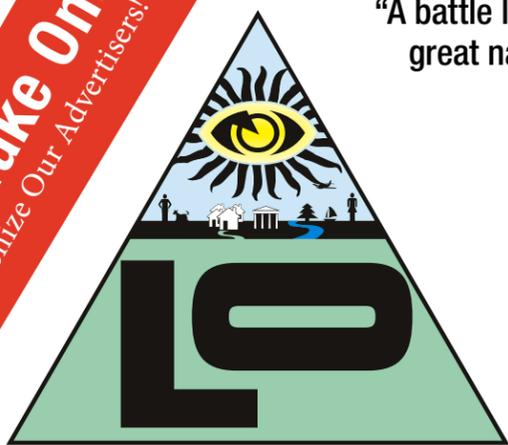


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"A battle lost or won is easily described, understood, and appreciated, but the moral growth of a great nation requires reflection, as well as observation, to appreciate it." - Frederick Douglass

# THE LAKEWOOD OBSERVER

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Volume 11, Issue 7, March 31, 2015

## Old House Fair 2015

# Attention All Homeowners And Renters!

by Allison Urbanek

The Lakewood Old House Fair will be held on Saturday, April 18th from 10am-3pm at Harding Middle School. This free event will provide folks with the opportunity to speak

with contractors about home improvement and repair projects that you are planning for the warmer months. Contractors are available to answer questions about do-self or contracted repairs to make

sure that you are on the right track with your projects.

There will also be three informational workshops held throughout the fair. The topics and schedule are below:

**Property Value 101:**

**Impact of Repairing & Renovating Your Home from 11 a.m.-12 p.m.**

This workshop will be led by William J. Gaydos, SRA, from William J. Gaydos & Assoc., LLC. The workshop will focus on educating homeowners on what property value actually is, how numbers are calculated and insight into home repairs that create and improve value. This is a workshop that can't be missed!



Everything You Need to Know About Energy Audits from 12:15-1:15 p.m.

continued on page 7

## Q&A With Mayor Summers

# The Future Of Healthcare In Lakewood

by Colin McEwen

City of Lakewood  
Public Information Officer

**What are the hallmarks of the proposal?**

This is a major investment in healthcare in our community — of more than \$100 million of private money — the magnitude of which we have not seen in decades.

This recommendation leverages significant trends toward outpatient care. It also better aligns service delivery with the chronic conditions found in our community such as diabetes, breathing disorders, addiction disorders and mental health needs. It preserves rehabilitation needs, as well 24-hour, 7-day emergency services.

This proposal also addresses the "affordability" aspect of the Affordable Care Act by removing very costly, vastly underutilized inpatient care facilities and replacing them with a more up-to-date, more energy efficient, and a more adaptable facility that can be modified to address changing healthcare needs.

One often overlooked aspect of the proposal is the creation of a new, \$32 million community foundation whose purpose would be to support the health and welfare of Lakewood's citizens with what I hope and expect would be profound and exciting initiatives in the area of population health management.



Mayor Michael P. Summers.

**The hospital is being demolished? What will replace it?**

As part of the proposal, Cleveland Clinic will construct, own and operate an estimated \$34 million, 62,000-square-foot family health center, which will include a full-service round-the-clock emergency department, to replace Lakewood Hospital in the future. The new facility will include primary care and specialty programs concentrated on diabetes, geriatrics and cardiac care, among others, in addition to radiology and lab services. Additional services will be determined based on the needs of the community.

**How will the way we receive our healthcare change?**

If you're like most residents in Lakewood, you're not using Lakewood Hospital at all. More than half of Lakewood residents use other providers and facilities for all their healthcare

needs. As for those of us who do use the hospital, almost all — 94 percent — do so as outpatients, whether for emergency room visits, radiology services, rehabilitation or follow-up care. All of these outpatient services will be offered at the new Lakewood family health center.

**Where will I be taken if I call 911?**

Our emergency medical squads are very quick to arrive at your home; nothing about this proposal will diminish that speed. Emergency care, overseen by physicians remotely in our state-of-the-art ambulances, begins immediately upon our arrival.

We will still have an emergency room in Lakewood. The majority of our emergency medical needs will still be served in Lakewood. Even today, our residents are transported to different hospitals depending on the nature of care required.

If your needs are appropriate for admittance to a hospital, several options are available and close. Fairview Hospital is located 3.3 miles away; MetroHealth Medical Center is 7 miles away; continued on page 4

# Spring Sale At Nicholson House

by Heidi Murray

Lakewood Historical Society is excited to announce the Tabletops & Trifles Sale at the Nicholson House at 13335 Detroit Avenue, on Friday, April 10th, 1-7 p.m., and Saturday, April 11th, 10 a.m.- 3 p.m. A fine selection of everything exquisite will be artfully displayed for your shopping pleasure, including crystal, china, silver, jewelry, linen and many more decorative items.

Love Downton Abbey and all the elegance of eras past? Now is your chance to bedeck your manor with the finest things. Whether you are enter-

taining or treating yourself, we have something for all budgets. From candlesticks, silver trays, tea services and lamps to handkerchiefs, perfume bottles and jewelry.

Parking is available at St. Ed's across the street. Tabletops and Trifles is a prelude to the annual Sale on the Grounds, which occurs on the first Saturday and Sunday in May.

All proceeds from this sale benefit the programs and properties of the Lakewood Historical Society. Come shop—you're sure to find an exquisite piece—or even many!

# Resurfacing Of Madison Avenue Begins

by Colin McEwen

The design is ready, and the bids are finished. Preconstruc-

tion meetings are completed. And, winter is officially over.

The multi-million-dollar resurfacing project on Madison Avenue has begun. The traffic signalization project is already underway.

The selected contractor, Shelly Construction, is expected to begin removing the existing pavement near Riverside Drive, and work east. The 2.6-mile resurfacing project will take place in three phases; the contractor will finish each phase before moving on to the next one.

continued on page 9

# Grant & Roosevelt Groundbreakings Set

by Christine Gordillo

Demolition of the Roosevelt Elementary building has been completed and soon demolition will be finished at Grant Elementary as well. Official groundbreaking ceremonies have been scheduled for each site. Please join Lakewood City Schools Superintendent Patterson and the Lakewood

Board of Education for ceremonies at the following times:

Grant Groundbreaking: Tuesday, April 21, 4 pm

Roosevelt Groundbreaking: Thursday, April 23, 4 pm

District officials look forward to including the community in these historic and exciting moments! Events will take place rain or shine.

## More Coverage Of The Lakewood Hospital Deal...

on pages 15 and 16, including thoughts from Lakewood Observer's Jared Denman who has been following the developments since before the announcement of the proposed deal. There are also some great conversations being had on the Observation Deck. Real conversations, real facts, real opinions! Lakewoodites having great conversations for over 10 years! Join us today, your voice is every bit important as your neighbor's. Together we build a community and make it better for all. <http://lakewoodobserver.com/forum>

# Lakewood Observer

## Lakewood Continues Tree City USA Tradition

by Colin McEwen

City of Lakewood Public  
Information Officer

For the 38th year, the Arbor Day Foundation has named the city of Lakewood a "Tree City USA" to honor the city's "commitment to effective urban forest management."

The Arbor Day Foundation — in

cooperation with the National Association of State Foresters and the USDA Forest Service — sponsors the Tree City USA program.

"Trees clean the air, shade our homes, reduce energy costs, beautify our neighborhoods, improve storm water management and increase property values," said Mayor Michael

Summers.

A long-standing Tree City USA award recipient in Northeast Ohio, Lakewood has consistently met the national standards required for the prestigious award.

**The four standards of a Tree City USA include:**

**A Tree Board or Department:** Someone must be legally responsible for the care and management of the community's trees. This may be a volunteer tree board, a forestry department, or a professional forester or arborist.

**A Tree Care Ordinance:** The tree ordinance must designate the establishment of a tree board or forestry department and give this body the responsibility for writing and implementing an annual community forestry work plan.

**A Community Forestry Program** with an annual budget of at least \$2 per capita.

**An Arbor Day Observance and Proclamation** will take place this year, at a time/date to be determined.

According to the National Arbor Foundation, meeting the four standards for becoming a Tree City USA "tells visitors that here is a community that cares about its environment, and is also an indication to prospective businesses that the quality of life may be

better in that community."

Among the city's goals is to increase the tree canopy by 10 percent, to 38.5 percent by the year 2035.

The city's forestry department and Lakewood Tree Task Force have developed a comprehensive strategy to improve the tree canopy and add diversity to the variety of species around the city.

In just two years, the organization has already helped plant dozens of trees at Madison and Lakewood parks, presented 19 recommendations to Lakewood City Council supporting tree legislation and worked with the city's forestry department to plant nearly 600 trees around Lakewood.

The city's strategy also includes an effort to prepare the city for climate change, add diversity to the urban forest, withstand pest infestations and storms, and add in trees with more fall colors. More trees also means less storm water runoff.

"Everyone benefits when elected officials, volunteers and committed citizens in communities like Lakewood make smart investments in urban forests," said Matt Harris, chief executive of the Arbor Day Foundation. "Trees bring shade to our homes and beauty to our neighborhoods, along with numerous economic, social and environmental benefits."

## Easter Bunny Hops In To Visit At O'Neill Healthcare Lakewood



photo by: Sarah Rohland

On March 28th, O'Neill Healthcare Lakewood invited families and residents to enjoy an Easter celebration! It was a sea of colors as kids quickly made their way through the room and put beautiful plastic eggs full of treats in their baskets while residents watched smiling. Residents observed, reminiscing about their Easter memories or sharing stories of when their loved ones were young. Everyone had a chance to visit with the Easter Bunny himself as he worked his way through the buildings paying a visit to residents and all our guests. A great time was had by all!

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Sunday, April 19, 2015

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## City News

# City Considers New Way To Bid Projects

by Christopher Bindel

The March 2, 2015 Council meeting was called to order at 7:36 P.M. by Council President and Ward IV Councilwoman Mary Louise Madigan. The first order of business was to excuse the absents of Councilman Ryan Nowlin (At-Large) who was absent due to the birth of his daughter. Council approved his absence.

Councilman Shawn Juris (Ward III) then asked Council to pass a resolution recognizing the St. Edward football team for winning the State Championship in December. It was the second time in four years they had done so.

Council gladly passed the resolution.

Next Councilmen Tom Bullock (At Large) and David Anderson (Ward I) asked Council to join them in Recognizing Scott Duennes and Cornucopia/Nature's Bin for 30 years of service. Mr. Duennes has been managing the Nature's Bin grocery store and training center for the last 30 years and has made it into the Lakewood institution it is today. Upon his retirement Council is presenting him with a resolution highlighting his accomplishments.

Council passed the resolution and congratulated Mr. Duennes on his retirement.

Police Chief Malley then notified Council that the City was awarded an \$8,000 grant from the Edward Byrne Memorial Grant through the Federal Bureau of Justice Assistance and the Ohio Justice Services Office. The grant it used to pay for overtime hours to operate a Special Assignment Car in the months of April through September. The Special Assignment Car is used to patrol parks on nightly basis.

In order to accept the grant the City is required to match funds of \$888.89. Chief Malley asked Council to pass a resolution allowing the Mayor to approve of the deal. They did so.

Next Director of Planning and Development, Dru Siley, asked Council to send an ordinance to the Planning Commission in regard to the rezoning of a 25ft. X 60 ft. section of land that falls between a single family residence on Lake and an apartment building on Clifton. Because both properties are owned by the same person there are no issues between the properties, however in order for the owner to use the land the way he needs the zoning of the property in question to be changed.

Council referred the ordinance to the Planning Commission.

Director Siley then asked Council to refer another ordinance to the Planning Commission, this time making adjustments to the Zoning Code. A member of the Board of Zoning Appeals, Kyle Krewson, statistically analyzed the requests that the Board received over two years and found that 31% fell in 2 categories, garage height and side yard set back for central air condensers. Of that 31% the Board granted nearly all of the request for variances. The ordinance makes

some slight adjustments to the current code which will allow for those most common requests that are likely to be approved. This will make the City more efficient and save residents time, hassle, and money according to Krewson.

Council referred the matter to the Planning Commission.

Director Siley asked Council to then consider an ordinance that was coming from the Planning Commission. The ordinance makes updates to the outdoor dining portion of the Zoning Code. The two main changes included are allowing for non-dining establishments, such as bars, to operate a patio, and to allow establishments whose outdoor dining occurs on private property, to remain open year

round.

Council referred the ordinance to the Committee of the Whole for consideration.

Next Law Director Kevin Butler asked Council to consider a resolution which would allow the City to change the process for some 2015 capital projects. Traditionally projects are designed by a firm then the work to build that project is put out for bids, and once the contractor is selected the project can begin. This process can be slow and cumbersome, and makes it difficult when unforeseen issues arise which make it impossible to stick to the original design. Director Butler is recommending Lakewood try a new system in which the City accepts bids for a single company to both design and

build projects. This could help things move faster and run more smoothly as the company will be able to more easily adjust plans to the unforeseen.

Council decided to refer the resolution to the Public Works Committee for consideration.

Fire Chief Gilman then asked Council to pass a resolution proclaiming the week of March 29 – April 4 Severe Weather Awareness Week. The week provides a chance for the City to help educate citizens about the threat of severe weather, hold tornado drills, and test the City's Emergency Alert System.

Council passed the resolution.

With no further business, Council President Madigan adjourned the meeting at 8:44 P.M.

## Ohio Association Of Career Colleges And Schools Offering Scholarships

by Nickie Antonio

*More than 220 scholarship opportunities with over \$1 million dollars available*

The Ohio Association of Career Colleges and Schools is offering over 220 different scholarship opportunities for the Ohio graduating class of 2015. These scholarships cover a variety of students for post secondary education in accounting, nursing, technology and many other diverse fields of interest. Recipients of the scholarship will receive the amount allocated over the length of their program, and the scholarship is non-transferable. The scholarship funds may be used for tuition, processing fees, books, lab charges and student activity fees. The recipients will be notified no later than May 8, 2015.

Any graduating student from an Ohio high school is eligible. An applicant must have a "C" or higher average and does not need to demonstrate financial need. Each applicant is eligible to apply for three different scholarships; however they must fill out a separate application for each one. The prospective applicant must also be starting their time at an institution of higher learning the summer or fall term after their high school graduation.

To apply, a prospective recipient must choose a scholarship application and obtain the required signatures. A student must also provide two letters of recommendation from teachers, counselors, or employers, as well as a written statement of approximately 250 words explaining why he or she has chosen the prospective career path and why they will be successful in that field. The statement can be handwritten or typed, but must be on standard 8 1/2" X 11" paper, and include the name, address, phone number, and high school name in the upper left-hand corner.

Each applicant must also be recommended by a sitting member of the

Ohio state legislature, which can be accomplished by completing the legislative nomination form along with a short note asking for the Ohio Representative or Senator's nomination. A note including why the candidate wants the scholarship is sure to increase one's chances of receiving the nomination.

Candidates may send the legislative nomination form by email, fax, or U.S. Mail. This form should be returned to

the candidate for submission with the application. The application deadline is April 10th, 2015.

**All applications must be mailed to:**  
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## City News

# Mayor Summers On The Future Of Healthcare In Lakewood

continued from page 1

Lutheran Hospital is 5 miles away; and the Cleveland Clinic main campus is within 12 miles.

**What is the relationship between the city of Lakewood, the Lakewood Hospital Association, the Cleveland Clinic, and the Lakewood Hospital Foundation?**

For 18 years, the Cleveland Clinic has partnered with the city of Lakewood to run Lakewood Hospital. The city, which owns the land and the building we know as the hospital, formally leases it to the Lakewood Hospital Association ("LHA"), a non-profit corporation organized for the charitable purpose of operating the hospital and its related health care services.

Under a 1996 agreement approved by the city government, LHA in turn relies on the Cleveland Clinic to manage Lakewood Hospital under the direction of the LHA governing board until the lease ends in 2026. This is quite unlike the relationship the Cleveland Clinic has with the seven other community hospitals the Clinic owns.

The Lakewood Hospital Foundation is a separate non-profit entity that, like many foundations providing philanthropic support to hospitals, does so for the benefit of Lakewood Hospital and healthcare in Lakewood. Its funds are completely separate from the city of Lakewood and the Lakewood Hospital Association.

**Why are you involved in this process?**

By virtue of my office as mayor, I am also a member of the governing board of the Lakewood Hospital Association — as have been my predecessors, Mayors Sinagra, Harbarger, Cain, George and FitzGerald. Our service to the board is required by the lease agreements negotiated and approved by the city in 1987 and again 1996, each authorized under our city charter. Our duty as mayors has been to serve and protect Lakewood's citizens both near- and long-term, and as hospital board members, we have executed that same duty.

**Doesn't the city own the hospital?**

The city owns the land and the building only. The city does not operate the hospital. The hospital is not a government entity. It became controlled by a private corporation by a

vote of Lakewood citizens in 1985 and pursuant to the city's subsequent lease agreements with the Lakewood Hospital Association in 1987 and 1996.

In 1987, city council approved an agreement resulting in the lease of all real and personal property of the hospital to LHA. The hospital was operated by LHA in partnership with another health system until 1996. In 1996, the lease was amended when LHA aligned with the Cleveland Clinic health system.

The only parties to the 1987 and 1996 lease agreements are the city of Lakewood and the LHA. While the city holds title to the buildings and the property, no city funds are used for operations or investments to the hospital.

**What are the required services under the existing lease and have they been provided?**

The required healthcare services that the current lease obligates the LHA and Cleveland Clinic to provide to our citizens are obstetrical/gynecological services, a 24-hour-a-day emergency room, and intensive care and acute-care medical/surgical services. These services are still being provided.

Since the current lease was signed in 1996, the city government has approved changes to the original required services over the years, most recently in 2010. As a result, rescue and paramedic services are now provided by the city's Division of Fire, and the hospital is no longer a center for trauma and inpatient pediatric care.

**The current lease with the Cleveland Clinic runs through 2026. Why don't the Lakewood Hospital board members just let the lease expire in 2026?**

The board members always understood letting the lease run out as an option, but grew to realize it is the worst option. The current model of healthcare delivery cannot survive in Lakewood through 2026. The existence of the lease provides us leverage now to use it as a tool to negotiate and gain more for Lakewood's citizens.

Over time, the board has come to understand that the hospital's inpatient volumes will continue to decline and operating losses will continue to accelerate in excess of income, well before the lease expires. Because the Lakewood Hospital Association owns and operates

the hospital, the existing \$50 million that LHA has in cash on hand will be used to fund these losses. The board members estimate that the \$50 million in cash will be gone in three to five years. Capital expenses necessary to keep the hospital functional will be unable to be paid and the hospital may be forced to close. At the end of 2026 or sooner, the city will have a large obsolete structure — the hospital building — that could cost the taxpayers tens of millions of dollars to demolish. The Lakewood Hospital Association will have exhausted any money that might have been used to create a wellness foundation or to invest otherwise in our citizens' healthcare needs.

The Lakewood Hospital Association came to understand that the Cleveland Clinic would not renew its participation in the inpatient model in Lakewood at the end of the lease term. It also became apparent that no one else would be interested in investing in inpatient healthcare in Lakewood. (Given the chance to submit proposals, no other systems have offered to step in and run the inpatient hospital now.)

**Is this current proposal a binding agreement?**

The proposal I've been discussing is in the form of a letter of intent signed by three parties: the Cleveland Clinic, the Lakewood Hospital Association and the Lakewood Hospital Foundation. It is not binding on the city of Lakewood. City council and I are treating it as a proposal, subject to further negotiations and changes.

Several hours-long community meetings have thus far been hosted by the Lakewood Hospital Association, and city council is continuing through its own rigorous schedule of public meetings on the subject of the hospital and healthcare in Lakewood. All meetings have been well attended by members of the public. Every public forum of the hospital association and every meeting of city council has been and will continue to be announced in advance on the city's website, [www.onelakewood.com](http://www.onelakewood.com). No decisions will be made without members of the public having a chance to view city council's deliberations and weigh in.

**What are the current financial trends of the Lakewood Hospital**

**Association? Why are we making this decision today? Why not wait two or three years?**

Outpatient trends that are unfavorable to Lakewood Hospital will have accelerated in two or three years. Competitive investments elsewhere (for example, at St. John Medical Center and the Cleveland Clinic Avon Hospital now being built) have and will have hastened the loss of patients at Lakewood Hospital. As volumes decline, service quality will put at risk and patient confidence will diminish. I submit that patients would not willingly go to a hospital where there are hardly any other patients. Regulatory pressures — the shift to prevention and early detection — and these market-driven financial pressures will make the current inpatient hospital model unsustainable in Lakewood.

We're taking a proactive approach to save the balance sheet of the Lakewood Hospital Association in order to invest in the new outpatient model. There's no way to cut costs further. By acting now, we use the leverage of the lease agreement to our citizens' advantage.

**What is outdated about the current model of healthcare delivery?**

There are several factors in my view: The technological changes affecting how healthcare can and will be delivered are dramatic. Procedures formally requiring lengthy hospital stays are now performed in doctor's offices and at outpatient clinics; regulations have required a shift to preventative care; and there is an urgent need to lower healthcare costs which have been shifted to the household level and this shift has had a devastating impact on middle-class households. The bottom line: our healthcare needs have changed, as has healthcare delivery. Today, chronic diseases such as diabetes, pulmonary disorders, chemical addictions and mental health are key contributors to poor health. These types of chronic diseases are no longer treated with inpatient medical care.

**If inpatient care isn't a part of the future, then why are the Cleveland Clinic and other healthcare providers building new facilities?**

I can't speak for the Clinic, but it's my understanding that the Clinic views itself as under-serving the Lorain County market and points west, meriting the construction of a smaller inpatient hospital in Avon necessary for the system to compete. University Hospitals' \$100 million investment in St. John Medical Center in Westlake — as well as other strategic moves among the competing systems — have significantly changed the competitive landscape west of Lakewood.

Unfortunately, an unintended consequence of these moves is the loss of a good deal of Lakewood Hospital's patient volume. In 2017, Lakewood Hospital expects to lose an additional 10 percent of its volume because of these competitive moves by the two big healthcare systems in Northeastern Ohio. That would be devastating to our hospital.

continued on next page

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## City News

# Help Grow The City's Tree Canopy: Plant A Tree

by Colin McEwen

The city's forestry department has been hard at work, implementing a comprehensive strategy to improve the tree canopy and add diversity to the variety of species around the city.

However, residents also have a role in repopulating the city's urban forest.

As part of the city's contract with the Greenleaf Group, residents can contract with the company to buy a shade tree — and have it professionally planted — at the same price the city pays. Mention that you are part of the city's Shade Tree Purchase Program.

"Residents can leave an important legacy, putting roots down in

Lakewood," said Chris Perry, the city's unit manager in the division of forestry. "We need residents' help to grow our urban tree canopy."

Unlike the previous two years, the private planting program is for both planting seasons this year, not just the fall.

All trees will be professionally

planted using approved methods by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources' Division of Forestry and the Ohio Nursery and Landscape Association. All trees come with a one-year warranty.

To select a tree and place an order, contact the Greenleaf Group at 330-441-6326 or email [greenleafgroup@hotmail.com](mailto:greenleafgroup@hotmail.com).

For more on the city's tree strategy, see the city's two recent videos on The City of Lakewood's YouTube channel: [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCETkYDKTbi\\_KDRO-dNDKn5Q](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCETkYDKTbi_KDRO-dNDKn5Q)): Planting Trees in Lakewood and Lakewood Working With the Tree Task Force to Improve Tree Canopy.

## Work To Begin On New Sewer Line On Webb

by Colin McEwen

Work is set to begin on the installation on a new sanitary sewer line on Webb Road, starting Monday, March 30.

The project — separating the

storm and sanitary sewers — will take place on the right-of-way between Clifton Boulevard to Lake Road. The road will be closed between Clifton and Lake, except for local access.

The goal of the project is to significantly reduce the frequency of sewer outflows to Lake Erie from this section of Edgewater Drive due to the existing single-pipe combined sewers.

The work will include:

- Installation of new sanitary sewer papers and laterals, new manholes, pavement, sidewalks, aprons,

and landscapes will be replaced in-kind, where disturbed, and new trees planted where existing trees have been removed.

The project is expected to be finished by early summer, weather permitting.

Use the link to access the interactive map: <https://www.arcgis.com/home/webmap/viewer.html?webmap=a9852aff51df4f6e86a0077baad1a787&extent=-81.8322%2C41.4698%2C-81.7798%2C41.4962>.

Stay tuned for additional construction updates.

## Water Main Replacement Begins On St. Charles Avenue

by Colin McEwen

The work has begun to replace a water main on St. Charles Avenue, from Franklin to Detroit avenues. Once the water main has been replaced, crews will resurface the street.

Other construction projects currently underway include:

- Edgewater Drive. (Between Abbieshire & Summit): Sewer Separation
- Summit Ave. (Between Detroit and Clifton): Water Main Replacement
- Madison Park Frontage Green Street: Streetscape
- Municipal Lot No. 8 Parking Lot Renovations

These aforementioned streets have local access only; parking restrictions are in effect.

Go to this link or the QR code below to access the interactive map <https://www.arcgis.com/home/webmap/viewer.html?webmap=a9852aff51df4f6e86a0077baad1a787&extent=-81.8322%2C41.4698%2C-81.7798%2C41.4962> of construction projects in Lakewood.

Stay tuned for additional construction updates.



## Issuance Of Parking Permits Changes To Lakewood Police Department

by Colin McEwen

Starting Monday, March 9, the Lakewood Police Department began issuing parking permits. Previously, the public works department issued parking permits — with permissions granted by the director of public works.

Now, those interested in obtaining parking permits are encouraged to call Janet Smith in the police department, at 216-529-6761.

Lakewood Police Capt. Gary Sprague said that often, people contact a city department to ask permission to park in violation of some restriction, including the rules about not parking on certain city streets between 3 and 6 a.m.

"We wanted to do this with more efficiency and more consistency," said Sprague. "But, more importantly, this about continuing to deliver excellent customer service to our residents."

## Q&A With Mayor Summers On The Future Of Healthcare In Lakewood

continued from previous page

**This process appears to lack transparency. Why weren't residents told sooner?**

In 1985, Lakewood citizens voted to shift the ownership structure from a public hospital to a private, non-profit model. Even then, the citizens and the LHA board understood that the increasing complexity of healthcare required thoughtful and confidential strategic discussions, analysis and consideration. Lakewood Hospital is not a public hospital, and no tax dollars are used to support the Lakewood Hospital strategic process. There are three elected officials (two members of Lakewood City Council and me) out of 23 board members who oversee the hospital. Many board members are Lakewood residents and all are passionate about our citizens' healthcare needs.

Strategic considerations were wide-ranging, including the review of who would be the best long-term clinical partner. These considerations are sensitive and confidential, and must be so in order to work through the viability of each option. The consideration of possibilities that ultimately were proven not viable would have fueled rumor, confusion, anxiety, misunderstanding and disruption at the hospital. This would clearly have had a negative impact on

quality of care and even accelerated already negative patient-volume trends.

In essence, the board members saw that our duties were to identify the problems facing the hospital and propose a solution. We went through a two-year process of analyzing and evaluating the best option and best viable partner. We then unanimously voted to approve the letter of intent, which outlined what we felt was the best option, at our LHA board meeting on Jan. 14, 2015. The employees of the hospital were informed of this decision nine hours later at 8 a.m. Jan. 15, and the citizens were notified an hour later at a press conference, followed by press releases and social media.

As a hospital trustee and as Lakewood's mayor, I always understood there would and should be a public discussion of these issues. I believed this discussion would be best served by having a proposed solution as well as identification of all the challenges facing Lakewood Hospital. We are in the midst of this public discussion now, with both the LHA board and city council playing an active role in leading it.

**What will happen to those employed at Lakewood Hospital?**

There are about 1,000 people employed at Lakewood Hospital. Under the proposed plan, they will all have

jobs within the Cleveland Clinic system. However, those employees will first be needed at the current facility while the hospital remains open. If jobs are affected during the course of the transition to the Lakewood family health center, the Cleveland Clinic has the capacity throughout its enterprise to provide every Lakewood Hospital caregiver who wants a job with an opportunity to work in its health system or with one of its partner organizations.

**What is the city doing to ensure that it's getting the best deal possible?**

The city government has hired outside legal counsel to conduct due diligence, review historical information and represent the city's interests in any future negotiations, and is considering hiring other experts for assistance.

**What will be the economic impact to the city when the hospital closes? How will the city make up the**

**loss of rent and payroll taxes?**

The hospital-related revenues to the city represent approximately 4 percent of the city's general fund budget — or 1.6 percent of the city's total budget. That is not an insurmountable loss to make up. The significant cash resources generated by this deal will delay any negative impact to the city by five years or more. This proposal also provides time to replace these lost revenues. In addition, this investment — with more than 4 acres of land, medical office buildings and several residential homes — offers a variety of development options to the city.

Of greater concern is the negative impact of an empty and abandoned Lakewood Hospital. I am confident this would be the specter facing us if we continue down the road of the current lease and inpatient model.

For more questions, please call the mayor's office at 216-529-6600.

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# Lakewood Public Library

## LPL Calendar Of Events

compiled by Elaine Rosenberger

### Thursday, April 2

#### Meet the Author: "You Got This! A Girl's Guide to Growing Up" by Dr. Tyffani Monford Dent

The journey young girls face as they transition from girlhood to adulthood can be difficult and filled with obstacles. "You Got This!" is an interactive book which provides direction regarding self-esteem, relationships, social media, friendships and other road blocks. Through journal writings, art activities, affirmations, and discussions, "You Got This!" allows you the opportunity to develop into the phenomenal woman that you are meant to be. Dr. Tyffani Monford Dent is a licensed psychologist and motivational speaker who specializes in emotional wellness in children and women. She is also the author of "Girls Got Issues: A Woman's Guide to Self-discovery & Healing." Books will be available for sale and signing at the event.

7:00pm in the Main Library Auditorium

### Saturday, April 4

#### Lakewood Public Cinema: "The Night Listener" (2006)

Directed by Patrick Stettner

Robin Williams plays a late night radio show host in the midst of a crumbling relationship, who crafts spooky tales and haunting stories for his listeners. On the telephone, he strikes up a friendship with a fan, a young teenaged boy with his own story to tell. The boy sends Williams an unpublished manuscript for a book describing years of sexual abuse from his parents. Toni Collette plays the boy's caretaker, but who is she really? How does a teenage boy write with such insight and depth of feeling? These are questions that Williams asks himself too late as his life descends into chaos.

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

### Sunday, April 5

**Easter: Library Closed All Day**  
Normal Hours Resume Monday, April 6.

### Tuesday, April 7

#### One-On-One Job Search

Spend a half hour with an instructor polishing your resume, brushing up on computer skills and exploring employment websites.

Appointments are available Tuesdays between 7:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. April 7, April 21

Appointments are available Thursdays between 10:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. April 9, April 23

### Wednesday, April 8

#### Lakewood Historical Society

#### The History of Cleveland's Trolley Cars

Before the automobile became the dominant mode of transportation, the electric streetcar provided a cheap, reliable way to get around town. Chuck Klein will share a brief history of trolley cars, outline the building of the Cleveland streetcar system and describe how the cars operated from Lakewood to downtown Cleveland. After the war, Klein's father was a motorman, operating trolleys from Lakewood's Rocky River station. His father's personal photos are among the many treasures included in this illustrated presentation.

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

### Thursday, April 9

#### Meet the Author: "The Trieste Intrigue" by George McNulty

A Russian plot to assassinate Pope John Paul II is imminent. With serious concerns about conflicts within the Vatican hierarchy, President Reagan selects international businessman Colin McHugh to secretly advise the Commandant of the Swiss Guard—the one man directly responsible for the Pontiff's safety. Unmasked by the Bulgarian cadre in Rome assigned to carry out the plot, McHugh discovers the identity of its leader and becomes another target for elimination. McNulty, a US Naval Academy graduate and business executive, draws on his own experiences to keep the action moving at breakneck speed as he propels the reader towards that shocking day: May 13, 1981. Books will be available for sale and signing at the event.

7:00pm in the Main Library Auditorium

### Saturday, April 11

#### Lakewood Public Cinema: "The Third Man" (1949)

Directed by Carol Reed

After World War II, American writer Joseph Cotten comes to Vienna to work for his old school chum, Harry Lime (Orson Welles). He arrives to find that his friend has been killed in an accident, and that the war-torn city is filled with corruption and moral ambiguity. How did Lime really die? And who is the mysterious third man that carried his friend's body? Director Reed has transformed Graham Greene's book and screenplay into a masterpiece of cinema. From atop a giant Ferris wheel, to the sewers beneath Vienna, every scene is a marvel of moviemaking. And it's all accompanied by the unforgettable strains of Anton Karas' zither. Terry Meehan continues his series, Graham Greene from Page to Screen.

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

### Sunday, April 12

#### Sunday with the Friends: SLAP Jazz Trio

SLAP is Cleveland's premier jazz trio. For more than a decade, they have carried on a musical conversation about love, humor, danger, and beauty. Repercussionist John Henry Scully assumes that a groove is worth bending so long as the room appears to be floating in space. And if there is a thematic subtext that needs thumping, purring or stuttering, bassist Mike Zubal will oblige. Guitarist Tom Zubal, however, favors flexuous tides, balance, shimmering beauty and moments of clarity.

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

### Tuesday, April 14

#### Great Lakes Light Opera

### "How Opera Butchered the Bard: The Fraught Relationship between Shakespeare & Opera"

There are over twenty operas based on Shakespeare's plays and characters, but most of these bear little resemblance to the Bard's original plays. Since the 1600s, composers have been captivated with the texts of Shakespeare, yet rarely stick to his plot points or narrative structure. In this lecture we will study the rocky relationship between Shakespeare on the page and Shakespeare on the operatic stage. We will examine operas by Purcell, Britten, Verdi, Rossini, Bellini, Gounod and many more. We'll address the alterations made to such classics as "Romeo and Juliet," "Othello," "Macbeth" and "A Midsummer Night's Dream." A live opera singer will perform arias and we will compare them to the original texts.

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

## LPL Children/Youth Events

compiled by Eric Knapp

### Thursday, April 9

#### Upcycling: From Rags to Riches

For students in third through eighth grade

Give your clothes new life by turning them into something new! We'll help you turn your favorite old clothes into necklaces, scarves, tote bags and more. Some materials provided but participants must bring their own clothes to transform. Registration required.

4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room.

### Saturday, April 11

#### Sew Your Own Library Tote

For anyone age 8 and up

Create your own stylish tote bag in this hands-on, no experience necessary craft program. All of the materials are provided and a master seamstress will be on hand to help you. Registration required.

2:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. in the Main Library Homework Room.

### Wednesdays, April 15 – May 20

#### Super-Powered

For students in fifth through eighth grade

A customized superhero experience from costume design to crime fighting. Design an awesome superhero and participate in six weeks of fun, games, and challenges all the way up to an exciting final battle against your own arch-nemesis! Registration required.

7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room.

### Thursday, April 16

#### History of Video Gaming

For students in sixth through twelfth grade

A short, ridiculous history of video gaming that every true gamer should know. Check out our ancient video game artifacts, try your hand at trivia, impress each other with your achievements and share your latest obsession! Registration required.

4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room.

### Tail Waggin' Tutors

For school-age children

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

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room.

### 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

### Saturdays & Sundays

#### 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.

## Animal Fun

by Marge Foley

A large audience of children and their parents recently enjoyed "Out-back Ray's Amazing Animal Show" at the Lakewood Public Library. The crowd was delighted by numerous animals, including a chinchilla, an African pygmy hedgehog, a dwarf caiman, a silver fox rabbit, a blue tegu lizard, and an African spike tortoise.



Audience members had the opportunity to pet SpongeBob, an albino Burmese python.

## Lakewood Public Library

# George McNulty Brings “The Trieste Intrigue” To Lakewood Public Library

by Elaine Rosenberger

In 1981, when President Ronald Reagan learns of a Russian plot to assassinate Pope John Paul II, Reagan chooses international businessman Colin McHugh to warn and advise the Pontiff's Swiss Guards. But McHugh is unmasked by a Bulgarian cadre which targets him for assassination, as events

lead inextricably to the date which shocked the world, May 13, 1981.

George McNulty brings Colin McHugh's action packed adventure, “The Trieste Intrigue,” to Lakewood Public Library on Thursday, April 9 at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium.

A graduate of the United States

Naval Academy, McNulty earned his MBA from the University of Chicago and worked as an international business executive, traveling to more than sixty countries. Before his Meet the Author appearance at the library, he takes the time to answer a few questions.

**LPL: What did you most enjoy**

**about writing Colin McHugh's story?**

GM: I enjoyed the historical research and the opportunity to bring the diverse story characters to life.

**LPL: What are Colin's strengths? Weaknesses?**

GM: Colin McHugh is mature, intelligent, athletic, has traveled extensively and has familiarity with the locations in the story. However, he is not a trained field agent.

**LPL: Do you have a writing routine?**

GM: I do not have a fixed time to write. With my job and outside interests, I am a spurt writer. The story development is always on my mind, and I am always making notes and reading. With the notes/ideas, I do sprint writing and story sequencing.

**LPL: What advice would you give beginning writers?**

GM: My advice to others is: Write, read and take notes and ideas from your experiences and the experiences of others, and the books you read.

McNulty's Meet the Author appearance takes place on Tuesday, April 9 at 7 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium. Books will be available for sale and signing at the event. For more information, visit [www.lakewoodpubliclibrary/authors](http://www.lakewoodpubliclibrary/authors).

## Upcycling: From Rags To Riches

by Fran Storch

Looking for a fun, free activity to break up the boredom for your brood during spring break? Lakewood Public Library is offering a special afternoon program for students in third through eighth grade. Please join us for Upcycling: From Rags to Riches where children can learn how to transform old clothing and other household items into new treasures.

This creative program takes place from 2:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room on Wednesday, April 8 (for third through fifth grade students) and Thursday, April 9 (for sixth through eighth grade students). Registration is required and space is limited.

What is upcycling? It's taking an item that is no longer needed or wanted and giving it new life as some-

thing that is either useful or creative. At this inventive program, kids will learn more about the upcycling movement and then use their imaginations to create new wearable works of art. Participants can turn an old t-shirt into a strand necklace, infinity scarf or tote bag.

Do double duty and keep your kids busy while doing a little spring cleaning and get rid of all those old t-shirts that are cluttering your closets. Some materials are provided but students must bring a t-shirt (or two) that may be used for their upcycling projects.

To sign up, please stop by the Children's & Youth Services desk at the Main Library, call (216) 226-8275, ext. 140, or register online at [www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.org/youth](http://www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.org/youth).

## Perseverance Paves The Way To Success

by Mi'lon Martin

Filled with rich history and beautiful photography, “Asia Town Cleveland: From Tong Wars to Dim Sum” showcases a little known chapter in Cleveland's history. Mr. Dutka takes us on a journey to a place that was once unknown to him: Asia Town. What we know now as the chic cool place to dine and shop, was once described as “peculiar and strange.” The path to success is not always an easy one, but the Chinese have proven that with hard work and perseverance, you can accomplish what you set out to do.

Arriving with dreams of a better future, the harsh realities of ignorance and bigotry as well as being deemed inferior were the daily encounters for the Chinese. Climbing out of the shad-

ows of laying railroad track, operating opium parlors, and running gambling dens to owning restaurants, these immigrants never gave up on their dreams of being full-fledged Americans.

Even though their English was limited, the impact that they made is understood by all. Such diligence has paved the way for what we have now, Asia Town. From unique shops to drool-worthy meals, it's really no surprise that his jewel has become the IT location for locals and tourists alike.

To find out more, drop by the library on April 15th at 7 p.m. to hear Mr. Dutka read from this fascinating book in the Main Auditorium. Copies will be available for sale and signing at the event.

## Calling All Homeowners!

continued from page 1

A GoodCents Building Performance Institute (BPI) certified auditor will discuss the benefits of having an energy audit completed on your home. They will also discuss the energy audit process, review the assessment report and highlight the helpful information you will receive from the audit. Another focus will be on how an audit can provide helpful information to make informed decisions about home repairs and improvements. GoodCents offers all Dominion East Ohio customers access to a \$50 energy audit, which is normally offered for \$350.

**How to Contract A Repair 1:30-2:30 p.m.**

Allison Urbanek, Housing Outreach Director at LakewoodAlive will present a workshop on the best practices of contracting a repair. She will provide participants with helpful information that will make the chore of contracting a repair into an informed, easy process. This workshop will highlight the necessary steps to get things done correctly the first time, saving time and money.

Don't forget to mark your calendars for this free event that will save you time and money!

Make sure to like the Lakewood Old House Fair on Facebook to get

## Super Powered – A Superhero Role-Play Experience

by Eric Knapp

For youth in fifth through eighth grade

Ever wanted to create a superhero as cool as Wonder Woman or Captain America? Now you can! Join us for “Super Powered” and just like real comic book writers, you'll design your own superhero from scratch: create an origin story, select your super powers (and weaknesses!), design a costume, and find out which arch-nemesis is going to try to stop you.

This six-week, team-based program is filled with fun, games, and challenges: from superhero design all the way to the final battle versus the villains. Some of the awesome challenges that await include writing and illustrating some pages from your superhero's comic book, designing and constructing your secret headquarters, and using map

updates on participants and workshops.

Thank you to Lakewood Hardware, The Lakewood Observer, Planet Care and the many volunteers who help to make this event a success each year. We look forward to seeing you at the fair!

skills to track down where the criminals will strike next. There's even a party and a costume contest on the last day. Come dressed as your own creation or your favorite comic book character...you might just win a prize!

If you're ready to put on a cape and fight evil with us, please stop in to register, or call (216) 226-8275, ext. 140. Program takes place every Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. -- 8:30 p.m. from April 15 – May 20 in the Main Library Multipurpose Room.

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## Lakewood Schools

# District Science Fair Awards Include Two First Places

by Christine Gordillo

Lakewood City Schools excelled at the annual Northeast Ohio Science and Engineering Fair held the week of March 9 at Cleveland State, led by Garfield Middle School students Evan Bell and Christine Larson winning first-place awards in their category.

Between Garfield and Lakewood High students, there were two first places, three second places, seven third places and two honorable mentions.

Evan earned his first place award in Math and Computer Science for his "An Exploration of the Three Square Geometry Problem" project and Christine in the Earth/Space category of the 7th/8th grade division for "Cellphone Spectro Photometer." Garfield's Nick Cleary also won second place in the Biology division for his project "What is the best method for cleaning fruit?"

Evan and Christine were each awarded a gold medal and \$100 for their projects. Evan also received specialty awards from the Cleveland State Department of Math, Cleveland State College of Science and Health Professions and the Broadcom Masters Award. Christine also received specialty awards which included \$100 from The Society for Applied Spectroscopy, an Ipad from Rambus Inc. and \$50 from Cleveland Regional Council of Science Teachers. All three Garfield students won the NEOSEF Board of Directors Award.

Three Harding students took home

third place awards, all in the Physics category: Timmy Daso ("A ReSOUNDing Experiment), Macklin Hurst (Taking A Ride Into Electric Avenue") and Rachel Owen ("Soccer Ball Air Pressure").

At the high school, Caitlin Cimino and Abe Dalisky earned second place for their projects in Biology and Health/Medicine (respectively). They each also earned a special award, Caitlin from the Cleveland Clinic and Abe from the CSU Dept. of Biology, Geology and Environmental Science.

Earning third place awards from LHS were Sarah Bene (Behavioral Science, special award from American Statistical Association) Calvin Dolatowski (Engi-

neering, special awards from American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics and the U.S. Air Force), Eliot Gill (Engineering, special award from American Statistical Association) and Claire Walkosak (Behavioral Science).

Earning honorable mentions were Tara Bobinac (Biology, special award from American Statistical Association) and Louise Figueiredo (Biology).

The special awards come with varying amounts of cash prizes, ranging from \$25-\$100.

Established in 1953, the Northeastern Ohio Science and Engineering Fair is a four-day event that brings together nearly 500 students from over 80

schools in the area who set up their science fair displays, discuss their projects with 260+ judges and compete for more than \$20,000 in prizes. One of the most rewarding aspects of NEOSEF is the opportunity for the students to discuss their research with professional scientists and engineers from the local area.

At the fair students compete in nine categories which are subdivided by grade levels. NEOSEF awards one first place, multiple second places, third place and honorable mentions per subdivision. Students also compete for over 300 Special Awards totaling more than \$15,000 that are donated by companies, societies and organizations.

## Lakewood Police DARE Basketball Tournament Set For April 18

by Colin McEwen

The Lakewood Police Department DARE Unit will present its 15th annual basketball tournament for fifth grade students on Saturday, April 18.

The tournament tips off at 9 a.m., and the championship game begins at 2 p.m. This year's tournament will take place in the gymnasium at Garfield Middle School at 13114 Detroit Avenue.

Admission is free, and all are welcome to attend.

Teams from each of Lakewood's seven public elementary schools will compete against each other in a single elimination tournament format. Staff members or parents from each school coach the teams voluntarily, while the tournament itself is staffed entirely by Lakewood police officers.

Uniform T-shirts are provided for the players and coaches through donations given by various Lakewood businesses. Lakewood Athletic Boosters will provide concessions at the tournament.

This year, the Lakewood Divi-

sion of Police is partnering with the Lakewood Community Services Center to collect donations, monetary, non-perishable food items, or hygiene products between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. in the lobby during the tournament.

Officers and volunteers will be collecting the items, which will then be donated, to the Lakewood Community Services Center. Attendees who bring a donation will receive one raffle ticket to win a prize.

## Healthy Eating Through Plant-Based Nutrition

by Kristine Pagsuyoin

Learn about the significant health benefits of eating a whole-foods plant-based diet. We'll discuss how many common diseases such as cancer, heart disease, and diabetes can be prevented and reversed by eating more plants.

Participants will sample a prepared sample dish while instructor, Darlene Kelbach, demonstrates how eating in this fashion can be delicious and nutritious. Everyone will receive the recipe and talk about how to transition to eating more plants in a low-stress and manageable way.

Darlene Kelbach teaches about healthy eating through a whole-foods plant-based diet. She received her Certificate in Plant-Based Nutrition from the T. Colin Campbell Center for Nutrition Studies at Cornell University. Darlene showcases the significant health benefits of eating plants while demonstrating how to create plant-based dishes that are delicious as well as nutritious.

To register, email lakewoodcouncil@gmail.com. Free to PTA members and guest. Sponsored by the Lakewood Council of PTAs.

## West Shore Health Careers Students Learn About Brain Health

by Lynn Foran

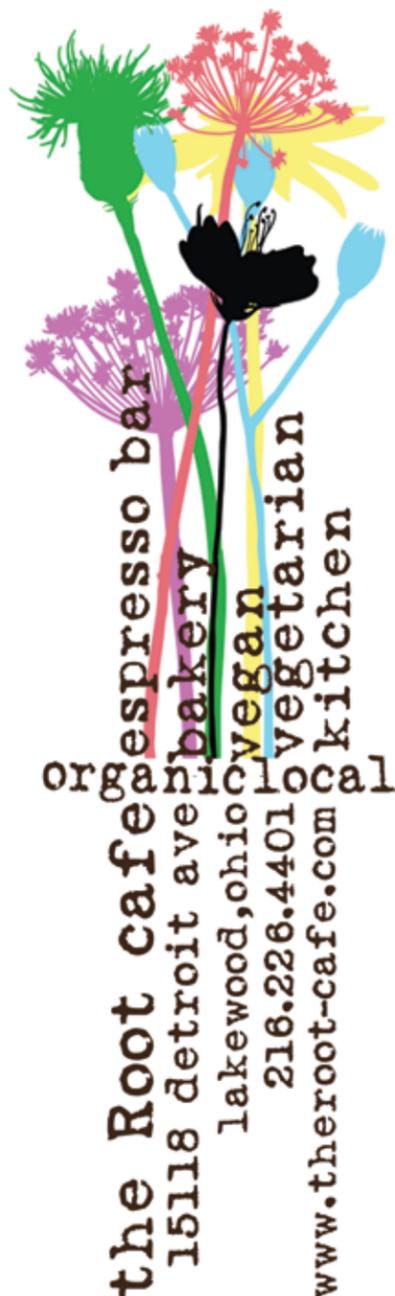
Students in West Shore Career-Tech's Health Careers program won second place and \$500 in a contest sponsored by MetroHealth Medical Center. The students were challenged to create a 60-second educational video on the topic of Multiple Sclerosis. In this annual contest, teens are asked to educate other teens on brain health topics in a creative and informative way.

The Health Careers Class of 2015 worked in groups submitting videos to

the contest. The group of Alonzo Griffin, Aiden O'Donnell, Laurel Roelle, and Mohamed Saed Alodat earned second place.

The MetroHealth's Neurodiagnostic Department held a reception for the students on Tuesday, March 10 to showcase the department and announce the winners. The videos are posted on MetroHealth's Youtube channel. Health Careers instructor Jackie Smith commented, "I am very proud of the efforts made by my students and so glad they

were able to be recognized. We will use the prize money to offset some of our student activity costs."



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# Lakewood Schools

## PATTERSON'S PERSPECTIVE

by Jeff Patterson, Superintendent, Lakewood City Schools

I truly appreciate Lakewood as a community. People here understand the value of a good education, but we also understand that people come from all walks of life and that it takes all kinds to make up this world. There is not only a feeling of acceptance of people from all walks of life, but people in Lakewood embrace diversity. Perhaps that's the reason that Lakewood is a community chosen for relocation of refugees from war-torn countries elsewhere in the world. At last count, Lakewood City Schools is serving students from 32 different countries.

Considering everything these refugee families have experienced, whether it be extended stays in refugee camps or having their villages completely destroyed along with all their possessions, they have weathered incredible hardship. Now, similar to our forefathers, these families have risked everything to come here and escape the trials and tribulations of their homelands for the hope of a brighter future. They come here knowing no English, unfamiliar with our customs and traditions, and attempting to orient themselves to a new way of life. I wanted to highlight some shining examples of students who have overcome incredible odds and achieved great success, thanks in part to our school system.

Kranti Khatiwada is a third-grade student at Hayes Elementary. Kranti came to America as a first grade refugee from Nepal. He has come so far in two short years, especially with his academics. Kranti now reads at the third-grade level with excellent comprehension. As a result, he enjoys coming to school every day and loves reading many stories. Suzie Sunjevaric, one of his educators, says, "It is very gratifying to see how much Kranti has grown from everyone's hard work, especially his own. Not only has Kranti adjusted to life in America, he is truly enjoying his new country and freedom."

Jeannette Sgambellone, an English Language Learner (ELL) educator at Harrison Elementary, identified a whole family of successful refugees. Since arriving as one of the school district's first Karen families in 2008, five boys, Pwe Tha So (10th grade), Shee Ka Shee (8th grade), August Star (7th grade), Thaw Thee Htoo (4th grade) and the entire family have achieved great things; attaining their citizenship, purchasing a home, and the four older boys passing all components of the Ohio Achievement Assessments. The parents are hardworking and expect the same from their sons. The



sons are all great students and understand the value of a good education.

Doug Wiesen, an ELL educator at Harding Middle School, shared that the three Al-Tameemi brothers from Iraq: Abbas, Hussein and Mohammad, have all distinguished themselves academically achieving honor roll status and receiving Student of the Month recognition by serving as positive examples and helping others while also getting good grades.

Lisa Shaffer Gill, one of our high school ELL instructors and Emmie Hutchinson, the Help To Others (H2O) Coordinator with the Division of Youth for the City of Lakewood, share several refugee success stories:

Ali Abdul - Khadir from Iraq was heavily involved with the H2O program as a student and later as a counselor. During his junior and senior years Ali totaled 175 service hours in the group. Ali attributes his success at Lakewood to his service in H2O, where because of his passion about service and being a role model, he was chosen for three summers as a counselor, a paid position. He is in his second year at Cleveland State majoring in pre-med, and serving as president of the CSU Global Medical Brigade.

Zeinab Abdi from Somalia spent 10 years in a refugee camp in Kenya. At Lakewood High School she was also involved in H2O as a student and later as a counselor. Zeinab was chosen as a paid summer counselor for two summers, and many students presently in H2O speak of her influence on them. She is currently studying architecture at Kent State University.

Aman Jemal from Ethiopia has a goal of 300 service hours in H2O. He is well on his way, having fulfilled 100 hours in his sophomore year at Lakewood High School.

Nirmala Dahai from Nepal also came to Lakewood from a refugee camp in January of 2011. She plays soccer, has met all of the requirements for graduation and has a goal to attend Tri-C.

Mohammad Alodat from Jordan no longer receives ELL services as a

**continued on page 10**

## Universities Honor LHS Orchestra Director

by Christine Gordillo

Lakewood High School Orchestra Director Elizabeth Hankins has been honored as an outstanding music educator from two prestigious university music schools. Hankins' alma mater, Baldwin-Wallace University, has named Hankins one of three 2015 Outstanding Educators and Yale University will present Hankins with a Yale Distinguished Music Educator Award for her role in developing the education portion of the Cleveland Orchestra at Home in Lakewood neighborhood residency.

This is the second time Hankins has earned the Yale honor as she accepted the Distinguished Music Educator Award in 2013 as well.

"I love teaching and I have been

blessed to work with children who are passionate about music. This passion has been cultivated and supported by the Lakewood community and the other teachers in the Lakewood City Schools," Hankins said. "Being recognized by Baldwin Wallace is significant because they represent all disciplines. I am also extremely honored to share the Yale award with Joan Katz and The Cleveland Orchestra."

Hankins will accept her BW award at a ceremony in April and will travel to New Haven, Conn., for Yale's 2015 Symposium on Music in Schools to participate in the symposium and accept her award, along with Katz, Director of Education & Community Programs for the Cleveland Orchestra.

## Resurfacing Of Madison Avenue Begins

continued from page 1

The entire project is expected to be finished by early fall. Traffic will be maintained during construction and on-street parking will be prohibited only during construction hours.

"This infrastructure project will add to the growing vibrancy of Madison Avenue," said Jason Russell, the city's project specialist.

Mayor Michael Summers said that this project is a part of the city's strategy to reinvest in the vital commercial district.

"I think everyone in Lakewood agrees that this project is long overdue," he said. "We're looking forward to beginning — and completing — the work in a timely manner. We are grateful for our residents' and business owners' support and patience during this process."



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# Lakewood Schools

## Rec & Community Education Department Offers New Small Business “Meet-Ups”

by Christine Gordillo

The Lakewood Community Recreation & Education Department is offering monthly “meet-ups” at local businesses for students in grades 4-8. These community-based classrooms offer students the opportunity to experience the passion, energy and expertise that business owners have with respect to their craft, product and vision, all in the confines of their real-life innovation centers.

Phil Waters, owner of Pride of Cleveland Scooters/Cleveland Moto kicked off this exciting new venture by hosting “2 Wheel Me” sessions two evenings in February. Students and their parents

*Pictured at right: Participants in “2 Wheel Me” at ClevelandMoto/Pride of Cleveland Scooters learned much about the two-wheelers during their recent sessions with owner Phil Waters.*

took a tour of the shop, learned about the history behind motorcycles/scooters, observed the different make and models of motorcycles/scooters, discussed fabrication, customization, design, repair and maintenance and even got to sit atop a Moto Guzzi California 1400!

Melissa Sattler, a partner at Rosenberg Advertising will be hosting an April 21 meet-up entitled, “What’s MY Brand.” She will be talking about a career in advertising, how establishing a brand applies to you, and why brands are important. And, the role that technology plays with respect to design and creation of an organization’s personality. The event will be from 7-7:40 pm at Rosenberg’s office, 12613 Detroit Ave. Call 216-529-4081 to register or register online at [www.lakewoodrecreation.com](http://www.lakewoodrecreation.com).

The Lakewood Community Recreation & Education Department is working hard to expand opportunities on the educational side of the department for all students. If you know of small business owners that would be interested in hosting a monthly meet-up, please have them contact the Lakewood Community Recreation & Education Department at 216-529-4327.



## PATTERSON'S PERSPECTIVE

continued from page 9

result of the success he has had in school. He is a member of the soccer team.

These are but a few examples of how this community supports a diverse citizenry. Congratulations to all of these young people on their achievements in the United States.

As a school system, we welcome these students who have overcome tremendous adversity to assimilate into our culture and society. Many thanks to our teachers, community, parents, and students for welcoming them and helping them to be successful.

## A Message From Emerson’s Principal, Brian Siftar

*Hello Lakewood Community,*

I am excited about our students taking the initiative of writing for the Lakewood Observer! Please take a moment to read their articles to see all the spectacular things our students are up to! I would like to thank Ms. Betsy Voinovich for coming in and guiding our students in the process of writing. Please contact us if you are interested in visiting our school and seeing our newspaper group in action!

*Brian Siftar, Principal*

*Emerson Elementary School*

## Our Writing Club At Emerson

by Annie Bartos, Molly Burke, and Ava Molinski

Hi, our names are Annie Bartos, Ava Molinski and Molly Burke. Have you ever heard of the Lakewood Observer? Well of course you have because you are reading it right now! Well our school, Emerson Elementary, is where we write the stories for the paper. It is so much fun!!! And the only reason we have it here is because of our wonderful, amazing curriculum/technology teacher, Mr. Spooner.

Our group generates a lot of interesting ideas for stories. Once we are done with a story and are ready to start writing a new one we usually get a group of people in the club and talk about ideas for stories. For example, Writing Club has created

stories for the Lakewood Observer like the D.A.R.E article, Emerson Unicycle Club and the one and only Nutella. We love writing stories for the Lakewood Observer and we hope to do it for awhile.

Writing Club is during lunch time, our lunch starts at 12:30 p.m. The fifth grade had recess first and the fourth graders have lunch first. But we end at the same time (1:15 p.m.). Sometimes Mr. Spooner has meetings so we can only do writing club during fifth grade recess time. Either way we have fun and love to see our articles in the newspaper.

Writing club is so much fun for all of us. We all are so happy to come to this club every Tuesday and Friday. Again, We give thanks to our amazing curriculum/technology teacher, Mr. Spooner.

## E.L.N. ( Emerson’s Latest News)

by Reka Sundem

At Emerson there is a newspaper called E.L.N. There are many articles including: Healthy Eating, Safety, Fashion, Sports, Reminders, etc. We write a newspaper every month. We try to make each newspaper’s articles different every time. We have chosen a few 4th graders to continue E.L.N. next year when we leave Emerson and go on to 6th grade.

We started E.L.N. last year, but it was called Nerd Word. Our teacher, Mrs. Nolan, called us aside to do it, because we finished work quickly. We had less articles including: Healthy Eating, Safety, etc.

The newspaper costs 75 cents. Where the money that raised is going to will be voted on. Students can vote for a Popsicle day, Gym field day, or more recess equipment.

Here is an example of an article from our newspaper:

### Emerson Activity Reminders

by Reka

There are many activities that you might want to remember, because they are fun once-a-week activities. They are:

1. Monday- Unicycle
2. Wednesday- French club, Student council (once a month), Math club, Jump rope
3. Friday- Choir
4. Tuesday & Thursday- Girls On The Run (GOTR)
5. Every day- Tutoring Morning & Afternoon (This is a reminder for both people who are being tutored and people who are tutoring.)

Remember - Go To Your Activity!!!!

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# Lakewood Is Art

## Kill Bills For Will: A Benefit Concert For Willard Guillot IV

by Brandon Gregg

Willard Guillot was born in 1988, in a Lakewood-like suburb of New Orleans, Louisiana called "Chalmette." A people person, lover of light, and a Grateful Dead enthusiast; Willard is a kindhearted, loving man who can always be caught with a smile on his face.

In October of 2012, at the age of 22, Will was diagnosed with mouth and tongue cancer. Through a series of surgeries, Wil-

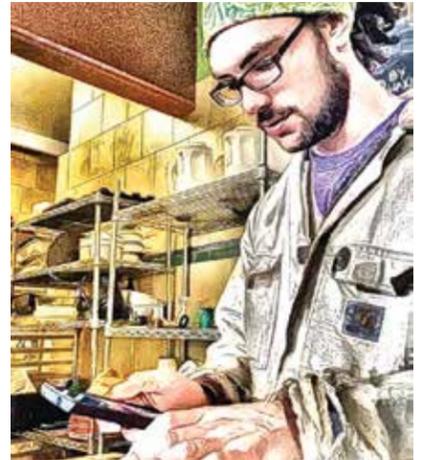
lard thought he had successfully gotten rid of it. But with another stroke of unfortunate luck, Will has once again been handed cancer. In the middle of March, Willard started radiation treatment and will be unable to work until it's over at the beginning of May. To help rid Willard of this financial burden we have started "Kill Bills For Will!" Come out and celebrate the love and life of Willard Guillot IV on April 12th, at Mahall's 20 Lanes 5p.m. - Midnight. The event will

feature local bands, free massages, and pick-a-prize raffles. Mahall's will be forwarding all the money from the ticket sales towards our \$2000 goal. Every dollar after that will be going towards the Lia House, a sober living facility.

Tickets will be sold at the door with a sliding scale of \$10, \$20, \$50 or more.

Featured artists: Matt O'Reilly from Green Escalators, Stacey Pickering, Everett Query, Endo-Orphans, Alone Alone, Outer Space and more!

Raffle Prizes include: Frank Lanza prints, gift baskets from local shops including Googie Style, a date with George Kaull and a local weekend backpacking adventure with naturalist/wilderness expert, Jeremy Hutchinson,



artwork, Jim O'Bryan

Portrait of Willard Guillot IV

One years worth of oil changes, and one wheel alignment from Monro muffler/brake & Service. Norris Family Chiropractic will be donating a 30 minute massage with Lisa Zito, peppermint oil, lavender oil and 4oz of Sombra.

## We Are Not Heavy Metal Gods

### Reviews Of New Releases By Local Bands Part 4

by Buzzy Kompier

*Obligatory Disclaimer: Record reviews are a tricky business. It's one thing to enjoy music, but to, like, pick out what you like about it? That being said, if I review your thing and I didn't like something, don't feel too bad. My opinion doesn't matter all that much.*

*Thomas Jefferson Slave Apartments - Straight To Video - Straight To Video Records - 11 songs - Vinyl*

This is the long-awaited vinyl reissue of this Columbus band's classic 1997 album. The first thing I notice is that either the label liked the album so much, they named themselves after it, or the label was brought to fruition for the specific purpose of rereleasing this album. The truth is anyone's guess. Also, I wasn't sure whether to put "download" in the formats section, as I think the version on iTunes is from the previous issue. Either way, there's your download. So, anyways, the music itself is pretty good garage rock. My favorite tracks were "Outside My Scene," which sort of sounds like a heavier rendition of some Great Plains song (which makes sense, as Ron House was in that band as well) "Rump Government," which has a fantastically catchy chorus, and "Question Mark Curls," with its somewhat enigmatic romantic lyrics, and music that sort of sounds like a more garage-y version of latter-day Replacements. Again, the whole album is full of great garage rock stompers, but what adds another level to the whole thing is Ron House's fantastic, and certainly unique, voice. Though the songs are great on their own, and have great musicianship from Bob Pet-

ric and co., it definitely wouldn't be the same without those vocals. Overall, I'd recommend this for any fans of good garage punk. 4/5

*Various Artists - Short Shorts Volume 1 - Phoenician MicroSystems - 12 songs - Vinyl, download*

This is a pretty cool idea. A cooperatively-produced sampler of local people doing songs that, at the longest, clock in at one minute and eighteen seconds. What I'm getting at is that they're all short, hence the title. The music itself is pretty darn eclectic, so you'll probably like at least one song on this. As for me, my personal favorites were the surf-grunge-y "Brother Of The Hangman" by Swirly In The Fryer, the garage punk "Banned From Nunzios" by Woolly Bullies, and the kinda indescribable - let's go with "alternative" - "Drone" by Another Mother's Milk. If none of that sounds cool, there's also more straightforward punk, metal, and one weird techno (?) track. Charles at My Mind's Eye tells me that this is a Lakewood label as well, so that's pretty cool. If nothing I just said floats your boat, it's worth checking out for the liner notes alone, which feature wonderful descriptions of the songs like "proof that living close to a nuclear power plant is safer than fuck!" and "Seriously, why my goddamned face?" 4.5/5

*Are you a local-ish band? Do you have a record out? Email vaguelythreatening@gmail.com or send it directly to Observer headquarters at 14900 Detroit Avenue, Suite 205, Lakewood, OH 44107, c/o John Kompier.*

**COMMUNITY WORKS**

## Women to Watch - Ohio

**On view: April 2 - May 2, 2015**

**Public Opening Reception:** Thursday, April 2, 6-8pm  
cia.edu/womentowatch

**Panel Discussion with the artists:** Friday, April 10, 12:15pm

**The Artists:** Above, from left, Lauren Yeager, Christi Birchfield, Hildur Ásgeirsdóttir Jónsson, Mimi Kato, and Eva Kwong

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# Easter Worship

## Community Baptisms Offered At Faith

by Mark Rollenhagen

“Child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.” -- from the Lutheran Book of Worship.

Do you know someone who would like to be baptized or would like to have their child or grandchild baptized but doesn't know where to go or how to go about it?

Maybe they're not strongly attached to a Christian community or maybe they've been told baptism is for members only.

In celebrating the resurrection of Jesus Christ this Easter, Faith Lutheran Church is offering baptism to all people who want to be baptized or want their child baptized. The community baptisms will be offered on Saturday, April 4, as part of an Easter Vigil focused on celebrating new life offered in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus.

Offering the promise of God's grace through the act of baptism is at the core of the Christian faith. It is an action that binds people to Christ,

to God, forever. The Lutheran understanding is that baptism is God's work and not dependent on the actions, qualifications or worthiness of the person being baptized. That's why Lutherans baptize infants.

The baptism rite includes statements of faith in the triune God --Father, Son and Holy Spirit -- and commitments by those being baptized or their parents or loved ones, as well as commitments by the Christians gathered for the service.

The community baptism service will begin at 6:30 p.m. and last about

45 minutes to an hour, with scripture, simple songs and the baptisms. A celebration with desserts and refreshments will follow. All are welcome to attend and participate in worship.

People who would like to be baptized or would like their children baptized, should contact Pastor Mark Rollenhagen in advance by calling Faith at 216-226-6500 or e-mailing him at pastor@faithlakewood.org.

Faith is located at 16511 Hilliard Road (across from Harding Middle School) in Lakewood and online at faithlakewood.org.

## Holy Week Services

Church of the Ascension  
13216 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood  
www.ascension-lakewood.org

God loves you.  
No exceptions

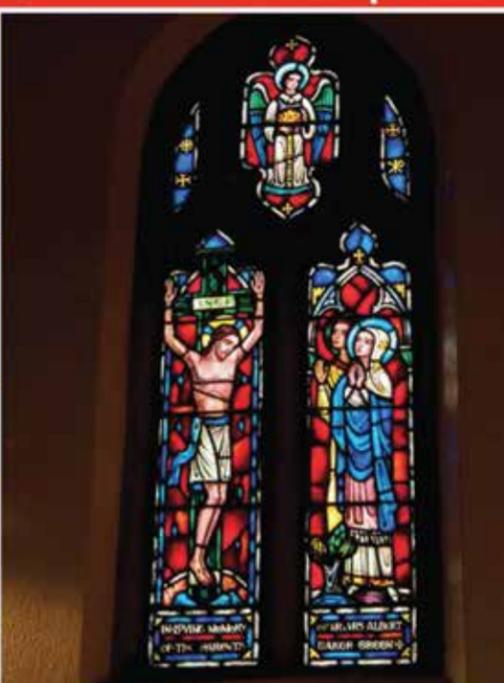
Palm Sunday  
Service  
March 29, 2015  
10:30 a.m.

Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord!

Maundy Thursday  
Service  
April 2, 2015  
7:30 p.m.

I give you a new commandment:  
Love one another as I have loved  
you.

Good Friday  
Service  
April 3, 2015  
7:30 p.m.



It is finished!

Easter Service - 10:30 a.m.

Alleluia! Christ is Risen.

Join us for an Easter egg hunt following Easter service



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Maundy Thursday, April 2

7 p.m. Chapel Worship  
Tenebrae Worship with Holy Communion

Easter Celebration, April 5

10 a.m. Worship  
Inspirational Message & Music  
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Thursday, April 2 at 8:00pm • FREE!

Easter Egg Hunt Saturday, April 4 at 2:00pm  
Easter Service Sunday, April 5 at 10:00am



Spaghetti Dinner April 18 Saturday 4:30-6:30pm.  
Tickets \$10 Adults, ages 5-12. \$5.  
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# Easter Celebration

SUNDAY APRIL 5TH AT 10:00AM & 11:30AM

Lakewood New Life Church / 15300 Detroit ave / 216-221-6174 / lakewoodnewlifechurch.org

# Easter Worship

## 'Three Hours' Good Friday Service Returns To Faith

by Mark Rollenhagen

A Good Friday afternoon service returns to Faith Lutheran Church this Holy Week. The service, known as the Tres Horae ("Three Hours") Solemn Service, begins at noon and ends at 3 p.m. on April 3.

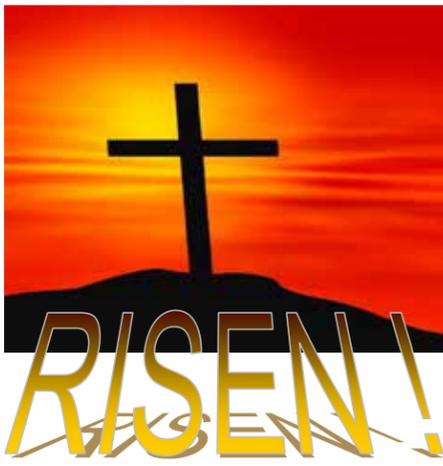
People may come and go as they need throughout the service, which includes scripture, reflections, prayers and music focusing on Seven Words from Cross.

Faith has not offered the service since 2011, but it returns as a joint community offering by PLUM (Presbyterians, Lutherans, and United Methodists

together in ministry). PLUM includes Grace Presbyterian, Faith Lutheran, and Calvary United Methodist Churches, who are neighbors near the intersection of Madison Avenue and Hilliard Road in southwest Lakewood.

PLUM also offers people in the community help with basic needs through coordinated pantries of food and personal care items and a free clothing for children. This summer PLUM will be working with Lakewood Alive to provide home repair and maintenance help in the community.

For more information, call any of the churches or find them online.



**Easter Play - Risen!**

Song and testimonials of praise from those who witnessed His glory!

**Friday, April 3, 2015  
7:00pm**

Lakewood Seventh-Day Adventist Church  
1382 Arthur Avenue  
(behind Taco Bell)  
Lakewood, OH

Come and join us in celebrating Jesus Christ Victor over sin and death!



**Come as you are**  
Lakewood Presbyterian Church  
14502 Detroit Avenue • www.lakewoodpresbyterian.org  
Come celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

**Holy Week and Easter Sunday**

Palm Sunday March 29th at 10:30 a.m.  
Joyful Children's Palm Procession | Sermon: "Legitimate Extravagance"

Maudy Thursday April 2nd at 7:30 p.m.  
Sacrament of Holy Communion | Sermon: "Ease of Betrayal"

Easter Sunday Service April 5th at 10:30 a.m.  
Holy Communion | Hymns and Choral Music | Sermon: "Your Very Own Road to Emmaus"



**Holy Week at Lakewood ANGLICAN**

March 29 - Palm Sunday, 4 PM  
March 30 - Tenebrae, 7 PM  
April 2 - Maudy Thursday, 7 PM  
April 3 - Stations of the Cross, 3 PM  
April 3 - Good Friday Service, 5 PM  
April 4 - The Easter Vigil, 3 PM

All Lakewood Anglican services take place at Gethsemane Lutheran Church, 14560 Madison Avenue  
For more information visit [lakewoodanglican.com](http://lakewoodanglican.com)



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Join us for Holy Week gatherings....  
Maudy Thursday Service — 6:45pm April 2  
— beginning with Mediterranean appetizers  
Good Friday walk — noon April 3  
— beginning at Lincoln Park gazebo  
Easter Worship Service — 10:30am April 5  
— enjoy various Easter breads at coffee hour

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**HOLY WEEK AND EASTER AT TRINITY CATHEDRAL**

**PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 29**  
The Very Rev. Tracey Lind, preaching  
8 a.m. Early Eucharist  
9 a.m. Mostly Jazz Mass  
11:15 a.m. Choral Eucharist

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1**  
6 p.m. Tenebrae Service  
Couperin: Leçons de ténèbres  
Margaret Carpenter and Madeline Apple Healey, sopranos

**MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 2**  
12:10 p.m. Healing & Eucharist Service  
6 p.m. Last Supper, Potluck, Garden of Rest and All-Night Vigil

**GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 3**  
12 p.m. Solemn Liturgy  
1 p.m. Good Friday Blues & Lamentations  
Music by the Gateway Band  
1 p.m. Children's Good Friday Program  
(Childcare available 12 – 2 p.m.)  
7:30 p.m. Good Friday Concert  
J.S. Bach: Passion According to St. John  
Trinity Cathedral Choir and the Trinity Consort  
Todd Wilson, conductor

**EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 5**  
6 a.m. The Great Vigil of Easter  
The Very Rev. Tracey Lind, preaching  
9 a.m. Contemporary Festival Eucharist  
Music by the Gateway Band  
The Very Rev. Tracey Lind, preaching  
10:10 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt for children grades preK-5  
11:15 a.m. Festival Eucharist  
The Trinity Cathedral Choir with brass and timpani  
The Rt. Rev. Mark Hollingsworth, Jr., preaching

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# Lakewood Cares

## “Eagles On Foot” Race Brings Lakewood And Haiti Together

by Mike Deneen

At first glance, the City of Lakewood and the nation of Haiti have very little in common. Lakewood enjoys a high standard of living, and has won many awards for its livability. Haiti, on the other hand, is the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere. A catastrophic 2010 earthquake made things even worse, killing over 100,000 residents and destroying much of the nation’s infrastructure.

Despite the contrasts, one strong link exists between the two communities. In 2007 Lakewood’s St. Edward High School became sister schools with Basil Moreau School, located in the Carrefour neighborhood of Port au Prince, Haiti. Both institutions are sponsored by the Congregation of Holy Cross, which was founded in 1837 by Father Anthony Basil Moreau. Both institutions had the same educational philosophies, but their access to resources was starkly different. A partnership was formed to help raise resources for Basil Moreau School, which serves children from kinder-

garten through 12th grade in one of the poorest areas of the country. The St. Edward community hosted its first “Eagles of Foot” 5K race in 2009, raising money for Basil Moreau.

Basil Moreau School was devastated by the 2010 earthquake, which leveled its entire building. However, the community rallied to keep the school open. A new school building was constructed, and the school has grown to over 1,000 students. Through assistance from other Holy Cross institutions, the school has added computer labs and upgraded its curriculum.

The St. Edward community has played a key role in the project, raising over \$50,000 at its annual “Eagles on Foot” races. Liam Haggerty, Vice President of Mission Effectiveness at St. Edward, believes that his school has gotten a lot out of the partnership, too. “It’s at the very heart of what our mission is about,” he says, referring to St. Edward’s dedication to servant leadership, which is a Christ-like commitment to genuine leadership through service to others. Relation-

ships are another key pillar of the St. Edward mission. “Relationships are important,” Haggerty says, “We have them here in Lakewood, and around the world.”

St. Edward will host its seventh annual “Eagles on Foot” event on Saturday, April 18. The event includes a 5K race and one mile walk, with proceeds benefiting Basil Moreau School. Cost is \$20 in advance, \$25 day of race. Packet pick-up will begin at 8am on Race Day at St. Ed’s, and the 5K will begin at 9:30 a.m. For more information on “Eagles on Foot” or to register online, visit [www.sehs.net](http://www.sehs.net).

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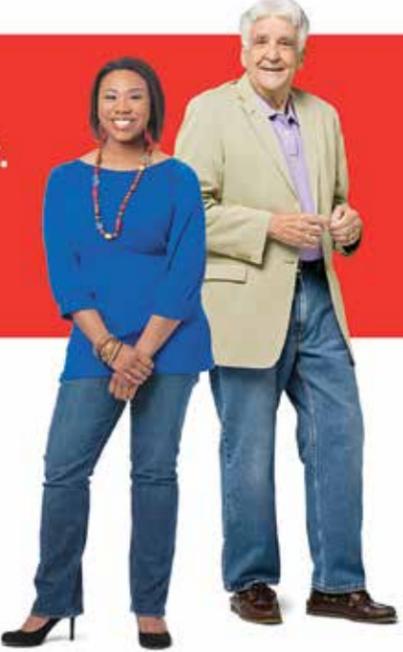
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## Opinion

# Select Few To Decide Healthcare In Lakewood?

by Jared Denman

Hospitals occupy a unique place in human experience. They are the backdrop for life and death, joyful anticipation and sorrowful loss. Perhaps because they are where we experience these mysteries, hospitals seem imbued with an otherworldly quality. It's small wonder that hospitals are etched into our emotional memories.

Our hospital has seen generations come and go and its walls have witnessed much unbridled laughter as well as whispered prayers. Will it be retired to a pile of gray stone and mortar? Who will make this decision?

Many developments in the proposal between the Lakewood Hospital Association (LHA) and the Cleveland Clinic to raze the current hospital making way for a new Clinic-owned and -operated Family Health Center have come to light in the past month. The details of the plan were outlined in a January Letter of Intent that essentially would have all \$158 million of hospital assets ceded to the Clinic in exchange for approximately \$75 million that would be paid to a new non-profit entity charged with "wellness" in Lakewood.

LHA trustees and board members maintain the Clinic's assertion that the hospital is worth no more than \$24 million after all liabilities are settled. However, financial details of the plan have been released only with persistent questioning. Coupled with the LHA's track record of allowing services to be farmed out to Fairview Hospital, the fact that this closure has been contemplated behind closed doors for at least two years with scarce public notice, the recent revelation by Senator Skindell that the final deal hammering out the details of the plan has already been drafted in contradiction to what City and Hospital officials have been saying, and the lack of basic due diligence such as obtaining more than the quote offered by the buyer, has put Lakewood citizens on high alert.

It has also led City and LHA officials into some awkward conversations. One LHA official informed me that the Hospital was actually not being "sold" to the Clinic but was merely being "transferred" since the Clinic is also a private non-profit.

However, the proposed plan must be approved by City Council. City Finance Director Jennifer Pae addressed details of the current deal between the City and the LHA in a recent communication: "On January 5, 1987, City Council approved an agreement which resulted in the transfer of all real and personal property of the Hospital to the Lakewood Hospital Association. The agreement resulted in the City of Lakewood transferring all liabilities, debts, monies, accounts, and inventories of the Hospital so that operations would continue... As part of the agreement, the Lakewood Hospital Association agreed to pay in each year the amount necessary to satisfy debt service on the Hospital's outstanding debt. While the City retains title

to all assets and the Association debt is pledged by the full faith, credit and general revenues of the City."

If it was true that the LHA owned outright the physical plant and real estate of the hospital, then City Council's approval would not be required. This begs the question: Is the City, and therefore every tax-paying Lakewood resident, being cut out of a multi-million dollar deal for lack of a voice?

While it remains an open question whether the days of having our own hospital have passed, there resides in that space an opportunity to create something new, perhaps something never thought of before. A model of health care inspired by the desire to help those who are hurting and that challenges the current paradigm of insurance companies and HMOs, perhaps.

Accepting that the assumptions in the proposed deal are correct and that the Clinic is the best (or only) buyer in the market leaves the matter of the \$75 million that is to be handed over to a new non-profit charged with "wellness."

Setting aside for a minute the nebulous heading of "wellness" that could mean quite a range of things for different people depending on demographic factors, is the crucial question: who exactly gets to determine what is done with what is essentially public monies derived from the sale of a public asset?

The scuttlebutt around town ranges from a recreation center to soccer fields. Based on a January 21 presentation given to the Lakewood Hospital Community Advisory Council, the Active Living Task Force seems interested in the job. But what qualification does this group possess to determine the agenda of "wellness" in Lakewood and to receive \$75 million of taxpayer money to accomplish it? What exactly is the Active Living Task Force proposing? Why haven't these plans been announced publicly? Are there plans for a vetting process that consider other institutions or ideas of how to use the \$75 million which culminate in a public vote? What sort of oversight controls will be in place?

Do we need more yoga studios? There are plenty of studies that show a strong correlation between flexibility and core strength and reduced falls in our older citizens; falls which have high degrees of morbidity and mortality. Does that qualify? What about an indoor pool? Oh, wait, I can pay \$40 a month at the Lakewood YMCA and also have access to great fitness programming, it's centrally located, and wouldn't use money from a public resource.

No matter what, the decision regarding what should be done with the proceeds of the sale of the hospital should be made by the community after thoughtful debate and not just by an elite group. To allow this would be to repeat the mistake --once again entrusting essentially the same private non-profit body that hobbled the hospital in the first place-- with the public good.

## END-OF-LIFE CARE SHOULDN'T BE A LAST MINUTE DECISION.

April 16 is **National Healthcare Decisions Day**. You may have never heard of it, but it's just as important as the tax deadline that comes the day before. It's a day devoted to educating and empowering you to make your healthcare choices known should you become unable to speak for yourself. By making these choices now, you're giving your loved ones the gift of peace of mind.

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## Letters To The Editor

# Lakewood Hospital Closing???

*Dear Lakewood City Council Members,*

I'm not one to normally pick up the pen and write about such matters, but I cannot let this go without saying something. I've lived and worked in Lakewood for most of my life. I live in the home that I grew up in, which will be 100 years old this year. It's been in my family for 50 years and we are only the second surname to own it. I run the administrative side of a 102-year-old manufacturing company here in Lakewood and have worked there for 38 years. I love this town for its diversity of people, convenience, offerings of restaurants, churches, city services, school system, parks, libraries, and yes our hospital.

I know I do not have all of the facts before me about Lakewood Hospital's proposed closing. However, what I do know is that a lot of what I've heard so far just does not add up.

Lakewood Hospital, when the clinic took over, was a thriving hospital, otherwise, why would the Clinic have wanted to enter into that agreement in the first place? You also can't tell me that hospitals are not still thriving or the Cleveland Clinic would not be building a brand new hospital in Avon. The reason for the Hospital's closing is being sold to us as "they are losing money" and "the future of medicine is changing, going towards more preventative health care". If Lakewood Hospital is now losing money, who was steering the ship when this was happening, that would be the Cleveland Clinic. If our business would start selling off our profitable lines,

we too would no longer be able to exist as a business. So when the Clinic started dismantling the hospital over time, sending profitable departments elsewhere, Pediatrics, the Pain Center and Trauma Center, what would you expect to happen?

I can understand that medicine is changing and the way it is delivered. As a business we deal with this every day trying to do what is best for our employees and deliver an affordable health care plan. I am not convinced that with this change in medicine that the citizens of Lakewood will not have the need to be hospitalized any longer. Yet the citizens of Avon, who live just to our west, must not be practicing preventative medicine because a brand new 120 bed hospital is being built there by the same entity that's driven our hospital into supposed insolvency, the Clinic.

How can this be? I know a large part of the existing physical structure of the Hospital is old and I'm sure expensive to operate. Our business is 102-years-old, we deal with the same mechanical and structural issues every day. So I can see where a possible change would be needed to improve infrastructure and technology, but if you're tearing down the existing building any ways, why not incorporate hospital beds and keep our 108-year-old hospital intact. If as many beds won't be needed in the future, build it with fewer beds. Why did a new hospital have to be built in a totally different community when one already existed here? Look at the density of population in Lakewood and the immediate

surrounding area compared to Avon.

So now our city has on the table the possibility of entering into a new agreement with the same entity, the Clinic, with whom we already have an agreement to operate our city-owned hospital, for a given number of years, which would relinquish them of this responsibility of managing this facility for the remainder of those years. The new agreement would then make the Clinic the owners and operators of their own "preventative health care facility" on what would then be former city land. Would you really want to enter this kind of business deal with the same entity that ran our 108 year old hospital into insolvency? Sounds like a pretty sweet deal for the Clinic.

Maybe I'm painting a bad picture of the Clinic, don't get me wrong, I think we as citizens are very lucky to have the world renowned Clinic facility in Cleveland. They have many accomplishments in the fields of medicine. I, however, do not feel that they have done their due diligence pertaining to their commitment they had made to the citizens of Lakewood

and surrounding areas to run and operate our hospital. It also appears that they have steered the ship in the direction they wanted it to go to best serve their interests apparently backing our city administrators into a corner with nowhere to go other than the direction the Clinic wants.

As our council people, I ask that you look long and hard at this agreement. Where is the lost tax revenue that the hospital generates going to come from? Where will our citizens, who I know will not all be saved from preventative medicine go when hospitalization is necessary? If Lakewood Hospital is gone, which has always been one of our strongest assets and made this city so attractive, how will this affect future families looking for a place to live? Have you reached out to the people of Lakewood who voted for school levy after school levy to support rebuilding our school buildings, because they know the value of these institutions in our city, to see how they truly feel about this? Is there no other way?

Thank you for your service to our city.

*Sincerely,  
Jeff Snyder*

## Lakewood Hospital Is Not Dead Yet!

*by Bob Soltis*

Like the good knight did for his servant Patsy shot with an arrow in the 1975 movie Monty Python and the Holy Grail, many people have assumed it's all over for Lakewood Hospital. Despite what the Cleveland Clinic and Mayor Summers would have you believe, Lakewood Hospital is alive and well.

As I said at the public forum on March 10, a decision-maker has to have all of the facts. Although the City Council's consultant has yet to review the situation or give its expertise, too many have already pronounced the hospital terminally ill or even dead.

Yogi Berra put it this way: "It ain't over until it's over." Although the hospital building is in good shape and a 35 percent increase in job growth is expected in Lakewood, the Clinic and the Mayor insist the hospital is unsustainable. The naysayers claim "Geography (the lake) limits us to the North." "Lakewoodites don't go to Lakewood Hospital." "The trend is away from inpatient services."

Such limiting beliefs belie the facts. As a retired administrative law judge who spent the majority of his work day the last three years deciding whether Medicare will pay for inpatient hospital services, I can tell you that inpatient services aren't quite dead yet, either; the hearing backlog of inpatient hospital claims is public knowledge. As for the argument that Lakewoodites don't go to Lakewood Hospital, the Cleveland Clinic already moved cardiology services to Fairview Hospital, and as one woman put it at the public forum, Cleveland Clinic didn't make it easy to admit her mother to Lakewood Hospital.

The Clinic has been pulling the rug out from under Lakewood Hospi-

tal for quite some time; for example, as of January 2014, it transferred inpatient screening services to Westlake. If you really want to do something, you'll find a way; if you don't, you'll find an excuse. We've had enough of the Clinic's and of Mayor Summers' excuses and the lack of transparency.

Instead of treating the hospital like a white elephant, let's make it a way to wellness. Change its name to Lakewood Medical Center to describe and encompass its wellness mission. Another speaker at the forum suggested using some of the empty beds for inpatient mental health. The Lakewood Hospital Association could reach out to the VA so veterans don't have to go all the way to the East side. The RTA has its Cleveland Clinic line heading east; we can say "Go West for Wellness to Lakewood Medical Center." Put bike racks in front of the hospital to encourage healthy habits, decrease pollution, and decrease congestion.

We can also reach out to other potential suitors. It's our hospital, not Cleveland Clinic's hospital - and it's not Mayor Summers' hospital either.

This situation is an excellent opportunity for you to keep Lakewood a great place to live and work. How? Attend our 4 p.m. meetings at the Lakewood Library on Saturday, April 11 and Sunday, April 19. Write a letter or send a postcard to your council member; you can get the addresses on the Save Lakewood Hospital website [www.savelakewoodhospital.org](http://www.savelakewoodhospital.org).

In the Navy, we lived by "Don't give up the ship." Let's not give up on our hospital, either.

*Lakewood resident Bob Soltis is a scientist, a former Navy Judge Advocate, and a retired federal administrative law judge.*

## An Open Letter To Winter

*Dear Mr. Winter,*

As I look out my window, I see flakes of snow falling to the ground. It is March 27, and although spring is about a week old, you insist on letting us know that you have not given up your cold icy grip. As a matter of fact, this weekend is supposed to be very cold, with high temperatures barely in the 20s and wind chills even more brutal. You must understand, it is not the snow that offends me. Lord knows Cleveland often sees the white stuff well into April. Who can forget the home opener in 2007, when we had so much snow the next series was moved to Milwaukee. Yes Milwaukee, not exactly known for its tropical breezes and blazing sunshine. The record snowfall was set in the winter of 2004-2005, when we received 117.9 inches. The last measurable amount that year was April 24, and we had trace amounts on May 2-3-4 that year.

I have lived in Cleveland all but 2 of my 60 years, most of them in Lakewood. For the past 23 years I have lived in an apartment along the shores of Lake Erie. I love witnessing the daily changes that take place on the tenth largest lake in the world. We had a few days in the last few weeks when the temperature "soared" into the 40s and 50s. The ice was beginning to melt. Not completely, but enough to give one hope. Heck, even one day the winds were so vigor-

ous out of the south that there was no trace of it, except for the ice clinging to the shoreline. It seems that it had been sent back to Canada, where it belongs. The inevitable happened, and the north wind pushed the ice back southward to the waters just outside my window. And now the cold has returned and the slush has turned back into the tundra. In the 23 years I have lived along the lake I do not ever remember the ice lasting into April, which given the forecast for the next few days, it surely will. Those of us who live along the lake know what that means. When Betsy Kling or Jeff Tanchak gives us the forecast saying, "Temps will be in the 60s today, except cooler along the lake!" So even though the people in Parma and Olmsted Falls will be toasty, at about 1 o'clock, the winds will come from the north at those of us along the lake, and we will be lucky to make it out of the 40s, in May.

So please Mr. Winter, ease up a little. The frigid February was bad enough with wind chills approaching 30 below and highs not even reaching 5 degrees, many of us think we can't take anymore! To paraphrase a song made famous by Diana Ross and the Supremes, "Let me go why don't you babe, get out of my life why don't you babe, I don't really need you, you just keep on hanging on, ooo ooo ooo!"

*Your frosty, frozen friend,  
Tom Lahey*

# Home & Garden

## Radon Gas - Be Aware Not Scared

by Michelle Mehaffey Taylor

Radon is still a mystery to many homeowners and new buyers. Some may be aware that it is something to be concerned about, but not exactly sure how it can affect their family's health. It's important to know the facts and safety measures.

### Understanding what radon is

Radon is a tasteless, odorless, invisible gas—which comes from the natural breakdown of uranium in soil, rock, and water. If this happens out in the open, the radon quickly dissipates and poses no risk. The problem arises when radon gets trapped inside a structure. Radon levels can build up to a point where they are dangerous for humans. In fact, radon gas is considered the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States. According to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), radon contamination causes nearly 20,000 deaths a year.

### Radon Testing in Lakewood

The EPA considers any homes

with results 4.0 picocuries per liter or higher, at risk. Lakewood fairs better than other west shore communities with radon scores. "Lakewood has relatively lower readings with only 25% of homes averaging over 4.0 – these are primarily homes in northwest Lakewood where the soil is soft and has more sand. The remaining 75% test in the safe range, which tend to be homes in the southern, and eastern borders of the city. That area has a hard, clay soil," says John Larto, a licensed Inspector with Bowman Home Inspection. Homeowners and buyers alike should consider Radon testing. When you are purchasing, a licensed Radon Inspector can test at the time of your general home inspection. This typically takes 48-96 hours with results to you within 24 hours. Current owners can pick up a radon test kit at Lakewood Hardware. The simple do-it-yourself tests are affordable, reliable, and require minimum set-up. It is recommended

that owners repeat Radon tests every few years, and when the soil has been disturbed from remodeling or new construction.

### What to do about Radon

If your results are 4.0 or higher, check with the Ohio EPA for a list of qualified mitigation contractors. While some of the solutions are simple, it is not a DIY job. If you don't do it right, you might actually increase the level of radon, or compromise the air quality in your house. A radon mitigation contractor will be able to tell you what kind of radon control system will be most effective for your home. Most of the systems range in cost from

\$900 to \$1,500. The mitigation system itself is a pipe placed into your foundation which extends to the roof of the home. A fan draws the radon up from the ground, and out to the top of the pipe, where it becomes diluted with the outside air. Your contractor will be able to explain maintenance of the system, and tips for keeping your home safe, such as continually checking for, and sealing up, cracks in your foundation.

Michelle Mehaffey-Taylor is a Lakewood resident and licensed Realtor with Keller Williams EZ Sales Team - Michelle@EZSalesTeam.com; MyLakewoodLiving.com.



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# Home & Garden

## AHHH! What's Happening To Our Big Trees?!

by John Palmer

I'm sure that's been a major topic of conversation the past few weeks. As an arborist who loves big trees, I understand the sentiment. In hopes of dispelling rumors, let me get some answers straight from the horse's mouth (my apologies).

Chris Perry, ISA Certified Arborist and Public Works Unit Manager was the City's representative on the Tree Task Force I served on. He was an invaluable resource for us, and a tireless advocate for bigger trees and a larger, healthier, and more diverse tree canopy. For what it's worth, I have a high degree of confidence in his stewardship of our tree canopy's present and future. That being said, when I contacted him about trying to help citizens understand the what and why of tree removals, he responded in great detail. Here are some of his thoughts:

"I can assure you that all the trees that we will remove this year are in a serious state of decline and that the need and strategy to remove is well thought out and measured. We do not remove healthy trees. We actually identify trees with structural defects that can be pruned to make safe and retain ecological services citywide on a much more consistent basis than removals. Last year we addressed over 40 trees with structural defects on Clifton Blvd



Another massive tree removal on Clifton Blvd.

alone to help prolong the life of certain trees."

"We have had trees on Clifton literally explode and/or break apart from multiple canopy structural defects in sever storm events, yet the bottom 20-25 feet of the trunks had little or no decay present."

The process of identifying "at risk" trees is complex, with the only way of being relatively sure is to do an "autopsy" after the tree is cut down. Obviously, that's not a good way to retain a sizable tree canopy. As an

ISA Tree Risk Assessment Qualified arborist, I understand the challenges. Chris is quite right when he says, "In regard to oak trees, the condition of a stump does not always tell the story of what was discovered or observed in the upper portion of the main leader, weak/rotting branch attachments or the canopy condition as a whole."

You might remember that 3 years ago, about 20 hazardous trees on Clifton were removed. Unfortunately, many of the trees on Clifton are nearing the end of their healthy life. In urban environments, trees simply do not live as long due to much harsher conditions. As a result, municipal arborists need to be proactive. Chris continues:

"We identify and keep an inventory of potential hazard trees and rank them accordingly for strategic removals each year to strike the proper balance of a safe, growing and much more diverse tree canopy along Clifton Blvd., and citywide as well."

There are currently 123 large oaks on Clifton, and the City has an inventory of trees based on size, so they can keep an eye on the next generation of large trees in Lakewood. You will continue to see a few large at-risk trees removed each year by the City over the next few years due to identified defects and concerns, but no wholesale removals like we just witnessed.

15 of these newly vacant sites will be re-planted this spring. A few will have to wait until fall. A couple of the sites can't be replanted due to utility conflicts.

Under Chris' guidance, since 2013, all new Clifton trees are planted at least 5-feet off of center to allow more canopy space at maturity in relation to utility lines, rather than directly underneath as was done in the past.

"Please note that all the big trees along Clifton were already at their current height when the utility lines that you see today were installed in 1962, after Clifton was widened from a 4-lane road to a 6-lane road in the late 1950s. At that time the big trees were 'limbed up' to create space for the new power lines underneath the highest branches."

We've all see the damage structurally unsound trees can do when storms role in. Due to Chris' leadership, we will have a safer, healthier, and more diverse tree canopy in the coming years, and even decades. This may be a hard time to be a tree person in Lakewood, but our children, grandchildren, and future Lakewood residents may well look back on this time and commend us for our willingness to do what was necessary to maintain Lakewood as truly a City of Trees.

*John Palmer is an ISA Certified Arborist and member of the Keep Lakewood Beautiful Tree Committee.*

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# Lakewood Observed

## Kauffman Park Friends

# Snow Sculpting Contest Melts Away

by Meg Ostrowski

There was plenty of snow for this year's Kauffman Park Friends Snow Sculpting Contest! Fourteen artists braved below normal temperatures this winter to build eight spectacular sculptures. Individuals, families, teams, businesses and organizations

were invited to participate by sculpting snow creations in the park and submitting photos of their work. The first ten artists enjoyed hot beverages compliments of The Root Café and each artist was eligible for a raffle drawing. Prizes included tickets to an upcoming show at Beck Center for the Arts and extra

large pizzas from Roman Fountain.

Lakewood designer, Deb Riddle and Lakewood artist, Jill Milenski judged the entries submitted in three categories.

The Best Individual sculpture award went to Bridget Jablonski for her colorful pony "Rainbow Dash." The Best Fam-

ily sculpture award went to The Banfield Family for their "Snow Lion" with its grassy mane and the Best Team sculpture award went to fourth graders, Julia Kompier and Rosie Lipka for their blue spotted "Snow Leopard." Other sculptures included "Snow Car," "Snow Kitty," "Sam the Snowman," "Snow Octopus" and "Snow Hugs." You can view them all at [kauffmanparkfriends.org](http://kauffmanparkfriends.org).

Thank you to The Root Café, Beck Center for the Arts and Roman Fountain Pizza for their generous donations, to Adkins Printing, LakewoodAlive, Lakewood Chamber of Commerce, Lakewood Public Library, Lakewood YMCA and The Lakewood Observer for promotional support, to judges Deb Riddle and Jill Milenski and to all of the participants.



"Rainbow Dash" won the Best Individual sculpture award.

## LakewoodAlive Hires Mark McNamara For Community Engagement Position

by Ken Brand

LakewoodAlive is excited to announce that Mark McNamara was hired on March 9, 2015 as the organization's first part-time Community Engager. As a component of LakewoodAlive's Housing Outreach efforts, the Community Engagement Program will bring attention to the Birdtown and Scenic Park neighborhoods that are in need of a special focus. Mark will be responsible for working with Lakewood residents in those neighborhoods, as well as with community partners, to strengthen and engage residents to ultimately grow community pride and to provide access to resources.

This will be done through activities like workshops, community meals, resource fairs and one-on-one inter-

actions that will improve health and safety in our neighborhoods through home improvements and increased interactions with available community resources. Work is primarily with low- to moderate-income residents and is intended to strengthen Lakewood's housing stock by facilitating exterior improvements, abating code violations, and connecting residents to resources to help them remain in their home and stabilize Lakewood's neighborhoods.

Mark, a Lakewood resident, is married to Meghan and has two children Quinn and Deirdre. Along with his love for old homes and a strong community, he is a passionate youth baseball coach. He's been at the helm of the Weasels team for the past twelve years.

"I am most looking forward to

connecting with the people in the Birdtown and Scenic Park neighborhoods," he recently stated. "This city is so rich in culture and tradition and I look forward to helping these neighborhoods grow and thrive."

Mark graduated from St. Edward High School and Cleveland State University. He later worked for (and retired from) the Cuyahoga County Department of Children and Family Services where he was a social worker dealing with child abuse, neglect and adoptions.

To contact Mark, please email him at [mmcnamara@lakewoodalive.com](mailto:mmcnamara@lakewoodalive.com) or call 216-659-2204.

For more information about LakewoodAlive and the Housing Outreach Program, please visit [LakewoodAlive.com](http://LakewoodAlive.com) or call 216-521-0655.

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## LAKEWOOD OLD HOUSE FAIR

SATURDAY APRIL 18, 10AM - 3PM  
HARDING MIDDLE SCHOOL  
Over 50 exhibitors, plumbers, carpenters, electricians, contractors, masons, landscapers, painters, plasterers, Everything you need to keep your Lakewood home in shape!

**SEMINARS!!!**  
**Property Value 101:**  
Impact of Repairing & Renovating Your Home from 11:00-12:00pm  
This workshop will be led by William J. Gaydos, SRA, from William J. Gaydos & Assoc., LLC. The workshop will focus on educating homeowners on what property value actually is, how numbers are calculated and insight into home repairs that create and improve value. This is a workshop that can't be missed!

**Everything You Need to Know About Energy Audits from 12:15-1:15pm**  
A GoodCents Building Performance Institute (BPI) certified auditor will discuss the benefits of having an energy audit completed on your home.

**How to Contract A Repair 1:30-2:30pm**  
Allison Urbanek, Housing Outreach Director at LakewoodAlive will present a workshop on the best practices of contracting a repair. She will provide participants with helpful information that will make the chore of contracting a repair into an informed, easy process. This workshop will highlight the necessary steps to get things done correctly the first time, saving time and money.

**OLD HOUSE FAIR 2015**

Don't forget to mark your calendars for this free event that will save you time and money!  
Make sure to like the Lakewood Old House Fair on facebook to get updates on participants and workshops.  
Thank you to Lakewood Hardware, The Lakewood Observer, Planet Care and the many volunteers who help to make this event a success each year.  
We look forward to seeing you at the fair!

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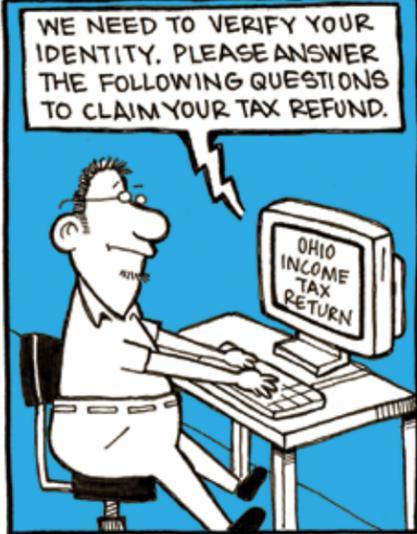
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# The Back Page

## LAKEWOODITES



## ROB MASEK



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**Sunday**  
2pm - 1:30am  
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PIZZA	Small 6 cut - 9"	Medium 8 cut - 12"	Large 12 cut - 16"	Party Tray Half Sheet
Plain	\$6.50	\$8.00	\$10.50	\$11.50
1 Item	\$7.00	\$8.75	\$11.50	\$13.00
2 Items	\$7.50	\$9.50	\$12.50	\$14.50
3 Items	\$8.00	\$10.25	\$13.50	\$16.00
4 Items	\$8.50	\$11.00	\$14.50	\$17.50
Deluxe	\$9.00	\$11.75	\$15.50	\$19.00
Extra Items	\$0.50	\$0.75	\$1.00	\$1.50
Extra Cheese	\$1.00	\$1.50	\$2.00	\$2.50

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