellent quality of education in Lakewood. Those who do not have children in the public schools will also be impacted in the long run since high quality schools help to increase property values.
We count on the schools to provide an excellent education and the schools count on us for support. Please join me in voting for Issue 14 to keep accountable, excellent education in Lakewood.
Sincerely,
Lucinda (Cindy) Einhouse



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Opinion

Why I'm Voting For The Levy

by Betsy Voinovich

There was a discussion going on on the Lakewood Observer Observation Deck a couple of weeks ago about the upcoming School Levy, Issue 14, and I noticed that one person's post stopped the discussion in its tracks with its simplicity. It was a photo of Bill Wagner, principal of Lakewood High School. Why vote for the levy? This guy.

Why vote for the levy? Great teachers, great administrators, great programs, great schools, which con-

tinue to be proactive about whatever gets thrown at them: budget cuts, newly imposed rules about curriculum and reading tests, great programs that are available for our kids.

I thought of the amazing collage that parents in this community could create just by going through the photos on their smart phones. They speak for themselves. Here is small part of one family's experience. Multiply it by five thousand eight hundred kids.



Great science classes. Here students unfold a very large snake above their heads, getting a chance to understand the snake's body temperature, and how snakes move, in one simple gesture.



Great academics, theater, fun. Here second grade students present a play from scripts they wrote and directed themselves, using their dolls as characters and a table as a stage.



Great arts programs. Here students at Garfield Middle School bring the Greek gods to life.



Great academics. Mr. Spooner's 6th grade Social Studies class at Harding stages the Obama/Romney election, providing WAY more information and food for thought than the actual candidates.



Great academics! Bringing biography to life with wax museum characters who come to life and tell their stories. Here, Harriet Tubman pauses, in flight, to tell her story.



Above - Great music programs. Here sixth graders take a moment between songs in their first performance at Lakewood Civic Auditorium. Above Right - Here John F. Kennedy makes it possible to understand how such great accomplishments can be made in such a short lifetime. Right - The real Dr. Seuss would have been very pleased by this second grade version of himself, who told the story of how he almost gave up before he was rescued by "Green Eggs and Ham."



Great programs: Here Power of the Pen competitors from Harding and Garfield prepare to represent Lakewood as Mrs. Pangrace gives last minute encouragement.



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Bear Cub Scouts Report In

by Betsy Voinovich

On a cold night in a warm church basement several weeks ago, Bear Cub Scout Pack 68 met with editors Betsy Voinovich and Peter Grossetti and publisher Jim O’Bryan from the Lakewood Observer. The night’s topic was communication.

“One of the achievements toward earning a Bear badge is ensuring that Cub Scouts can communicate information,” said Den Leader Matt Markling. “Information is a big word with a simple meaning. It means facts, and telling someone a fact is communication. Our guests from the Lakewood Observer did a wonderful job explaining to our Cub Scouts where reporters get the news, how reporters put stories together, and where the stories go after the reporters are finished.”

After going over all of the mechanical details, the scouts got down to business, reporting on stories that were important to them to share with the community in the Lakewood Observer.

“My Pet Hamster!!!”

by Charlie Ditchman

My pet hamster’s name is Hammy. He is a Siberian hamster. His favorite food is sunflower seeds. He is about two years old and I got him from PetSmart. He lives in a cage at my house. Hammy is nocturnal.



Scout Master Matt Markling assists in the development of articles from Pack 68 as scout Dylan Popovich, his father Steve, and scout Quinn Pauly look on.

“The Cub Scouts Go to the Fire Station”

by Quinn Pauly

We drove to the fire station and the firemen showed us inside. They talked about the things they did. They showed

us the fire pole, the phone, and all the other equipment. There’s a printer that prints out where they have to go--the place where the fire is. They grab it, read it and then go into the fire truck. They showed us the clothing, boots,

helmets, air tanks and masks. They wear them because they are fireproofed so they don’t get burned and that helps protect them when they go into a fire.

My favorite part was when they showed us the fire truck and all the gadgets on the side that turn the water on, move the ladder and put the stands down so the truck won’t move. My group had a good time at the fire station.

“Cub Scout Pinewood Derby”

by Declan Markling

It is a cub scout race. You get to make your cars out of a block of wood. You can make them fast. Cub scouts race against each other to win. You can get three prizes: 1st, 2nd and 3rd place ribbons.

“Who is Peter Grossetti?”

by Declan Markling

Peter Grossetti is associate editor for community engagement, all day and all week, all over Lakewood with the Lakewood Observer. He tries to get people to communicate with each other. Ears open and eyes open.

“How I Got My Dog, Stella”

by Dylan Popovich

My mom belongs to a couple of different Boxer Rescue Groups on Facebook. She has been looking for a while. We already had a dog named Bella.

Mom found a cute puppy in Kalamazoo, MI. The family was changing jobs and the mom was going back to school. The puppy’s name is Stella. My mom worked out going to Indiana to pick her up. It was a Saturday morning and my dad had to work. He drives a semi-truck for United Van Lines. We followed him in our van to a truckstop and waited for Stella to arrive.

She is a great puppy who sleeps with me; I feed and walk her and even clean up after her. She is a great addition to our family.

“Making And/Or Eating S’mores”

by Adam Vasquez

1. Get sticks and a marshmallow, chocolate bar and two graham crackers.
2. Cook marshmallow over campfire.
3. Put chocolate bar and marshmallow between the two graham crackers like a sandwich.
4. Eat!

Second Annual Welcome To Lakewood - A Very Welcoming Event!

by Barbara Schwartz

Many new residents of Lakewood, and a few who have been here for awhile, turned out on a cold, rainy spring evening to find out what makes their city a great place to live. They already knew it isn’t the weather. At the second annual Welcome to Lakewood event, held at Garfield Middle School, Wednesday evening, April 24th residents were able to learn from over 40 Lakewood organizations about the variety of activities that make life here vibrant, diverse, and which provide so many opportunities to be engaged in the community. Mayor Summers, City Council members, Lakewood School and Library staff were happy to talk with residents in a very casual and friendly atmosphere. Kids who

attended really had fun with activities planned by Emmie Hutchinson and her wonderful volunteers from H2O. One young person said she was very disappointed to learn that she would have to wait a whole year to come back for some more fun.

Lakewood Community Relations Advisory Commission and The Lakewood Family Collaborative, who co-sponsored the event, want to thank everyone who participated, but we would like to particularly thank the following Lakewood businesses for generously donating the wonderful desserts and refreshments, and to the Lakewood Observer for their consistent support in advertising this event.

A’venue Fine Pastries, Blackbird Baking Company, Breadsmith

of Lakewood, Create-A-Cake, Inc., Elmwood Home Bakery, Gypsy Beans – Beck Center, KB Confections Bake Shoppe, Nature’s Bin, The Root Café, and Tommy’s Pastries



Mayor Summers speaks with Lakewood residents at the 2nd annual Welcome to Lakewood at Garfield Middle School.

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A headshot of Matthew John Markling, a man with a receding hairline, wearing a dark suit, white shirt, and a striped tie.

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Lakewood Living

Spring Time To-Do List For Your Home

by Chris Bergin

The snow is finally gone, right?! Now is the time to address seasonal maintenance issues for your home, regardless if you are getting your home ready for the market or just looking to give it a springtime tune-up. Addressing repairs and upgrades will help lower energy costs while adding value and marketability down the road.

Here are some tips for the season:

Windows: Did you notice significant drafts this past winter? If so it may be time to consider refurbishing your windows or replacing them altogether.

Paint Lakewood Applications Now Available

by Eric Lowrey

Applications are now available for LakewoodAlive's 2013 "Paint Lakewood" program. With funding through the city's Community Development Block Grant allocation, the program provides income-eligible residents up to \$1,000 towards materials to paint the exterior of their homes.

"Our goal is to revitalize Lakewood's neighborhoods and also educate residents on lead safety issues that are prevalent in older homes," said LakewoodAlive Housing Outreach Coordinator Laura Krawczyk. "Tackling this home maintenance issue can cost homeowners thousands of dollars. With the Paint Lakewood Program, we hope to defray the cost."

Known as the "City of Homes,"

Have Fun This Summer At Beck

continued from page 12

families and friends as we march in the Lakewood 4th of July parade.

In addition to summer camps, Beck Center also offers more than 140 classes, programs and private music lessons throughout the summer. A complete summer catalog and registration is available online at beckcenter.org.

Beck Center camps and classes are more than just a good time. According to the Americans for the Arts, involvement in the arts improves a child's language, reading and cognitive skills which contribute to a student's overall academic success. Students enjoy learning all summer long at Beck Center.

Don't miss out on fun learning at Beck Center this summer. Camps fill up quickly, so register today. There are three easy ways to enroll: online at beckcenter.org, by phone at 216.521.2540, ext. 10; or via mail by simply downloading a registration form. For more information call Customer Service at 216.521.2540, ext.10.

Today there are all kinds of options for home owners. It could be as simple as adding quality storm windows, fresh caulk, and/or weather stripping to existing windows, which will also allow you to maintain the character and integrity of your home. Contact a reputable Lakewood contractor to discuss options that fit your budget.

Heating & Cooling Systems: At a minimum it is time to have your mechanical system(s) cleaned and serviced. If your heating and cooling bills have been higher than normal it may also be time to consider replacing your units with high-

Lakewood's beautiful and historic homes are a defining feature of the community. LakewoodAlive's Housing Outreach Program, in collaboration with the City of Lakewood, helps homeowners maintain and enhance the historic housing stock, works with homeowners and investors to abate code violations, and provides resources to help strengthen the foundation of our community.

Lakewood residents are also eligible to receive free technical advice from the Cleveland Restoration Society, including color consultations to determine historically-appropriate color schemes for their homes.

To qualify, applicants must complete an income verification process and participate in lead safety education. For more information, please contact LakewoodAlive's Housing Outreach Program at 216-521-1554 or email Laura Krawczyk at lkrawczyk@lakewoodalive.com. Application forms are available at the LakewoodAlive offices at 14701 Detroit Avenue, Lower Level #10 or on the website: www.paintlakewood.com.

LakewoodAlive is a nonprofit economic development corporation whose mission is to facilitate economic stability and growth in the City of Lakewood.

efficiency models. This is also the time to consider your home's insulation. Conducting an energy audit will give you an idea of how efficient your home is and if more insulation should be added.

Roofing System: Spring is a great time to inspect your roof for storm damage. While a full roof replacement may cost thousands, a roof tune-up may only cost a few hundred dollars and be just what the doctor ordered. Contact a reputable roofer to inspect your roof for damage and repair as-needed. Make sure your gutters are clean and flowing properly and that all downspouts are free of debris. A properly working roof system will help divert water away from your foundation and assist with keeping your basement dry.

Exterior Paint: We all dread it. But we all need it! Spring is the perfect time to asses the damage to your home's exterior. Check your home from top to bottom. Is it time to finally paint the exterior? Do the porch railings need to be addressed? If you are not going to tackle this yourself call a qualified painter sooner than later. Most will come out for free estimates; however, since the painting season can-

not start until weather permits, many of the professionals will already be booked through June.

Landscaping: Now's the time to prune, plant, and mulch. Clean up the damage from the winter. Decide if it is time to freshen-up your curb appeal, and add mulch to retain moisture and keep those weeds from growing.

So whether you are just looking to spruce up your home and make it more efficient or are getting it ready for the market, these tips will help get you on your way. Remember to get estimates for work in writing, and to check the contractor's reputation. The Building Department can provide a list of contractors that are "certified" to work in Lakewood, and your local realtor should be able to provide a list of trusted names as well.

If you are concerned about over-improving your home go to www.HomeValuesInLakewood.Info and check your home's value and neighborhood activity.

Chris Bergin is a licensed real estate agent with Prudential Lucien Realty in Lakewood and can be reached at Chris@ChrisBergin.com.



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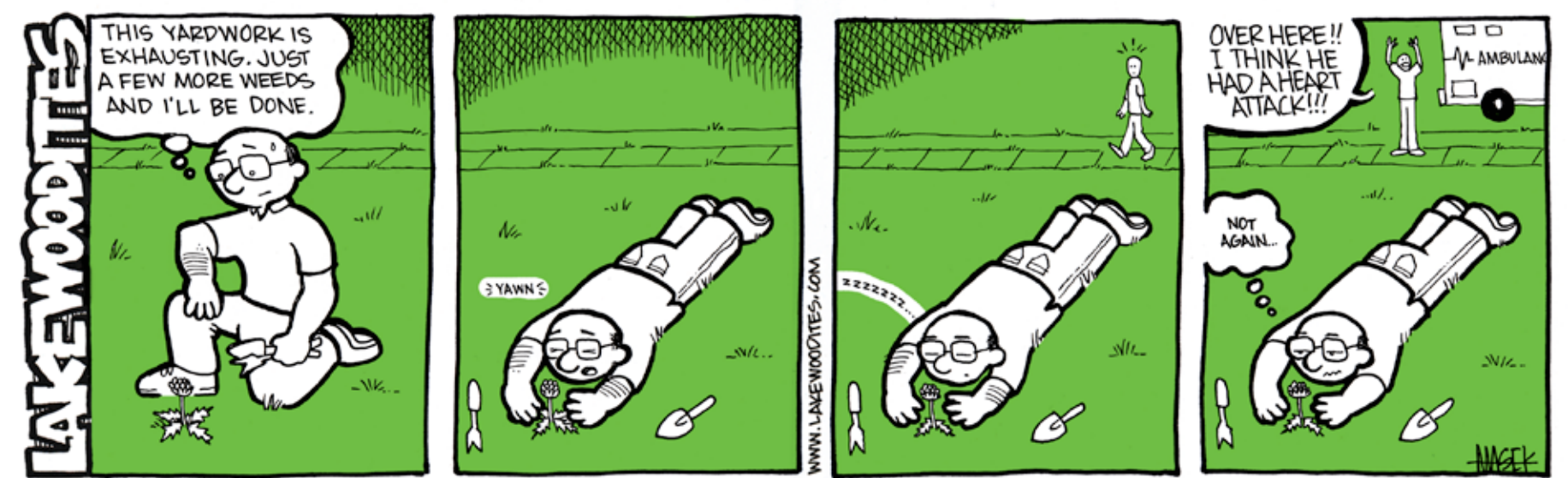
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The Back Page



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