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If you think your teacher is tough, wait until you get a boss. He doesn't have tenure. - Bill Gates

# THE LAKEWOOD OBSERVER

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Volume 9, Issue 17, August 21, 2013

## Car Kulture Packs Madison Avenue

by Jim O'Bryan

This year's Lakewood Car Kulture Show was by far the largest yet, and now must rank only behind 4th of July Fireworks for bringing people into Lakewood streets to check out cars, art, music, restaurants, and the vibrant city we all love, Lakewood, Ohio.

Vendors were supposed to be set up by 8:30 a.m., cars by 10:00 a.m., and people by 11:00 a.m. At 8:30 a.m. I could see long lines of rods drive by the Coffee Pot to get prime spaces. By 11:30 a.m. the space between Warren Road and Hillard Blvd. was full, and cars and bikes were being turned away.

By day's end, 510 cars had registered, many more didn't, and an estimated 10,000 people had hit Madison Avenue. You can see more images of this incredible afternoon in Lakewood on pages 10 and 11, and over 200 photos online in our photosblogs. Isn't it time you joined with friends and neighbors at the Observer Project?



*The 11th Annual Car Kulture Show had perfect weather and a massive turn out of cars, cycles, people and FUN! Check out pages 10 and 11, and go to the Lakewood Observer discussion and photoblogs to see over 200 photos of this Lakewood event.*

## 2013 Brake 4 Kids Speed Awareness Campaign

by Julie Derrick

Motor vehicle incidents involving pedestrians are a problem, with more than 80 kids being hit by cars in the U.S. every day. Lakewood Early Childhood PTA (LECPTA) is sponsoring its eleventh consecutive year with our annual speed awareness program titled Brake 4 Kids™. This program aims to remind drivers to slow down now as school resumes, by asking residents and businesses (especially those near schools) to post Brake 4 Kids™ tree lawn signs. The City of Lakewood has seen a reduced number of motor vehicle-related pedestrian injuries since the inception of Brake 4 Kids™. We believe the Brake 4 Kids™ signs have contributed significantly to this decrease.

Where can I get my sign? The signs are free and can be obtained at Lakewood elementary schools on Friday, August 23. They can also be obtained at Geiger's Sporting Goods and Steve Barry Buick throughout the month of September while supplies last.

When & where should I post my sign? Brake 4 Kids™ signs may be posted on tree lawns beginning on the first day of school and may remain there for the entire month of September, thanks to City Council Resolution #7782-03, declaring the month of September as "Speed Awareness Month for the City of Lakewood." After that time, please remove the signs from your tree lawn. You may continue to display the signs on your lawn proper or

save your sign to use next year.

This program is made possible by LECPTA and Lakewood Council of PTAs. Many thanks to our generous sponsor donations from Steve Barry Buick, The Beck Center, Edward Favre, First Federal of Lakewood, Geiger's Sporting Goods, Harding Middle School PTSA, Hayes Elementary School PTO, Horace Mann Elementary School PTA, Lakewood Alive, Lakewood High School PTA, Lincoln Elementary School PTA, A.J. and Caitlin Magner Family and Roosevelt Elementary School PTA. Tax-deductible donations to Brake 4 Kids™-LECPTA are greatly appreciated. For further information, LECPTA at lecpta@gmail.com or visit our website at www.LECPTA.com.

## September Is Small Business Month In Lakewood

by Valerie Mechenbier

Throughout last year's presidential election, we heard a lot about how important small businesses are to our nation's economy. Skeptics will tell you it was just politicians saying anything in the heat of a campaign battle, and that after the election, it's back to business as usual.

The Lakewood Chamber of Commerce and the Council of Smaller Enterprises (COSE) are offering much more than just lip service as they collaborate on a year-long effort called "The Year of the Small Business."

"The Year of the Small Business" is an initiative created by COSE to celebrate "small biz" in conjunction with its local chamber partners in the COSE Affiliate Program. Currently, 15 local chambers across Northeast Ohio, including Lakewood, work closely with COSE to deliver resources and benefits to its joint mem-

ber businesses.

Throughout 2013, COSE has worked different chamber partners to hold month-long celebrations in their community. COSE will team up with the Lakewood Chamber to launch the initiative in Lakewood during the month of September to show appreciation for small businesses that foster local job creation, expand our region's tax base and nurture our communities.

The "Year of the Small Business" campaign will begin with an invitation-only kick-off event on Thursday, Sept. 5 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at El Carnicero, 16918 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood. The event, titled "Cinco de septiembre: Celebrating Lakewood Small Businesses" will feature Nuevo Mexican appetizers with tequila and margaritas. Those attending can also learn how the partnership between the

**continued on page 15**

## Meet Humble Wine Bar

by Margaret Brinich

The constant buzz around town about "Deagan's new place," also known as Humble Wine Bar, reached its peak last Thursday, August 15th as the long awaited addition to the Detroit Avenue Chow Line opened its doors to the public. But a key element of this new establishment has been largely lost in the excitement over the opening of the successful local restaurateur's second Lakewood endeavor, namely, Mandi Bernot.

Formerly the head bartender at Deagan's Kitchen & Bar, Mandi is already a familiar face to many. But in her new role as General Manager at Humble Wine Bar, Mandi's red hair and tattoos are well on their way to becoming as rec-



Mandi's new office, Humble Wine Bar.

ognizable here in Lakewood as the heavily bearded Dan Deagan himself. In addition to being GM, Mandi has been a key visionary (along with her husband Jimi and with some help from Dan Deagan and his wife Erika Wolfe) behind each

piece of the process- from the look & feel of the decor to the food menu & wine list Mandi is already to seizing this new opportunity to put her 15 years of restaurant experience to good use and put Humble **continued on page 16**

## District Community Meeting Set for September 11

by Christine Gordillo

Superintendent Jeff Patterson will be holding a Community Meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, September 11 in the Lakewood High School East Cafeteria. The Superintendent will be addressing several important issues including the district's bond issue and construction project,

current finances and changes in the state Report Card system. Following his presentation, Superintendent Patterson will field questions from the audience. If you are unable to attend the meeting, please look for Superintendent Patterson's presentation posted on the district web site (lakewoodcityschools.org) the following day.



Lakewood Observer

LOKOL Looks At Neighborhood Patrol Officer And Neighborhood Block Club Programs

by Peter Grossetti

Learn about Lakewood Police Department's Neighborhood Patrol Officer program and Neighborhood Block Club program at our next LOKOL Public Forum on Tuesday, August 27 at 7:00 p.m. Join Officer Angela Ortiz in Lakewood Public Library's Multipurpose Room as she leads a presentation and answers your questions.

LPD's Neighborhood Patrol Officers interact daily with the residents and business owners to identify situations that impact the quality of life. Together with the people in their assigned areas, they identify the resources available to maintain and improve the neighborhood. Working closely with the four ward officers from the Neighborhood Patrol program, resident-driven Neighborhood Block Clubs help ensure safety and security for each person in our community.

Officer Ortiz is a seven-year veteran of the Lakewood Police Department, having served our community since April 2006. In October 2008 she was Ortiz was assigned her current position as Ward 2 Neighborhood Officer.

Our LOKOL (Lakewood Observer Know Our Lakewood) Public Forum Series is designed to help The Lakewood Observer Project reach our mission: "To attract, articulate, and amplify civic intelligence and community good will

in the city of Lakewood and beyond," and our goal: "To help Lakewood residents and neighbors learn as much as possible about the city."

Any Lakewood civic entity, non-profit organization, or special interest group interested in participating in our LOKOL Public Forum Series should contact Peter Grossetti, Associate Editor for Community Engagement at petergrossetti@hotmail.com. Input / suggestions from Lakewood residents on possible topics to be presented is highly encouraged.

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LAKEWOOD DISCUSSION					
Topics	Author	Replies	Member	Views	Last Post
Help Lakewood kids with school supplies	Betsy Voinovich		196		Mon Aug 12, 2013
LOKOL looks at Neighborhood Officer & Block Club programs	Peter Grossetti	0	40		Mon Aug 19, 2013
Is Common Core A Common Danger?	Bill Call	4	109		Mon Aug 19, 2013
Humble Wine Bar soft opening	Peter Grossetti	3	219		Mon Aug 19, 2013
City Hall Reminds You Of A Law It Will NOT Enforce!	Matthew John Markling	2	195		Mon Aug 19, 2013
Lakewood Car Kulture Show 2013 Wrap! What a Street Party!	Jim O'Bryan	0	265		Mon Aug 19, 2013
New Clifton Bus Line To Be Equiped With Traffic Disrupters	Bill Call	17	962		Mon Aug 19, 2013
Clifton Blvd Project Courtesy Of Big Brother?	Jim O'Brya	15	1438		Mon Aug 19, 2013
Lakewood Car Kulture Show This Saturday!		4	285		Sun Aug 18, 2013
What To Do On A Saturday Night With Time To Kill!	Jim O'Bryan	1	242		Fri Aug 16, 2013
BOGO Pizza	Mark Crolotas	0	13		Fri Aug 16, 2013
Board of Ed meeting	Betsy Voinovich	0	30		Fri Aug 16, 2013
Green Goes To Brown, Walk Carefully In Metro Parks	Jim O'Bryan	18	1760		Fri Aug 16, 2013
Kauffman Park Friends fund/friend raiser	Peter Grossetti	3	117		Wed Aug 14, 2013
Southwest General Hospital To Open Lakewood Emergency Room?	Bill Call	0	158		Wed Aug 14, 2013
IMAGE-IN LAKEWOOD	Jim O'Bryan	156	11083		Tue Aug 13, 2013
Accident On Warren Road	Jim O'Bryan	0	464		Tue Aug 13, 2013
RTA - The Bureaucracy Takes Care of Its Own	Bill Call	14	816		Tue Aug 13, 2013
Observed! In Lakewood!	Jim O'Bryan	0	218		Mon Aug 12, 2013



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

Become an Observer!

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

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

Upcoming Submission Deadline

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Sunday, September 8, 2013

Publish Date

Wednesday, September 4, 2013

Wednesday, September 18, 2013

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## City News

# Lakewood Family Collaborative Meeting Kick-Starts A New Year

by Bruce Chamberlin

In times gone by neighbor helped neighbor, and communities rallied around one another to complete a project or support one of their own in need. People knew each other, and the world was a relatively small place. It's a nostalgic notion to imagine our great grandparents surviving those tough times, and to this day it brings hope that the struggles of yesteryear enable communities to come together to unite - and to thrive.

That coming together was necessary then, and of course is crucial now. It's no secret that families today struggle to make ends meet - sometimes working two jobs, sometimes being disabled and raising a family on Social Security benefits, and sometimes raising their children in the most difficult of circumstances. Added to the financial struggles of our time are other individual struggles - possibly mental illness, undereducation, underemployment, chemical dependency issues, and so on. We also have grandparents and other kin raising kids, providing loving and stable homes.

Local action groups help meet needs on so many different levels, increasing their scope to provide a number of different services to families. Faith communities of course have come together to be natural supports for both members and in mission for those outside the walls of the church.

The Lakewood Family Collaborative is a grant-funded program that was awarded to the City of Lakewood Department of Human Services Division of Youth in 2006, and has been renewed every two years since. The Lakewood Collaborative provides a number of different services to families, and are in homes working with parents to help make the best possible environment for raising healthy kids.

One of the most visible parts of the program is the Collaborative meeting, held monthly through the school year. The mission states "The Lakewood Family Collaborative is a group of agencies, organizations and concerned individuals working together to make sure a network of service and supports are available and accessible to children, youth and families.

Lakewood "Collab" meetings as they are known will kick off their year on Thursday, September 26, 2013 at 12:30 to 2 pm at the Lakewood Park Woman's Club Pavilion. The time was moved up to 12:30 pm to accommodate the wishes of the members. This Kickoff luncheon is free to members and guests and anyone who would like to see positive change continue in our community. The Lakewood Family Collaborative usually meets the 4th Thursday of each month, except for November and December, when we meet the 3rd Thursday due to the holidays. An eleven member Leadership Team sets the focus and agenda of our efforts, and provides guidance, energy and people power to meet the goals of the membership and the community.

During meetings, an organiza-

tion or cause is highlighted in our Lakewood Family Collaborative Spotlight Series, an informative, engaging and interactive fact-finding and exploring session. We also address the work of our committees, including Adoption and Foster Care, Supplies 4 Success (formerly Lakewood School Supplies Initiative), Mental Health Awareness, Membership and Hospitality. Important to Collab members is time to get to know each other and share needs as well as connections upcoming events and programs. New ideas and follow-through on our projects need the energy and wisdom of those who serve and those who walk through our doors.

The Lakewood Family Collaborative also celebrated another year of our "Community Builders/Helping Hands

Award", gratefully recognizing outstanding effort and impact in service to our community. Honored in 2012 were Kristine and Art Pagsuyoin, and our 2013 recipients are the Supplies 4 Success Committee of the Collab, chaired by Karen Lee.

Although we kick-off officially on September 26, we have a pot-luck style picnic set for Thursday, August 29 at 12:30 at the Kiwanis Pavilion at Lakewood Park. We will share the personal or organizational challenges and needs that have arisen and also the triumphs we are celebrating. As always, all are welcomed.



Recipients of the 2013 Helping Hands Award is Lakewood Family Collaborative Committee Supplies 4 Success members Christine Palumbo, Jane Leschnik and Paula Maeder Connor. Not pictured are Karen Lee, Committee Chair, and Emmie Hutchison

Find out more about us! "Like" us on Facebook - "Lakewood Family Collaborative" and follow our monthly eNewsletter - contact us and register at lakewoodfamilycollab@gmail.com. We are located at Lakewood Family Collaborative, Lakewood Department of Human Services Division of Youth, 12900 Madison Ave, Lakewood OH 44107, and can be reached at (216) 529-6868.

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# Lakewood Public Library

compiled by Leana Donofrio-Milovan

## Saturday, August 31

### Documentary Film

#### “The City Dark” Directed by Ian Cheney - Unrated

Every traveling city dweller knows that feeling—when you first hit country and the sky fills with a countless number of visible stars. After moving to New York City from rural Maine, the filmmaker asked a simple question. “Do we need the stars?” From Brooklyn to Mauna Kea, to Paris, killer asteroids, hatching turtles and injured birds in the city streets, serve to unravel the implications of a globe glittering with lights.

6 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

## September 1

Holiday: Sunday before Labor Day – Closed

## September 2

Holiday: Labor Day – Closed

## Wednesday, September 4

### Lakewood Historical Society: City Directories: An Overlooked Source for Family History

In the course of piecing together a family history, the smallest clue can provide a thrilling glimpse into lives of our ancestors and should not be overlooked. For those who have caught the research bug, Master Genealogist Deborah Abbot recommends spending time with the Library’s impressive collection of city directories. These handsome old volumes, dating back to the late 19th century, can be seen as an informal census of a community. Filling the gap between each Federal Census ten times over, directories can be used to follow your ancestor’s migration, occupation, place of employment and paint a picture of the neighborhood where they lived.

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

## Thursday, September 5

### Documentary Film: “180° South: Conquerors of the Useless” (2010) Directed by Chris Malloy

Presented by Case Western Reserve University’s Inamori International Center for Ethics and Excellence Follow Jeff Johnson as he retraces the epic 1968 journey of his heroes Yvon Chouinard and Doug Tompkins to Patagonia. Along the way he gets shipwrecked off Easter Island, surfs the longest wave of his life and prepares himself for a rare ascent of Cerro Corcovado. Jeff’s life turns when he meets up in a rainy hut with Chouinard and Tompkins who, once driven purely by a love of climbing and surfing, now value above all the experience of raw nature and have come to Patagonia to spend their fortunes to protect it. The Library is honored to present this film as part of the celebration for Yvon Chouinard’s acceptance of the Inamori Ethics Prize. Visit [case.edu/events/inamori](http://case.edu/events/inamori) to learn more.

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

## Saturday, September 7

### “Muslim Journeys: Muhammad: Legacy of a Prophet” (2002) Directed by Omar Al Qattan and Michael Schwarz

With an Introduction and Post-Film Discussion led by Dr. Zeki Saritoprak, Professor of Islamic Studies at John Carroll University

This breathtaking documentary tells the story of the seventh century prophet who changed world history in a score of years and whose legacy continues to shapes the lives of more than a billion people. The film takes viewers not only to ancient Middle Eastern sites where Muhammad’s story unfolds, but into the homes, mosques and workplaces of some of America’s estimated seven million Muslims to discover the many ways in which they follow Muhammad’s example. Dr. Zeki Saritoprak, holder of the Nursi Chair in Islamic Studies at John Carroll University, will introduce the film and begin our Muslim Journey. After the credits, he will lead an interfaith discussion where all respectful people are welcome to ponder the life of the husband, father, statesman and prophet who inspired generations and whose words echoed across Arabia and spread to every corner of the world.

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

## Sunday, September 8

### Sunday with the Friends: Amethyst String Duo

Violinist Mary Beth Ions and cellist Kent Collier are in-demand, professional musicians dedicated to bringing the beauty of live string music to audiences everywhere. Follow them on a world tour through some of their favorite classical and contemporary pieces. In Italy, selections from Vivaldi segue into the score from the Godfather. Bach, Handel and the waltzes of Strauss loom large in Germany and Austria. The Beatles make a surprise appearance in England alongside Andrew Lloyd Weber and Elgar in the halls of Downton Abbey. They’ll live La Vie en Rose in France, fall for the lovely Carmen in Spain and dance through Eastern Europe with Gypsy czardas and other folk traditions. Back in the USA, Stephen Foster, Scott Joplin, George Gershwin and the stars of Broadway will welcome us all home.

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

## Wednesday, September 11

### Meet the Author: “The Best They Could Be: How the Cleveland Indians Became the Kings of Baseball, 1916-1920” by Scott H. Longert

Since the founding of professional baseball, few teams have risen above years of mediocrity only to see their fortunes interrupted by war and tragedy. Fewer still have then rallied to win the World Series. In the early twentieth century, the Cleveland Indians brought the world championship to their city of passionate fans in a spectacular style that has yet to be replicated. The Best They Could Be recaps the compelling story of the ballplayers and team owner who resurrected this proud but struggling franchise. Although the Cleveland ball club had been an active part of professional baseball from the late 1860s and a charter member of the American League, by 1915 the team was on the brink of collapse. Into this dejected atmosphere came new owner James C. Dunn, who, lacking baseball experience, nonetheless had the business savvy to bring his club to the forefront, acquiring superstar center fielder Tris Speaker, Larry Gardner and other great players. But during the rise of the franchise, the outbreak of World War I interrupted baseball. Then, in 1920, as the Indians were leading the pennant race, shortstop Ray Chapman died after a pitch fractured his skull. The outpouring of sorrow from teammates and fans alike made the Indians more determined than ever to fight their way to the top. Scott H.

Longert’s entertaining and poignant narrative traces the rise, fall and rebirth of one of America’s most beloved baseball teams. Books will be available for sale and signing at the event.

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

## Wednesday, September 11

### Learning Lab Classes: Introduction to Ancestry: Library Edition

The Ancestry genealogy resource is free to use every day at the Library. How far back would you like to trace your family tree? Genealogist Deborah Abbott will show you how to unlock the secrets held by census reports, military records, birth certificates and death notices in this hands-on workshop. Unravel your history with professional results.

6:00 p.m. in the Main Library Learning Lab

## Saturday, September 14

### Learning Lab Classes: Internet Skills

Learn the skills you need to teach yourself. We begin with PC basics, navigate through the Internet and finish with web searching. We recommend that all students practice using a mouse before class. Ask the Technology Center staff to show you how.

3:00 p.m. in the Main Library Learning Lab

## Saturday, September 14

### Lakewood Public Cinema: “A Face in the Crowd” (1957) Directed by Elia Kazan

Andy Griffith flashes his dark side as Lonesome Rhodes, an Arkansas drifter who becomes a media sensation overnight and drinks his newfound power in monstrous gulps. Patricia Neal plays the reporter who discovers him in a back-country jail and is the first to fall under his spell. She has a wild time watching his raucous rise from wandering guitar picker to rabble-rousing TV star, but by the time he starts dabbling in politics she’s wondering if she can bear to watch his inevitable fall. The creative team behind On the Waterfront missed out on a second round of kudos when the film’s indictment of media power proved to be too far ahead of its time. Since then, it has been largely forgotten in the shadow of Griffith’s sitcom success, but today we can laugh and gawk and feel the pain as it cuts us too close to the bone.

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

## Sunday, September 15

### Sunday with the Friends: Scimitars Swing Band

Back in the 30s and 40s, America needed a break from the dark days of war and depression. Relief came in the form of a new up-tempo jazz called swing that swept the country with its cheerful syncopated rhythms. It was the kind of music that asked you to get up and dance. So let’s bring back the sounds of Glen Miller, Les Brown, Woody Herman and Duke Ellington with the Scimitars Swing Band! Director Paul Lawrence leads a seventeen-piece jazz orchestra with full saxophone, trumpet, trombone and rhythm sections. They’re sure to make a big, happy sound in our little auditorium.

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

## Tuesday, September 17

### Knit and Lit Bookclub: Pope Joan by Donna Woolfolk

Come share your passion for great literature and show off your knitting, crocheting, counted cross-stitch, embroidery and quilting works-in-progress. For full book descriptions, visit [www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.org/bookclubs](http://www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.org/bookclubs).

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

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Lakewood Public Library

Library Book Clubs Begin New Season In September

by Amy Kloss

A detective pregnant with twins, an Irish immigrant seeking to clear her own name, a possible kidnapping by witchdoctors in Botswana . . . get ready to delve into these thrillers and more during the new season of Booked for Murder at the Lakewood Public Library. Or if you prefer making handicrafts while having literary discussions, the Knit and Lit Book Club offers an opportunity to show off your handiwork and your opinions at the same time.

For those readers who have a passion for both great literature and knitting, crochet, cross-stitch or embroidery, Knit and Lit begins its new season September 17 with “Pope Joan” by Donna Woolfolk Cross. This novel’s heroine overcomes medieval society’s strictures against educating women, disguises herself as a man and rises to become the only female ever to sit on the throne of St. Peter. Local author Samuel Thomas’ “The Midwife’s Tale” will be discussed at the meeting on October 15. The following selections complete the Tuesday evening meetings at 7 p.m. in the Main Library Meeting Room: the classic “The Sun Also Rises” on November 19; humor writer and essayist Nora Ephron’s book “I Remember Nothing” on January 21, 2014; and “Traveling with Pomegranates” by Sue Monk Kidd on February 18.

Beginning September 19 with Denise Mina’s “The End of the Wasp

Season”, Booked for Murder club participants will discuss one book each month at the Thursday evening meetings. Although all five books chosen for the fall/winter series were published in the 21st century, the similarity ends there. From present-day murder investigations to forensic science in medieval England, these mysteries range widely in locale and time period. “The End of the Wasp Season” is a murder mystery set in Scotland. The October 17 selection, “Murphy’s Law,” introduces Molly Murphy as a scrappy Irish immigrant in New York City at the turn of the twentieth century. The other three selections are tense psychological thriller “Mystic River” on November 21; “The No. 1 Ladies’ Detective Agency” on January 23, 2014; and “Mistress of the Art of Death” on February 20. Meetings are held Thursday evenings at 7 p.m. in the Main Library Meeting Room. For more information, visit [lakewood-publiclibrary.org/bookclubs](http://lakewood-publiclibrary.org/bookclubs).

Teen Writers, Filmmakers, And Artists Wanted

by Eric Knapp

For students in sixth through twelfth grade

As part of Teen Read Week, the library is hosting three creative contests. Contest details and submission forms are available online at [www.lakewoodpubliclibrary/youth/](http://www.lakewoodpubliclibrary/youth/) or at the Children’s and Youth Services desk, Main Library.

**BOOK TRAILER CONTEST:** Aspiring filmmakers can create a video trailer of five minutes or less for your favorite teen book. Film deadline: Monday, Oct. 7, 9:00 p.m. Viewing Party and Awards: Tuesday, Oct. 15, 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium.

**COVER ART CONTEST:** Paint, draw, photograph, or composite as you re-imagine the cover of your favorite teen title! All submissions will be on display in the New Book Room of the Main Library through October. Art deadline: Friday, Oct. 11, 9:00 p.m. Viewing and Awards: Thursday, Oct. 17, 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium.

**WRITING CONTEST:** Submit your creative short story about zombies – two thousand words or less – and we’ll post it on our webpage for public voting. Submissions will be compiled into a booklet for participants to keep. Story deadline: Monday, Oct. 7, 9:00 p.m. Winners announced Friday, Oct. 18, 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room.



LPL Children/Youth Events

compiled by Eric Knapp

**Friday, August 23**  
**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.**

**Story Time Registration, For children of various ages**  
Sign up for fall story times now! The Library has multiple themed story times for children from 9 months old to age 6. Register at the children’s desk, over the phone, or online. Fall story times start the week of September 16. See program guide for various dates, times, and locations.

**Friday, September 2 – May 23**  
**Homework ER**  
**For students in kindergarten through eighth grade.**  
Need a little extra help with homework or just a cool place to study? Come to the Homework ER room for help and resources. No registration. Homework ER closed for school holidays and vacations.  
**3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. at Main and Madison branch Children's and Youth Services.**

**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](http://www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.org/youth)) for times and upcoming themes.  
**Main Library Activity Room and Madison Branch Auditorium**

**Weekends With Wee Ones**  
**For families with children under 2 years old**  
Spend a part of your family weekend time clapping your hands, tapping your feet, singing nursery rhymes and, of course, sharing books. We will provide materials and ideas for those wishing to continue the fun at home. Programs are offered every weekend throughout the year and there is no need to register in advance.  
**Madison Branch Children’s and Youth Services**  
**Saturdays at 11:30 a.m. and Sundays at 3:30 p.m.**

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# Lakewood Schools

## New State Report Card System To Impact District

by Christine Gordillo

The district and school building state Report Cards expected to be released any day now will look dramatically different than what everyone is used to as Ohio has changed the way it measures and rates the performance of its schools and districts.

The 2012-2013 school and district Report Cards will grade schools and districts on a mix of new and previously used components with an A-F letter-grade system rather than the old terms of Excellent with Distinction, Excellent, Effective, Continuous Improvement, Academic Watch and Academic Emergency. These ratings were based primarily on students' performance on state assessment tests.

These new letter grades will be given in six broad categories: Achievement, Gap Closing, Graduation Rate, Progress, K-3 Literacy, and Prepared for Success. Schools that have traditionally been rated Excellent and Excellent with Distinction may not receive As under the new system because the components are far more complicated and stringent.

**Assessments are still a major part of school and district grades but the results will be categorized in a way that the state believes will be easier for parents to understand:**

**Achievement:** How well are students doing against national and state standards of success?

**Gap Closing:** Are students in all demographic groups making gains in reading and math?

**Graduation Rate:** Are all students graduating on time?

**Progress:** Are students of all abilities growing academically?

**K-3 Literacy:** Are students in kindergarten through third grade reading at or above grade level?

**Prepared for Success:** Are students ready for college and careers?

The new Report Card will have nine measures receiving grades under these six broad categories. An overall grade for the school and/or district will not be given until August 2015 to give districts time to adjust to the new system and focus their efforts on being successful in all areas being measured.

Unlike the straightforward formulas behind achieving an A or B in a class, the methodology used to calculate these grades is far more complex than the letter grades we received as students in times past.

It will take some time for district staff to adjust to the new accountability requirements and adjust the district's instruction strategies and focus accordingly. These first year ratings with the new system will be a shock for many of the district's buildings but officials are confident that the ratings will indicate that Lakewood students progress more than one year academically in a year's time.

Raising the bar for accountability and academic performance is a good goal, and district administrators are committed to working with instructional staff and parents as everyone adapts to these new standards and expectations. Lakewood City Schools'

number one district goal each year is to improve student academic performance and that mission will never change year to year.

For more information on the new grading scale and report cards, visit: [www.newreportcard.education.ohio.gov](http://www.newreportcard.education.ohio.gov)

## Y2Y Conference = Summer Fun For Westshore Young Leaders

by Noreen Kyle

During the last week of June at Capital University in Bexley over 400 teens were swarming from all over Ohio and around the country including Washington D.C. and Georgia. Viktoria Paulic, a freshman at Rocky River High School and Liz McIlwee a senior at Lakewood High School, both members of the Westshore Young Leaders Network, attended the Y2Y International Conference. Y2Y's motto is "believing in the power of youth and the drug-free choice."

This year's conference theme of "LIMITLESS" introduced the teens and adults who work with them to the limitless potential they have to make positive change occur. This change can be within themselves, in their schools and their communities. Participants experienced small group family sessions, teambuilding challenges and limitless workshops over four days. "Social Media: How to Send a Message that Sticks!", "The Truth about Marijuana", "Teen Dating Abuse"

and "Let's Lead" were just a few of the extreme skill workshops. Attendees were engaged in youth led workshops such as "Loving every part of You"; "Be Beyond Bullying" and "Chill without a Pill". "Extreme funness" was on the agenda every evening as teens and adults took part in the "Splash Bash", "Now Do the Harlem Shake" and "Arcade Unlimited" fun events!

Positive notes called "Warm Fuzzies" were taped to a massive wall space to show appreciation to one another at the conference. It was breathtaking to see all the names on the notes displayed! The conference ended with everyone making a circle, joining hands and closing with a humungous group hug!!!

New and everlasting friendships were made at the 2013 Y2Y Conference as well as preparing our youth to go back to their communities to act on making a positive difference for an alcohol/drug free lifestyle.

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# Lakewood Schools

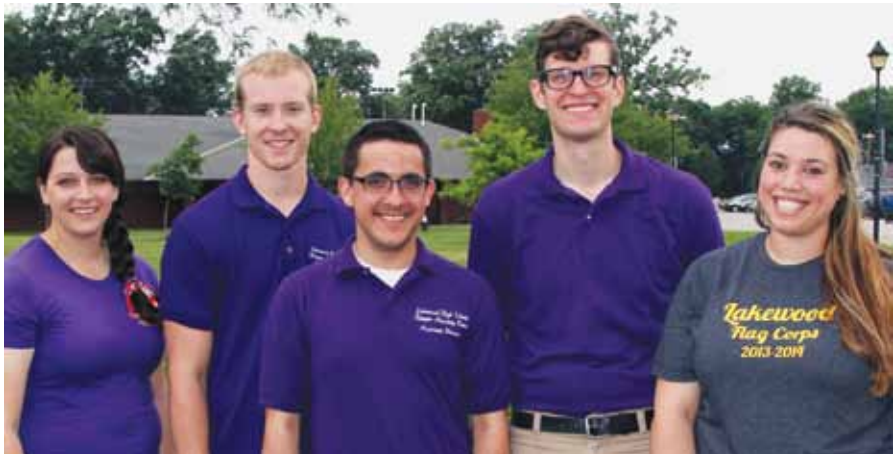
## New Technology Helpful For Students, New Leaders Bring Enthusiasm To Lakewood Ranger Marching Band

by Valerie Mechenbier

Lakewood High School students have a few more days before classes begin, but members of the Lakewood Ranger Marching Band have been hard at work during the summer preparing for the 2013 marching season. One hundred and fifteen students have gathered over two Band Camp sessions to hone their marching skills and learn music for the upcoming season under the leadership of new LHS Band Director Nathan Harris.

Mr. Harris is in his second year teaching band in Lakewood, his first as high school director. Nathan is a 2009 graduate of The Ohio State University, where he was a member of the Ohio State University Marching Band. He has taught previously for two years with the South Euclid-Lyndhurst City Schools and one year with Southington Local Schools near Warren, OH. Last year Mr. Harris taught band at Harding Middle School. “I am looking forward to continuing my journey with the Lakewood music department, and continuing to make Lakewood schools a premier destination for music education,” said Mr. Harris.

Assisting Mr. Harris is the new Lakewood Ranger Marching Band Assistant Director John Blasko. Mr. Blasko attended Case Western Reserve University, earning a B.S. in Music Education in 2008. Afterward, he taught instrumental and general music in the Wadsworth City Schools for two years. He then returned to school full-time, earning a M.A. in Music Education from The Ohio State University in 2013. This year, John will be beginning his first year as an instrumental music



Kristen Tellaisha, Tim Hampton, Nathan Harris, John Blasko, and Sarah Miller

teacher at Harding Middle School, replacing Nathan Harris.

Returning to the Lakewood Ranger Marching Band as advisors are Tim Hampton (LHS Class of 2004, B.Mus. Youngstown State University 2008, M.Mus. University from the College-Conservatory of Music, University of Cincinnati, 2011), who returns for his sixth season as Percussion Advisor, and Sarah Miller (LHS Class of 2008, Cuyahoga Community College 2013), in her fourth year as Flag Corps Advisor. New to the advisor team is Rangerette Advisor Kristen Tellaisha (LHS Class of 2008, BA University of Dayton 2012). Kristen is a former LHS Rangerette Captain and was a member of the “Pride of Dayton Marching Band Flyerettes.”

With an average age of 25, the leadership of the Lakewood Ranger Marching Band brings a youthful approach to teaching and motivating young musicians. Using tools such as Facebook, Twitter, Dropbox, YouTube, and a text-message reminder system, communication flows freely

and often between Mr. Harris, advisors and musicians. Recordings and drill charts are posted online, helping band members practice and memorize the music and formations for upcoming shows. LHS Senior and Tenor Sax Section Leader Hugh Campbell commented, “I like the newfound efficiency of the band and can't wait to see how our hard work will come together at halftime.” When asked about how the students were responding to the new ways of rehearsing and performing, Mr. Harris answered:

“I am amazed at the band members’ abilities to embrace a new culture, and am so proud of the ownership they’ve taken in realizing their individual potential; they’ve already taken the group to another level.”

Make sure to see the 2013 Lakewood Ranger Marching Band at one of their upcoming performances. In addition to performing at every home and away game through November 1, the band “built with Pride, Discipline, Commitment, and Respect” invites you to the Lakewood Marching Band Festival on Saturday, September 21. Advertising and sponsorship opportunities are available for this annual LHS Ranger Marching Band fundraising event that brings hundreds of high school musicians – and their parents and families – to Lakewood for an evening of memorable performances under the lights at First Federal Lakewood Stadium.

For information regarding Band Festival sponsorship and upcoming performances, visit the band’s new website: [lakewoodrmb.wix.com/lrmb](http://lakewoodrmb.wix.com/lrmb), or call the Band Office at (216) 227-5980.

## District Hires New Technology Coordinator

by Christine Gordillo

The Lakewood Board of Education at its meeting Aug. 19 approved Paul Hieronymus as the district’s Coordinator of Technology and Communications beginning Aug. 28. Hieronymus comes to Lakewood from the Education Service Center of Lorain County, where he is the Educational Technology Integration consultant for the Northern Ohio Research & Training Technology Hub. He replaces Jim Marras, who retired July 31.

Prior to joining the Lorain ESC, Hieronymus worked 17 years for the Avon Local Schools, where he started out as a Special Education teacher and moved into the role of Curriculum Technology Coordinator in 2000. He also served as an assistant athletic director and track coach for the Avon district.

In his role at the ESC, Hieronymus offers professional development

in technology to Lorain County classroom teachers through the training hub.

Some of his professional highlights include creating and overseeing the Avon Teacher Technology Academy, coordinating over 300 videoconferences among staff, and designing and coordinating collaborative projects with schools in other states and abroad.

Hieronymus has a BS from University of Akron and a Master’s from American Intercontinental University in Instructional Technology and Instructional Design.

“We are happy to welcome Paul aboard as we believe he is the right person to oversee the district’s ever-changing technology landscape and bring us to the next level in regards to preparing our students for success in a digital world,” said Superintendent Jeff Patterson.



All Ohio State Fair Band members this year (from left): Stephen Moncol, Zak Inak, Hugh Campbell, Taylor Wohlfeil. Moncol, Campbell and Wohlfeil are returning veterans to the band.

## LHS Musicians Part Of State Fair Tradition

by Christine Gordillo

A number of LHS musicians are part of grand Ohio State Fair tradition that dates back for decades. The All-Ohio State Fair Band and Youth Choir have been part of the Ohio State Fair since 1925 and 1963, respectively. Band students Hugh Campbell, Zak Inak, Stephen Moncol, and Tayler Wohlfeil were part of the 200-member band and Maddie Burns, Shawn Lopez and Tess

Marjanovic were singing in the choir. These students were selected based upon their Solo & Ensemble Contest scores and band director recommendation. More than 200 students from across Ohio were part of each ensemble. Each group arrives a number of days prior to the fair opening for rehearsals. Once the fair is under way, the groups perform multiple times throughout the day for fairgoers.

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Sports

# Rangers Ready For Some Football

by Mike Deneen

Summer is winding down in Northeast Ohio, which means that many people turn their attention to football. Lakewood is certainly no exception, as the Lakewood High School Rangers have been training hard in preparation for the season. The team, under the direction of sixth year head coach Ron Lewis, is coming off a 4-6 record in 2012.

Sixty-five players have come out for the Varsity and Junior Varsity squad, with another 40 on the freshman roster. Coach Lewis is excited to lead the group this year. "They work hard and have a great attitude" he said after a recent practice session. He says that the team's goals are to win the West Shore Conference (WSC) title and qualify for the OHSAA playoffs.

**The Team**

Lewis has eleven letterwinners returning this season, including seniors Matt Shestina (Linbacker) and Alex Wemyss (Offensive Lineman).



Senior Maleke Norton #32

Here is a closer look at some of the key players:

**Offense:** Casimier Mitchell, #5, Junior, 5'10" 205lbs. Rushed for 1197 yards on 192 carries and 8 touchdowns last year as a sophomore. He is the focal point of the offense.

Aaron Morit, #84, Senior, 6'4"

220lbs. As a tight end, he is the leading target this year in the passing game. Morit is being recruited by numerous colleges due to his strong play and his outstanding grades and test scores. Among the schools he visited this summer are Duquesne, Ashland and Wayne State.

## LHS Boys Soccer To Leverage Versatility And Teamwork In 2013

by Jay Foran

**Team Outlook**

The 2013 Lakewood High School Rangers Boys Varsity Soccer Team is looking forward to another winning season and setting sights on making a serious run for the conference championship in the competitive West Shore Conference, with perennial powerhouses Bay Village, Avon, Elyria Catholic, Midview, Vermillion and Rocky River. The 2013 rendition of the Lakewood soccer squad is deep and talented. The team's strength is versatility and the ability of players to play multiple positions.

There are several Northeast Ohio Soccer Academy caliber players who opted to play for the Rangers, using their considerable talents on and off the field to build a team that reflects the best of Lakewood High School. Head Coach Andrew Toth remarked, "We value the intense work ethic, competitiveness and resolve our players have to leave everything on the field--every practice and every match--but our coaching team is



Sophomore Johnny Virag (L) and David Kemp (R) team up to stop an opposing player in preseason play. (photo courtesy of Penny Virag)

most proud of the character, leadership, and lifelong friendships the boys in our program create for themselves."

**This isn't just kick ball!**

The 2013 team is as exceptional off the field as on. It is consistently recognized by the Ohio Scholastic Soccer Coaches Association (OSSCA) with its team academic award. Nearly two thirds of players are on the merit, honor or highest honor rolls and many are recognized as leaders among the school and community. Last year, 28 boys made either merit roll, honor roll, or the highest honor roll during the season and 11 of them had the highest honors--a grade point average greater than 4.0.

Diversity is a team quality as well. The 2013 team includes players born in Iraq, Burma, Nepal, Democratic Republic of Congo, Hungary, Albania, Palestine, Turkey and Thailand. This makes for an enriching experience for each team member as they learn to

Peyton Graham, a Junior, will take over at Quarterback. Many fans may recall his father Ed Graham, who quarterbacked Lakewood in the mid 1980s.

Alex Wemyss, #70, Senior, 6'3 245lbs. He has started for the last 2 years at left tackle

Matt Schultz, #72, Junior, 6'2" 285lbs. He has started last year at right tackle

Justin Yocabet, #57, Senior, 5'10" 250lbs. He has lettered last year on the offensive line and will play center and guard

Senior Anthony Ferrone will play wide receiver and accounted for almost 200 yards of total offense as a junior

**Defense:** Matt Shestina, #45, Senior, 6'0 200lbs. had 45 tackles, 3 tackles for loss, 2 sacks and 3 fumble recoveries last year as a junior

Maleke Norton, #32, Senior, 6'1" 190lbs. accounted for 49 tackles and 2 tackles for loss last year as a junior.

Senior Sobhi Awadallah, #66 returns from an injury that cost him his entire junior year. He will start at DL.

Junior James Kidd, #76 started last year as a sophomore on the defensive line and had 26 tackles

**The Schedule**

The Rangers face a sturdy schedule this year, as Parma replaces Lincoln West in the nonconference slate. In addition, the WSC features quality opponents. Avon, for example, made it to the third round of the Division II playoffs last season. Midview, also a Division II school, qualified for the playoffs and finished with a 9-2 record in 2012. Other notable conference games include a short road trip to Rocky River, where they will meet the Pirates in the Second Annual "Battle of the Bridge". Vermilion, one of the weakest teams in the 2012 WSC, has departed the league and is not on this year's schedule. They are replaced by a nonconference game with Brecksville, a very solid team.

**The Outlook**

The Rangers have the ability to meet their goals this year, but it will depend on a few factors. Most importantly, the offense needs to improve over last season. The Rangers were held to ten points or less in five of their ten games in 2012. The defense will need to be stubborn and opportunistic, especially against top opponents such as Avon and Midview. The kicking game, which was still unsettled early in training camp, will play a huge role in close games.

In order to make the playoffs, the Rangers must have a strong start to the season. They need to sweep Parma and Normandy, both of which had losing records last year. The opening night home game against Parma is especially important, since it will set the tone for the season. Playoff hopes also hinge on getting at least a split against North Olmsted and Brecksville in the other nonconference games. Conference title hopes will hinge largely on the Sep-

2013 Lakewood High School Varsity Boys Soccer Schedule			
Date	Opponent	Location	Time
8/17	Valley Forge	Away	TBD
8/21	Westlake	Home	7:00 PM
8/24	Amherst Steele	Home	7:00 PM
8/28	Bay	Home	7:00 PM
8/31	Berea-Midpark	Home	7:00 PM
9/4	North Ridgeville	Away	7:00 PM
9/7	St. Edward	Away	7:00 PM
9/11	Vermilion	Home	7:00 PM
9/14	Olmsted Falls	Away	TBD
9/18	Elyria Catholic	Away	7:00 PM
9/21	Brecksville-Broadview Hts	Away	TBD
9/23	Avon Lake	Home	7:00 PM
9/25	Midview	Home	7:00 PM
10/2	Rocky River	Away	7:00 PM
10/7	North Olmsted	Home	7:00 PM
10/9	Avon	Home	7:00 PM

continued on page 18



## Lakewood Is Art

# Celebrating Three Years Of Operating My Glass Fusing Studio In Lakewood

by Daniel Pruitt

After spending three decades teaching high school art, the last twenty-one at North Olmsted High School, I decided it was time to pursue my dream and open a glass-fusing studio. As I looked for the right location for my studio, Lakewood was at the top of my list.

Lakewood is an ideal location for a number of reasons. First, the community supports the arts through excellent venues such as the Beck Center and the Lakewood Fine Arts Festival, recently completing its 36-year this month. There are small galleries and interesting shops to visit run by entrepreneurs like myself. The library has a lively series of family-oriented events including their summer Friday evening Front Porch Concert Series.

Finally there is The Templar Industrial Complex that houses the Screw Factory with 30-plus resident artists located near Historic Birdtown on the east side of town on Athens Ave. The Screw Factory is rapidly becoming the "go to place" to acquire fine art and quality crafts. You can attend three Open Studio Events each year in an industrial

building that is also the home of the 1930's Templar automobile and has an interesting Lakewood history of it's own.

I have lived in Lakewood for many years, raised my family here and now I can travel each day to my Westside studio in ten minutes. This is an exciting time for me because during the Month of August I am celebrating my Third Year Anniversary at my glass-fusing studio here in Lakewood!

So now let's talk about one of my favorite topics, fused glass. Fused glass is commonly referred to as "warm glass work" and involves the use of a glass-fusing kiln. Stained glass, or cold worked glass, is generally created without the use of heat. Stained glass church windows are a familiar example. Blown or hot glasswork incorporates the use of a furnace to keep the glass in a molten state to create a vessel. It involves blowing the breath of life into a viscous ball of molten glass taken from the furnace, wrapped around a long narrow hollow metal tube called a "Punte."

Creating in warm glass involves layering or stacking sheets of cut and

designed colored glasses that are then placed in the glass-fusing kiln. The artist controls the fusing time and temperature and the heated and fused glass changes into a beautiful pendant, glass vase, desert plate or trivet. Designs and project are endless. The magic of glass is what happens in the kiln when your creation is literally transformed by heat and time into a beautiful and satisfying work of art.

I currently have a fused glass production studio and teaching studio and a corridor connecting the two that serves as a gallery for my fused glass works. I am still teaching, something I love doing, and now after all those years focusing on teens I can offer my services to adults and children in fused glass classes and workshops such as my popular "Ladies Friday Nite Out" Pendant workshops.

Other options include eight-week classes through the Cleveland Institute of Art's Continuing Education and Community Outreach Program, taught here in Lakewood at my studio. I am CIA's Westside connection for those looking for

classes in glass fusing or Graduate Teacher Professional Development courses.

I find it very rewarding working with the many interesting adults who come to the studio wanting to try a class or workshop in fused glass. Some have very accomplished careers, while others are folks simply wanting to try something different such as an interesting workshop. My teaching is family oriented and frequently I may have three generations of participants in a Pendant workshop - parents, their grown children and a grandparent.

My CIA Fusing I class and several Mini Glass Frit workshops will start in September. Perhaps I will have the opportunity of meeting some more Lakewood residents who want to try something new or expand their present creative skills as they help us celebrate our Third Anniversary!

*Daniel Pruitt is an experienced teacher, longtime artist, Lakewood Business owner and supporter of the arts. For more information visit his website at [danielpruittstudio.com](http://danielpruittstudio.com) or [my.cia.edu/ceco](http://my.cia.edu/ceco).*

## After School Arts Camp Returns For Fall

by Mark Rollenhagen

The Faith After School Arts Camp begins its second year on Wednesday, September 4. The camp at Faith Lutheran Church, 16511 Hilliard Road, Lakewood, is open to all students in grades K-5. Registration is required and is limited to 15 students. Activities include painting, drawing, crafts, writing, photography and music. Children are supervised by adult volunteers who have undergone background screening.

The camp opens at 3 p.m. each Wednesday that Lakewood Schools are in session. Activities wrap up by 5:15 p.m. Parents must pick up their children by 5:30 p.m. Students at Hayes Elementary School meet volunteers after school and walk to Faith. Other children are dropped off at Faith by parents or grandparents.

Volunteers include retired teachers, an experienced tutor, a graphic designer, two former newspaper writers, and a grandparent of children in Lakewood schools. Artists from the community also provide additional instruction and activities.

The annual fee for participation is \$10. Registration forms are available through the office at Faith or online at [www.faithlakewood.org](http://www.faithlakewood.org). For more information, contact Faith's office at 216-226-6500 or by e-mail at [office@faithlakewood.org](mailto:office@faithlakewood.org).

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# Lakewood Car Kulture Show 2013



photo by Peter Grossetti



photo by Jim O'Bryan

Smallest, and coolest vehicle at the show.



photo by Jim O'Bryan

I remember when this was just Friday night.



photo by Peter Grossetti

Lakewood's Mayor, Michael P. Summers check out the Lakewood Observer company car.



photo by Peter Grossetti



photo by Jim O'Bryan



photo by Jim O'Bryan

Cliff Beuhler, 1956 Chevy, Lafayette Ohio



photo by Jim O'Bryan

Mayor's Choice - Bob Boey - 1930 Model A Sedan



Red-Eye Photo Booths of Lakewood partnered with the Beer Engine and gave out more than 595 photos!



The 11th Annual Lakewood Car Kulture Show was the biggest and best ever! By 11am there were 510 cars and cycles registered, and a Cleveland Police Office who has worked large crowds figured the day's attendance of at least 10,000!

It was perfect weather for the event; it was too bad that as many as 150 cars and cycles were turned away, but there was no room.

Hats off to Jerry and Ruthie Koneigs-mark who are the founders and heart and soul of this event. Special thanks to the City of Lakewood (job well done), Quaker Steak and Lube, Jakprints, Low-Brow Customs, Beer Engine, Mars Bar, the volunteers from StART Neo, Jerry's Color and the Gas Box. Together it was a beautiful thing, thanks for letting us work with you. To see the story and 200+ photos of this event, go to: <http://lakewoodobserver.com/photoblogs> and check out the 4 photoblogs.



photo by Craig Lengyel Low Level Aerial Photography



photo by Jim O'Bryan

Best Traditional - Adam Shields - 1931 Ford Model A Pick-up



photo by Jim O'Bryan

Best Bike - Todd Muller - 1970 Triumph



photo by Jim O'Bryan

Car Kulture Pick - Scott Moorehouse - 1951 Oldsmobile



photo by Jim O'Bryan

Something for everyone to look at, enjoy and ponder. It was great seeing Lakewood in the streets hanging out with each other. A beautiful day in Lakewood.

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# Lakewood Cares

## Lakewood Congregational Youth And Pastor To Take Plunge For Summer Mission Trip At August 28 Fundraiser

by Robin Suttell

Members of the Lakewood Congregational Church (LCC) Youth Fellowship want you to take the immortal words of Pat Benatar to heart and hit them with your best shot... and knock them straight into Around the Corner's dunk tank. They're doing it for a cause that's near and dear to them: service work in the world around them.

These ambitious mid-high and high school students, along with the church's fearless pastor, Rev. Mark Thomas, will take turns in the dunk tank on Around the Corner's patio, 18681 Detroit Ave., for a Youth Mission Trip Fund fundraiser on Wednesday, Aug. 28, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. The event is open to the public.

For \$1 a shot, you can sink Rev. Thomas, who will kick off the dunking at 6:10 p.m., and the teens, while helping them raise money to support their summer 2014 mission trip. The group is tentatively planning a journey next summer to Heifer International's Heifer Farm in Rutland, Mass., about 62 miles west of Boston.

The church has a longstanding reputation for youth mission work, both locally through such events as its annual January Homeless Awareness Sleep Out, and also across the country. In years past, teams of LCC Youth have done service projects in such places as Lotts Creek, Ky;



Seven LCC teens traveled to PA in June to participate in the Pittsburgh Project.

Chicago, and most recently, Pittsburgh. In June, seven LCC teens and two parent chaperones participated in the Pittsburgh Project. The Pittsburgh Project, a nonprofit community development organization, offers, among other programs, summer service camps for youth groups to visit the city for a week and perform free home repairs for Pittsburgh's elderly homeowners.

LCC Youth Fellowship member David Kemp, a senior at Lakewood High School, has been on four mission trips with the church.

"The trips were all different and

it makes me realize how many people need help no matter where they live," Kemp says. "The trip to Pittsburgh this year was an exciting experience where they had us working hard, but where we also had fun. We were able to build relationships with the homeowners while renovating their houses."

Paula Atfield, another LCC Youth Fellowship member who traveled to Pittsburgh, says the reactions from the homeowners the group helped during their service week truly made an impact on her.

"The best part of the trip was

homeowner night," says Atfield, an LHS sophomore. "This was when all the homeowners from all the different houses we fixed came back to our camp for dinner and a worship service. It was priceless to see how much everyone appreciated our work, and to see all the people we helped."

LCC youth volunteering to take a seat in the dunk tank include Atfield, LHS junior Ryan Mitchell, LHS sophomore Cate Schleckman, LHS freshman Evan Suttell, Harding Middle School eighth grader Lindy Warren and West Park Community Middle School seventh grader Abby Swatsky.

The event also will feature a 50/50 and gift basket raffles. Funds from these raffles will also benefit the LCC Youth Mission Trip Fund.

"I enjoy our trips because they are fun," Kemp says of his different LCC mission trip experiences. "I get to help people, and in the process, I have learned about myself, too."

For more information on the LCC Youth Mission Trip program or any other programs or worship services at Lakewood Congregational Church, please contact the church office at 216.221.9555, [lccstaff@lcc-church.org](mailto:lccstaff@lcc-church.org).

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## Dominion Public-Private Partnership Benefits Westshore Preparedness

by Tricia Granfors

As promoted and supported by FEMA, public-private partnerships are a vital element in local and national emergency management. All aspects of a community are needed to "effectively prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate against any disaster" (<http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/courseOverview.aspx?code=is-660>).

One need for the Westshore Regional CERT (WSC), underscored while supporting our responders during the devastating week of Super Storm Sandy, is generator power. In order to meet that need Cuyahoga County District 1 Council Representative Dave Greenspan's Friends for the Community Foundation applied to Dominion East Ohio for a grant on behalf of the

WSC. The goal of the foundation is to support, promote, and enhance the quality of life, public safety initiatives, programs, and services within the Westshore communities.

In partnership with the foundation, the WSC, and the entire Westshore community, Dominion East Ohio graciously granted \$4500 to the team for the purchase of two generators

and related equipment. The grant is made possible through the Dominion Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Dominion, which seeks to strengthen the climate and well-being of the communities in its service territory.

Thanks to this successful partnership and team effort, the six cities of the Westshore are now that much more prepared for the unexpected.

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## Lakewood Cares

# Wine & Craft Beer Festival Raises A Glass To Support Downtown Revitalization

by Ian Andrews

Imagine sipping a glass of wine or sampling an ale or IPA outdoors in the heart of Downtown Lakewood. Add live music, delicious food from local restaurants, plus the last remnants of summer's glow and you have the Lakewood Wine & Craft Beer Festival,

to be held Saturday, September 28 from 5-10 p.m. on the open-air deck behind the INA and Bailey Buildings.

The Lakewood Wine & Craft Beer Festival is sponsored by World of Beer Lakewood and presented by the Downtown Lakewood Business Alliance and LakewoodAlive. Tickets are

now available online at [www.WineAndCraftBeerFestival.com](http://www.WineAndCraftBeerFestival.com) and at World of Beer Lakewood, Rozi's Wine House and Giant Eagle Lakewood. Each ticket holder will receive 15 tasting tickets, each good for one 2 oz. wine tasting or 4 oz. beer tasting. Individual sample tickets will also be available for pur-

chase the day of the event.

To enhance the experience, we have partnered with several downtown restaurants to cater to palates of all different stripes. Delectable deliciousness will be sold from such popular spots as Melt Bar & Grilled, The Root Cafe, TJ's Butcher Block, Quaker Steak & Lube, Pizza BoGo, Eddie Cerino's Casual Italian, The Place to Be and Souper Market.

To purchase tickets, visit [www.WineAndCraftBeerFestival.com](http://www.WineAndCraftBeerFestival.com). All tickets are on sale including VIP, general admission and designated driver tickets.

VIP tickets are \$50 and available online only. This exclusive VIP opportunity includes early entrance at 4:00 p.m., access to a selection of premier small batch wines and beers plus the benefits described above. Only a limited number of VIP passes are available and many have already sold.

General admission tickets are \$30 in advance; \$40 at the gate on September 28. Designated driver tickets are \$10.

The facility offers a unique experience to highlight nearly 100 wines and 100 craft beers along with 8-10 food vendors and several sideshow vendors. The Lakewood Wine & Craft Beer Festival is only for those 21 and over. The event will be located at 14701 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood, OH 44107, between St. Charles Avenue and Warren Road, south of Detroit Avenue. For directions, please visit [www.WineAndCraftBeerFestival.com](http://www.WineAndCraftBeerFestival.com).

This festival is a fundraiser for the Downtown Lakewood Business Alliance, a program of LakewoodAlive, and will aid in the continued revitalization of Downtown Lakewood through promotions, events, marketing, and design improvements.

LakewoodAlive is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit economic development organization that facilitates economic growth and stability in the city of Lakewood, Ohio. Downtown Lakewood, a program of LakewoodAlive, is a National Main Street™ program dedicated to revitalizing our historic business district.

## Hospice Of The Western Reserve "Walk To Remember" Scheduled For September 15

by Laurie Henrichsen

**Event Includes Breakfast, Full Day at Zoo, T-Shirts, Entertainment**

Lakewood residents are encouraged to gather their friends this fall and walk for great exercise, a wonderful cause and a fun-filled day at the Zoo. Hospice of the Western Reserve's second annual Walk to Remember, sponsored by FirstMerit Foundation, will take place Sunday, September 15, 8 a.m. to 12 noon at the Cleveland MetroParks Zoo. Registration opens at 8 a.m.; the walk begins at 8:45 a.m. The event ben-

efits the non-profit agency's patients and families. It offers a meaningful way to pay tribute to loved ones while striding past pink flamingoes, African lions, kangaroos, elephants and more!

"Registering for this year's walk is easy for individual walkers as well as teams," said Bridget Murphy, Corporate Relations/Special Events Manager. "Registration is \$20 for an individual and \$50 for a family. Registration includes all-day admission at the Zoo and Rainforest, complimentary pancake breakfast in the Palava Hut

Pavilion, T-shirts and entertainment." To register, visit <http://www.hospicewr.org/walk>. For more information, email Murphy at [bmurphy@hospicewr.org](mailto:bmurphy@hospicewr.org), or call her at 216.383.3715.

**Walk to Remember, Fly Away to the Caribbean!**

"At the Walk to Remember event, one lucky person's name will be drawn to win a one-week stay for up to four people in the charming Pilot House on the tropical island of Saba, plus a \$1,000 travel voucher," Murphy added. The winner will be able to explore an underwater paradise off this volcanic island (rated one of the top 10 dive locations in the world), see tropical birds and wildlife, and explore lush landscapes ranging from coastal beaches to rainforests. To purchase your chance to win, visit the Walk to Remember site: <http://www.hospicewr.org/walk>. All proceeds will benefit Hospice of the Western Reserve patients. (This prize was generously donated by Judy Bobel in memory of her late husband.)

Whether you have known someone who received care from Hospice of the Western Reserve or simply want to walk in memory of a loved one or friend, this event is a wonderful way to celebrate life. No family connection to hospice is necessary. Proceeds will help fund services such as pediatric hospice care, music, art and massage therapy, and fulfilling the special wishes of hospice patients. Last year's inaugural event raised more than \$100,000. Generous support for Walk to Remember is provided by United Healthcare and Kaiser Permanente. Additional partnership opportunities are available.



Attendees arrive back at the Shamrock Tavern & Bane Boys after a 4-hour group ride.

## Kathie L. Troup Foundation Fund-raiser In Lakewood A Great Success

by Terrence Martau

The Kathie L. Troup Foundation 1st Annual Motorcycle Ride was held Saturday August 3rd in Lakewood. The foundation was created by Dan, Gary, Tim, and Julie Troup after the recent loss of their beloved mother to cancer. The purpose of the foundation is to annually provide concrete financial help to a worthy family struggling with medical bills associated with cancer treatment.

Leaving from the Shamrock Tav-

ern & Bane Boys on Madison Avenue, 80 – 100 riders participated in a four-hour ride, and then returned to the Shamrock Tavern for an after-ride party and more fundraising. The Troup family and friends' fundraising efforts and the motorcycle event raised enough money to present a substantial sum to the family of Johnny Miller, working hard to defeat Hodgkin's Lymphoma. Thanks to everyone who helped make the day a great success!

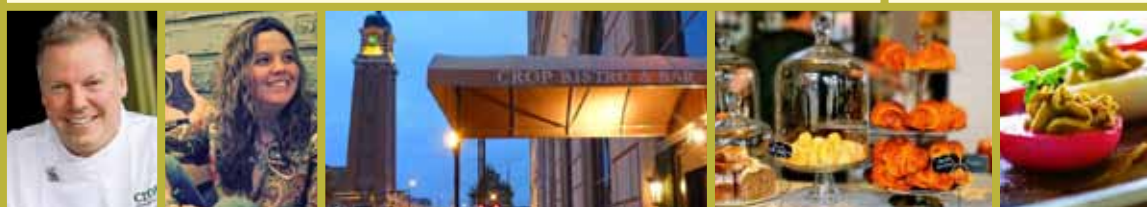
## An Event to Benefit Lakewood Community Services Center



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To purchase tickets and find out more, go to [www.lcsclakewood.org](http://www.lcsclakewood.org)





Wellness Watch

# Compeer Volunteering A Good Fit For College Students And Retirees

*by Denise Ayres*

The Compeer Program at Far West Center offers a unique volunteering experience. All that is required in Compeer volunteering is four hours per month, conversation, and friendship. Among our group of valuable volunteers are college students with challenging schedules and retirees that schedule around many family and social obligations. Compeer offers individual flexibility in planning volunteer time. Compeer also offers an enriching life experience for both students and seniors alike.

Compeer volunteering offers college students an opportunity to learn about mental health recovery. No previous knowledge about mental health issues or services is required. Volunteer training starts at a level agreed upon between the volunteer candidate and the Compeer Program Coordinator. All volunteers are given ongoing staff support. Volunteers are matched one to one with a same gender adult.

Counted among our current volunteers are students at Cleveland State University, the Mandel School of Social Work at Case Western Reserve University, University of Phoenix, and the Adler School of Professional Psychology. Students learn about mental health and recovery beyond what any course textbook can provide. As one volunteer stated, "Becoming a friend with a woman working on her recovery has shown me mental health issues from a personal angle. Her attitude and spirit are amazing!"

College students interested in volunteering for Compeer do not need to be Psychology majors. Compeer may be an

ideal program for students majoring in communications or in health care. Students of any major that have a friendly smile and compassion can learn to be in a Compeer Friendship Match.

Retirees make excellent Compeer Volunteers! Individuals in recovery benefit greatly by the way Senior Volunteers share experiences and wisdom with their matches. Our Senior Volunteers also demonstrate examples of graceful but effective ways to manage life's challenges. Compeer is fortunate to have among our volunteers persons retired from teaching, science labs,

chemical engineering, the National Labor Relations Board, dentistry, factory inspection, assisted living facilities, retail, and accounting.

In return, Compeer offers retired men and women a social and fun organization to be part of. Compeer offers a quarterly schedule with a variety of facilitated activities for our Compeer Friendship Matches. In addition Compeer volunteering is a meaningful and rewarding way to spend free time and help others who truly appreciate it.

A gentleman Compeer Member matched with one of our Senior Vol-

unteers said, "I believe you are the best friend I ever had. You care about me and you tease me and make me laugh." His Match Volunteer commented, "That is what makes it all worthwhile for me."

The Compeer Program has a lot to offer for college age students and men and women retired from their professions. The flexible scheduling Compeer offers can fit into the schedule of members from Tri-C to AARP! If you are interested in becoming a Compeer Volunteer please call the Compeer Office at 440-835-6212, ext. 242. Questions welcome.

## Why I Walk To End Alzheimer's

*by Cheryl Beltz*

On September 21, I will be joining with many others for a very special and personal cause, the Walk to End Alzheimer's.

Alzheimer's Disease has had a lasting impact on my life. My mom was diagnosed in 1997 and a year and a half later, she passed away at the age of 88. Her fight with the disease was short in comparison to that of many victims, but as with all who are touched by this devastating illness, it was heartbreaking to watch.

My mom was a very strong and independent woman. So when she started forgetting how to write checks and other everyday tasks, my dad and I knew something was wrong. She was also one of the sweetest and kindest people you could ever meet. So when my dad called me in the middle of the night and said his wife of 50 years thought he was going to kill her, we knew some-

thing was wrong. We had her admitted to an area hospital where she started spitting at the nurses. She also was calling me names and not being very nice to my dad. I knew this wasn't my mom but was the disease making my mom do terrible things. It was still very upsetting. Thank heavens she became more like herself when they got her on the right meds. We continued to see some glimpses of the mom I knew during the last year and a half of her life.

My involvement with the Alzheimer's Association has provided me with the opportunity to communicate with

others who share similar stories and to work toward the goal of finding a cure. Supporting the Alzheimer's Association ensures that funding continues for valuable research and assistance for families and victims of the disease in our area.

Walk with me and hundreds who share stories like mine at the 2013 West Side Walk to End Alzheimer's on Saturday, September 21 at All Pro Freight Stadium in Avon, Ohio (home of the Lake Erie Crushers). Go to <http://act.alz.org/walkcle-west> for more information, to make a donation, or to register to walk with us!

## Runners & Walkers Wanted For 5k And 1 Mile Fun Run To Eliminate Malaria

*by Laura Jaissle*

Join Lakewood and Cove United Methodist Churches on Sunday on September 15 to support our efforts to eliminate malaria deaths in Africa by 2015. Join us for a great race day with the Impact Band and a festival to raise awareness about Imagine No Malaria.

Imagine No Malaria is an effort of the people of The United Methodist Church to raise \$75 million to eliminate death and suffering from malaria in Africa by 2015. This comprehensive approach to beating malaria is being done through prevention, education, communication and treatment. You can learn more about this cause at [www.imagenomalaria.org](http://www.imagenomalaria.org).

In 2007 a child every 30 seconds form Malaria and because of this effort the World Health Organization reports that deaths from malaria have been cut in half. We still need to beat this disease and we need your help.

If you do not want to run/walk you can still contribute to this cause by visiting [www.imagenomalaria.org](http://www.imagenomalaria.org) or by texting MALARIA to 2772 to give \$10. Every \$10 given saves a life.

To register for this race go to [www.lkwdumc.org](http://www.lkwdumc.org) or [www.peaceracing.com](http://www.peaceracing.com).

Race Day Sunday, September 15th, 2013. 12:00-1:00 pm – Race Day Registration; 1:30 pm – 1 Mile Start; 2:00 pm – 5K Start

Place: Cove United Methodist Church- 12501 Lake Ave., Lakewood, Ohio 44107.

5K Registration Fees: Pre-registration- \$20 by September 12; Race Day registration: \$25

1 Mile Registration Fees: Pre-Registration: \$15 by September 12; Race Day Registration: \$20

Runners Shirts provided to all Runners and awards to top runners.

So join us as we imagine no malaria!

Fit in

5

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5:30 – 6:30PM:

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Read more in Wellness Watch – 9/3 Observer!

Our Walking Challenge is a FREE event.

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Join the Discussion at: [www.lakewoodobserver.com](http://www.lakewoodobserver.com)







# Lakewood Residents Observed

## The Magic of the Balloon Animal

by Jennifer Geiger

What do you get when you take different colored balloons the size of salamis and a Sharpie pen? You get a penguin with a happy face. You get a smiling monkey in a tree. You get a T-Rex with big teeth. You also get to watch the faces of children light up with pure joy upon recognizing an animal shape they had requested two minutes earlier.

"Most parents prod their kids to say thank you when they get a balloon, but the smile on the child's face is thank you enough for me," says Robert Markowitz, Lakewood resident, magician and balloon twister.

Markowitz may be employed full time with the Cuyahoga County Veterans Service Commission, but it's not the occupation he is best known for. Is it balloon twister? Magician? Dance instructor? His colorful story started long ago. So let's roll the clock back to around 1978 when the Flats were the place to be, bell bottoms were the pants you wore, and WMMS's popularity was in the stratosphere and its Buzzard mascot was arguably the best-known radio station symbol in the country.

Markowitz was an air brush artist for WMMS back in the late 70s, painting the Buzzard on everything the GM told him to. "I was doing custom work and airbrushed the Buzzard Bus and several other pieces for them including the Buzzard vans, speedboat, racecar, and motorcycle," said Markowitz.

Along with his airbrush artistry, Markowitz, a member of the International Brotherhood of Magicians and the Cleveland Magician's Club, was performing his magic act on stages all over town, complete with vanishing doves, and assistants who were sawed in half on a nightly basis. He appeared on stage in the Flats at D'Poos, Hoover Auditorium at Lakeside Resort and at the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo, back when the amphitheater was brand new.

"Nowadays balloons are my pallet and it's a great artistic outlet. I'm only limited by my imagination," the soft spoken Markowitz quipped. It's his childlike imagination and magical talent that keeps his calendar booked up for every midweek family night in popular restaurants on the west side.

As far as restaurant gigs go,



Photos courtesy of Kent Photography of Lakewood

Robert Markowitz, Lakewood resident, magician and balloon twister.

Robert the Magician, as he is known, twists balloons for kids of all ages in Cleveland area restaurants that have included Spaghetti Warehouse, Pizza Huts, Max and Erma's, Skyline Chili,

Bob Evans, Panini's Bar and Grill, Perkins Restaurant and Bakery, and Quaker Steak & Lube in Lakewood. "I buy a thousand balloons at a time and probably go through that many a

month," said Markowitz.

With literally hundreds of shapes in his repertoire, Markowitz captivates his audience by handing them his postcard displaying brightly colored balloon characters with happy faces smiling at the camera. And still with so much to choose from, most boys tend to ask for the sword, T-Rex or a laser rifle. While little girls most often ask for the friendly black and white penguin.

Although the tableside shows are fulfilling, it's the private parties that captivate this entertainer's gentle soul.

"My magic show is entertainment for all ages, and the audience helps with each trick. Most often when it comes to parties in a home, the parents drop the kids off and come back a couple hours later to pick them up," said Robert. "They miss the show, the fun, and they miss seeing their kids be a star with their own 15 minutes of fame."

When Markowitz is not working or at a Balloon Jam, a balloon twisting convention, he enjoys spending time with his friends dining, dancing and even rollerblading.

For more information, visit <http://www.MagicOfRobertE.com> or catch the Magic of Robert E. at the following locations:

Perkins Restaurant & Bakery in Avon every Tuesday 6-8pm

Panini's Bar and Grill in Westlake every Wednesday 5-8pm

Quaker Steak & Lube in Lakewood once a month

Private parties on weekends.

## Meet Humble Wine Bar

continued from page 1

on the map!

The LO caught up with this up-and-coming Lakewoodite to find out a bit more about her and her vision for her latest venture.

**What advice do you have for new wine drinkers that come into Humble?**

We want people to feel comfortable and to enjoy themselves. We're not stuffy here. Myself and the staff are here to help navigate people through the list to find the wine that best suits their tastes. There is something here for everyone.

**Do you have a favorite wine and/or food item on the menu at Humble and if so, what is it and why is it a favorite?**

I am definitely a seasonal wine drinker. I love the Annie Amie Ete. Its a white blend of chardonnay and riesling from Oregon. It's very balanced and pairs well with a lot of the items we have on the menu. For food, I absolutely love the mushroom pizza. The earthy flavors of the mushrooms combined with creamy, nuttiness flavor of tall-egio is outstanding. It's topped with rosemary and has the perfect amount of garlic.

**What local farmers/vendors are you using to source items on the menu?**

We are using Lake Erie Creamy goat and feta cheeses. Most of our vegetables are from Amish farmers from Geauga and Holmes county. Eventually we will be making our mozzarella.

**Rumor has it that some specialty pizzas might make an appearance—when might we expect to see some of these specials show up on the menu?**

We are working on a vegan pizza right now for the upcoming week.

As a Lakewood resident and now a Lakewood business-woman, how does Humble fit into your vision of Lakewood's future?



It's really great to see the development not just in downtown Lakewood, but the whole city. We are happy to be a part of the growth and to fill a gap by opening a wine bar. I feel like as a city, Lakewood may just be the hippest to hang out in.

Humble Wine Bar is open Tues-Fri from 4pm to close, Sat-Sun from 11am to close and closed Mon. Visit them across from the Main Library at 15400 Detroit Ave, Lakewood, OH 44107 or for more information go to [humblewinebar.com](http://humblewinebar.com) or call 216-767-5775.

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## Pulse of the City

# The ADHD “Crisis”... Myth Or Reality? (Or Is There A Larger Question To Ponder?)

by Gary Rice

Yes, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder is a very real condition seen primarily in active boys who sometimes display short attention spans and/or hyperactive behavior. ADHD has been in the news quite a bit lately because more children are apparently being diagnosed or treated for suspected ADHD. Treatments for this condition have historically included prescription medications. The diagnosis of ADHD for children is normally arrived at through the input of a psychologist or a pediatrician.

Being a retired Special Education teacher, I've been involved with children having symptoms of this condition since serving as a Learning Disabilities tutor at Emerson School in the early '70's. At that time, Emerson was a junior high school, and special needs educational services were just beginning in the higher grades. Prior to that time, special educational services were based in the elementary grades, and were generally intended to be “pull-out,” “as-needed,” and “temporary” services. As research increased, it was discovered that special needs did not necessarily end in the 6th grade. Eventually, special educational services expanded into the junior high and high school years, and even beyond, as some so-called “special needs” simply did not go away with age.

The question of how to deal with students having “differences” has been around since schools began. Students having so-called “differences” have been labeled, re-labeled, and un-labeled over the years as various educational fads, political leadership, and classroom assistance programs have come and gone. In the 1970's, Public Law 94-142 (the Education of the Handicapped act) and other laws were passed to ensure that special-needs children would receive a “free and appropriate” public education in the “least restrictive environment” possible in order to suit their needs.

For about 250 years now, the American educational system has primarily been

a come in, sit down, shut up, we-know-what's-best-for-you, pencil-and-paper, tri-modality system of learning. You listened, you read, and you wrote, and that's pretty much the way it was, and all too often, that's the way it continues to be in many schools. It's no accident that so many on-line, private, and charter schools have sprung up because one-size-fits-all learning never seems to fit everyone.

The traditional system of learning does work...for some students, but for many others, it has not worked well at all. The number of drop-outs in high school and college continues to be staggering. An incredibly high percentage of individuals incarcerated in America's prison systems have either failed in schools or have been found to have some form of special needs that might not have been addressed when they were younger.

The “one-size-fits-all,” “go-through-the-same-cattle-chute” philosophy of American education was based on the utopian supposition that everybody is capable of experiencing success at the same time in every subject offered in the public schools. Higher and higher educational standards have been called for by politicians from both parties, and a huge testing industry has developed in order to insure that students are meeting those higher standards. Diversity in education somehow became a dirty word in the last 20 years or so, as America's students have been pushed towards increasingly uniform academic education, often at the expense of learning about the trades and the fine arts.

The cry for “higher standards” was very much a bi-partisan political push in the 1990's, resulting in a “No Child Left Behind” law that mandated testing and continuous improvements in the public schools. The failure of that law is patently obvious these days, as a vast majority of the states have sought waivers from the stan-

dards that the law had demanded. There were several problems: While the intent of that law may have been meritorious, funding for schools continued to lag behind, and there was a huge failure to address the issue of many students who were simply unable to respond to the social, educational, and political pressures that were placed on them. Intending to increase our competition with the world, standards-based advocates tended to forget that much of the world allows educational specialization (directing students into diverse interest areas) earlier in life. Ironically, those high academic standards achieved by many countries only seem to be higher because many of their students have already entered vocational or specialty schools.

These days, the “Common Core” movement is the latest attempt by the federal government to raise academic standards ever higher to a nationwide standard of uniformity, while offering financial incentives for states that move in that direction. While the backers of “Common Core” school standards may mean well, there still remains the issue of what to do with individual students who fail to meet those standards.

Can all students learn? Of course they can. Common sense, however, will tell you that students are not always ready to learn the same thing at the same moment in their lives. There's something called “developmental readiness,” as well as the maturity factor, and then you have differing abilities and interest levels. Were you, for example, a genius in all of your subjects in school? Neither was I. Back in the old days, you were taught to master something before you went on to the next challenge. These days, more and more subjects are being covered for content rather than mastery. Teachers are often being forced to teach to the tests, rather than being able take the time to respond

to the interests and abilities of each child.

In the case of those ADHD diagnoses, there would be an honest question in my own mind as to whether more kids need diagnosing, or should MORE SCHOOLS be “diagnosed” for failing to respond to the needs of a diverse population? Students are indeed NOT all the same. Some are attentive. Others are easily distracted. Some can listen well. Others? Not so well. Some can write or sing well, and others, not so well.

Those points made, nearly every potential liability that a child has can be turned into an asset by a caring teacher, given a little time. It's American education, in my opinion, that needs some serious reform in the direction of educational diversity so it can better meet the needs of our students having differences. ADHD is a very real condition, to be sure, but on the other hand, our schools cannot continue to treat some of our most active, creative, individualistic, and inquisitive children restrictively just because they may have trouble sitting still and conforming to an out-dated, one-size-fits-all system of learning. History is filled with examples of brilliant people who have succeeded in spite of the educational system. Schools are, after all, supposed to educate, and not herd sheep. Where is student directed, initiative-based leadership training these days? Where too has practical education gone? Knowledge of iambic pentameter and haiku will do little good when needing to fix a leaky faucet or hanging wallpaper.

What about our Lakewood Public Schools? As a Lakewood Schools volunteer, I believe that your community handles the diverse needs of their student population far better than many districts I've seen. At the same time, could they do better? Of course they could, but they are also constrained by the dictates of state and national educational rules. Until there is a national cry to respect student diversity, the public schools will continue to struggle with students having “differences.”

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# Lakewood Living

## Revitalizing Our Communities By Redeveloping Cuyahoga County's Brownfields

by U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown

In Ohio, parcels of land known as brownfields are left behind after a commercial building or factory has been demolished or abandoned. These brownfields don't belong in neighborhoods where children walk to school, and they don't belong in Greater Cleveland where you are looking to attract new businesses and continue your renaissance.

But Cuyahoga County has 26

brownfields, more than any but one in the state. We need to redevelop these sites to make way for new investments. That's why I'm co-sponsoring legislation to clean up, re-invest in, and re-develop these properties.

The Brownfields Utilization, Investment, and Local Development (BUILD) Act, would increase clean-up grants and more than double the funding ceiling for remediation grants. The legislation would also allow the EPA

to award multi-purpose grants, which means federal resources could be used for multiple elements of a project, including site inventory and planning and remediation for one or more brownfields.

The bill also lets more nonprofits qualify for site-assessment grants. Right now, nonprofits can only apply for site clean-up grants, but we know that local entities, like the Cuyahoga County Department of Development,

have the capacity to do so much more.

We have the opportunity to attract private capital back to the area, increase local tax revenue, and protect green spaces from continued development.

The BUILD Act and the Brownfields program play an integral role in revitalizing vacant or abandoned properties to meet environmental and public health challenges while spurring economic development in Greater Cleveland.

## Rangers Ready For Some Football

continued from page 8

tember 20 home date with Avon, which features two Division I college recruits. If the Rangers pass that test, the week nine game at Midview will be critical.

### The Changing Landscape

A few very important off-field developments have occurred since

last season. These will impact the Lakewood football program, especially in the future.

\*Last December, First Federal of Lakewood purchased naming rights for Lakewood Stadium. The deal, worth \$320,000 over ten years, will provide money for stadium maintenance and upgrades.

\*This spring LHS announced that it will leave the WSC before the 2015-16 season. Lakewood, which joined the WSC in 2012, is joining fellow conference members Avon and Midview in a switch to the Southwestern Conference.

\*In June the OHSAA announced the formation of a seventh playoff division. LHS will remain in Division I,

which will now be limited to only the top ten percent of schools based on male enrollment. This change was made due to massive disparities in the previous system, which had schools of under 500 boys playing schools with over 1,100.

\*Sean Jackson became the new LHS Athletic Director on August 1st, replacing the departing Bob Thayer. Jackson was previously the AD at Bedford High School.

## LHS Boys Soccer To Leverage Versatility And Teamwork In 2013

continued from page 8

work together for common goals.

### Position Overview

Great soccer teams display great defense. This year's squad will be focusing on being an organized and coordinated unit, playing with high pressure in designated areas of the field with the intent not to give the opponent opportunities to take shots or slip balls into the box.

The defense is led by senior co-captain Jameson Foran, a 2012 West Shore Conference first team performer who will bring his soccer aptitude to the Varsity Football team this fall as he serves as the team's kicker. "Jameson is the heart and soul of the team. He reads the game and quarterbacks the team from multiple positions. He is equally dangerous playing in all three lines on the field (defense, midfield, and forward)," commented Coach Toth.

"Senior co-captain David Kemp, a multi-sport letterman brings outstand-

ing leadership, tenacity and inspires the younger players. His strength is overlapping runs into the attacking third and servicing balls into the box to create scoring opportunities."

The defense is rounded out by Luke DeBaltzo (senior), Matt Kerrigan (senior), Grant Senger (junior), Alex Rosul (sophomore), Marcel Dunay (junior), and goalkeeper Robbie Fehrenbach (sophomore).

In 2013 the aim of the midfield is to take possession style of play to the next level with more "possession with purpose"--looking to play target players more frequently. Toth indicated that "Co-captain Johnny Virag is an exceptional academy level player who as a sophomore leads our midfield with his great technical skill and tactical insight into the game. Sophomore Jarod Macaluso is a crafty midfielder with tremendous potential and senior Justice White is a speedy outside midfielder. Alain Mika (senior) and Parker Kimes (junior) also should expect to see lots of playing time."

The role of the front line this year is to stretch the field, show into pockets of open space as targets and create good scoring opportunities through creative improvisation and the ability to take players on one on one. "Our front line is led by senior Dino Papagianis, a motor that never stops and a player hard to move off



Senior Jameson Foran is ready to get the 2013 soccer season kicked off! (photo courtesy of Penny Virag)

of the ball. He partners with sophomore Jafar Fadhel whose shot is ferocious and potential is unlimited. Other key contributors to our offensive attack will be Ismail Askarov (senior), Zivko Pezulev (senior) and Cole Karel (junior) and Mohamed Alodat (sophomore)," commented Toth.

Stay tuned! The 2013 Lakewood High School Boys Varsity Soccer Team has its eye on numerous accomplishments this year.

### You Can Be Part Of The Action

You can see the Rangers' journey unfold in person, as they play five home games at First Federal of Lakewood Stadium. Tickets for the general public are only \$6, which is the best entertainment deal in town. Every game includes not only the great football action, but all the pomp and pageantry (marching bands, cheerleaders, etc) of Friday Night Lights in Ohio.



Junior Running Back Casimier Mitchell



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Lakewood Living

Keep Lakewood Beautiful Sponsoring Essay Contest For 6th Graders: “What Peace Means To Me”

by Marianne Quasebarth Usiak

To help celebrate the dedication of The World’s Children Peace Monument Sculpture in Lakewood Park, Keep Lakewood Beautiful is sponsoring an essay contest open to all City of Lakewood 6th grade students.

Essay Topic: **What Peace Means to Me...**

A call for short essays of 200 words or less from students entering the 6th grade in fall of 2013 from City of Lakewood residents from any school. See below for permission and submission forms. Submission deadline is September 3, 2013. Please send in double spaced typed or printed essay and forms to:

Lakewood City Hall  
Keep Lakewood Beautiful Peace Essay Contest  
12650 Detroit Avenue  
Lakewood, OH 44107

**Top 10 winners will receive GREAT PRIZES!\***

*1st place:* Essay published in The Lakewood Observer, handprint made for lower right corner of peace sculpture,

iTunes gift card (courtesy of Roman Fountain Pizza & Subs), Lakewood Recreation Department, Dewey’s Pizza, Spin, Gift Basket from Quaker Steak & Lube, Geiger’s, The Sweet Spot, Mahall’s 20 Lanes. Total value \$300. *2nd place:* Lakewood Recreation Department, Melt Bar & Grilled, Spin, Angelo’s Pizza, The Sweet Spot. Total value \$165. *3rd place:* Lakewood Recreation Department, Giant Eagle, Angelo’s Pizza, The Sweet Spot. Total value \$75. *7 Honorable Mentions:* Lakewood Recreation Department, Roman Fountain Pizza & Subs, Breadsmith of Lakewood, Mahall’s 20 Lanes, Menchie’s. Total value \$40.

All 6th grade students who enter an essay and completed forms receive a 10% off VIP Hot Pass to Quaker Steak & Lube! \*Prizes have no cash value.

The World’s Children Peace Monument Dedication will be on the International Day of Peace on Saturday, September 21 at 2 p.m. at Lakewood Park. Everyone of all ages is invited to participate in the dedication ceremony. Winners will be notified in advance of the dedica-

tion ceremony by September 19 and need to be present at the ceremony.

The World’s Children Peace Monument is located in the Keep Lakewood Beautiful Adopt-a-Spot Garden artfully maintained by The Lakewood Kiwanis Club between the Woman’s Club Pavilion and the playground in Lakewood Park. Please visit the sculpture for inspiration for your essay!

Similar sculptures are being placed around the world to promote peace. Our celebration acknowledges The International Center for Environmental Arts (ICEA) and the children

of Berea, Ohio have donated the Peace Stone for the World’s Children Peace Monument to promote a sustainable global Culture of Peace and Goodwill. For more information on ICEA see <http://wcpm.multiply.com/>.

For more information on the City of Lakewood’s Keep Lakewood Beautiful or an entry form please see: [http://www.onelakewood.com/pdf/2013\\_KLB\\_PeaceEssayEntryForm.pdf](http://www.onelakewood.com/pdf/2013_KLB_PeaceEssayEntryForm.pdf)

Parental permission is required to participate. Please complete permission and submission forms.

Thank you and peace!

Peace Essay and Permission Form Due Tuesday, Sept. 3, 2013

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

StudentSchool: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact information: email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

I approve of the publication of my child’s essay, name, and photo.

I approve of my child’s participation in the above contest: please sign: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Please attach essay form including double spaced typed (12pt font) or printed essay to this form. Include student name on essay page. One entry per student.

Logic Vs. Emotion

by Monica Woodman

When we are young adults most of us step out into the world renting our first apartment. What a feeling of independence! Then, much to our parents’ dismay, some of us come back, but we save up enough money, get a better job, and then do it again. Then, at some point the renting vs. buying creeps in. For some of us there may be good reasons for renting housing, for others, owning is the only way to go. The right answer is, there is no right answer. The decision is a personal one.

I talk to a lot of people who decide they want to buy a house. Buying a house can be, and very often is, an emotional decision. How do I know this? Because if it wasn’t, more people than not would have talked to a lender, saved a down payment, and gotten a pre-approval letter.

Instead, most people are looking for a house before even thinking about how much it costs. If that’s you, don’t feel bad, you are not alone, and that’s why lenders are there. They will help you understand how much you will be able to spend on a house, how much you will need for your down payment, what your monthly payment will be, and if you are approved, they will give you a pre-approval letter: your green card to buying a house.

It never ceases to amaze me how many people actually get insulted

when I ask if they are pre-approved. The other day a man called me and made an appointment to meet with me. When I asked if he was pre-approved he told me if I didn’t trust that he could buy a house he would use another realtor. What he needed to understand was that no matter what realtor he decided to work with he would still need to have a pre-approval letter to buy a house. It is truly the green card to buying a home. The thing is, I really would have done a good job for him, but he’ll never know. One thing I do know is, when it comes time for him to buy that house, he will need that letter.

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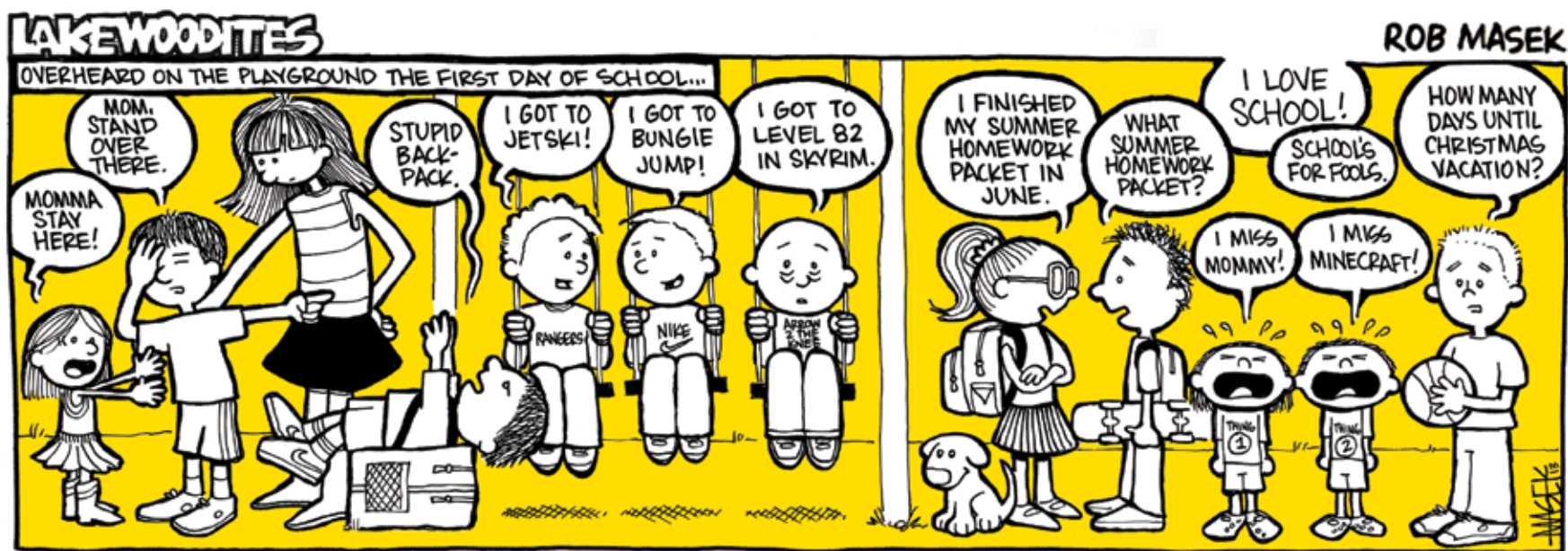
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