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Some painters transform the sun into a yellow spot, others transform a yellow spot into the sun. - Pablo Picasso

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Volume 9, Issue 15, July 24, 2013

Independence Day, Summer Meltdown, Arts Festival, Starry Night, Car Kulture Show

Lakewood Parties On – Summer 2013



Photos by Jim O'Bryan

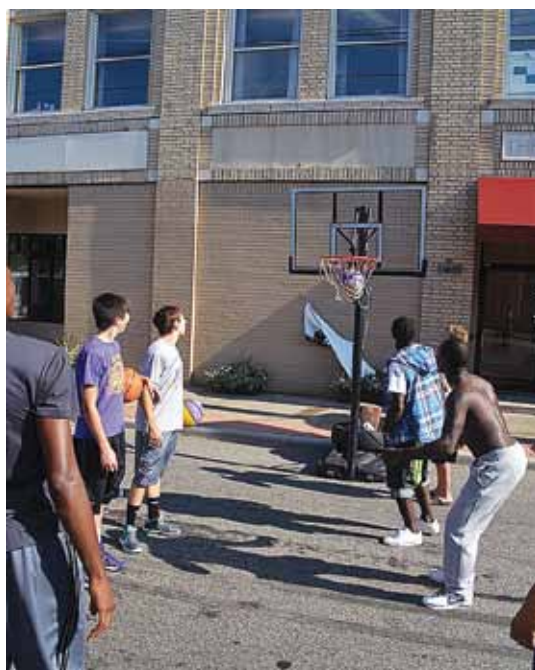


Photo by Craig Lovejoy, Low Level Aerial Photography

Misty Gonzales rocked the Summer Meltdown.

Summer Meltdown Rocks Downtown

Last weekend LakewoodAlive staged the 5th version of Summer Meltdown, the event that has always been somewhat hard to define, but has really caught on. The Meltdown is probably best summed up by David Shaw, VP and CSO, Retail Banking, of First Federal Lakewood who said, "Who doesn't love a block party?" The photos above are kids at the Lakewood Outdoor Basketball Committee (LOBC) hoop during the event. I gave them a challenge saying, "All of you shoot the basket together and whoever makes it, gets in the Lakewood Observer." One person made it. "OK," I said, "make it again, and the shot makes it on page 1- and I will use your name." Well, LHS student Cortez Smith made it with nothing but net! See more online and on page 19, with over 300 photos from some of Lakewood's best photographers at <http://lakewoodobserver.com/photoblogs>.

School Board Places Bond Issue On Fall Ballot

by Edward Favre
Lakewood Board of
Education President

The Board of Education, Superintendent Patterson, and the Administration have been very busy this summer. And there is more important work in progress before fall.

We started the summer with the unexpected departure of Treasurer Timothy Penton. During his short tenure, Mr. Penton has served the District well and will be assisting the interim treasurer to accommodate an orderly transition. The Board wishes him the best.

Regarding the interim treasurer, at its July 22 meeting, the Board retained Mr. James Estle as Interim Treasurer. He is a veteran treasurer who has served at Vermillion, Brunswick and Lorain, as well as interim assignments in Columbia and Streetsboro. The Board will continue to seek a long

term replacement.

As we're working to replace Tim, we received the long-awaited news that the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission had approved Lakewood for the largest of the 19 awards statewide this year. This gives Lakewood a window of opportunity to restart and complete our facilities project, which now includes a seventh, Grant, elementary school. Superintendent Patterson and his team had been working hard to bring this to fruition. The Board acted promptly to pass the initial resolution to meet the requirements for the County Auditor.

We received a favorable reply from the Auditor, and a second resolution--to place a 3.25 mill bond issue combined with a .5 mill permanent improvement levy on the November 5, 2013 ballot--was unanimously passed at our July

22 meeting. This enables us to put a bond issue on the November ballot to raise the required final funding match to complete the job.

The money raised from the bond, \$49 million, combined with the \$50.4 million the state recently approved for distribution to the district for school construction will be used for demolishing and rebuilding Grant, Lincoln and Roosevelt elementaries and the eastern half of Lakewood High School.

The permanent improvement levy (PIL) is a requirement by the State of Ohio in order to receive the Ohio School Construction Commission funds. Revenue raised from the PIL will be dedicated to the maintenance of the newly constructed schools.

The bond issue and PIL combined will cost a Lakewood

continued on page 2

An Evening Under The Trees In Lakewood Park And The Friday Night Flick: The Lorax, Friday, July 26

by Marianne Quasebarth Usiak

Come learn about what is happening with the City of Lakewood's trees from some resident experts and the new City of Lakewood's Tree Task Force. We will begin with a short family friendly tour and hands on learning of some interesting trees right in Lakewood Park. Then get settled in your lawn chair or blanket and be ready to learn about why we want and need trees in our city from our local experts: John Palmer, Certified Arborist, and Bob Rensel, Horticulturist at Cleveland Botanical Garden. Bring your tree questions! For the Friday Night Flick, the tree theme continues with the popular movie from Dr. Seuss, "The Lorax" that both children and adults can enjoy. Bring the whole family and enjoy this evening under some of our grand trees in Lakewood Park!

8:00 pm: Tree Tour-Meet at the north end of the Veteran's Park.

8:30 pm: "Tree Talk"-At bandstand area by members of the City of Lakewood Tree Task Force: "Why Are Trees Important to Lakewood and How to Successfully Care for a Tree on Your Property."*

Friday Night Flick: "The Lorax" begins once it's dark (8:51pm is sunset).

Come enjoy this "tree-ific" evening under some of our magnificent trees in Lakewood Park!

Some benches near the bandstand are available for this outdoor event or bring your own chairs, blankets, and popcorn for the evening.

*In the event of rain, the tour is cancelled and the tree talk will be held at 8:00 pm in the City Hall Auditorium and will be followed by the movie at approximately 8:30 pm.

Friday Concert Series on LPL Porch



Photo by Craig Lovejoy, Low Level Aerial Photography

If you are looking for something to do on Fridays that is musical, fun, entertaining and FREE, check out the LPL Front Porch Concert Series. (See page 5 for upcoming schedule.)

Lakewood Observer

From the Lakewood Observer Deck

HELP! Broccoli Attack


Betsy - from Mother Earth News:
<http://www.motherearthnews.com/organic-gardening/organic-pest-control-for-cabbage-worms.aspx#axzz2Z1dv4rdk>

Something is eating holes in my new broccoli plants. Should I be worried, and if so, what should I do?

If you look very closely on the undersides of the leaves, especially along the leaf veins, you will spot the culprits — green worms that have hatched from eggs laid by white cabbage butterflies and their cousins. Beneficial insects and birds will reduce the number of worms but broccoli, cabbage and related brassicas often need some human help to fend off these fast-growing butterfly larvae. Our recent online poll shows which methods

are most popular:

The Bt product is a good choice; it's made from a bacteria and it only kills the worms that eat it; it won't harm other insects, pets or humans. Johnny's Selected Seeds offers a brand (Dipel) as either a dust or a powder that you mix with water and spray. This "dry flowable" powder will last "indefinitely" so you won't have to buy it fresh every year. And Peaceful Valley Farm Supply sells a nifty Solo 1-liter sprayer that has a trombone extension and adjustable nozzle so that you can get the spray onto the undersides of the leaves, where the caterpillars like to hang out.



Hot Off The Deck

<http://lakewoodobserver.com/forum>

Join the discussion online – visit the OBSERVATION DECK

LAKEWOOD DISCUSSION

Topics	Author	Replies	Member Views	Last Post
Fight or Flight?	Bill Call	6	644	russell dunn
Back In Lakewood, For How Long?	Jim O'Bryan	0	143	
IMAGE-IN LAKEWOOD	Jim O'Bryan	146	9532	Peter Grossetti
Signs, Signs, Everywhere		109	10161	Paul Schrimpf
Meth Lab Busted On Quail Ave.	Jim O'Bryan	9	536	
No Senior Games in the 'Wood?	Michael Deneen	1	134	Peter Grossetti
View first unread post City Council Meeting Tonight! 7/15				
Fire Pits	Bret Callentine	23	752	ryan costa




Photo posted by Peter Grossetti



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NOW OPEN

Bond Issue On Fall Ballot

continued from page 1

taxpayer just under \$11 per month for every \$100,000 of home valuation or \$131 per year.

Pending approval of the bond and PIL, demolition of the buildings will likely begin to take place in summer 2014 with construction to last approximately two years.

We want to get all our students in up-to-date buildings and out of temporary structures and modulars as soon as possible. To put the bond issue off until next year keeps many of our students in these outdated and temporary sites for an additional year. This delay was not our original plan, which was inter-

rupted by the Great Recession. We've been going down a very long road with our school construction project. This is a huge move forward for this district to finish this project

In addition to these major events, on July 17th the District announced the hiring of many new and talented principals and staff members to replace over 30 retirees. We are happy with the caliber of personnel Lakewood attracts and have high performance expectations.

There is still much more to be done. We will be busy through the rest of the summer and plan to hit the ground running in the new school year.



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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

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Sunday, August 11, 2013

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Wednesday, August 21, 2013

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Join the Discussion at: www.lakewoodobserver.com

Government News

Ensuring Ohio Workers Have The Skills Needed To Fill Open Jobs

by United States Senator
Sherrod Brown

Last week, I heard from Daniel Brewer, a Navy veteran who could not find a good paying job after returning from Afghanistan. Though Daniel had substantial training in the Navy, after moving home to Ohio he had trouble translating his skills into the civilian workforce.

Daniel's experience is all too common. Time and time again I've heard similar stories from Ohioans: biotech firms, high-tech manufacturers, and small businesses are hiring for open positions, but can't find the workers with the right skills to fill these job openings. With too many in Cuyahoga County still unable to find work, we should be doing all that we can to ensure that our workers are qualified to fill local jobs.

Since 2007, I've convened more than 215 roundtables across Ohio's 88 counties, listening to community and business leaders, workers, and entrepreneurs on ways to strengthen our economy. A theme that developed early on was that despite high unemployment, employers are having a hard time finding workers with the skills necessary to fill available jobs. As a result, job openings in high-growth industries, like healthcare, clean energy, and biosciences, and even the manufacturing sector, are going unfilled.

According to Forbes, Ohio ranks 10th per capita in the nation among states expecting the biggest looming skilled labor shortage--due, in part, to an aging population and limited workforce training resources.

The skills gap exists, especially for careers in high-tech fields. This gap denies workers new opportunities they deserve and undermines Northeast Ohio's economic competitiveness. It also limits our region's ability to attract new jobs and businesses.

In response to the stories I heard during my early roundtables throughout Ohio about the need to close the skills gap, I first introduced the Strengthening Employment Clusters to Organize Regional Success (SECTORS) Act in 2008. Last week, I reintroduced it with Senator Susan Collins (R-ME).

The SECTORS Act creates partnerships between educators, industry, and workforce training boards to ensure

that workers have the right skills to get hired in high-tech, emerging industries with good-paying jobs. If we're going to attract new employers, we need to ensure that local workforce development efforts support the needs of local industries. That's what this bill does.

It means community colleges like Tri-C, workforce investment boards, industry, and labor, working together

to serve local needs.

We know economic development and workforce skills training go hand-in-hand. We've seen this in Youngstown with NAMII. When the skilled workers are there, more investments follow. It's not only good for businesses; this legislation is also important for Cuyahoga County families.

We have a unique opportunity

to address the skills gap that prevents hardworking Ohioans—like Daniel Brewer—from finding good jobs and prohibits eager-to-grow companies from hiring the skilled workers needed to expand. We close the skills gap by going directly to the source of Northeast Ohio's economic might: our skilled workers and innovative businesses.

Councilmember Miller Votes Against Proposal To Include Campaign Finance Rules In County Charter

by Trudy Hutchinson

Cuyahoga County Council Member Dale Miller, who represents Lakewood in District 2, voted against the recommendation of the Cuyahoga County Charter Review Commission which would have aligned Cuyahoga County with the State of Ohio and the City of Cleveland by enacting some form of campaign contribution limits.

Among the proposed Charter Amendments is Amendment 2 which would add campaign finance laws to Section 3.09 "Powers and Duties of the Council" and would read (13) To enact campaign finance laws governing the election of any County officers and officials including, without limitation, campaign finance limits and donor disclosure requirements. Current charter language is silent on campaign finance.

The Cuyahoga County Council Committee of the Whole met on July 10, to consider Amendment 2 and other amendments referred by the Charter Review Commission. Following vigorous discussion by Council Members, the Council, by roll call, voted not to refer Amendment 2 to the ballot for voter approval. Council Member Miller joined eight of his colleagues in voting against the recommendation. Council Member Michael Gallagher (District 5), expressed doubt that the recommendation was needed by saying that he is unaware of any "shenanigans" with election finance at the county level. Council Member Sunny Simon (District 11) observed that the recommendation is intended to create a level playing field among candidates and that the concept of a level playing field does not work. Council President C. Ellen Connally stated that the recommendation would

have a "chilling effect" on people who want to run for office.

During the committee discussion, Council Member Miller did not speak either in favor of or against Amendment 2. When asked about his vote after the meeting, Council Member Miller expressed discomfort with the form of Amendment 2 saying that the proposed revision of Section 3.09 of the Charter would have inserted the words "and duties" beside "powers," thus changing the entire list of enumerated powers of County Council to powers and duties of County Council. Council Member Miller stated that he supports the power of Cuyahoga County Council to enact campaign finance laws but not as an absolute requirement.

The vote came as part of a review process required by the County Charter that was passed by the voters in November 2009. The Charter eliminated the three-person Board of County Commissioners in favor of a charter form of government and the election of an 11-person County Council and County Executive. The Charter Review Commission was formed in late 2012 and recommended 15 amendments to the Charter. Amendments that are referred by County Council will be placed on the November 2013 general election ballot.

Trudy Hutchinson is a Lakewood resident who is interested in community activism.

The 3rd Annual Lakewood Ideation Challenge Kicks Off, Offering Exclusive Access And More

by Mike Belsito

Everybody has a new business or product idea. It was probably not long ago where you heard a friend of yours quip that he was actually the one who had the idea for eBay, and if he only acted on it he could be a billionaire today. Maybe he's right. But ideas, by themselves, are really worthless. According to a recent Forbes article titled "Angel Investors: How the Rich Invest," a great idea didn't even make the top two attributes that angel investors look for when deciding to fund a new start-up company. Instead, angel investors typically look for a great team, and a good market. They realize that the idea itself will actually change – and the execution of an idea is what's really important. After all, the start-up companies that succeed typically spend years building their product, attracting investors, and gaining traction within their market – which, depending on the type of business, could take millions of dollars and countless sleepless nights and long weekends – before becoming a success.

Even though ideas by themselves

have little value—ideas from people who are passionate and are willing to put in the hard work to make their dreams a reality are very valuable indeed. If you find yourself with a good idea for a new business or product and a burning desire to bring your idea to fruition, but with little direction on how to take the first step – Start-up Lakewood and the City of Lakewood have a competition designed just for you.

The Third Annual Lakewood Ideation Challenge kicks off this month, and is giving entrepreneurial hopefuls a platform to pitch their ideas, receive feedback, and have a chance at winning a prize package that includes pre-arranged meetings with investors, admission to a start-up boot-camp, and even a personal meeting with one of Lakewood's most successful entrepreneurs, Mayor Michael Summers, among other prizes. To apply, interested applicants need only to submit a 2-3 page executive summary by August 16th and be available, if asked, to give an elevator pitch about their new business or product idea at the Start-up **continued on page 22**

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Mayor Summers then asked Council, as the first order of business, to recognize the H2O Service Organization as the 2013 July 4th Parade Grand Marshal. He said, "Lakewood is proud to recognize H2O and we would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their work in our community." In addition to recognizing the parade grand marshal, the Mayor also recognized the parade winners for each category. For Best Color Guard:

Upon Councilman Powers completing his report, Council passed

Law Director Butler then asked Council to consider passing an ordinance that would allow the city to enter into an agreement with the Clifton Park trustees giving the city usage of a boat dock at the Clifton Lagoon. The dock space would allow the city emer-

Coming to the end of the agenda items, Council President Powers adjourned the meeting at 8:33 P.M., beginning Council's six week vacation.

Lakewood Public Library is searching for an enthusiastic, organized, creative and motivated person to add to our Children's & Youth Services team, which delivers traditional and innovative public library services to children and youth ages birth through high school. Bachelor's degree and valid Ohio driver's license required. Storytelling, craft and computer skills a plus. Hours: days, evenings & weekends, 20 - 25 hours/week. Salary: \$12.00 per hour. Application deadline is Wednesday, August 7, 2013. Qualified and interested applicants should call Julie Strunk at (216) 226-8275, ext. 142 to arrange for an application. Lakewood Public Library is an EEOE.

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Lakewood Public Library

compiled by Leana Donofrio-Milovan

Friday, July 26
LakewoodAlive Front Porch Concert Series: Bobby Ferrazza
7:00 p.m. on the Main Library Front Porch

Saturday, July 27
Lakewood Art House Cinema
“Power of One” (1992) Directed by John G. Avildsen - Rated PG-13
Even before Apartheid, South Africa was a difficult place to find justice. When a young white man whose family spoke up finds himself orphaned and imprisoned, there seems little hope for him or his country. But with the help of some wise men, including Morgan Freeman, Stephen Dorff fights the system with nothing more than his fists. Make no mistake, this film is about more than boxing.
6:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

Friday, August 2
LakewoodAlive Front Porch Concert Series: Vance Music Studios Student Rock Bands
7:00 p.m. on the Main Library Front Porch

Saturday, August 3
Lakewood Arts Festival Friend’s Book Sale
9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Lakewood Public Library Friend’s Book Sale Room

LPL Children/Youth Events

compiled by Eric Knapp

Friday, July 26
Foster Brown - For the whole family
The Parents’ Choice singer/songwriter/storyteller winner shares his love for our natural world with fun and original songs you can move to.
3:00 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room.

Friday, August 2
The Learning Garden Story Time - For the whole family
Make the Learning Garden a part of your family time with stories, music, and activities about vegetables, fruits, flowers, and good things to eat!
10:30 a.m. in the Learning Garden right behind the Madison Branch Library.

Wednesday, August 7
End of Summer Party: “A Diggin’ Good Time”
For the whole family
Celebrate “Dig Into Reading” and the end of another great summer with games, activities and more. Summer Reading Club members who bring their completed reading record will receive an extra reward.
6:00 p.m – 7:30 p.m. at the Madison Park Pavilion.

Saturday, August 10
It’s a Mystery at Lakewood Public Library
For youth fifth through eighth grades
The Library is missing a valuable first edition and needs YOU to help solve the crime! A classic who-dunnit where you are the clever investigator. To register, stop in or call (216) 226-8275, ext. 140.
2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room.

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

Weekends With Wee Ones
For families with children under 2 years old
Spend a part of your family weekend time clapping your hands, tapping your feet, singing nursery rhymes and, of course, sharing books. We will provide materials and ideas for those wishing to continue the fun at home. Programs are offered every weekend throughout the year and there is no need to register in advance.
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Lakewood Public Cinema
“Strange Cargo” (1940) Directed by Frank Borzage - Not Rated
Joan Crawford and Clark Gable make the jungle uncomfortably hot while Peter Lorre ratchets up the creepy in this torrid, sleazy little film about redemption. Six hardened convicts and one woman of ill repute escape an island prison with blood on their hands and sin in their hearts—only to wind up adrift on the ocean. It seems almost certain that these cut-throats will finish each other off long before they die of thirst, but one kind man just might show them the way.
6:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium
Wednesday, August 7
Introduction to Ancestry.com Library Edition
6:00 p.m. in the Main Library Learning Lab

Thursday, August 8
BOOKED FOR MURDER: Queens of Crime
“Time to Be in Earnest” by P.D. James
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

Friday, August 9
LakewoodAlive Front Porch Concert Series: Walkin’ Cane
7:00 p.m. on the Main Library Front Porch

Saturday, August 10
Hitchcock Comes to Hollywood, “Rope” (1948)
Farley Granger and John Dall kill a prep-school pal just for the thrill of it, then throw a party in the apartment where the body is hidden. Guests include the victim’s parents and fiancée as well as their former college professor and mentor, James Stewart. Inspired by the real-life Leopold-Loeb murders, the story is presented in real time and appears to be shot without any cuts. Since film reels were only ten minutes long back then, how did the master pull that off? This was Hitchcock’s first film in color.
6:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

Sunday, August 11
Sunday with the Friends: Judy Garland
Somewhere over the rainbow, the sweet, troubled contralto who broke our hearts is still singing. Vocalist Judy Crawford offers us a chance to remember Judy Garland at her best, covering all her trademark songs with spirit and wit.
2:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium



Friday, August 2, 2013 | 7:00 to 10:00 p.m.

Under the stars on Belle at Detroit in Lakewood

6:00 p.m. Sponsor and premium “Shooting Star” ticket early admittance

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Lakewood Public Library

Graphic Novels: An Engaging Mix Of Story And Image

by Charity Thomas

Comics have come a long way since the days of superheroes printed on pulp and Sunday morning newspaper strips. What was once enjoyed by a small niche audience is now a well-known and legitimate literary genre with an ever expanding readership.

Comics and Graphic Novels have rapidly increased in popularity during recent years and with good reason. The genre has expanded from its beginnings of classic superhero stories to a whole variety of subjects, such as memoirs, classics, and Japanese Manga. They've inspired countless movies and television series such as "Watchmen," "Batman" and "The Walking Dead" to name a few, and even well-known authors like Stephen King and James Patterson have taken a crack at adapting their work into graphic formats.



The Lakewood Public Library has nearly 4000 graphic novels currently in its collection and new additions are added every month. Some of the best Graphic Novels and Graphic Novel series to have been recently released

are as follows:

- "A Game of Thrones" by Daniel Abraham, George R.R. Martin, and Tommy Patterson
- "Are You My Mother? A Comic Drama" by Alison Bechdel

- "Building Stories" by Chris Ware
 - "The Dark Tower" Series by Stephen King, Peter David, Robin Furth, and Alex Maleev
 - "Journalism" by Joe Sacco
 - "Locke & Key" Series by Joe Hill and Gabriel Rodriguez
 - "Marbles" by Ellen Forney
 - "My Friend Dahmer" by Derf Backderf
 - "Relish: My Life in the Kitchen" by Lucy Knisley
 - "The Walking Dead" by Robert Kirkman, Charlie Adlard, Cliff Rathburn, and Tony Moore
- Check out these and many more at Lakewood Public Library's Main Branch. Our selection of Graphic Novels is located on the second floor in the Film and Music room. A small collection is available at our Madison Branch, as well.

Dig Into Reading Party At Madison Park

by Eric Knapp

Calling all summer readers! Get ready to celebrate the end of another great summer with games and goodies galore. LPL's summer reading club, Dig Into Reading, is drawing to a close, which means it's time for a party! Our summer readers have done a fabulous job, and now it's time to reap their rewards. All children ages birth

through fifth grade will be treated to frozen yogurt from Menchie's, and cookies will also be provided for them. The games are open to all, but only those who completed 30 books or 30 hours of reading can participate in our "soak the staff" event. Bring your completed reading record for your chance to soak the staff! The party will be held on Wednesday, August 7th from 6-7:30

in the Madison Park Pavilion behind the Madison Branch at 13229 Madison Ave. This family event is free and open

to the public. Call the Children and Youth Services department (216) 226-8275 ext. 140 for more information.



Dunk your favorite staff member at the LPL's summer reading club finale party at Madison Park!

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Celebrating Music: Lakewood Front Porch Concerts



by Leana Donofrio-Milovan

The Revolution Brass Band performed on July 12 as part of Front Porch Concerts held right in front of Lakewood Public Library. Many more bands will be visiting so don't miss out! Check out www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.org/events to learn more!

Lakewood Schools

District Announces New Administrative Appointments

by Christine Gordillo

The Board of Education, at a July 9 special meeting and July 15 regular meeting, approved a number of new administrative appointments, as the district continues to shape its leadership team in the wake of a number of recent retirements and professional advancements.

Current Director of Human Resources and Recreation Jim Reitenbach has been appointed to the newly created position of Executive Director of Operations & Construction. In this role, Reitenbach will be charged with developing a facility maintenance program for the district. He will also work closely with the Ohio School Construction Commission in preparation for the final phase of the district's school facilities construction project and will continue to be the point man on the project once it is under way. Lakewood High Principal Bill Wagner in June was appointed to replace Reitenbach as HR director.

At the July 9 meeting the Board approved current Hayes Elementary Principal Bob Curtin to oversee the Community Recreation & Education Department as well as oversee the transition of students to temporary facilities during the construction of Grant, Lincoln and Roosevelt elementary schools and the eastern end of Lakewood High School as the new Coordinator of Community Recreation and Education/Operations. Curtin, who has served the district as a teacher, coach, assistant principal and principal, oversaw the transition of nearly 400 Hayes students during Phase I construction. The Board also approved current Harding Assistant Principal Joe Takacs as an LHS House Principal, replacing Bradley Leyrer, who has accepted a position as principal in another school district. In June, current Harding Principal Keith Ahearn was appointed the next LHS principal.

Replacing Ahearn at Harding will be Joseph Niemantsverdriet, who comes to Lakewood from Revere City Schools, where he is the middle school principal. In 2012, Niemantsverdriet, who has his students call him Mr. Nemo, was named the Ohio Middle School Principal of the Year by the Ohio Association of Secondary School Administrators. He has an undergraduate degree in chemistry from Ohio University, a master's in educational administration and a master's in curriculum and instruction, both from Cleveland State.

Joining Niemantsverdriet at Harding will be current LHS English teacher

Shane Sullivan, who will replace Takacs as the new assistant principal. Sullivan, who joined the district as a teacher in 2003, has been with Lakewood City Schools his entire career. He has played a vital role in both building and district leadership teams. Sullivan earned his bachelor's in English from Baldwin Wallace College and a master's degree from New York University. He also has an educational leadership certification from Cleveland State.

In addition to the three new elementary principals approved at the June 17 Board meeting, the Board approved a fourth elementary principal, which was needed due to Curtin's move from Hayes to Recreation. Merritt Waters will lead the staff and

Lakewood High School is one of 30 organizations nationwide to be awarded a \$100,000 planning grant from the Next Generation Learning Challenges (NGLC) initiative, which is accelerating educational innovation through technology to dramatically improve college readiness and completion in the United States. The grant will fund a year-long planning process for a new and innovative secondary school model that is based on students learning through making.

Winning the planning grant opens the door for Lakewood High to receive a \$300,000 NGLC grant to launch the new "school within a school" educational design in fall 2014.

The Engine at Lakewood High School will have a dedicated space on the LHS campus and will serve approximately 100 students at first. It will be modeled after a Makerspace design, which empowers students to identify, articulate and solve real-world problems. The curriculum puts the student at the center of his or her learning, is project-based and makes full use of digital connections to provide authentic learning contexts. Students will have flexible credit options, blended learning opportunities and internships with area businesses that maximize each student's academic growth.

"We are very excited to be one of the first public high schools in the country to design the curriculum, physical space, and community of learners around the concepts of a Makerspace," said LHS Science teacher and

students at Horace Mann Elementary. Waters will be joining the district from Olmsted Falls City Schools, where she has been the Director of Student Services. She has also served as a preschool principal and school psychologist in Olmsted Falls. She has a bachelor's degree in business management/psychology from Marietta College and a master's degree in education from John Carroll University.

The new elementary principals approved at previous Board meetings have also been assigned buildings. Sandy Kozelka will head Lincoln Elementary, Sabrina Crawford will head Harrison Elementary, and Sandra Powers will lead Hayes Elementary. Longtime Harrison Principal Philis

grant team member Ken Kozar.

The Engine at Lakewood High School will use the power of 21st century technology to connect students with meaningful learning experiences and allow them to follow their own pace and depth of learning. An average day for a student might include building a robot, editing a blog and meeting with a community partner to review a project on which the student and a mentor are collaborating.

The physical location of the school hopes to allow for open space, flexible seating options and an area to build. This non-traditional environment will encourage and facilitate collaboration, critical thinking and foster a desire to innovate in a way that traditional classroom configurations do not.

As a partner in the grant, the University of Akron can provide post-secondary options both in a brick-and-mortar setting and online

this is a great opportunity to meet other parents and caregivers of young children in Lakewood as well as a night out! It is also an excellent opportunity to learn about Lakewood Early Childhood PTA and all that we have to offer!

Would you love to know more but can't make it to Salad Supper? Look us up at www.lecpta.com or like us on Facebook!

Muth will move to Grant Elementary. Muth skillfully handled the transition of students during the reconstruction of Harrison in Phase I of the district construction program and that experience will be needed as Grant undergoes its own reconstruction and transition.

"The many changes in our administrative ranks that have come about by a combination of retirements and professional advancement has created a great opportunity for us to add some significant talent to our leadership team and reassess where that talent will best serve the district," said Superintendent Jeff Patterson. "I look forward to working with our current and new administrators to make the 2013-2014 school year our best yet."

LHS Wins \$100,000 Grant For Ground-breaking School Model

by Christine Gordillo

grant team member Ken Kozar.

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As a partner in the grant, the University of Akron can provide post-secondary options both in a brick-and-mortar setting and online

for those students ready to move on to that level.

"We are thrilled that we have a team of teachers at Lakewood High School that has worked with Principal Bill Wagner and University of Akron Professor Sharon Kruse to generate a proposal to secure this grant," said Lakewood City Schools Superintendent Jeff Patterson. "My hat is off to these educators for developing an innovative technological system of instructional delivery that embeds the Common Core into classrooms that foster learning by making."

In addition to Wagner and Kruse, LHS teachers Ken Kozar, Julie Rea and Sean Wheeler round out the team members for the grant. Harding Principal Keith Ahearn will take over Wagner's role when Ahearn becomes principal of Lakewood High on August 1.

Join Lakewood Early Childhood PTA For Salad Supper

by Julie Derrick

Lakewood Early Childhood PTA is excited to invite parents and caregivers of children ages six and under to our annual Salad Supper. The event will be held at the Women's Pavilion located at Lakewood Park, 14532 Lake Ave. in Lakewood on Tuesday, July 30th from 6:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m.

Please join us as we have an evening of good food and good times! Door prizes will be given away and

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Lakewood Cares

Fr. Walsh, St. Luke Pastor, Retires

by Larry Faulhaber

On Sunday, July 28, the Parish of St. Luke the Evangelist will hold a reception in recognition of the dedicated service of its Pastor, Reverend Francis P. Walsh, for the last 21 years. It will be preceded by a Mass celebrated by Bishop A. J. Quinn, Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus, assisted by Fr. Walsh and other priests from area churches; priests who have served with Fr. Walsh, and some of his seminary classmates.

Fr. Walsh will retire as pastor of the parish on August 1. Fr. Walsh grew up in Rocky River attending St. Christopher School. He graduated from St. Ignatius High School in 1949 and attended John Carroll University for two years before entering the Seminary in 1951. He was ordained by Archbishop Edward F. Hoban in 1957 and served as an assistant pastor in several parishes before being named pastor of St. Jerome Church in 1976 by Bishop James A. Hickey.

In January 1992, he was appointed Pastor of St. Luke Parish by Bishop Anthony M. Pilla. Shortly after his appointment, he initiated two successful major restoration fundraising campaigns. In 1994, funds were raised for much-needed major repairs to the parish facilities. Funds raised through the 1997 campaign were used for a complete modernization of the church interior with new chandeliers, wooden wainscot, and major sanctuary changes.

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Starting in 2004, Fr. Walsh joined with the pastors of St. Clement and St. James in addressing the issues of declining school enrollment and increasing cost of maintaining school facilities. This resulted in the establishment of Lakewood Catholic Academy in the former St. Augustine Academy, and the merging of the three parish schools in 2005. LCA opened in August 2005, offering Catholic education to students in Pre-Kindergarten through eighth grade. LCA continues to offer quality

Beck Center For The Arts Celebrates 80th Season With Gala

by Pat Miller

Terry Stewart, past President & CEO of Rock and Roll Hall of Fame & Museum, is honoree at inaugural "Spotlight" event

September 2013 marks the beginning of Beck Center for the Arts' landmark 80th season, and Beck Center certainly has cause to celebrate. From humble beginnings as Lakewood Little Theater in 1933, the organization has grown to be one of the largest arts organizations in Northeast Ohio, serving nearly 60,000 constituents annually with dynamic theater, arts education, exhibits and outreach programming. On Saturday, October 19, Beck Center will host a gala, Spotlight, to honor the past and look forward to the next 80+ years of creating art experiences in Northeast Ohio. The festivities will include a special presentation to honor Terry Stewart, retired President & CEO of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame & Museum.

Mr. Stewart was selected as honoree in recognition of his dynamic leadership of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame & Museum and the important collaboration between Beck Center and the Rock Hall: Toddler Rock. Toddler Rock is an award-winning and effective early childhood music therapy-based program that has impacted several thousand children since its founding in 1999.

"Terry Stewart's understanding of the impact of the arts in education clearly exemplifies the type of leadership that deserves recognition in our community," commented Beck Center's President & CEO Lucinda Einhouse. "I'm pleased that Terry has agreed to be a part of our 80th anniversary cel-

education to nearly 600 students from Lakewood and neighboring suburbs.

About the time LCA opened, Bishop Richard G. Lennon directed all the parishes in the diocese to begin meeting about the idea of merging churches and reducing the cost of operating seven parishes within a five-mile area. Again, Fr. Walsh took a leadership position and after nearly two years of study, recommendations were made to Bishop Lennon. A decision was made to close St. James

Church and to merge St. Rose Parish with Ss. Cyril and Methodius Parish to form the new Transfiguration Parish. Fr. Walsh and his staff provided a welcome environment for members of the closed parishes and worked hard to provide for their spiritual needs. The reopening of St. James in 2012 provided another opportunity to work with his fellow pastors in the Lakewood area and many cluster programs continued.

Last spring, Fr. Walsh asked permission to retire. He plans to live on the west side and to be available to serve churches in the area.

bration and allow us to recognize his significant impact on the region, both artistically and philanthropically. As we celebrate this milestone, this is the perfect opportunity to let him know what he means to us."

"As past President of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, I'm proud of the collaboration we built with Beck Center, positively impacting our youngest learners from all over Greater Cleveland through our Toddler Rock program," said Terry Stewart. "As an advocate for the arts and a friend of Beck Center, I am inspired by the wonderful theater, dance and music performances Beck Center continuously provides to people of all ages and walks of life. It's an honor to be recognized by an organization that adds so much to the cultural landscape

St. James Parish Celebrates Its Anniversary

by Toni Sabo

St. James in Lakewood is celebrating the first anniversary of the reopening of its parish on Thursday, July 25. The festivities will begin at 7:00 p.m. with Mass. A reception will follow immediately afterward in the courtyard. Kristie the balloon-twister will be on hand to make balloon ani-

mals for the kids. This event is free and open to the public. Come and celebrate this happy occasion with us.

Tickets for this much-anticipated occasion go on sale in September. Guests can expect an exciting evening of art, music, and a special revue in the Mackey Main Stage, produced by Artistic Director Scott Spence. Gala Co-Chairs Kathy Haber, Chann Fowler-Spellman, and Janna Dresing invite you to go to beckcenter.org for additional details, including sponsorship opportunities.

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.



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Chance To Win A Hilton Grand Vacation Club Resort To Support North Coast Health Ministry

by Elizabeth O'Brien

The winning ticket holder of North Coast Health Ministry's Hilton Grand Vacation Club Resort raffle will receive a one week stay at a two-bedroom condo at the Hilton Grand Vacation Club property of their choice, along with a \$750 travel voucher for airfare.

The winner can choose between destinations that include Hawaii, Las Vegas, Colorado, Orlando, New York, and many others. The trip is redeemable between September 2013 and August 2014. Availability of resorts at certain times may be limited.

As a public raffle, the Hilton Grand Vacation Club Resort Raffle is open to all purchasers 18 years and older.

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

The winning ticket will be drawn on Thursday, August 29, 2013, at North Coast Health Ministry's Celebration of Caring gala at LaCentre Conference and Banquet Facility in Westlake, Ohio. Winner need not be present to win.

All proceeds benefit North Coast Health Ministry and the life-saving health care we provide to our low-income

neighbors in need. Thank you to the generous raffle prize donors: Tim and Rita Carroll and Independence Travel.

About North Coast Health Ministry
NCHM is a faith-based charitable health center that provides and optimizes

access to health care for the medically underserved. A vital part of the community health care safety net for the past 27 years, NCHM provides primary care, prescription assistance, specialty referrals and health education to low-income individuals and families. With the support of over 150 volunteer physicians, nurses and other caregivers, NCHM is the medical home for its patients, providing preventive care and chronic disease management as well as care for acute illnesses and injuries.

Lakewood Senior Health Campus Awards Long Term Care Scholarship

by Debra O'Bryan

Lakewood Senior Health Campus is pleased to announce Ilene Halder as the 2013 recipient of their annual Long Term Care Scholarship. Ilene graduated this year from West Shore Career-Tech in Lakewood and is enrolled in Lorain County Community College's Nursing School. Ilene came highly recommended by her instructor Jacqueline Smith, RN, MSN as she "demonstrates a strong desire to serve patients, along with a diligent and compassionate demeanor." On July 10th, David O'Neill, Administrator at Lakewood Senior Health Campus, presented Ilene and her instructor Jacqueline Smith with the scholarship check. The scholarship was founded in 2006 to support caring and dedicated students exploring careers in Long Term Care.

Lakewood Senior Health Campus is comprised of a 135 skilled nursing



units, 54 units of Assisted Living, and 61 Independent Senior Apartments. The O'Neill family owns and operates this facility as well as Bradley Bay Health Center in Bay Village, Wellington Place in North Olmsted, and Center Ridge Health Campus in North Ridgeville.

New Sunrise Rotary Leadership

by Larry Faulhaber

On Wednesday, July 10, Assistant Rotary District Governor, Shawn Mueller installed Charles, "Chuck", Drumm as the sixth President of the Rotary Club of Lakewood Rocky River Sunrise. Chuck joined the Sunrise Rotary Club in January of 2010, and became active right away. He was elected to the Club Board of Directors in July 2010, and named President Elect in July 2012. He is a regular at Club service projects including the annual fund raising auction each spring, the Beck Center landscaping clean up in spring and fall, packing shoe boxes for "Children of the Dump" in Nicaragua, and he has nearly perfect attendance at Club meetings. Outside Rotary Chuck is President of Drumm and Associates, which sells process machinery for the food and chemical industry. He and his wife, Cathy, live in Lakewood. Other officers installed on July 10 were Heidi Finniff, Lakewood Branch Manager for First Federal S & L Lakewood, Vice President/President Elect; Tom Giffels, Attorney, Secretary; and Tim Hill, PNC Bank, Treasurer.

In accepting the position of President, Chuck, referred to the Rotary Motto for the 2013/2014 year of "Engage Rotary – Change Lives." He asked each member to engage Rotary by bringing a new member to provide growth for the Club so it is able to expand its Community and Interna-



From left to right: Tom Giffels; Heidi Finniff, Tim Hill, Shawn Mueller, Chuck Drumm

tional service activities. By engaging Rotary, members can find fulfillment by contributing their time, talent and treasure to projects that benefit the Lakewood and Rocky River communities, provide opportunities for the youth of the area to engage in service to their schools and communities, and to support the work of Rotary International in its efforts to eradicate Polio in the world, provide clear water, and improve the overall health of people in disadvantage countries.

The motto "Engage Rotary –

Change Lives" came from Rotary International's new President for the 2013/2014 Rotary Year, Ron Burton, of from Oklahoma. Rotary was founded in 1905 in Chicago and now has nearly 1.2 million members in 34,000 Rotary Clubs around the world. The Object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster: The development of acquaintance as an opportunity of service; High ethical standards in business and professions;

The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life; and The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace, through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

The Rotary Club of Lakewood Rocky River Sunrise meets every Wednesday, at 7:15 a.m. at the Rocky River Civic Center at Wagar and Hilliard Rds. The original Lakewood Rocky River Rotary, which was founded in 1926, meets every Monday, at Noon at the Rocky River Civic. Stop in to one of these meetings and find out how you can Engage Rotary and Change Lives.

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Summertime



photos by Jim O'Bryan



Above: What a Friday! Michael Gill, Editor of the Great Lakes Courier, asked me along to capture him delivering 1,000 copies of the biking paper to Richfield, Ohio. At 10am, on a warm morning I met with Mike Gill, and Mike from Broadway Cyclery who was lending GLC, Surly bikes- special heavy duty longer bikes designed for bike trucking. Bottom left. I met Nikki and Michael Perel at the Root Cafe and they invited me to their wedding at Lakewood Park (see story on the right). Immediate left: Then off on a climb from Cuyahoga County's lowest altitude, to the highest. Check out the newest edition of the Great Lakes Courier for Michael's story, <http://greatlakescourier.com>.



photo by Jim O'Bryan

2nd Annual Youth Scholarship Softball Tournament

by Don Sharp

The Commissioners of the Lakewood Community Recreation and Education Commission, the Adult Athletic Commission and the Youth Athletic Commission are excited to present the Second Annual Youth Scholarship Tournament benefiting Lakewood Youth Recreation Scholarships.

This year the Softball Tournament will be two days, Saturday August 10 will be the a Men's Softball Tournament and Sunday August 11 will be a Co-Ed Softball Tournament. There is still time to sign your team up.

In addition to the Tournament the Commissioners along with Lakewood School Superintendent Jeff Patterson and Lakewood Mayor Mike Summers are pleased to announce a Charity

Game on Friday night August 9.

The Lakewood School Personnel will play the City of Lakewood Personnel in a Kick Ball game at 6:30 p.m. The "Main Event" will take place at 8:30 p.m. when the Lakewood Police Department takes on the Lakewood Fire Department in a softball game.

The entire evening will take place at Kauffman Park Fox Field; there will be Food Trucks as well as items on display for a silent auction.

Bring the entire family for a fun evening. Donations will be accepted for the Lakewood Youth Scholarship Fund.

For additional information contact the Lakewood Recreation Department at 216-529-4081 or Don Sharp at 216-392-5013.

"When we purchased our home in March 2012, we knew that Lakewood would be the perfect fit for our family. Being young professionals working in Cleveland, we wanted to choose a city that had the small town feel with the big city culture. We love the friendly atmosphere, the walkability and the sense of safety and security. Our family lives a whole food, plant based diet and the city has been very accommodating of that. We love shopping at Nature's Bin and the Farmer's Market, grabbing coffee at the Root Café, and eating at our favorite restaurants; The Melt, Aladdin's and Barroco Grill. We also enjoy visiting antique shops, bowling, working out at the YMCA, volunteering and taking walks to Lakewood Park and the library with our kids. Lakewood is truly a great place for all ages, races and cultures and our love for the city continues to grow as we discover new places and meet new friends. It's not a surprise that we chose Lakewood Park for our wedding and the ceremony was absolutely perfect. Lakewood is a healthy growing city and we are excited to get more with the community and continue our journey here."

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Lakewood Arts Festival

CCLAS Bake Sale At ArtsFest: Your Sweet Tooth Can Save A Pet In Need!



by Katelynn Coghlan

Once again CCLAS will host our annual bake sale at Lakewood Arts-Fest on Saturday, August 3th from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Look for our tent at the corner of Belle and Detroit, across from Aladdin's Eatery. CCLAS will have all kinds of delicious treats for dogs (and their human companions), along with cold drinks for sale! Come and take part in one of Lakewood's best summer art events, and don't leave hungry!

All of our monetary donations and proceeds from the sales of donated treats will support the

animals at the Lakewood Animal Shelter and CCLAS' spay/neuter program, foster program, and medical treatments for the animals at the shelter.

Want to donate a sweet treat? CCLAS is looking for baked goods, dog treats and canned drinks. Donations should be heat-friendly, individually-wrapped in plastic (no cakes or pies), and labeled with a list of ingredients for food allergy purposes. To donate a treat or your time for this event, contact cclasweb@yahoo.com.

Thank you for your support!



There's always a great summer read to be found at the Arts Festival Book Sale at LPL!

The Friends Of The Library's Arts Festival Book Sale Is Coming!

by Eve Klodnick

The Lakewood Arts Festival is being held on Saturday August 3rd, and with it comes the Friends of Lakewood Public Library's Book Sale. Escape the heat for a little air conditioned shopping at the Friends' sale. The sale will take place between 9:00 am and 5:00 p.m. in the Friends' room in the basement of the Library.

Browse through their great selection of bestselling authors, classics, poetry, cookbooks, children's books, gardening books, romances and more. There are also CDs for music lovers and DVDs of popular movies for sale. And for anyone still looking for videocassettes, the Friends have a great collection.

Looking for a great coffee table book and don't want to pay \$40 dollars

or more? Stop by the Friends' sale and pick one up for a dollar or two. There is something for everyone at the Friends Book sale. Even free public restrooms, which are in short supply during the Arts Festival.

As always, all proceeds benefit the Friends of Lakewood Public Library. The Friends are a great organization, which has supported the Library by providing materials, and funding for programming and services since 1980. They are an integral part of the library's success, so come out and support them and Lakewood Public Library on August 3rd.

Just remember books, bathrooms, air-conditioning and more. The Friends Book Sale is a must stop during the Lakewood Arts Festival!

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Lakewood Arts Festival Saturday, August 3, 2013 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Artist, Craftspeople, Businesses, listed by Media

Ceramics
Anders Anderson (#150), Pittsburgh, PA
Michael Martell & Claudia Zeber-Martell (#42), Akron, OH
Susan Cross (#45), Cleveland, OH
Bette Drake (#141), Cleveland, OH
Nancy Finesilver (#104), Medina, OH
Martin Frolick (#58), Hermitage, PA,
Bonnie J. Gordon (#84), Seville, OH
Yumiko Goto (#120), Lakewood, OH
Haidi Haiss (#111), Atwater, OH
Elaine Lamb (#69), Medina, OH
Andrea LeBlond (#127), Cleveland, OH,
Ikuko Miklowski (#72), Lakewood, OH
Robin Morris (#18), Corry, PA
Bernard Perdian (#64), Hermitage, PA
Orlando Pottery (#87), Mentor, OH
James Reno (#134), Mayville, NY
Sumiko & Kaname Takada (#100), Columbus, OH
Janet Tobler (#76), Covington, KY
Walter Weil (#38), Groveport, OH,
Melisa Zimmerman (#117), Lexington, KY

Drawing, Printmaking, Etching
Mike Guyot (#61), Strongsville, OH, , , ,
Sean Higgins (#26), Cleveland, OH
Brian Andrew Jasinski (#125), Lakewood, OH
John Musarra (#110), Lakewood, OH
Chris Plummer (#99), Alexandria, KY
Chuck Wimmer (#60), Brecksville, OH
W. Michael Winston (#11), Twinsburg, OH

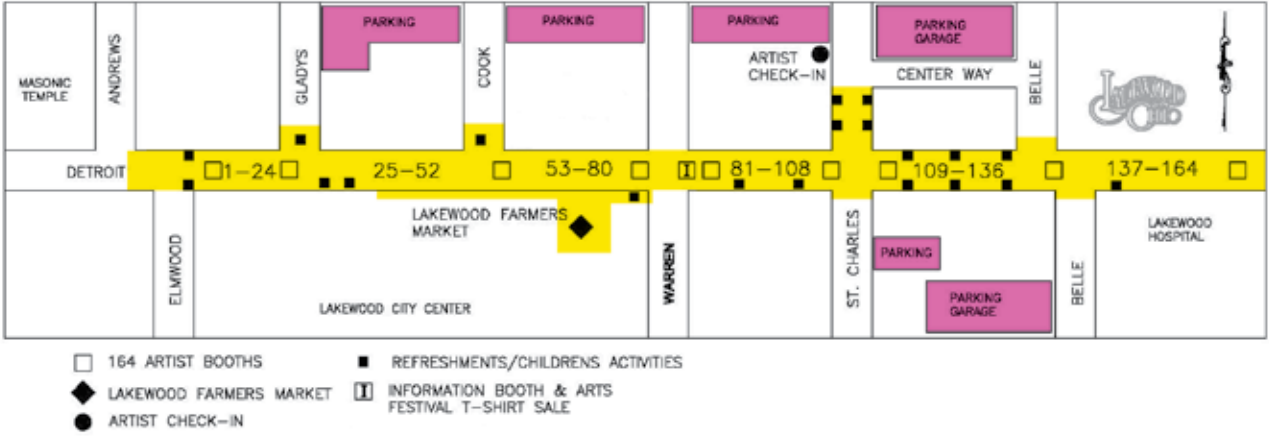
Enamel
Dan McCann (#37), Westerville, OH, , , ,
Cameron Tucker (#149), Wompom, PA

Fiber
Kathy Arnold (#158), Hudson, OH
Sheila Becker (#161), Westlake, OH

Lois Bosworth (#8), North Olmsted, OH
Jenn Karas (#17), Wanton, OH
Philippe Laine (#32), Palm Beach Gardens, FL
Kim Lawson (#152), Westerville, OH
Sarah Martin (#133), Smithville, OH
Valerie Mayen (#67), Cleveland, OH
Patricia Miller (#44), Westlake, OH,
Barbara Robertson (#94), Shaker Heights, OH
Steve & Roselle Sgambellone (#146), Solon, OH
Ashley Sullivan (#47), Grafton, OH
Kelly Zalenski (#132), Reynoldsburg, OH

Glass
Todd Abell (#157), Kent, Ohio
Sue Ayala (#107), Daytona Beach, FL,
David W. Bordine (#22), Bay Village, OH
Mike Gran (#89), Medina, OH
Earl O. James (#73), Cleveland, OH
Mike Levinsky (#66), Hartville, OH
Rebecca & Don Mackey (#121), Tallmadge, OH
Daniel J. Miller (#46), Lakewood, OH
Russ O'Brien (#9), Stow, OH
Daniel G. Pruitt (#138), Lakewood, OH
Melissa Sullivan (#31), Toledo, OH,
Debra Swanda (#113), Hiram, OH

Jewelry
Victoria Alvarez (#131), West Chester, OH,
Pat Bolgar (#109), Valley City, OH
Kate Bordine (#21), Bay Village, OH
Colleen & Jerry Chaplinski (#10), Filion, MI
Deanne Christman-Resch (#147), Akron, OH
Deborah Close (#55), Columbus, OH
Sara Coast (#52), North Olmsted, OH
Sandra Curry (#135), Shaker Heights, OH
Jessica Daman (#49), Florence, KY
Valerie Thomas & Dana Shirley (#29), Chagrin Falls, OH
Patti Fields (#13), Shaker Heights, OH
Annabelle Fisher (#20), Sterling, OH
Alan Fisk (#81), Carrollton, OH



Alice J. Forsyth-Bowley (#148), Cleveland, OH
Dana Giel-Ray (#154), Hudson, OH
Jenny Gorkowski-Klear (#16), Toledo, OH
Linda Grubb (#126), Salem, OH,
Barbara Haplea (#25), Huron, OH
Cynde Hujarski (#97), Aurora, OH
Maryann Posch & John Gulyas (#41), Cleveland Hts, OH
Greg & BJ Jordan (#85), Ft. Wayne, IN
Christal Keener (#112), Rocky River, OH
Mike Kozumplik (#106), Sherwood, OH
Linnea Lahlum (#118), Buffalo Grove, IL
Connie & Trudy Lang (#123), Brecksville, OH
Laurie Leonard (#90), Jeannette, PA
Jennifer Li (#160), Willoughby Hills, OH
Zenia Lis (#63), Broadview Heights, OH
Jackie Magyar (#119), North Royalton, OH
Bob Marksz (#96), Kent, OH
Marie McGlathery (#163), Cleveland, OH
Annette Morrin (#56), Lambertville, MI
Todd & Joanie Muhlfelder (#74), Mantua, OH
Teresa Nilsson (#151), Sebastian, FL
Pamela Pastorik (#68), Willoughby, OH
Mary Perrin (#5), Whitmore Lake, MI
TJ Potter (#34), Howell, MI
Heather Smotzer (#142), Westlake, OH

Ginger Wankewycz (#103), Brooklyn, OH
Gretchen Grimm & Warren Sawyer (#40), Austin, TX
River Wolfe (#35), Columbus, OH
Deborah Woalfork (#75), Solon, OH
Courtney Yoakum (#143), Columbus, OH

Leather
Kate Disch (#4), Newark, OH
Michelle Ishida (#28), Delaware, OH
Ron Meade (#140), Sharpsville, PA
Karen Taber (#136), Wyoming, MI

Mixed Media
Shelly Bishop (#139), Rocky River, OH
Scott Bowman (#70), Micanopy, FL
Jack Clutter (#27), Bucyrus, OH
Roger Coast (#50), N. Olmsted, OH
Jayne Akison & David Brown (#39), Columbus, OH
Garden Accents (#23), Brecksville, OH
Juliette Montague & Greg Stange (#7), Worthington, OH
Paul G. Jira (#82), Chippewa Lake, OH
Beth Keenan (#92), Lakewood, OH
Sandra Kugenieks (#86), Sheffield Lake, OH
Jim Lanza (#159), Lakewood, OH
Karin Larson (#162), Bay Village, OH
Val Lesiak (#93), Rocky River, OH

Michele McCracken (#43), Pepper Pike, OH
Dean Myton (#153), Akron OH
Andrew Paavola (#57), Huntsville, OH
Ron & Carol Prygo (#155), Chagrin Falls, OH
Diane Salter (#144), Erie, PA
R.C. Sanford (#128), Strongsville, OH
Alex Rodgers & Stephanie Rericha (#156), Sagamore Hills, OH
Adam Taseff (#6), Lakewood, OH
Todd Theriot (#48), Sheffield Lake, OH
Hector Vega (#30), Cleveland, OH

Painting
Laurie J. Anderson (#59), Mineral Ridge, OH
Sherry Arthur (#24), Vermilion, OH
Hope Atkinson (#130), Haslett, MI
Norman Drake (#95), Rocky River, OH
Maria Leng (#19), Litchfield, OH,
Deborah Link (#71), Galena, OH
Johnny Lung (#115), Export, PA
Howard Markowitz (#102), South Euclid, OH
Roberta McCombs (#12), Amherst, OH
Jurate Phillips (#77), Columbus, OH
Mary K. Ryan (#91), Brunswick, OH
Shinichi Sato (#33), Kentwood, MI
Judith Vierow (#62), Columbus, OH
Michael J. Weber (#114), Port S. Lucie, FL
Christopher Weigand (#78), Peninsula, OH

Photography
Michele Cimprich (#116), Canton, OH
Michael Davis (#124), Lebanon, OH
Jeff Easter (#145), Holly Hill, FL
Richard Gallup (#1), Kirtland, FL
Jeneen Hobby (#83), Cleveland, OH
Peter Wm Katke (#105), Manchester, MI
David A. Kiley (#15), Medina, OH
Tiffany Kimmet (#65), Tiffin, OH
Chris Maher (#54), Lambertville, MI
Glenn Petranek (#129), N. Olmsted, OH
Matthew Platz (#98), Chippewa Lake, OH

Daniel Powers (#164), Dayton, OH
Dan Tye (#79), Cincinnati, OH
Sculpture/Metalwork
Kevin Heekin (#36), Ft. Thomas KY
Richard Jacobus (#2), Douglasville, GA
Roland Paronish (#80), Carrollton, PA,
Joe Wasko & Tony Naples (#51), Jamestown, PA

Wood
J.T. Dunphy (#53), Mt. Vernon, OH
Robert Goldthwaite (#88), Kent, OH
Stuart Henderlich (#122), Madison, OH
Jerry Krider (#108), Columbia City, IN
Frank Skully (#137), Willowick, OH
Ralph Teets (#3), Girard, OH
Kim Yeager (#101), Lakewood, OH,

Arts Festival Entertainment
Entertainment
10:30-11:30 AM.Lonesome Bones (Americana)
12:00 PM -1:00 PM Erie Heights Bass Ensemble (Swing)
1:30 PM-2:30 PM.Sheela and the Others (Roots)
3:00 PM-4:00 PM . . Rachel Shortt (Singer-Songwriter)
1:00 PM-1:30 PM. . The Black Bear Caledonia Pipe Band
1:30 PM-2:00 PM.then stroll down the Avenue
4:00 PM-5:00 PM Evan Kleve (Violinist)
Street performers, musicians and artists will be entertaining the crowd along Detroit Avenue.

Beck Center Performers (Detroit and Belle)
10:00 AM -12:00 PM. Pottery Demo
11:00 AM - 1:00 PMVisual Arts Demo
12:00 PM-1:00 PMMusical Entertainment
12:00 PM-2:00 PM.Visual Arts Demo
1:15 PM - 2:15 PMDrum Circle
2:30 PM - 3:00 PMImprov by Something Dada
3:30 PM - 4:00 PMImprov by Something Dada

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Lakewood Arts Festival

Cleveland Singing Star Competition Winner, Lakewood's Own Riley Faulhammer

by Susan Butler

Over the past few weeks, approximately 285 competitors from all over the Cleveland area competed in the Cleveland Singing Star Competition, a part of the National Singing Star program. The event was sponsored by the American Performing Arts Network, an organization which sponsors events for Children's Miracle Network, affiliated with children's hospitals nationwide. To date, their competition events have raised over \$4,000,000! Here in Cleveland, the \$3,500 in proceeds will benefit the music program at Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital.

The finals were held on Monday, July 8 at the Beachland Ballroom in Cleveland. They were divided into an Adults Division and a Kids Division. In each division, two winners were crowned – a Judges' Choice and a Voters' Choice.

In the Adults Division, Riley



Adult Division Finalists – Singing Angels John Webb, Valerie Polinko, Riley Faulhammer and Jeanne Greminger.

Faulhammer, an upcoming senior at Lakewood High School, was awarded the Voters' Choice Award. This honor included a \$250 prize, a Singing Star Award trophy, a professional studio recording demo and future promotional appearances for Rainbow Babies

and Children's Hospital.

Riley is the President of the Choirs at Lakewood High School. She also plays violin in the 3 orchestras at the high school and the saxophone in marching band. Riley performed in her first play performance this year as one of the Silly Girls in *Beauty and the Beast*. She is very proud to be a Lakewood High student. Her goal after graduation next year is to attend college in Tennessee and study to become a music or choir teacher. Music

is a way of life for her.

Riley has been in the Singing Angels since she was 10 years old. There were seven current and former Singing Angels who were among the 35 finalists in the Cleveland Singing Star Competition. In the Adults Division, the following Singing Angels were finalists: John Webb, Jeanne Greminger, Valerie Polinko, and Riley Faulhammer. In the Kids Division, Singing Angels finalists included Emmie Ferguson, Eugene Gurary and Adriana Holst. Adriana was awarded both the Judges' and Voters' Choice Awards.

On September 15, Riley Faulhammer, Adriana Holst and Kids Division 1st Runner-Up, Eugene Gurary, will sing in a Cleveland Singing Star performance at Kennedy's Theatre, Playhouse Square. Lakewood should be very proud to have Riley Faulhammer representing them for this performance and all her future performances! If you have not yet had the pleasure of hearing Riley sing, watch for this upcoming September 15 performance or attend a Singing Angels concert during the holidays. She is a Rising Star!

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Single Tickets Go On Sale For Beck Center's 80th Theater Season August 1

by Pat Miller

Anticipation is in the air about Beck Center for the Arts upcoming 80th theater season. Subscriptions are on sale now, single tickets and popular flex passes will be available for purchase as of August 1, 2013.

Beck Center has become known for their eclectic productions so this season is sure to please Northeast Ohio theatergoers with four regional premieres and one locally produced premiere. "We know for the most part, that local audiences will be seeing these shows for the first time at Beck Center," commented Artistic Director Scott Spence.

Highlights for the 2013-2014 season include another exciting collaboration with Baldwin-Wallace Music Theatre program's production of "Carrie the musical," an encore production of "Annie," and the legendary Dorothy Silver returns to the Studio Theater in "Night, Mother." Sarah May will direct "33 Variations" which features pianist Stuart

Raleigh, and the season will close with "The New Mel Brooks Musical Young Frankenstein."

Additionally, Beck Center is pleased to announce that Rebecca Pitcher will star as Amalia in "She Loves Me," which opens the season on September 20. Ms. Pitcher is best known for her portrayal of Christine Daae in the Andrew Lloyd Webber production of "The Phantom of the Opera" where she performed over 3,000 performances including Broadway, the US National Tour, and Singapore. She is happy to be returning home to Ohio and to Beck Center for this endearing and whimsical production directed by Scott Spence.

Subscriptions are available by calling Customer Service at 216.521.2540 x10. Single tickets and Flex Passes can be ordered online beginning August 1 at beckcenter.org or through Beck Center Customer Service.



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Wellness Watch

How's Your Posture Doing?

by Alyssa Wilmot

Take a second to observe your posture. How are you sitting or standing right now? Wait a second...don't try to fix anything - at least not yet! Are your shoulders slumped forward? Is your head jutting ahead? Is your back overly rounded or arched? Are you slouched down in your chair or standing much shorter than your actual height? The way we carry our body while we sit and stand is important to our spine's health and is a reflection of and a contributor to our overall health. Joseph Pilates, the creator of the Pilates method, focused on whole body health, commitment, and breath. He said, "If your spine is inflexibly stiff at 30, you are old. If it is completely flexible at 60, you are young." Through Pilates, we can have a flexible young spine at any age, gain total body alignment, and have great posture!

Most likely, we all agree that we would like to have proper posture, but how the heck do we do it? How do we get a young spine, a pain free back, and better whole-body alignment? And more importantly, how do we maintain it? It might sound too good to be true, but it is very possible. One of the best ways to do this is via Pilates, which emphasizes exercises to strengthen the "powerhouse" or core muscles in the center

of the body that support our everyday movement.

Admittedly, many of us aren't even sure what "good posture" is. When we were younger we might have been told, "Stand up straight!" or, "Get your shoulders back!" - both of which probably made us just hinge our joints and lock into bad habits. Pilates exercises, emphasizing spinal articulation and abdominal strength, help us learn how to stand correctly and find ideal alignment and posture - ensuring the longevity of a young spine.

In Pilates, we emphasize proper posture and alignment while finding a neutral spine, meaning we maintain the two natural curves of our spine - one behind our necks, our "cervical" spine, and one behind our low back, our "lumbar" spine. These curves over time or due to alignment issues become increased or decreased. For example, when we are using a computer, driving, or doing other "forward" looking activities, many of us tend to stick our heads too far forward. In fact, bring your awareness to your posture and check in with yourself right now, or the next time you are driving or at the computer.

Here's an easy trick to start with - put your Pilates Party Hat on! The "Pilates Party Hat" Is a concept that

was introduced to me in California during my Pilates training program. Imagine for a moment that you are wearing a party hat on top of your head. If you push your chin out, the elastic strap on the Party Hat might jump off your head. If you pull your chin too far in or down the elastic might dig into your neck. Therefore, in order to keep your hat on correctly (and to look like you're having as much fun as possible), you have to line up your ears with the sides of your shoulders, and most likely will need to push the center of your chin down and back a bit with your index finger. Voilà! Now your upper back posture is ready to go.

If you are interested in learning more about how to maintain optimal spine health and gaining proper posture with a general efficiency of movement, please consider our Pilates classes at The Movement Factory, located inside the Lake Erie Screw Building (website: www.themovementfactory.com). We have small group Pilates Mat classes and Pilates equipment classes, and also offer private and duet sessions for even more personalized attention with certified Pilates instructors. Our clients have been impressed with the drastic improvements in their posture, the pain-free lifestyles they now lead and the lack of injuries in



Alyssa Lee Wilmot, owner and head instructor at The Movement Factory shows and discusses the primary and secondary curves of the spine.

their bodies! As Joseph Pilates also said - "A man is as young as his spinal column."

Compeer Program Listed In National Registry Of Evidence Based Programs

by Denise Ayres

The Compeer Program at Far West Center has been creating friendships, promoting mental health and wellness, and changing lives since 1989. Compeer serves to empower individuals in their paths to recovery from mental illness. In Compeer, trained community volunteers are matched, one to one, with same gender adults committed to mental wellness treatment services that assist them in managing symptoms. Compeer volunteers offer friendship and encourage socialization in order to decrease the isolation that too often accompanies mental illness.

On July 12, 2013 all Compeer Program affiliates were contacted by Johanna Ambrose, CEO of Compeer, Inc., and sent a press release that stated "the Compeer Program Model has been added to the SAMHSA National Registry of Evidence-based Programs and Practices." SAMHSA stands for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration which is a branch of the US Department of Health and Human Services. The National Registry of Evidence-based Programs and Practices is a searchable online database of substantiated evidence-based mental health and substance abuse programs. This means that the research results submitted on

the beneficial effects of the Compeer Program on mental health recovery are recognized and suggested by the US Department of Health and Human Services.

"Compeer has brought healing friendships to thousands of people around the world," said Bernice Skirboll, who founded Compeer in 1973 and serves on Compeer Inc.'s Board of Directors. "The inclusion of our model in the NREPP supports our efforts to improve the lives of individuals and families living with mental illness." Bernice Skirboll started the Compeer Program Model in 1973 after she observed how acts of friendship and interpersonal communication appeared to increase the opportunity for mental health recovery. Compeer now has 55 chapters in the United States, Canada and Australia. Compeer at Far West Center is included in the 55 chapters.

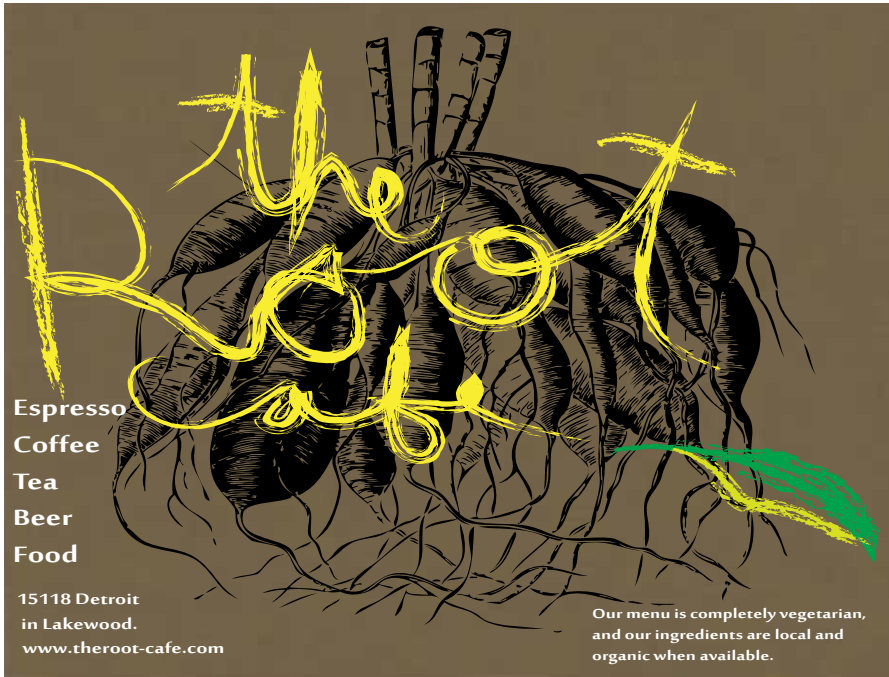
People who are interested in learning additional information about Compeer, Inc., an international nonprofit organization, can visit their web site at www.compeer.org. Compeer at Far West Center is listed on this web site under "Locations, Ohio."

Compeer at Far West Center is looking for more adult community members to join our program and

become Compeer Volunteers. Compeer Volunteers are able to schedule their volunteer time around their other weekly activities. Our community Compeer Program also offers a schedule of weekly facilitated social activities for Compeer Volunteers and Members. Most activities involve going to community places like parks, Mitchell's Homemade Ice Cream, Frankie's Pizza, and free outdoor concerts.

The Compeer Program at Far West Center reported serving over

120 people this past May. Our program is looking for adult volunteers that can assist with the Compeer, Inc. mission in our communities. Our program office is located at Far West Center, a nonprofit mental health services agency located on the St. John Medical Center Health Campus in Westlake. To receive more information on our program and to become a "Compeer Volunteer" please call Denise Ayres at 440-835-6212, Ext. 242 or send email to compeer@far-westcenter.com.



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Business News

Economic Development Update Delivered

To Lakewood Chamber Of Commerce

by Valerie Mechenbier

Thanks in part to the Lakewood business community; it's been a good year for economic development in the City of Lakewood.

This was the message delivered to local business leaders by Dru Siley, Director of Planning & Development, in an address given to 60 members and guests of the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce on Friday, July 19th at the Waterside Room at the Emerald Necklace Marina.

Speaking at the Chamber's annual "Economic Development Update" luncheon, Mr. Siley began by looking back to 2008 – the beginning of Lakewood's "commercial renaissance" – and presenting 'before and after' images of development projects that occurred between 2008 and 2011. From Melt to Rozi's, from the Bailey Building to the Drug Mart Plaza (and more) – a total of \$60m in private commercial development happened over those four years. Remarkably, \$22m in private commercial development was spent in 2012 alone, and this figure does not include 'soft' costs such as land acquisition, architectural/design fees, accounting and project management costs, loan interest, etc.

Fast forwarding to 2013, Mr. Siley highlighted economic development projects that have been



Lakewood's Director of Planning & Development, Dru Siley, addresses the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce.

completed this year, several that are underway, and those that are scheduled to begin in the coming months. Special mention was made of David Stein and Dan Deagan, two individuals "who bet on our community, and are betting on it again" with their second Lakewood ventures: Cotton and Humble Wine Bar respectively. Other projects mentioned: Bob Evans ("several notches nicer than what they typically do"), the Cornucopia Vocational Training Center on

Sloane Avenue, GVArt across from St. James Catholic Church, Birdtown CrossFit & the Screw Factory businesses, Mickey Krivosh's latest venture Vosh, and Barrio on Madison. Mr. Siley gave two examples of businesses that had so wanted to be in Lakewood that they had searched and evaluated numerous properties over the course of many months: Campbell's Sweets Factory and the newly opened El Carnicero.

Citing Madison Avenue as "the next big frontier," Mr. Siley gave an update on the resurfacing project to begin in 2014. With great business anchors already in place (Players, Malley's, Spin Bike Shop, Buckeye Beer Engine to name a few), the resurfacing of Madison Avenue, the

planned \$400k in Madison Park improvements, and the re-emergence of Birdtown ("one of the hottest neighborhoods on the west side within the next 5 years"), Madison Avenue will be instrumental in sustaining Lakewood's impressive "in-migration" numbers in the 25-35 yr-old age bracket, which are more than double that of downtown Cleveland.

As always, Mr. Siley's presentation ended with a lively round of Q&A, with questions from Chamber members on the status of various parcels, projects, and properties in Lakewood. The "Economic Development Update" luncheon has become a highly-anticipated event on the Chamber's schedule, spurring much interest and discussion among Chamber members about Lakewood as a community in which to grow, invest, and do business.

Chamber Member Spotlight:

Kelli Graibus, Melt Bar And Grilled

by Valerie Mechenbier

Melt Bar and Grilled opened its neighborhood Lakewood location in September of 2006. Serving gourmet grilled cheese sandwiches and great craft beers in a comfortable, cheerful, and often bustling atmosphere has made the Lakewood location the true home of the Melt family: a family made up of regular guests, travelers and food tourists from nearby and abroad, as well as loyal staff members. Over the past seven years, Melt has grown to four locations in the greater Cleveland area, and will open its fifth location in Columbus this fall! It is General Manager, Kelli Graibus' intention to keep this flagship Lakewood Melt location an active member of the community. Melt Bar and Grilled is proud to call



Kelli Graibus, Melt Bar and Grilled

Lakewood home, and to support the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce.

Upcoming Lakewood Chamber Events

Thursday, July 25th

Business After Hours Networking Event:
Meet & Greet with Elected Officials

Pacers Restaurant (on the patio)
14600 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood
5:30-7pm

Cash bar, no RSVP required.

Monday, August 12th

Annual Scramble for Lakewood Golf Outing

Red Tail Golf Club, Avon
11:30am Shotgun Start, Dinner on Patio at 5pm

Registration & sponsorship opportunities: www.lakewoodrockyriverrotary.org

Friday, August 16th

August Meeting: 57th Annual New Teachers Luncheon

Garfield Middle School
13114 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood
11:30am Registration & Networking, 12pm Lunch & Program

\$15 members, \$20 non-members

Sponsored by Ohio Educational Credit Union

Marketing opportunities are available – call 216-226-2900 to learn more.

For more information, visit www.lakewoodchamber.org

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Saturday, August 3, 2013

9:00 am to 4:00 pm

American Legion Post 421

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Business News

Potential, Positive Energy From Lincoln To Marlowe

by Andrew Harant

Between Lincoln and Marlowe Avenues, at the eastern edge of Downtown Lakewood, the air feels thick with positive energy and potential. The investments made by several business owners are transforming this block that lies just east of Lakewood Hospital into a retail destination known for high quality and uniqueness.

Cotton stands out as the most noticeable change on the block. In the space which was the office of Congressman Dennis Kucinich for many years, David Stein will soon open a companion store to his Plantation Home, which sits right across the street. Cotton’s overall concept will be a high-end bedding and tabletop store, though Stein plans to expand his selection beyond that as well. Similar to Plantation Home in vision—bringing products to this market that you won’t see anywhere else—and in price point, Cotton is a completely separate store. Bedding options include selections from Matouk and Ogallala Down, and zero-twist towels, which are more absorbent, less prone to snags and feel softer than standard towels, will be available in a plethora of colors and at a very competitive price. Tabletop items will be open stock (no sets) and include unique items, such as the Beatriz Ball line of aluminum serving dishes that can go from freezer to oven to table. Additionally, Cotton will sell high-quality lady’s handbags in sizes from small clutches to large bags from such lines as Rowallan of Scotland and Sloane Ranger, and Stein is also considering adding some exclusive lines of perfumes and hand creams that are currently not sold anywhere in Ohio.

Stein successfully renovated this old building into a sleek and contemporary store, while still keeping some original flair. At just under 4,000 square feet, Cotton is almost as large as Plantation Home. Before it was Kucinich’s office, it was a medical mart and, even earlier, a car dealership. Originally, it is thought to have been a Buick Engine plant. The front entrance is back to its 1920’s position, and original leaded glass interior windows provide a view from the second-floor offices. (Future design-studio spaces?) Added into the space are black iron display racks from Higbee’s and a chandelier that once hung in the lady’s shoe department at Higbee’s in Midway Mall. Landscaping proved a bit challenging. Two large trees and overgrown shrubs hid much of the building and needed to be removed, and the remnants of old parking lots, which Stein dug out, were under the small garden beds. Though Stein tried to save the park benches that many of the nearby senior citizens enjoyed, they crumbled upon moving them. (Cotton will have a soft opening later in July and a grand opening in early August.)

Across the street, and just a few storefronts west, Paisley Monkey opened its newly renovated space in May. Tamara Racin and Tom Mohney first began their business as an online children’s store in 2005. Five years later,



The view from Cotton’s new front yard looks across Detroit Road to an up and coming area on the edges of downtown Lakewood.

they opened a brick-and-mortar Paisley Monkey location along Warren Road in the First Federal of Lakewood building. Quickly outgrowing that space, they moved into this block in 2011. And when the storefront next to them came open, they decided on their expansion. “There’s so much activity in the community, and growth in this block was a factor,” said Racin. “David pulling the trigger on Cotton helped us make our decision.” On the flip side, Stein credits the Paisley Monkey expansion as convincing him to open Cotton here. “We could make this end of downtown a high-end retail destination,” said Stein.

The new double-storefront Paisley Monkey is seamless in transition from one side to the next and opens the business up to many new services and opportunities. Already, the store has a bigger play area and seating options, provides amenities for moms such as a changing area and a nursing area, and can easily accommodate double-wide strollers. Not only have they increased the selection of products from lines that they already carried, but they also have found new lines of products to sell, including a good selection of children’s books for ages birth to eight. They plan to start having events soon, like book signings, readings, music education, and art classes. With more room, they now have more space to display their clothing, including Christening gowns. In the near future, Racin said they plan to expand their clothing lines, particularly to offer more selection and sizes of boys clothes. She also hopes to add shoes and accessories. A maternity line of clothes may also be in the works. But whatever they bring in to the store, it is sure to be both unique and of wonderful quality.

Next door to Paisley Monkey is TJ’s Butcher Block and Deli. On the surface, not much has changed—the wine rack was moved and the store now sells t-shirts. However, just shy of two years ago, Kevin MacDonald took over ownership from John Masielle, who started the business 32 years ago. MacDonald, who worked and trained under Masielle for 12 years, said, “John created this; I’m going to keep it going.” MacDonald retained the entire staff, and even brought a few former staff back. “They make the place. Without them, I would have been dead

in the water,” he said. Even Masielle has returned, now working for MacDonald one day a week. But most importantly, the customers continue to come, which MacDonald hopes is because they know and trust him and that they know Masielle trained him well. However, MacDonald also notices many new faces in his shop (as does Paisley Monkey,) which he sees as a good indication that people are moving into Lakewood.

Over the years, the shop has been known for its sausages. (They also have a good vegetarian sub!) And while MacDonald continues to make those to Masielle’s tried and true recipes, he is

personally exploring the use of different cuts of beef in burger blends to create a variety of flavor profiles. “In every burger taste test that I’ve been in so far,” he boasts, “my burgers have won.” By focusing on burgers, MacDonald can keep more product in the store and be more of a full-service butcher shop, regardless of the season. He also believes in being transparent and open. While not everything he stocks is locally or organic-raised, though he makes a good effort, he believes in selling high-quality food, and he will be happy to disclose ingredients and where any of his meats or cheeses came from.

Additionally, since assuming ownership, MacDonald has been focusing on marketing. The store’s website is completely updated, and he began Facebook and Twitter accounts. Also, with help from a local company, TJ’s is selling (or sometimes giving away) t-shirts. MacDonald estimates that there are 1,000 shirts out there already. TJ’s will be at the upcoming Wine and Craft Beer Festival.

Lastly, the place that formerly housed Hylander’s and later Two Dads’ Diner is also under new ownership with plans to open a new restaurant. No further details or timeframe are available.

Websites for these businesses: cottonlakewood.com, www.paisley-monkey.com, tjsbutcherblock.com.

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Lakewoodites Abroad

How To Hail A Cab In Dakar

by Dick Powis

I had just given 45 minutes of polite nodding to a salesperson who was insistent that I understand the value of having his oxygen recycling and filtration system in my clinic, if not a portable version in my ambulance. After taking some reading material, I kindly told him in my broken French that I might get back to him. He did really spend a lot of time on his sales pitch, so I felt an awkward obligation. He was not the only salesperson in the room – like an army, each one stood, pamphlet-in-hand, guarding their shiny, glossy, state-of-the-art medical or laboratory or medical laboratory equipment. Like any trade show, the group with the wildest or newest technology attracted the most visitors. I thought the oxygen system was pretty sexy, myself, but given the choice I was partial to the wares of the World Health Organization – spiral-bound and laminated educational books on how to prevent sexually transmitted diseases, in both French and Wolof. Even I, however, could not resist the mock-up of the PET scanner that my colleague and I joked was being used to give complimentary PET scans. Nor could I keep myself from climbing into the back of a brand new, completely decked-out Euro-style ambulance. If only I was a medical professional.

As I left the conference center, and was assaulted by the harsh Sahel sun that beams down on Dakar, Senegal, I remembered that CICES (French for “International Center of Foreign Trade of Senegal”) is on a dead-end, set back a ways from the main road – I would need to walk to catch a taxi. The road was covered in a thick layer of sand that floated and swooshed from side to side in the wind, much like the snow does in Lakewood in the early morning between snow plow shifts. That’s about the only thing that reminded me of home, because unlike our Midwest suburbia, Dakar has a particularly colorful history, as a hub of the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade, as the capital of French West African empire, as a melting pot for Western and African arts, and as the capital of the only West African country that has never had a violent transition of power since (and

including) independence. I approached the main road on which I saw a steady stream of taxis, stuck out my index and middle fingers together, and let out a loud hiss – for this is how one hails a cab in Dakar. Long ago, I’d relinquished the habit of jumping in the back, giving my destination, and awaiting arrival; here, one ducks into the passenger window and begins a long dialogue (in French, Arabic, and Wolof) of salutations, blessings on the home and family, and finally the question of how much the driver will charge to drive his car (regardless of the number of passengers) from where he is now to where you want to be. That question, by itself, is best summed up as a negotiation – they start high and you start low. Just before they give in to the proper price, it helps nudge things along if one feigns ambivalent dismissal along the lines of, “No, it’s okay. I’ll just catch the next one,” taking the ruse as far as hailing a second cab if the driver is being particularly difficult. There is no get-



Lakewood’s Anthropologist, Dick Powis waits to talk with a local doctor about his practices.

ted in reproductive health, medical technologies, infectious and genetic diseases, and treatment-seeking behaviors. In Dakar for a French language immersion program with Washington University in St. Louis, I was intent on studying treatment-seeking behaviors, because Dakar’s history as a French colonial capital has made it a particu-

Christians or Saturdays for Jews – it is the day of rest. Ninety-eight percent of the Senegalese population is Muslim, but this isn’t the fundamental Wahhabism that Americans associate with Islam. That would be like saying that all American Christians are members of the Westboro Baptist Church. Islam, in Senegal, is what anthropologists refer to as “syncretic” in nature. As early as the 13th century, Islam came to West Africa via trade routes, but met a resistance near the River Gambia. As a result, Islam in Senegal is still heavily influenced by Wolof, Serer, and Peul ethnic traditions. This mixture of values permeates the sphere of traditional medicine as well, where different measures from Wolof, Serer, and Islamic medicine are used for different ailments, whether physical, mental, or spiritual.

I politely asked the driver if I could smoke in his car, despite the large “No Smoking” sticker on the dashboard. He waved his hand back at me, “No problem,” paused for a moment, and followed up with, “Only if I can get one.” A pack of Marlboros is about \$0.96 in Senegal, so unlike in Cleveland (where my brand, American Spirits, is \$7.75 a pack and I tell everyone who asks for one to bugger off), I could not turn this man down. He asked if I had ever tried the tobacco from Mauritania, Senegal’s neighbor to the North. He pulled a small bag from the glove box and passed it back to me. After a brief flashback to my DARE education of the early 1990’s (which was not unlike the indoctrination of anti-violence known as the Ludovico Technique in the film “A Clockwork Orange”), I took a whiff and handed the sticky brown mass back to the driver. “I’ll stick to the Marlboros, thank you.” This was one of the few people I had met in Senegal who smoked. Those who did only seemed to smoke once or twice a day, though I fear I may have hooked our Guinean security guard on a pack-a-day regiment, as I handed him a cigarette every time I stepped out to have one for myself.

The cab driver made lanes where he saw fit, barreling into roundabouts, and slowing at intersections but never stopping – after all, there are no stop signs at which to stop. Driving on the dashed line when he could, in order to avoid debris on the edges of the road, the driver glanced into his rear-view mirror occasionally to see me take in the sights while we chatted. (There is no way he was using the mirror to check the traffic behind him – his rear windows were all blacked out.) No one wears a seatbelt here, either, so naturally when the daredevil cab driver buckles up, you know you’re in trouble. I started to make that comment in French when he nodded out his window to the passing police officer and just as quickly released the buckle, letting the belt recoil into the door frame with a loud snap! Apparently the drivers are required to wear a seatbelt, but for as often as I saw police officers, I would never have known it.

continued on next page



Public transportation. You jump on while moving, and pay when leaving.

ting around quickly in this city. About five weeks earlier, I had landed and was on my way to the apartment that I would call home during my stay. En route, we drove under a banner that stretched across the wide thoroughfare – an advertisement for this conference on medical technologies and public health. It was an amazing moment of serendipity, because I was in Dakar to study, not just traditional medicine and health care, but health culture. I am an anthropology student at Cleveland State University, and focused on medical anthropology; that is, how and why humans perceive and seek health. Specifically, I’m inter-

larly interesting location where both Western biomedicine and Wolof traditional medicine are nearly equally accessible, if one has the means. In many other parts of the world, where one might be dominant over the other, it is natural to ask, “What makes the ‘lesser’ health care system inferior and how might that change in the future?” In Dakar, the question is, “With everything being equal, how do you choose?”

The drive home from CICES wasn’t long and traffic wasn’t particularly heavy – it was not Friday, when everyone wears (what we might call) their “Sunday Best,” and taxi fares skyrocket. Friday is the equivalent of Sunday for



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Summer Meltdown 2013 ReCap

by Jim O'Bryan

LakewoodAlive's Summer Meltdown was this past Saturday, and for almost a month we have been reading "Lakewood's Premiere Summer Event," we have been hearing it almost 4 times an hour on Cleveland's Sound 87.7. We heard that and Ryan Krivosh asking us if we remember the Around the Corner song. And it is a big title to throw out there and live up to. For years, even



including this year, many Lakewood residents could not even describe what the Summer Meltdown was or is. Is it a health fair? A road race, a chance to eat from food trucks parked in front of some of Lakewood's finest eating establishments, a beer garden, a concert of some kind, or just another reason to go downtown and walk around saying hello to friends and neighbors? You know, David Shaw is right. Who doesn't love a good summer block party?

Kudos to LakewoodAlive and their staff of volunteers for making this year's event better than ever! Stop by the Lakewood Observer Photo Blogs where 5 photographers have posted over 325 photos of this event. <http://lakewood-observer.com/photoblogs>. Isn't it time you started yours today?



Kids love the Water Moose.



Robin, owner of Cosmic Collectibles gives it a go with Sully.



Everyone loves Michael Gill's Water Moose!

How To Hail A Cab In Dakar

continued from previous page

Even five months since my return to Lakewood, I find it difficult to buckle up without being reminded by my partner (whereas before, I would have worn a seatbelt as I watched fireworks from the Giant Eagle parking lot on the Fourth of July). My mind is in other places now. The things that we, as Americans, value seem so insignificant to me, in the grand scheme of the universe. The cost of things in the States blows my mind; I could take a bus in Senegal five miles (roughly the same distance from Lakewood Public Library to the West Side Market) for \$0.20, or if I had the money to spend for the privacy and speed of a taxi, \$1.00. Public transit in Cleveland is too expensive and so is driving, so I joined Cleveland's bicycling community. This paired nicely



The "Door of Lost Souls" was the doorway that lead from the land of Africa to the slave ships bound for Europe, North America, and Asia. It was said once an African walked through the door he was never seen again.

with my disdain for the price of cigarettes, so I quit smoking too; I've been clean for 4 months. That's not going to stop me from trying the Mauritanian tobacco when I get back, though.



Photo by Craig Lovejoy, Low Level Aerial Photography



Photo by Christopher Bindel



Photo by Jim O'Bryan



Photo by Jim O'Bryan



Photo by Kevin Fraley



Photo by Jim O'Bryan

Clockwise from top: The Adult 5K gets started. Jacob Ott leads Dee Salukombo across the finish line. LakewoodAlive's Event Director Ken Brand watches the start of the Kids Race. Then Misty Gonzales hit the stage to take the Melt Down Street Party through into the evening. As the last song of the Burning River Ramblers echoed through the streets, everyone had to admit, this was a great Lakewood Party!



Photo by Benjamin Taddesse

Sisters Euna and Sana Taddesse, students at Horace Mann Elementary, take a break from the heat inside the Root Cafe during the Lakewood Summer Meltdown.

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Pulse of the City

Our Century City...Living In Lakewood 50 Years Ago. Encouragement! A Tribute To An Unknown Harding Teacher

Going through those old papers...
You know the drill. Around your home somewhere, you probably have a drawer or two (or three) filled with them. It's amazing how quickly papers accumulate, is it not? Old credit card receipts, medical records, and phone bills mix in with old business cards and household warranties...Before long, those drawers won't close, and it's clean-out time.

I've been doing that for awhile now. My dear late mom saved everything she thought might EVER be needed for reference purposes. She learned a valuable lesson about that when a milkman claimed that we'd not been paying our milk bill. Fortunately, she'd sent checks in for payment, and had the canceled checks to prove it. She taught me that if I kept my receipts, I'd never have to worry about those kinds of problems later on.

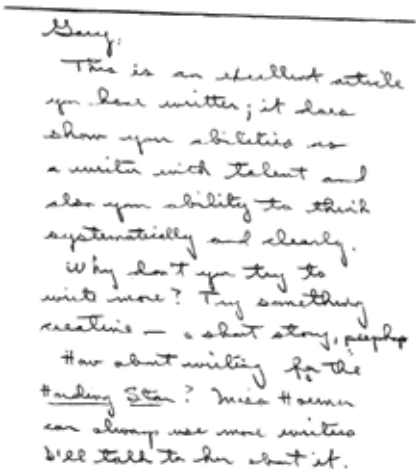
Mom kept all my school stuff too. I came across all of that not long ago. Want to see my photos? What age would you like to see? I have them all. Want to see my grades, on the other hand? Well, never you mind about those. If you've read my columns now for any length of time, you'll know that, essentially,

I was at war with school since my first day of class.

The attendance numbers for my elementary years tell a great deal about that war: 1st grade? 28.5 days missed. 2nd grade? 30.5 days missed. 3rd grade? 23.5 days missed. 4th grade? 32 days missed. 5th grade? 19 days missed. 6th grade? 21 days missed. Some of those days were due to chronic illness, but many more came as a result of teasing, bullying, verbal abuse, and getting beat on and pushed around mostly because I was very small for my age, was severely deaf, had an equally severe speech problem, and had bad "duck-walking" legs.

Someone at school even wanted to put me into whatever passed for a class for "slow" children back then. When the school psychologist tested me, however, he was surprised to learn that I was a very bright young man. Problems? I had 'em, yeah, but I had brains too, and maybe (as I chuckle here) that was another problem for me all along. Although I really tried to be a

by Gary Rice



A teacher's words can change a life...
(photo by Gary Rice)

good kid, from my first day of 1st grade class until my last day of school... when confronted with a threat, I seriously defended myself. I never picked fights and I only lost one in my life. I took many licks, but if there was one thing that I knew how to do, it was survive.

Heaven knows how I might have turned out, later in life. Fortunately, along the way, I had plenty of support from some very good and caring people. My parents certainly were always there for me, and so were a few friends and some great teachers. Those teachers who were there for me, I truly appreciated, and did well in their classes. As for a few others? The less said about them, the better.

Anyway, back to those papers...
In going through those old school records, I came across a note that was given to me by a teacher. Apparently, I'd written something that greatly impressed her/him, and as you can see from the note, she/he even suggested to the faculty adviser of the Harding Star paper that I start writing for them. I wish I could remember which teacher she/he was. The letter is unsigned.

Those words of encouragement were the stuff dreams are made of, and as you also know (if you've been reading any of my roughly two hundred columns and articles for this paper) I indeed took those words of encouragement and ran (or rather, wrote) with them.

Of course, I also decided to become a teacher for students having special needs, and my career in education spanned more than 30 years and several school systems. After my retirement from the classroom, I returned to my original writing interests, not only with this paper, but with nearly two hundred music and education-related articles for other publications, as well as writing many songs, poems, short stories, and several book projects currently in the works.

Encouragement means so much to young people, and particularly so for a young guy who was in the situation I was in. Writing gave me an outlet for expression that was deeply powerful, therapeutic, and cathartic. See, as a writer, I did not have to worry about my speech, hearing, or leg problems. When I wrote, all of those other problems quickly went away, either with the scratchings of my pencil or with the clicking of these keys.

Were there also some kind and caring teachers in your own past who helped you along the way as a youngster? I'll bet there were. I wish I could personally thank that unknown teacher who encouraged me with the letter that my dear late mother so lovingly saved. Instead, I'll simply have to let this public tribute suffice. Unlike generals and politicians, great teachers may never have a black granite monument erected to their memory in some public park.

The only real monument that those great teachers will truly have...is you.

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Lakewood Living

Lakewood High Graduate Marks 43 Years In NFL Front Office

Chuck Cusick, 1969 Lakewood High School graduate, will call it quits after a career in the National Football League that began 43 years ago. Cusick, currently Vice President of Operations for the Detroit Lions at Ford Field in Detroit, began his career as a summer intern with the Browns in 1970.

"I contacted the Cleveland Browns while a freshman student at the University of Tennessee inquiring about an internship which were uncommon at the time, a real shot in the dark. The Browns asked me to come in for an interview when I was home for the summer. I was hired to assist answering telephones at training camp and for general PR assignments under the direction of Nate Wallack the V.P. for Public Relations," Cusick said.

Browns training camp in 1970 was located at rural Hiram College in Portage County. "In order to beat the boredom of Hiram, Ohio, I would assist the trainer, Leo Murphy and Equipment Manager Morrie Kono after hours. Long story short, I did enough to impress and was asked if I would consider transferring to a local school to allow me to continue to assist Leo and Morrie during the 1970 season," Cusick continued.

Kono, an original hire of Paul Brown, was getting up in age, Cusick said. "I worked for Morrie primarily for three years and then became the head equipment manager in 1973. I transitioned to facilities manager in 1990 when the facility in Berea came online."

Cusick remained with the team as it relocated to Baltimore and eventually took an executive position with the Detroit Lions.

"My role on game day (in Detroit) is as the overall choreographer of the actions outside of the actual game throughout the weekend. It includes safety and security, all stadium operations, traffic and parking, the fan experience, network and television facilities, concessions, etc." said Cusick.

Cusick has a stockpile of NFL memories and observations to relate. When asked who were the five best athletes he ever saw in the NFL, Cusick responded, "John Elway, Joe Green, Lynn Swann, Lawrence Taylor and Deion Sanders, in particular order due to the fact each changed how the opposition played them on either offense or defense."

Commenting on various NFL venues, Cusick observed, "Dallas, everything is over the top. Truly the best in the world. Seattle, the fans make this an exciting venue, walk to restaurants and the city center, lots of fun things to do before and after the game. Ford Field, the 'Camden Yard' of football. The warehouse designed within the stadium is unique and useful. Ravens Stadium, great fans tailgating experience, Lambeau Field, history, tailgating, enthusiastic fans, and the

by Thomas George

Old Cleveland Stadium, not the prettiest, but the tradition and fans are not rivaled."

Cusick, as an insider, witnessed many rare and funny moments. "The Thanksgiving Turkey list was a locker room staple where the rookies were required by the veteran players to go to the end of the world to find an address published on official-looking yet phony stationery. Sometimes the media was in on the gag and showed up to get the rookies' reaction video documented. One year a player actually drove out and back four times believing or led to believe he had the wrong directions. On the fourth attempt, he was arrested as a suspicious character."

Another popular rookie prank, according to Cusick, was when the veteran players took the rookies who officially made the team and were invited to join the vets for dinner at an expensive restaurant. The rookies would show up not finding the vets who would call indicating they were just leaving and to go ahead and order whatever the rookies desired starting with cocktails. Still running late the vets would continue calling and stating they were on their way and to keep ordering. The vets would never show up, leaving the rookies and the restaurant owner to work out the tab.

Cusick said many players had good senses of humor but some of the funniest included "Erich Barnes, Dave Puzouli, Matt Miller, Joe DeLamellure, Mike St. Clair...and Doug Dieken may have been the biggest joker."

Cusick worked under all the Browns coaches from Blanton Collier through Bill Belichick including Nick Skorich, Forrest Gregg, Sam Rutigliano, "Marty" and Bud Carson. "It's too difficult to rate coaches as all were good leaders, fair and honest to work for," said Cusick.

Cusick has many great and some not so great memories of his years with the Browns. The highs were the Championship games versus Denver, beating Pittsburgh after 17 consecutive losses, the double overtime playoff victory against the Jets, and the first Monday Night game, Cusick recalled.

The lowest times were the "Red Right 88" playoff loss in 1980 and "the last home game before the move to Baltimore was absolutely surreal."

"I will always hold a place in my heart for Art Modell. Art was like a second father to me. We all know he has his faults but those of us who had the privilege to work for him will say the same. He truly cared for this players and employees. His fault, in my opinion, was he thought too often from his heart instead of his head. He truly cared for the city of Cleveland and the Cleveland fans and tried to do too much, at the same time extended himself finan-

cially to a point he could not continue. I won't attempt to judge the outcome of his ownership but those of us who worked for him at the time know the end crushed him," Cusick said.

As far as the current Browns Cusick says he is "really not qualified to judge the new team. I will say until you have quarterback, you will not accomplish higher goals. Still true today as it was for decades before. All great Browns teams had QBs who won. In my time there, Bill Nelson, Brian Sipe, Bernie Kosar."

Cusick and his family took a circuitous route to Lakewood. "My parents met while both worked for the F.B.I. in the Los Angeles office. They later married and moved to San Bernardino where my father was the resident agent," Cusick said.

Cusick, his parents and two younger brothers, Pete and Marty, moved every few years as his father moved up the ranks with the F.B.I, finally arriving in greater Cleveland. Cusick's father, named Special Agent in Charge of the F.B.I. Cleveland office, asked fellow agents for a recommendation as to where to live. The agents in the Cleveland F.B.I. office recommended Lakewood.

The family lived on Bunts Road near Lakewood High where Cusick transferred and graduated in 1969. Cusick's younger brother Pete, also a Lakewood Ranger, went on to distinguish himself as an All-American football player and team captain at Ohio State and as an NFL defensive

lineman for the Patriots. Cusick's brother Marty attended St. Edward High School where he excelled.

"Whenever we go back to Cleveland we make at least a drive through Lakewood. I married a Lakewood girl, Patti Schwartz, whose family home was on Woodward Avenue in Lakewood. (Her neighbor Anne Kelly married former Brown Jerry Sherk.) We maintain lifelong friendships with Lakewood and St. Edwards friends and classmates. Patti and I have many fond memories of LHS school days, classes of '69 and '74. We met at the Tam O'Shanter (Bonnieview and Detroit) in the days when Jim Stamper was proprietor. We have many fond memories at both Around the Corner and the West End Tavern in the 70s and 80s," Cusick recalled.

"I have been very fortunate to have been able to work for a number of NFL teams and coaches and the players. Every day was an adventure with extreme highs and lows you do not soon forget. The 2013 Detroit Lions season will be my last after 43 years," Cusick said.

Cusick conveys his special thanks to many including "Morrie Kono, Leo Murphy, Blanton Collier, Jim Bailey, and last but not least, Art and his family."

"My brothers Pete and Marty who played football at Lakewood and St. Edward respectively learned our fundamentals for success from our parents and from the coaches growing up in Lakewood....a place you never forget."

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



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Lakewood Living

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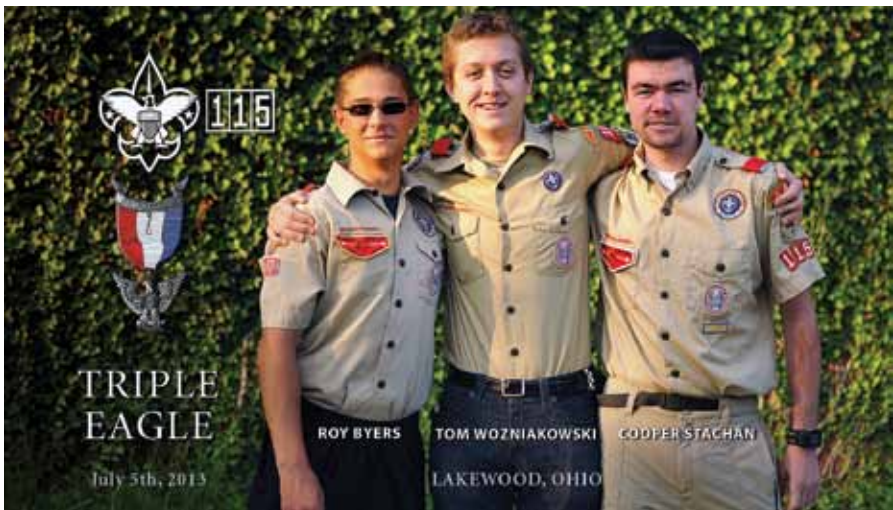


The Horsemen of the Apocalypse performing "Can't Hardly Wait," by the Replacements, live at The Winchester Concert Club.

by John Kompier

This summer, I went to a summer band camp at Vance Music Studios, and it was a lot of fun. The first thing that happened on the first day when we got there was that we were all split into bands. There were singers, guitarists, bassists, and drummers, and some who multitasked, such as playing guitar and singing at the same time. But that was just the first day. On the days after that, the first thing we would do is divide up by instrument and go to a quick lesson, where we would learn whatever parts we would play for the song. Then you would go to your next activity, which depended on what band you were in. You could go to rehearsal, where you would run through the songs

with your band, you could go to theory, where you learned about scales and modes and notes, you could go to gear, where you learned about amps or monitors or instruments, or you could go to appreciation, where you learned about music from different eras. We did this for the five days of the camp, and then Friday was the day of the concert. We got all the songs down as good as we could, and prepared for the concert. There were four bands, and we were last on the list. The other bands were named Rumpus, The Floors, Heads of Lettuce, and we were the Horsemen of the Apocalypse. The show went very well, and it was a lot of fun. I had a great time at band camp, and would definitely do it again.



TRIPLE EAGLE COURT OF HONOR
Since 1949 Boy Scout Troop 115, sponsored by Lakewood Presbyterian Church, has generated more than 80 Eagle Scouts, 3 more were recognized on July 5.



Lakewood Firefighters Recognized
Lakewood firefighters receiving a certificate for their fundraising efforts from Make A Wish Foundation. Two children had wishes fulfilled due to the efforts of members of the Lakewood Fire Department. This is just one of the many charities supported by Lakewood Firefighters.

The 3rd Annual Lakewood Ideation

continued from page 3

Lakewood event on August 27th taking place at the University of Akron – Lakewood campus. All are welcome to apply, even those who reside outside of Lakewood. Winners will be named at the Start-up Lakewood event in September. Previous winners have gone on

to raise seed funding, receive media attention, and have worked hard to keep actively taking steps to push their businesses forward. Do you have what it takes to join their ranks? For more details regarding Start-up Lakewood and the Lakewood Ideation Challenge, visit StartupLakewood.com or email info@startuplakewood.com.

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Lakewood Living

First Half Real Estate Review: How Are We Doing?

by Chris Bergin

Amazing to say, but July is half over already! And so is half of the real estate year! Nationally we keep hearing reports that the housing sector has recovered and everything is doing great. How has Lakewood stacked up during the recovery? Let's take a look at the numbers.

During the first 6 months of 2013 a total of 193 Single Family Homes transferred ownership. The Average Sales Price was \$134,900 and the Median Sales Price was \$115,500.

During the first 6 months of 2012, 193 Single Family Homes also sold! The Average Sales Price was \$130,600 with the Median Sales Price at \$107,900.

The Average Sales Price is UP 3.3% over last year and the Median Sales Price is UP 7% over last year! In addition the number of days on market-- the time it takes to sell-- has improved from an average of 110 days in 2012 to 91 days this year. The Median Days on Market is even more dramatic, improving from 71 days in 2012 to 44 days in 2013. The reality is

homes that are "priced right" are selling quickly and in most cases for more than they would have received last year.

So where are all the sales taking place? Let's look at the numbers by price points. In the first 6 months of 2012:

- Under \$100k 86 homes, 44.5% of sales
- \$100k - \$200k 82 homes, 42% of sales
- \$200k - \$450k 18 homes, 9% of sales
- Over \$450k 7 homes, 3.6% of sales

sales

In the first 6 months of this year:

- Under \$100k 77 homes, 40% of sales
- \$100k - \$200k 89 homes, 46% of sales
- \$200k - \$450k 22 homes, 11% of sales
- Over \$450k 5 sales, 2.6% of sales

Inventory is still low. Most of the year we have been below 100 single family homes for sale. Currently however there are 114 Single Family Homes for sale. The average home for sale is a 4 bedroom, 2 bath 1700 square foot colonial priced at \$169, 900. In addition, there are currently 94 homes "under contract." The average home under contract is a 3 bedroom, 2 bath 1900 square foot home priced at \$197,500! At this rate we only have about 3 months of inventory available making for a very competitive market!

Neubert Employees Turn Out For Bandstand Makeover

by Gina Ragone

A favorite Lakewood attraction received a makeover last month courtesy of Neubert Painting, a company that has called Lakewood home for more than 30 years. As part of its annual paint giveaway, Neubert chose the site, located at beautiful and historic Lakewood Park.

More than 60 volunteers from Neubert Painting scraped, sanded and brushed on 50 gallons of fresh red paint, donated by Cleveland's own Sherwin-Williams. The community service project is valued at \$10,000.

"The decision to paint the bandstand at Lakewood Park was an easy one. As a resident and business owner, I continue to be impressed with the city leadership in the redevelopment of our city and the push for residents to support local businesses. I just wanted to do our part in rejuvenating a tired community asset in Lakewood Park," says John Neubert, founder and CEO of Neubert Painting.

was grateful for the project. "We were pleased to find out Neubert was donating their services. They've been part of Lakewood for many years and we appreciate them. Our beautiful park is enjoyed not only by Lakewood residents, but by many others from the area, and this certainly will help us to make a good impression to visitors."

Always looking for the most cutting-edge and environmentally-friendly products, John Neubert chose two new Sherwin-Williams products for the Bandstand: Emerald, the first truly zero-VOC exterior coating, and WoodScapes, an industry-leading exterior stain.

"We were pleased to participate in this great project," said Pat Herman, district manager for Sherwin-Williams. "We've been in Cleveland since 1866 so we feel it's important to give back to the community where we live and work."

In addition to the live concert stage, Lakewood Park, one of the largest lakefront parks in Ohio, is also home to the city's outdoor pool, as well as picnic pavilions, a four-season public pavilion, children's playground, baseball diamonds, volleyball courts, and a skate park. The painting project will complement recent improvements to the park. In 2006, a million-dollar lakefront promenade opened to the public. From it, visitors can view downtown Cleveland and enjoy an all-purpose trail that circles the park.

So what will the next 6 months look like for Lakewood real estate? Only time will tell! You can track real estate trends and values at www.HomeValuesInLakewood.Info. There are still several good months left for buyers and sellers! Do your homework, speak with a professional real estate agent, and get in the market!

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

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