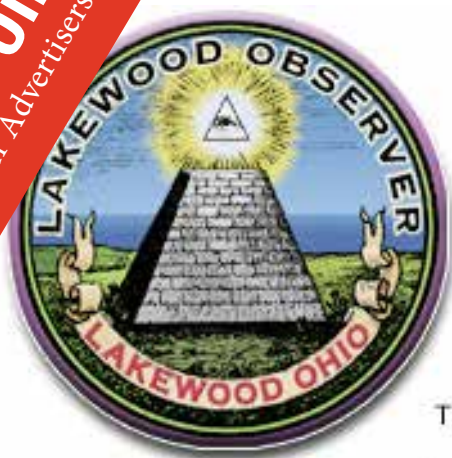


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# THE LAKEWOOD OBSERVER



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Volume 11, Issue 14, July 7, 2015

## Lakewood Summer Meltdown To Rock In Downtown Lakewood On Saturday

by Ken Brand

Come out and celebrate LakewoodAlive's 6th Annual Lakewood Summer Meltdown on Saturday, July 11, from 4-10pm in Downtown Lakewood on Detroit between Elmwood and Marlowe. This year is going to be something really special.

The Meltdown sponsored

by Melt Bar and Grilled kicks-off at 4pm with the expanded Meltdown Street Festival with interactive activities and local street vendors that encourage you to take advantage of summer weather. 50+ stations will be jammed into the 3 blocks to keep you entertained till 7:30pm, 90 minutes longer

than in the past years.

Run in the 1-mile Kids Fun Run, sponsored by the Lakewood Family YMCA at 6pm or try the Meltdown 5K race at 7pm that snakes throughout Lakewood on a relatively flat and competitive course. This year there is a new shaded race course that will take you through one of Lakewood's favorite neighborhoods with a portion of the

course featuring an amazing lake view. With more than 500 runners last year, this unique evening race has become one of the region's most popular. 1-mile registration is \$15. 5K advance registration is \$23; day-of \$28. Sign up at LakewoodSummerMeltdown.com. Runners who pre-register may pick up their race bibs on Friday, July 10 from 4-7 p.m. at the Lakewood YMCA (16915



Detroit Avenue).

During and after the 5K race, check out the Meltdown Beer Garden (21 and over) featuring the summer sounds of the Burning River Ramblers and DJ Byron, cold draft beer, and food

continued on page 7

## A Festive Fourth!



photos by Deb and Jim O'Bryan

Photo by Jim O'Bryan

Lakewood always goes out with a bang on the 4th of July and this year was no exception. Pictures of the parade and the firework display can be found inside this issue on pages 12 and 13, or go online to check out hundreds of photos from LO contributors at [www.lakewoodobserver.com/photoblogs](http://www.lakewoodobserver.com/photoblogs).

## Register Your Child For School Now

by Christine Gordillo

Lakewood City Schools is accepting registrations for the 2015-2016 school year all summer. If you are new to Lakewood, call 216-529-4279 to make an appointment with the Registrar.

Student registration takes place daily at the Lakewood Board of Education, 1470 War-

ren Road. Registration packets are available at the Board offices or at [www.lakewoodcityschools.org](http://www.lakewoodcityschools.org) under the Student Registration Quick Link.

Call for your appointment today! No appointments are necessary from July 27-August 21. There are limited evening hours until 6 p.m. on July 28-30 and August 4-6 & August 11-12.

## Hospital, Recreation And Land Development Interests Conflict

by Brian Essi

Over 400 documents posted on [onelakewood.com](http://onelakewood.com) and others recently uncovered, reveal that as early as August, 2013, Mayor Summers, Council President Madigan and Councilman Bullock, [who were all part of the Lakewood Hospital Association (LHA) "Select Committee,"] considered plans for a Family Health Campus at the hospital site along Detroit Ave with other developments behind it.

By October 2103, the lead option considered was to "take down" Lakewood Hos-

pital in favor of a "Family Heath Campus" with "*potential development of additional health and wellness facilities or other attractive economic development elements.*"

The plans were so far along that in November, 2013, Tom Gable, LHA's chairman told one member of City Council that LHA and the Clinic would be at City Council in January, 2014 to propose an FHC to replace the hospital.

**RECREATION AGENDA  
INTERTWINED WITH  
HOSPITAL DEBATE**

Public records reveal

that in December, 2013, Summers and Madigan supported a proposal to create a Recreation Task Force. Shortly after that, on February 18, 2014, at a Lakewood Board of Education meeting, Summers discussed a recreation center being built on the Lakewood Hospital site. By April, 2014, Summers and City Council made appointments to the Recreation Task Force.

A newly uncovered document dated May 15, 2014 reveals detailed drawings and plans for a "Health and Wellness Campus" continued on page 23

## Massive "Bookshop In Lakewood" Support

by Sean McCoy

At noon on Saturday, June 20th over 200 people gathered at The Bookshop in Lakewood. The owner, Colin Brown, never saw it coming.

An event on Facebook was created which invited all lovers of books and supporters of independent business to come on Saturday and purchase a single book. The occasion was also set up to be a complete surprise for Colin; the event page requested attendees to come an hour before opening.

Within two weeks over 4,800 invites had been sent by the 300 people interested in attending. Other independent local businesses began to catch wind and offer support. The Root Café donated gal-



Customers jam the aisles at The Bookshop in Lakewood.

lons of coffee for the attendees and Jake Briggs, a local singer/songwriter, played guitar and did sing-alongs with children

and their parents out front.

Colin came to open the doors at 11:30am, saw the continued on page 15

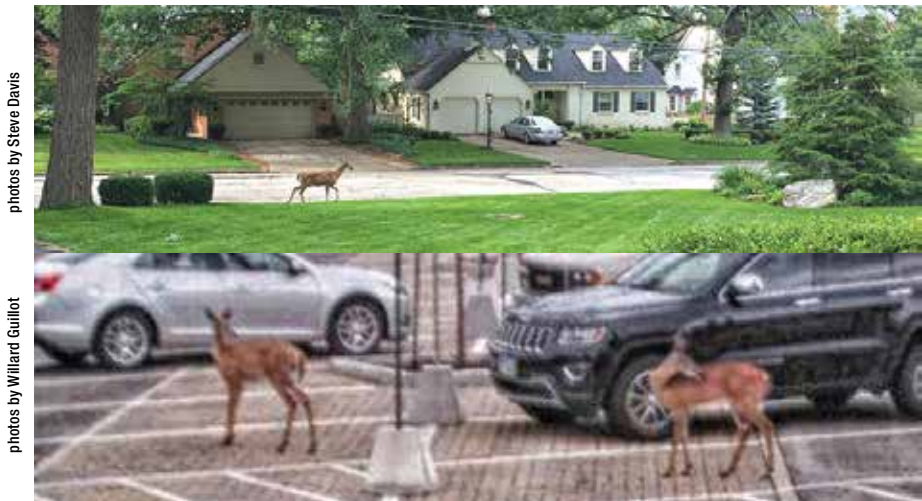


# The Observation Deck



photos by Jim O'Bryan

Fire, Porch Collapse, Near Fatal Accident, Suicide Starts the 4th of July Weekend. On Detroit Ave., a 21-year-old male was hit by a car and taken to Metro General Hospital where he was admitted to the ICU.



photos by Steve Davis

photos by Willard Guillot

Deer Warning - Had people sending in photos of deer all over Lakewood. On Edgewater above, and in DowntowN Lakewood on Warren and Detroit.



photos by Jim O'Bryan

Noticed on Facebook, if you turn two of our fireworks photos sideways, you get a smiley face getting shot in the head! On FB a comparison with Kennedy was made.

## HOT OFF THE DECK - WHERE LAKEWOOD TALKS

<http://lakewoodobserver.com/forum>

Topic	Author	Posts	LO Reads	Date Posted
"Catching the Light in Lakewood"	Alex Belisle	88	3327	Mon Jul 06, 2015
Reason Vs. Emotion From a Communications Expert	Paul Schrimpf	9	623	Mon Jul 06, 2015
4th of July Parade photos (2015)	Alex Belisle	6	1426	Mon Jul 06, 2015
Is Lakewood Being Kept Beautiful?	Lori Allen	1	282	Sun Jul 05, 2015
Light the Fuse! Fireworks Light The Sky	Jim O'Bryan	2	491	Sun Jul 05, 2015
Why And/Or How Does Build Lakewood Know More Than...	Jim O'Bryan	6	607	Sun Jul 05, 2015
Fire, Porch Collapse, Near Fatal Accident, Suicide Start 4th	Jim O'Bryan	2	3966	Sat Jul 04, 2015
When in the Course of human events....	Brian Essi	2	188	Sat Jul 04, 2015
Happy 4th of July	Michael Deneen	3	372	Fri Jul 03, 2015
public corruption	Stan Austin	9	691	Fri Jul 03, 2015
New Foundation Money/Hospital Site Tied to Rec Task Force	Brian Essi	1	383	Fri Jul 03, 2015
Release of 2nd Metro Proposal Exposes	Brian Essi	17	1440	Fri Jul 03, 2015
IMAGE-IN LAKEWOOD	Jim O'Bryan	270	33084	Thu Jul 02, 2015
Kauffman hoops closed?	Dan Alaimo	233	20886	Thu Jul 02, 2015
Car Rolls On Hillard Bridge	Jim O'Bryan	6	1752	Wed Jul 01, 2015
Now For Something Different - DEER WARNING!	Jim O'Bryan	3	530	Tue Jun 30, 2015



Drawing Brian Essi found from back in 2013/2014, "The Smoking Gun." The Mayor, and others have claimed talk of the drawing was a lie. Well there it is.



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OBSERVER



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#### Upcoming Submission Deadline

Sunday, May July 12, 2015  
Sunday, May July 26, 2015

#### Publish Date

Tuesday, July 21, 2015  
Tuesday, August 4, 2015

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City News

# Update On Hospital Discussion From Council President Mary Louise Madigan

by Mary Louise Madigan

Over the course of approximately 30 public meetings since January, Lakewood City Council has worked hard to consider the future of Lakewood Hospital and health care options for our community. Though Lakewood Hospital Association searched for a hospital operator who could keep Lakewood Hospital open, no one in the region or nation responded with a lasting proposal to run the hospital as an inpatient facility.

Now the city is faced with the challenge of making high quality health care options available in other ways. That is why council continues to consider the proposal offered by the Cleveland Clinic, the only health care provider who submitted a proposal to the Lakewood Hospital Association without later withdrawing it. Though neither they nor any other hospital operator has been able to offer a way to keep Lakewood Hospital open, the Cleveland Clinic continues to express their commit-

ment to health care in Lakewood and surrounding communities, and they are offering innovative, new ways of delivering it. We appreciate their commitment, and council will continue to explore the potential of their proposal.

We want to hear from our residents. Below is a list of the services that Cleveland Clinic proposes for a new Family Health Center campus with a 24/7 Emergency Department. Tell us what you think about these services at an upcoming council meeting,

a committee meeting or via email at [councilL@lakewoodoh.net](mailto:councilL@lakewoodoh.net).

- Pediatrics
- Diabetes Care
- Cardiac Care
- Women's Health Care
- Physical Therapy
- Radiology, MRI & CAT, Lab Services
- Geriatrics
- Midwifery
- Ophthalmology/Optometry
- Neurology
- Behavioral Health
- Urology
- Mobile Stroke
- Cardiac & Pulmonary testing
- Occupational Therapy
- Digestive Diseases
- Chronic Disease Clinics
- Musculoskeletal Care
- Pharmacy

In a nutshell we ask, what will give our city the kind of 21st century health care we need? We have done our own research on these questions and have received feedback from dedicated members of community representing all sides of the conversation. We'd like to keep hearing from our residents. We continue to hold public meetings following the schedule posted at [onelakewood.com/wellness](http://onelakewood.com/wellness) and we look forward to continuing this discussion with you.

## A True Senior Man

by Ryan Birth

In 1977, a young man right out of high school began his journey at Cleveland State University to become a physical therapist. Not long after he began, he started to realize that it may not have been exactly what he thought it would be. After consulting with his father about quitting school, he was told that if he was going to drop out that finding himself a job was going to be his top priority.

After working a few different jobs, he began thinking of opportunities in public service. After taking tests in multiple cities, including Lakewood, he received a phone call from former Lakewood Fire Chief Byron Cook to report to duty on Sunday March 7, 1982. Little did anyone know at the time, that would be the day a legend was born.

Sunday morning at 0830 hours a fresh faced Parmanian walks through the doors of 1418 Warren Road to begin what he would find to be the most rewarding years of his life. With a pair of old bunker boots, a worn-out coat, and some gloves that wouldn't protect you from a sunburn, he jumped on the rig and headed off to what would turn out to be a false alarm.

Over the years this man has been a leader by example. He served many years as secretary treasurer of Lakewood Firefighters Local 382, as well as serving on the negotiating committee for the union in every contract he was a part of. He was also part of the executive board for Northern Ohio Firefighters; an active participant in Aluminum Cans for Burned Children (ACBC) and cooked many meals at the burn camps. He was a highly respected member of his parish and always found ways to put others before himself.

That was apparent during the time he spent with his fellow brothers at the fire station. Around this man, there was always a learning experience to be had. When he spoke, you listened, and not because he demanded it. You knew if you didn't listen you might miss something that may one day save your life or the life of someone else.



From left to right: Captain Robert Dean, Ryan Birth, Ryan Fairbanks, Jeff Suhaj, Dominic Schirripa, and Jim Heffner

As a husband of 22 years to an amazing woman, and a father of 3, he taught us how to set examples for our family. What it meant to be a man, a husband and father, and most importantly a great brother. As I sit here at station 3, I look around. I see 20 brothers, new and old, sharing stories from the past. I see the respect he has earned from the retirees as they celebrate all his years of service. Each sharing a witty, exciting story (some embarrassing) about what, at the end of the day, explains (maybe to only us) what our brotherhood truly means.

As the crowd leaves, we are now left with our station 3 crew. Picking his brain, asking for just one last story the night begins to grow old. At 0200 hours the fire tones drop for what any other day would be a standard fire alarm. As we drive down Clifton we all quietly realize that this may be his last ride as part of our crew. Upon arrival, we are called off after confirming that it was in fact a false alarm, ending it just the way he started.

The morning comes all to quick as the next shift comes on. They, too, congratulate him on a wonderful career. We all exchange our usual pleasantries and head in to change into our clothes. As we file out to head home to our families, we shake his hand (let's be serious, we hugged!)

one last time and thank him for what no words could do justice. We pretend to not be emotional so we keep things short and walk out as if things will be no different on our next tour, even though we know they will.

A legend will be gone, but he will always be our brother. That man is Jim Heffner.

Thank you Jim for all you have done for the Lakewood Fire Department, the City of Lakewood, and the citizens on the community. You will be missed.

- The Lakewood Fire Department

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City News

The Judge's Bench

# Lakewood Court Diversion Program - Marijuana Possession And Underage Drinking

by Patrick Carroll

High school graduation is a right of passage, leaving friends to go on to college, get a job or enlist in the military. Any of these opportunities could come to a crashing halt with a conviction for consuming or even possessing marijuana or alcohol under age.

The age to drink alcohol was raised nationwide to 21 in 1984. While there is constant debate about lowering the drinking age, it remains at 21 years old. Underage possession or consumption of alcohol is a criminal offense with a fine up to \$1,000 and a jail sentence up to six (6) months. Putting aside the possible penalties, a criminal conviction alone carries a heavy penalty. Even probation, with no other penalty, will prevent military enlistment.

Possession of marijuana has different, but equally serious consequences. If the amount of marijuana is 100 grams (about 3 ½ ounces) or less, it is a minor misdemeanor with a maximum fine of \$150. Minor misdemeanors are generally not considered criminal convictions in Ohio.

Marijuana is still an illegal substance in Ohio. Even though a minor misdemeanor may not be considered a drug conviction, that does not mean it is free of consequences. Possession of marijuana of 100 grams or more is



Judge Patrick Carroll

a more serious offense, which carries a greater fine and a possible jail sentence.

Doors may close quickly for any conviction. Employment opportunities may evaporate. College student aid eligibility may be greatly reduced or eliminated by a marijuana conviction. Thus, a marijuana conviction may carry a hefty price tag in lost financial aid.

No one wants to see a teenager make a mistake that stays with them

the rest of their life. To avoid undue harsh consequences, the Lakewood Court and Law Department established a diversion program for marijuana and underage alcohol offenses. The purpose of the program is to require accountability for improper conduct without the severity of a criminal conviction. It is also to curtail future use of marijuana or alcohol under age. Thus, the defendant must show that the offense was a mistake, not a course of conduct.

Let me be clear: It is not a “get out of jail free” card. The diversion program is generally limited to first offenders. While each case is different, conditions of the diversion program may include 1) payment of court costs and/or diversion fee, 2) community work service, 3) alcohol education seminars, 4) court supervision up to 1 year, 5) no alcohol or drug usage, 6) random breath or urine screens, 7) no other criminal activity, 8) treatment and/or counseling, if applicable, and other conditions as the individual case may require. Failure to comply with the conditions may result in dismissal from the program, a return to the court’s criminal docket, and ultimately, a conviction.

Myths and Reality

Myth 1: It wasn't mine.

Possession under Ohio law generally includes both actual possession,

and knowledge that the object is present and accessible. Two or more people may possess the same object together if they have the ability to control it. Thus, four teenagers sitting around a table with a six pack or drug pipe may be in possession, even though none of them touched it. Similarly, everyone in the car may be in possession of the six pack on the back floor or the marijuana pipe in the cupholder.

If you are with someone underage with alcohol or other illegal substance, don't expect them to come to court for you any say it was theirs or that you were not involved.

Myth 2: It's only marijuana.

Although possession of small amounts of marijuana was decriminalized in Ohio, decriminalization is not the same as legalization. While not a drug conviction, it still goes on your record. A conviction of even a minor misdemeanor marijuana conviction may result in a driver's license suspension up to 5 years, as well as other consequences.

Myth 3: I can give permission for my underage son or daughter to drink beer at a friend's house.

Ohio law permits a person under 21 years old to consume an alcoholic beverage with the permission and in the presence of a parent. Both presence and permission are required. A parent cannot give someone else, such as a host of a graduation party, permission for the teenager to have a beer unless the parent is also present. If a parent leaves the graduation party early, their teenager is effectively cut off.

Over the years I have seen the devastating impact of drugs and alcohol on people and their families. The Lakewood Court's diversion program is an attempt to address substance abuse issues at an early age of the offender, and hopefully avoid more serious offenses in the future.

## Issuance Of Parking Permits Changes To Lakewood Police Department

by Colin McEwen

Starting in March 2015, the Lakewood Police Department began issuing parking permits. Previously, the Public Works department issued parking permissions — with permissions granted by the director of Public Works.

Those interested in obtaining residential street and municipal lot parking permits are encouraged to call Janet Smith in the police department, at 216-529-6749. The police office hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday

through Friday.

Cash, check, or money order will be accepted, and those seeking renewal will need to fill out a short renewal application to be entered into the new system.

For the municipal parking lot permit, go to [http://www.onelakewood.com/pdf/2015\\_MuniLotParkingPermitApp.pdf](http://www.onelakewood.com/pdf/2015_MuniLotParkingPermitApp.pdf)

For the residential street parking permit, go to [http://www.onelakewood.com/pdf/2015\\_ResidentialParkingPermitApp.pdf](http://www.onelakewood.com/pdf/2015_ResidentialParkingPermitApp.pdf)

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## Lakewood Hospital ED serves area’s emergency needs.

The nearly 34,000 West Siders who visit the Emergency Department (ED) at Lakewood Hospital each year can be assured that services will continue to be enhanced and upgraded for years to come.

“Cleveland Clinic has made a significant investment in Lakewood Hospital’s Emergency Department, and they will continue to do so,” says Eric Brown, MD, Medical Director of the Lakewood Hospital Emergency Department. “People can be confident that we will serve their emergency needs with compassionate, world class care 24 hours a day, seven days a week.”

The Lakewood Hospital Emergency Department is staffed by board-certified emergency medicine

physicians and certified emergency nurses with the latest training and knowledge to respond to any emergency situation, including critical injuries and illnesses, as well as broken bones, severe or persistent abdominal pain, fever, severe headache, head injury and stroke.

ED physicians and nurses also specialize in neurology, diabetes care, orthopaedic surgery and senior care, such as dementia. They are specially trained to diagnose and treat stroke patients quickly, using the newest tools, including t-PA and advanced technology. On site CT scanners, X-ray equipment, MRI, ultrasound and a full-service laboratory support their work. As

a result, the Lakewood ED has excellent response times for treating stroke patients.

Anyone entering the Lakewood ED can expect reduced wait times, thanks to a process to get the most critical patients seen quickly and to facilitate the care of less acute patients. Following early triage to assess the severity of illness, patients may be assigned an ED bed, or they may be moved to a treatment area specific to their needs.

As a Cleveland Clinic Emergency Department, Cleveland Clinic patients seen in the Lakewood Hospital ED are assured of continuity of their care through an electronic medical record (EMR) that ensures timely access to all medical

records at all Cleveland Clinic facilities.

“Better care coordination leads to better quality of care and improved patient outcomes,” adds Dr. Brown. “This is especially true in an emergency setting, so that those providing care have timely access to the same accurate and up-to-date patient information.”

In an emergency, call 911 or go to an emergency department near you. The Lakewood Hospital Emergency Department, located at 14519 Detroit Avenue, is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

*For more information on Lakewood Hospital’s Emergency Department, please visit [lakewoodhospital.org/ED](http://lakewoodhospital.org/ED).*

### Ask the Experts: Aging Well

Tuesday, August 18  
5:30-8:30 p.m.

**LaCentre Conference  
and Banquet Facility,  
25777 Detroit Road,  
Westlake**

Do you suffer from diabetes, high blood pressure, or sleep problems? Do you deal with vision

issues or have a family history of heart disease? It’s time to Ask the Experts. Join us for this annual event where our panel of physician specialists share the secrets for living well at any age.

*Reservations required. Cost: \$15 (includes meal). Visit [clevelandclinic.org/agingwellwest](http://clevelandclinic.org/agingwellwest) or call 877.390.1732 to register.*

### Fashion Forward, Giving Back

Saturday, August 8, 2015  
**Beachwood Place**

Enjoy a day of fun, festivities and fashion as one of Cleveland’s premier shopping destinations joins forces with Cleveland Clinic Children’s to present “Fashion Forward, Giving Back.” Your \$10 shopping pass to this fabulous event will give you special

access to back-to-school savings throughout Beachwood Place all while supporting an amazing children’s hospital right in your backyard.

Purchase your shopping pass, beginning July 8, at [FashionForwardGivingBack.com](http://FashionForwardGivingBack.com).

*Questions? Call 216.448.0112 or email [GivingBack@ccf.org](mailto:GivingBack@ccf.org).*

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# Lakewood Public Library

## LPL Calendar Of Events

compiled by Elaine Rosenberger

### Friday, July 10

#### LakewoodAlive Front Porch Concert Series - Drumplay

LakewoodAlive, in collaboration with Lakewood Public Library and Vance Music Studios, is proud to announce the 6th Annual Front Porch Concert Series. Held on the Library’s Front Porch, these concerts are free and open to the public. Bring a lawn chair or blanket and enjoy fantastic music with friends and neighbors in the heart of Downtown Lakewood. For the full line-up of acts, visit [www.LakewoodFrontPorchConcerts.com](http://www.LakewoodFrontPorchConcerts.com).

7:00 p.m. on the Front Porch of the Main Library

### Saturday, July 11

#### “Shakes the Clown” (1991) Directed by Bobcat Goldthwait

Loved by children and adored by bartenders, “Shakes the Clown” is an amiable bozo from Palukaville, USA who wakes up from a drunken blunder to find himself framed for murder. Inspired by his days on the stand up circuit when every night ended with a dozen comics at the bar, Bobcat Goldthwait wrote and starred in his directorial debut—a twisted, sideways look at the miserable world of the people who make us laugh. Adam Sandler makes his film debut in the shyest way possible alongside Julie Brown, Kathy Griffin, dozens of comics and a gutsy Florence Henderson. The Boston Globe called it, “The Citizen Kane of alcoholic clown movies,” and Bobcat has gone on to direct a string of daring and acclaimed indie comedies.

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

### Sunday, July 12

#### Powerhouse 5: The Music of the Raymond Scott Quintette

You know this music from somewhere... But why are you smiling like that? The compositions of Raymond Scott have been immortalized in the best cartoons for over seventy years. Their wild energy, tight crazy rhythms and loony logic have made them a natural choice for animators. Scott influenced everybody from Igor Stravinsky to Frank Zappa, Devo, They Might be Giants and more. He spent the last thirty years of his life pioneering electronic music. But for this performance we go back to the beginning, with Scott torturing flesh-and-blood musicians Steve Samuel, Tom Lempner, Larry Herman, George Foley, Bill Nichols and Darren Allen as they power their way through these impossible early pieces. That rascally rabbit!

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

### Thursday, July 16

#### Booked For Murder: Genres Within Genres

##### “Death-Watch” by John Dickson Carr

This time around, the ladies of murder mystery and mayhem will explore niche mysteries with animal sleuths, steampunk, a caper story, robot detectives, locked room mystery and a psychological ghostly thriller.

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

### Friday, July 17

#### LakewoodAlive Front Porch Concert Series – The First Five

Bring a lawn chair or blanket and enjoy fantastic music with friends and neighbors in the heart of Downtown Lakewood. For the full line-up of acts, visit [www.LakewoodFrontPorchConcerts.com](http://www.LakewoodFrontPorchConcerts.com).

7:00 p.m. on the Front Porch of the Main Library

### Saturday, July 18

#### “The Invention of Lying” (2009) Directed by Ricky Gervais and Matthew Robinson

Imagine a world without any lying. It’s not the paradise you would think. If you’re a schlub with no reason to live, no one is going to tell you any different. Ricky Gervais works as a writer of dry, factual histories. With no money, no hope, and no chance with the beautiful Jennifer Garner, a desperate Ricky does the most amazing thing—he starts saying things that aren’t true. Starting small at first, he quickly becomes a rich and famous raconteur. But sometimes lies go wrong and people get hurt. With his mother on her deathbed, frightened of the empty void that awaits her, he weaves a story about the afterlife. Soon, the whole world is waiting at his doorstep, demanding answers to tough questions about life and death. That’s when this all-star comedy with Rob Lowe, Louis C.K., and Tina Fey really starts to get interesting...

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

### Sunday, July 19

#### Sunday Afternoon Cinema: “Red River”

Not your garden variety Western, this movie combines epic adventure, conflict and love. While still a child, Montgomery Clift survives an Indian massacre. He’s adopted by John Wayne whose ambition is to create the biggest cattle empire in Texas. Years later, his brand is on thousands of them. A party of cowhands is formed for the long journey to market. Bad weather strikes, and precious days are lost. Food rations shrink. Wayne refuses to change course and head for Abilene instead of Missouri. He evolves from a determined boss into a tyrannical figure. The men rebel. Clift takes full command of the drive leaving Wayne in the dust shouting threats to hunt down and kill him.

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

### Tuesday, July 21

#### Knit and Lit Book Club

##### “Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet” by Jamie Ford

Come share your passion for great literature and show off your knitting, crocheting, counted cross-stitch, embroidery, and quilting works-in-progress.

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

## LPL Children/Youth Events

compiled by Eric Knapp

### Mondays

#### Superhero Summer Reading Club

##### For children birth through entering twelfth grade

Read your way to superhero status at the Library this summer. Stamps, prize ticket drawings, and rewards await those who complete their summer reading. Register at either the Main or Madison branches.

Ongoing until Monday, August 3 at 6:00 p.m.

### Tuesdays

#### Afternoon at the Movies

##### For the whole family

A different children’s movie each week! Free and open to the public. No registration required.

“Wreck It Ralph”: Tuesday, July 14 and “The Incredibles”: Tuesday, July 21, at 1:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium.

### Friday, July 10

#### The Escape Artistry of Ron Price

##### For the whole family

This act blends magic, comedy and the thrilling world of escape. Free and open to the public. No registration required.

3:00 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room.

### Saturday, July 11

#### Tail Waggin’ Tutors

##### For school-age children

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

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

### Sunday, July 19

#### Sensory Story Time

##### For you and your 3-7 year old child

This story time program can be enjoyed by all children, but it is specifically designed for young children with special needs, autism or those with sensory processing challenges. Registration required.

3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. in the Main Library Toddler Story Time Room.

### Lakewood Lego® League

#### For youth in kindergarten through fifth grade (caregivers welcome)

Use LPL’s collection of Lego®Bricks and your own imagination to create fabulous new structures and designs each month. No registration, but numbered tickets will be given out first-come, first-served.

6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. in the Main Library Activity Room.

### Saturday & Sunday

#### Family Weekend Wonders

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

Main Library Activity Room and Madison Branch Auditorium

### Weekends With Wee Ones

#### For families with children under 2 years old

Spend a part of your family weekend time clapping your hands, tapping your feet, singing nursery rhymes and, of course, sharing books. We will provide materials and ideas for those wishing to continue the fun at home. Programs are offered every weekend throughout the year and there is no need to register in advance.

### Madison Branch Children’s and Youth Services

Saturdays at 11:30 a.m. and Sundays at 3:30 p.m.

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Lakewood Public Library

Give A Dog A Bone - Read To Them

by Fran Storch

Hey kids, are you having a “ruff” time keeping up on your reading this summer? Then come to Lakewood Public Library where therapy dogs can help you bone up on your reading skills. We welcome beginner readers to join us Saturdays, July 11 and August 8 for Tail Waggin’ Tutors, a program for school-age children to enjoy reading books to our fabulous four-legged friends.

Students can share a book or two with therapy dogs and their owners that have been certified through Therapy Dogs International. Not only is this a great opportunity for children to practice their reading out loud, but it’s also a chance for the patient pups to practice their listening skills. There are always several dogs waiting to hear a good story, so



Dogs, large and small, are waiting for kids to read to them at the library.

drop in for Tail Waggin’ Tutors. No registration is required for this “pup-ular” program. Simply stop by

the Main Library Multipurpose Room in Children’s and Youth Services from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on the second Sat-

urday of each month. Kids may select from a collection of dog-themed books chosen by our library staff or bring their own books to share with one of the cuddly canines.

Tail Waggin’ Tutors is specifically designed for children age 7 to 12, but younger readers are welcome when accompanied by an adult. This program is ideal for students who may be self conscious about reading aloud. Kids practice their reading skills in a relaxed, “dog-friendly” atmosphere.

In the words of the great Groucho Marx, “Outside of a dog, a book is a man’s best friend. Inside of a dog, it’s too dark to read.” For details about this and other youth literacy programs at Lakewood Public Library, please call (216) 226-8275, ext.140. For more information on Therapy Dogs International, visit [www.tdi-dog.org/](http://www.tdi-dog.org/).



A Lego® Robotics team at work.

Lego® Robotics At The Lakewood Public Library

by Julie Strunk

Brick lovers have been busy at the Lakewood Public Library this summer! Students in second through eighth grade have participated in 3 days of two-hour Lego® Robotic workshops. Fifty students so far have worked in pairs to build and program HeroBots or Vehicles to perform various activities. More students will be participating in 4-day

Lego® Robotics camps in July. More programs like these will be available in the fall and winter.

These programs are funded by a \$5,000 Cox Community Grant awarded to the Lakewood Public Library for this purpose.

What a fun way to learn!

Julie Strunk is the manager of Children’s and Youth Services at the Lakewood Public Library.

Lakewood Summer Meltdown To Rock In Downtown Lakewood On Saturday

continued from page 1

vendors. Buckeye Brewing Company has partnered with LakewoodAlive to sell 3 Buckeye beers in the Beer Garden including one made special for the Meltdown.

Thank you to our major sponsors: Melt Bar & Grilled, The City of Lakewood, University of Akron Lakewood, Geiger’s, Campbell’s Sweets Factory, First Federal of Lakewood, Lakewood Hospital, Discount Drug Mart, Cox Communications, Rozi’s Wine House, Health

Spot, Peace Racking, NOOMA, Second Sole, The Movement Factory, Lakewood Family YMCA, Lakewood Recreation Department, Lakewood Observer, Ride & Workout, H & R Block, WestSide Skates, Buckeye Brewing Company, Window Universe, The Matthew Arbutina Agency, Thunder Tech and the Downtown Lakewood Business Alliance for their support.

Visit [LakewoodSummerMeltdown.com](http://LakewoodSummerMeltdown.com) for the most up to date Meltdown details.

Powerhouse 5:

The Music Of The Raymond Scott Quintette

by Lisa Calfee

It’s unlikely you have ever heard of Raymond Scott or his eponymous Quintette that got started in 1936, but it’s a sure thing you have heard his music. The compositions of this brilliant, classically trained musician have been playing behind the laughs on cartoons like Bugs Bunny, Daffy Duck, Porky Pig, Looney Tunes and the Simpsons for decades.

Powerhouse 5 will perform the music of the Raymond Scott Quintette on Sunday, July 12 at 2 p.m. as part of our Sunday With The Friends program at the Main Branch of Lakewood Public Library. As always, the concert in our auditorium at 15425 Detroit Avenue is free!

When the first big hits of the Raymond Scott Quintette came out in the 1930’s, “Minuet in Jazz,” “Twilight in Turkey,” “The Toy Trumpet” and “Powerhouse,” nothing could compare. They were wildly unpredictable

and quirky, yet sophisticated and complex. Simply put, the work of a genius.

The genius moved on. Raymond Scott became fascinated with electronic music and invented an early synthesizer prototype, the Electronium, along with other innovations such as the Karloff, the Clavivox and the Videola. In the 1970’s he headed Motown’s electronic music research and development team. He even patented the electronic ring of your telephone and alarm clock.

But seventy years later Hollywood still wants his music. On Sunday, July 12, the talented members of Powerhouse 5, Steve Samuel, Tom Lempner, Larry Herman, George Foley, Bill Nichols and Darren Allen, will play it for you. And for all of the genius of its composer, you will recognize the music of the Raymond Scott Quintette when it puts a smile on your face like an old friend from childhood.

The Escape Artistry Of Ron Price

by Jeffrey Siebert

Looking for a cool escape from the heat this summer? Well, there’s no better refuge than the Lakewood Public Library, where the astounding escape artist Ron Price will be performing on Friday, July 10th. Ron Price is one of Ohio’s leading escape artists, blending both comedy and magic into his shows. You will be riveted by his ability to escape from just about anything all the while laughing at his hilarious comedy. Wrap him in chains, ropes, mail bags and strait jackets, it doesn’t matter. He can escape from anything. By the end, you’ll be saying “Houdini who?”

Mr. Price blends his dazzling brand

of magic into each of his shows, entertaining audiences who will get to experience so much of the fun by being a magician’s helper. He has spent years practicing both magic and escape artistry and is an adept magic instructor. He has taught his magical mayhem to adults and children alike. Do you believe what you see?

This program for children and their families will take place on Friday, July 10 at 3:00 p.m. All programs are free and open to the public. Generously funded by the Friends of the Lakewood Public Library, this event will be held in the Multipurpose Room, which is located in the Children’s Department.

We hope to see you there!







Sports

# Lakewood Rec Offers Adult Sports For Fall Season

by Margaret Wetzler  
*The Lakewood Rec Fall 2015 Adult Athletic Program Offers Something for You!*

The Adult Athletic programs are set for the 2015 Fall season. The department is pleased to offer perennial favorites softball, kickball and flag football, as well as a new offer-

ing, tennis. These sports allow for both individuals and teams to participate in programs in a well-structured, competitive manner, all while engaging in activities that promote health and fitness. Softball is offered on weekdays and on Sundays in the Fall. The leagues are both fun and social, and the vary-

ing divisions, based on the skills of teams, allow for competitive games. Get your friends together, and sign up today! All levels of play are welcome, and both co-ed and men's leagues will be formed. Play begins on September 8, 2015.

Fall kickball is a great way to get your friends, co-workers, neighbors and family all together at the same time! All teams are co-ed, so be sure to recruit both men and women. There will be high and low divisions, so don't worry if you aren't all that good, this is a fun league. All games are played on Thursday evenings, beginning September 10, 2015.

Flag football - it's like playing for the Browns, but without all of the injuries! Your friends will definitely want in on the action, so start recruiting now! This fun and social league runs for ten weeks, beginning September 8, 2015. There are two leagues: co-ed 6 on 6, which plays on Tuesday nights; and new this year, men's 7 on 7, which will play on Sunday mornings, beginning September 13, 2015. What better way to gear up for each Browns game than with your very own game of football?

Open gym format volleyball will be offered in the fall, beginning in early September. Check the website, [www.lakewoodrecreation.com](http://www.lakewoodrecreation.com), for further details.

And new this fall, the Adult Ath-

letic Department will be offering a tennis league. The league will run for five weeks, and is open to any skill level. Self-scheduled singles matches will be played on Lakewood courts; call Rick Wallenhorst at 216.529.4082 for more information.

The mission of the Lakewood Community Recreation and Education Department (CREC) is to provide safe and meaningful recreational and educational opportunities for kids and adults of all ages. The CREC Commission is the governing body of all athletic programs sponsored by the Lakewood Community Recreation and Education Department of the Board of Education. The Commission works with the Director of CREC in the determining rules, regulations, schedules, and other matters necessary to program operation.

Registration is available online at [www.lakewoodrecreation.com](http://www.lakewoodrecreation.com), by visiting the Rec Department offices at 1456 Warren Road, or by calling the Rec Department at 216-529-4081.

*Margaret Wetzler is a lifelong Lakewood resident, home owner, good neighbor, and member of the Lakewood Rec Department's Adult Athletic Commission.*

## Lakewood Soccer Association: Saturday Soccer Registration

by John Hueter  
The registration deadline is coming up soon for the fall season of Lakewood Soccer Association's Saturday Soccer program.

The deadline is Friday, July 31. On-Time Registration cost is \$55 for the fall season, or \$100 for the fall and spring seasons. LSA still will take registrations after the July 31 deadline, but they are subject to a \$20 late fee.

There are a few ways to sign up. Visit the "Saturday" page of LSA's website, [www.lakewood-soccer.com](http://www.lakewood-soccer.com), and you can sign up with a credit card online. You also can print a registration form from the website and mail it to us, or you can stop at the Madison branch of the Lakewood Public Library from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, July 11th or 25th, to register in person. Payments at the in-person registration must be made by check or cash.

LSA's eight-week season of games starts Saturday, August 29th. Games are played at Memorial Field in the Metroparks on Saturday mornings at four time slots: 8:30 a.m., 9:45 a.m., 11 a.m. and noon. Schedules are posted on the website about a week before the season begins.

Registration is open to players



age 4-14. Nearly 600 kids of all ability levels played on 45 co-ed teams, coached by parent volunteers, during the spring season. LSA has run a recreational soccer program for more than 30 years.

For those who register for the fall season, team assignments will be emailed to them during the week of August 15. Team practices and league-wide footskills - U5 and U6 FUNdamentals with coach Joe Julian, and U7-U14 footskills with coach Attila Nagy - will begin in late August.

If you have questions, please call Saturday Soccer commissioner Scott Suttell at 216-926-8702.



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## 8th Annual Community Dog Show

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Saturday, Aug. 15 | 11am-1pm

- Contests for Biggest Dog, Smallest Dog, Cutest Dog, Best Trained Dog & Best Trick
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Contact Tammy Sibert at 216-912-0800

Proceeds to benefit Lakewood Animal Shelter.

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Lakewood Cares

From Refugee To Neighbor:  
Stories From The CLE

by Evan Harms

According to the most recent United Nations report, there are nearly 60 million displaced people in the world, a number that has quadrupled since 2011. This alarming growth is the result of increased violence worldwide, particularly fueled by the crisis in Eastern Ukraine, the ongoing issues in the Middle East, and violence in parts of Africa and Asia.

In order to bring awareness to this issue, the Refugee Services Collaborative of Greater Cleveland (RSC) held an event on June 20th, World Refugee Day, featuring five short films chronicling refugees and organizations in the Cleveland area. The 14 organizations that make up the RSC were represented at The Beck Center, including Lakewood City Schools, Catholic

Charities, Building Hope In The City, and Global Cleveland, among many others. Tom Mrosko of Catholic Charities opened the event, and was followed by Peter Schindler of the Community West Foundation, Cleveland City Councilman Joe Cimperman, Brian Upton (representing Frank Jackson), and creative director for the films, Jimmy Fallish. All of these people and others praised the work of the RSC and their commitment to making Cleveland great for refugees.

The first film was created by Chelsie Corso. It tells the story of Dee Salukambo, an aspiring Olympian from the Congo. The film follows his running career from Denison University, where his coaches greatly aided him, and continue to do so, to his current issues involving citizenship

and competing for spots on various Olympic teams. Dee now lives in East Cleveland with his family, who were at the event.

Paul Sabota's "Extended Family" introduced the crowd to Alida Struze, a Parma woman who was adopted as a baby. She now "adopts" people herself, especially ethnic Karen from Burma. Over 300 members of this ethnic group reside in the Cleveland area, and Struze acts as grandmother figure for the refugees. She is affectionately called "Kiki," which means "grandmother."

"Rangers United," created by Chris Langer, focuses on the Ohio Rangers Football Club. The organization was created by Lakewood residents Bill Gregg, Eric Teets, and Ken Lipka in 2011. The teams allow for refugee kids to become active and have fun with

their American peers, while assimilating to American culture through soccer. The organization currently serves around 80 kids and teenagers 4 to 18 years old.

Qussay "Q" Ali was an interpreter working and fighting with American troops during the Iraq War. "The Interpreter" by Kevin Kerwin shows Ali's transition to life in Cleveland with his family. Ali now works with other refugees to help them get the services they need, from housing to education, and beyond. Ali's belief that "Refugees are not here to hurt anyone" is backed up by many local and national reports and statistics showing the economic and cultural benefits of integrating refugees.

The final film of the event, "Ashmita Finds A Home" featured Ashmita Samal and her sister, two refugees who left their lives in Nepal for a chance at success in Cleveland Heights. While narrative focuses mainly on Ashmita, her sister is in the soundtrack, singing traditional Nepalese songs. This film was put together by Robert Banks.

The RSC wants to make Cleveland a national leader for refugee resettlement by responsibly increasing the amount of refugees and creating a welcoming community for those displaced by violence and other conflicts. The RSC wants to spread the message about their work with refugees and invites any group to contact them to have the short films shown. More information about the organization and their work is available at [rscleveland.org](http://rscleveland.org).

CCLAS Adopt-A-Pet

by Mike Deneen

Meet Garfield. He's about 6 years old, neutered, large and the shelter has had him for almost 3 months...he has a unique meow that sounds almost sarcastic (which is why we named him Garfield). He was found wandering Lakewood as a stray but was likely abandoned because he had already

been neutered. He's got a gorgeous long hair coat and REALLY loves attention and affection.

Garfield is collar #85. You can adopt him (or another adoptable pet) from the Lakewood Animal Shelter, located at 1299 Valley Parkway Trail. For shelter hours or other information, visit the CCLAS website at [www.cclas.info](http://www.cclas.info).



Garfield, with the sarcastic meow.

O'Neill Healthcare - Lakewood  
Awards Two Scholarships

by Margaret Anderson

This year O'Neill Healthcare - Lakewood had the privilege of awarding two scholarships to local high school students. The 2015 O'Neill Healthcare - Lakewood Long Term Scholarship recipients were: Amber Petras from St Joseph Academy and Laurel Roelle from Lakewood High. The O'Neill Healthcare Long Term Care Scholarship awards \$500 to a graduating senior who is pursuing a nursing career as an RN or LPN.

Congratulations Amber and Laurel!



From left to right, Diane Graham, presents scholarships to Amber and Laurel.

Bob And Lucinda Walker Celebrate  
Their 70th Wedding Anniverary



by Tammy Sibert

On Friday, June 19, Bob & Lucinda Walker, residents of O'Neill Healthcare Lakewood Assisted Living, celebrated their 70th Wedding Anniversary! Staff and family coordinated dinner-for-two in the private dining room by preparing a meal of their choice, a fresh flower centerpiece, corsage and boutonniere, a special dessert, and a "champagne" toast.

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Lakewood Cares

Updates From LEAF Community

by Heather Ramsey

**Pay it Forward for LEAF at Jammy Buggars!**

As part of Jammy Buggars’ ongoing Pay it Forward program, 15% of every sale (including purchases at the bar, dine-in and take-out food, gift cards, and merchandise) will be given to LEAF on Tuesday, July 14th. Just stop in to Jammy Buggars anytime that day (11 a.m. to midnight) and mention that you’re there to support LEAF!

**Backyard Biodiversity with the**

All Kids Invited To Join Us For Vacation Bible School

by Laura Jaissle

Lakewood United Methodist Church hosts 2015 Vacation Bible school!

All children pre-school through 5th grade will be climbing Mount Everest at Lakewood United Methodist Church from July 20-24. The children will be spending 5 days learning how to conquer everyday challenges using God’s Mighty Power.

The children will be sure to have fun-filled mornings packed with music, games, science projects and crafting their own mountain top treats.

Director of Children’s Ministry, Shannon Smoot ensures that LUMC will have an incredible group of volunteers (from youth to school teachers) who want to share their passion to help children have a positive experience and learn about how to connect with God to help empower them through their daily lives.

We start every morning at 9:30 a.m. with music and an introductory lesson to the day. The kids then rotate through stations that include interactive stories, imaginative hands-on science projects, games that get them moving, a café location where they

**Cleveland Metroparks**

Also on July 14th, LEAF will be holding another of its monthly educational events. While you’re at Jammy Buggars, head into the side party room at 7 p.m. and join us for a talk on backyard biodiversity with Bethany Majeski. Bethany has been a Naturalist with the Cleveland Metroparks for eight years and enjoys gardening and homesteading in her spare time.

One of the best ways to enhance

the sustainability of your property and neighborhood is to bolster your biodiversity. Learn how incorporating native plants and wildlife habitat into your yard and garden can increase plant health and yield, reduce erosion, combat storm water run-off, and preserve Ohio’s natural heritage.

As always, this LEAF educational event is free and open to the public, but we do recommend RSVPing on our Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/leafc/events/>)!

**Learning Garden Family Friday**

Enjoy the Madison Branch Learning Garden (co-managed by LEAF and the Library) with stories, songs and activities about vegetables, fruits, flowers and good things to eat! The Friday morning Family Weekend Wonders program will be held in the Learning

Garden, weather permitting. Fridays through August 28 at 10:30 a.m. in the Madison Learning Garden.

**LEAF Night Community Farmers’ Markets**

Join us Thursdays through October from 5:30-8 p.m. in front of the Main Branch of the Lakewood Public Library (15425 Detroit Ave.) for a weekly celebration of local food. We host multiple CSA programs and a number of local vendors offering vegetables, baked goods, dairy products, grains, and handcrafted items. We proudly accept EBT/Ohio Direction Card and offer the “Produce Perks” program of the Cleveland-Cuyahoga County Food Policy Coalition -- Ohio Direction card holders get buy-one, get-one-free market tokens to spend on produce at the market. Visit the Customer Service table at the market to learn more!

LEAF

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15% of sales at Jammy Buggars will go to LEAF if you mention us any time on July 14th!

Grace Lutheran Church Offers Free Vacation Bible School Fun

by Joanne Schwark

Are you looking for some free weekend fun for your children this summer? Grace Lutheran Church, 13030 Madison Ave., invites children in preschool through 6th grade to attend their upcoming free Vacation Bible School (VBS).

It will take place on five consecutive

Saturdays, July 11 - August 8, from 9 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. The church chapel will be turned into an outdoor camp for “Camp Discovery—Jesus at Work Through Us.” The VBS features Bible stories, games, arts and crafts, songs, and themed snacks.

To register your child, go to [www.gracelutheranlakewood.org](http://www.gracelutheranlakewood.org) or call the church office, 216-221-4959.

‘Dog Night’ At Lakewood Park

by Mark Rollenhagen

The pet-friendly, midsummer outdoor worship series offered by the PLUM (Presbyterian, Lutheran, United Methodist) congregations of southwest Lakewood kicks off Wednesday, July 8, with “Dog Night” at the gazebo in Lakewood Park.

You can get a hot dog off the grill beginning at 6 p.m. Worship – with familiar songs and a blessing for pets and their people - begins at 7 p.m. Pets of all types are welcome but not required.

Games for kids and adults and a few pet rescue organizations will be on hand.

The remaining pet-friendly, Wednesday night outdoor worship services will be on the lawns of the Lakewood PLUM churches – Grace

**Presbyterian, Faith Lutheran and Calvary United Methodist:**

- July 15 at Calvary, 16305 Hilliard Road. (Phone: 216-221-4324)
- July 22 at Faith. 16511 Hilliard Road. (Phone: 216-226-6500)
- July 29 at Grace, 1659 Rosewood Avenue (at Madison). (Phone: 216-228-6060)

Worship on those Wednesdays begins at 7 p.m., followed summer refreshments.

PLUM is a collaborative ministry of ministry of Grace, Faith and Calvary, working together to serve people in the community by providing for basic needs through coordinated pantries that offer food, clothing and personal care items and offering worship and learning opportunities.

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# Lakewood's Independence Day / Fourth Of July 2015



photo by Debra O'Bryan

Ready to go!



photo by Debra O'Bryan

Everyone sharing the love!



photos by Jim O'Bryan

Mark's 10th parade with LO!



photo by Alex Balise

These are the faces we do it for. The kids are just amazing during the parade.



photo by Debra O'Bryan

And surprise, Ryan Patrick Demro is in this photo!



The Lakewood Observer has over 500 photos and videos online of the entire weekend, from accidents, to parades, to Lakewood Project, to the amazing fireworks. Our video of the finale allows you to count each of the 1,200 shells that were launched in the last 2 minutes and 44 seconds. Check it out at <http://lakewoodobserver.com>, on Facebook, and @thelkwdobserver on Twitter.



We can sleep safe in our beds at night because....



Lakewood High's Marching Band.



photo by Debra O'Bryan

A pirate from Cyrano's Place, Mayor Summers, and Wendy Summers.



photo by Alex Balise

Lakewood's finest.



photo by Debra O'Bryan

Celebrating.



photo by Debra O'Bryan

Each year as we get ready, we moan and groan about all sorts of things - from problems with the car to the cost of candy. Then you get there and see the kid's faces! It makes it all worthwhile. The first two faces we saw along the parade route!



photo by Debra O'Bryan

The best part of the parade and the entire weekend is seeing people and talking with friends. Here we spotted Eric and Cindy Lowery. Eric is one of the hottest realtors in the city, pouring his love for Lakewood into every deal. Cindy, a very talented designer, is the person behind so many of the stunning printed pieces LakewoodAlive produces throughout the year. Damn I Love Lakewood!



photo by Debra O'Bryan

City Hall event coordinator Melissa Garrett. A huge thank you from everyone here at the Observer for all the great work you do!



photo by Alex Balise

State Senator and Mayoral Candidate Michael Skindell had a large group.



photo by Debra O'Bryan

The crowd at the parade was huge!



photos by Jim O'Bryan

Sunday morning I got a text message, "How were they?" I texted back, "Short." The response was, "Same as always, if we went longer, there would be less color. What did people think?" Over the next 24 hours the responses came in... GREAT JOB, CITY OF LAKEWOOD!





# Lakewood Is Art

## Anarchy On Yr Face Reviews Of Recent Releases By Local Bands, Pt. 7

by Buzz 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.

**The Nico Missile - The Nico Missile - Quality Time Records - 4 songs - 7", download**

Some really interesting pop stuff. The first song, "Holiday In Purgatory," sort of reminded me of The Smiths, though I liked this much more than I like The Smiths. Some of it was kind of pop-punk, but not in the way that Blink-182 is pop-punk or whatever, in the way that The Velvet Underground is pop-punk. On the whole, the record had a nostalgic feel, like The Velvet Underground or like Syd Barrett-era Pink Floyd, though all the songs had a more modern spin on them than that. My favorite was probably "Call Of The Wild," though I liked all of the songs. It's somewhat difficult to get a feel for the sound of a band in just four songs, but I enjoyed it quite a bit. I thought that on some songs, the production was a bit tinny, but other than that I liked it. 4/5

**Bad Noids - Rats Live On No Evil Star - Saucepan Records - 8 songs - 7", download**

This is some somewhat demented

punk stuff. I would advise you to stay away from trying to decipher any meaning, just accept that this guy, as he says on one of his songs, "chews on tape all day." This record made me think of what would happen if Ron House made the inexplicable switch to becoming the frontman of Zero Defex, and writing really odd Lyrics. Side 1, the "Yield Side," is really great all the way through. Despite the oddness of it, most of it is really catchy and, dare I say, good. "A Generic Song" is pretty darn funny, and "No Llamas Today" is a weirdo punk classic, though, again, just try to figure out what it means, if anything. "Stop Side" isn't quite as good, though it certainly has its moments. The best song on that side is probably the opening "Vwypr," (I'm not sure I spelled that right) which seems to have multiple movements within it. The following two are somewhat dumb lyrically, with one of them having such gross-out lyrics that it almost makes me gag. On the whole though, an enjoyable enough record. 3.5/5.

**MeAnderthal - MeAnderthal - Phoenician MicroSystems Records - 9 songs - Cassette, download**

The first thing I want to say: great name. This is the debut release from this band. Based on those involved, you could call it a Kill The Hippies side-project, but it doesn't really sound

like KTH at all. It would probably most accurately be described as "cave-man rock." The only instruments are bass and drums, and indeed the vocals are cavemanish as well. Some of it is sort of like punk versions of sacrificial chants. Some of it is even more psychedelic than that. Actually, maybe it was just because of the drums-and-bass thing, but some of it reminded me of Numbskull, to bring in a local reference. My favorites were "Jade Green Mask," "Dangling From The Penthouse," and "We Are Bliss." On the whole, I enjoyed it. If you'd like to hear them live, their next show will be July 14 at Now That's Class, with Lazy Ass Destroyer and Dick Hell. 4/5

**Cruelster/Putrid Cause - Split**

**- Turbine Piss Records - 7 songs (4 Cruelster, 3 Putrid Cause) - 7"**

First of all, two well-matched bands for a split. They're similar enough that people can enjoy both sides, but each individual enough to not bore you. I probably enjoyed Cruelster more, but both sides were good. I appreciated the inclusion of a lyrics sheet, as it added to my enjoyment of the record as a whole. My favorite song of Cruelster's side, which I'll censor because this is a family paper, was "I'm A F\*\*kin' Psycho," which was just great all the way through. Cruelster's side also had a pretty good cover of The Ramones' "Freak Of Nature." Putrid

**continued on page 16**

## It's Not Too Late To Create At Beck Center!

by Pat Miller

July and August are filled with a variety of summer camps at Beck Center. Students ages 5 through 19 can still experience the arts, learn new skills, develop friendships, stimulate their imaginations, and, most importantly, have fun!

There are several half-day and full-day camps in dance, music, theater, and visual arts including Little Movers Dance Camp (ages 5-7), Roots Music (ages 12-19), Musical Theater Camp (ages 13-19), Jazz Music (ages 12-19), Visual Arts Camp for Teens (ages 13-15), Ballet/Contemporary Sampler (ages 12-18), and Visual Arts (ages 7-12). If your child aged 7 through 12 is interested in a variety of art forms, then the Arts Sampler is the

perfect choice!

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# Wellness Watch

## State Rep., Moms Clean Air Force & Blue Green Alliance Call For Regulations On Industrial Methane Emissions

by Nickie Antonio

Representative Nickie J. Antonio (D-Lakewood) discusses how Ohioans would benefit from national policies that clean up industrial methane pollution for the oil and natural gas industry.

“Industrial methane pollution is a significant threat to public health and the environment,” said Rep. Nickie Antonio. “We are asking the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to issue strong federal standards to cut methane and other harmful pollution to protect our citizens and create a stable environment.”

Methane pollution occurs as the

result of leaks and venting from oil and natural gas wells, pipelines, tanks and other equipment. These leaks cost billions of dollars every year, and waste the amount of gas it takes to power nearly 6 million homes. In Ohio, emissions data suggests oil and natural gas produced in the state wasted over 7,500 metric tons of methane in 2013.

Methane pollution from oil and natural gas production is also harmful to children’s health. There are nearly 200,000 Ohio children suffering with asthma every day. Pollutants such as methane, ozone, and benzene increase the frequency and severity of their asthma attacks.

Even with these devastating effects, there are no federal standards requiring controls on industrial methane pollution in Ohio or nationally. By using proven, low-cost technologies we can eliminate as much as half of all climate-warming methane emissions. By repairing and replacing leak-prone natural gas distribution pipes, as well as continuing to develop and deploy technologies that prevent the escape of methane to the atmosphere, Ohio workers can be doing a lot to reduce emissions right here, right now. Modernizing these pipes with advanced materials that are now available would reduce leaks and create thousands of jobs, and improving upstream technologies would strengthen, not disrupt, our economy.

There are only about 25 operators who participate in voluntary programs, like the EPA’s Natural Gas Star program. If federal action is not taken, methane pollution from the industry is projected to increase around 25 percent over the next ten years. Methane and air pollution know no state boundaries. It’s time for Ohio to take the first steps in eradicating this deadly and wasteful pollution.



State Rep. Nicki Antonio speaks with representatives from Moms Clean Air Force and Blue Green Alliance.

## Massive “Bookshop In Lakewood” Support

continued from page 1

crowd outside, and watched in shock as the first two dozen patrons filed in. By 1 p.m. the line from the register stretched to the back of the store and looped back. Colin later posted, “Wow... THAT was truly unexpected! There aren’t sufficient words to thank you all appropriately, but thank you.”

“The look on Colin’s face was worth the trip alone,” said Akron native Carrie Taylor. “But I’m really happy I found a book on anthropology for my boyfriend. When I asked Colin if he had something on Egyptian life and culture he found me this in no time. I also got some Stephen King for me.”

Tim Gaydos, a Parma resident who attended after catching wind of the event online said, “I heard Lakewood had a new indie book store, but I wasn’t sure quite where it was. I’ll absolutely be coming out here instead of Half Price Books from now on.”

The Bookshop also features a wide array of children’s books. Amy Kravo-

chuck of Lakewood was waiting in line with an armful. “I watch my sister’s son a few days each week and he’s going to go nuts over these... The others are for my cousin and aunt who are out of town today, but wanted to support an independent Lakewood business.”

The Custom Frame Shop, Girl’s Best Trend, and Goddess Blessed are the other independent businesses who share the block with the Bookshop. The proprietor of Girl’s Best Trend also noted a surge in business on the day of the event and confirmed that, “Our block was rockin’ thanks to... everyone who came out!”

The Bookshop in Lakewood is located on the west side at 15721 Madison Avenue at the crossover intersection of Hilliard and Madison. The shop will be celebrating its one-year anniversary on Saturday, October 10th. Another event is planned for that date.

Sean McCoy has lived in Lakewood since he was 21 years old commuting to Baldwin Wallace. He’s always happy to inform people that he lives in the most fun and interesting city in Ohio.

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# Business News

# New Whole Foods To Shake Up Local Economy

*by Bryan Jinks*

The Whole Foods in Rocky River is set to open in September. Lawsuits filed by a neighborhood resident over zoning issues are not expected to delay the opening. It will be the first West-side store for the international chain and the third in the Northeast Ohio region. While health-food enthusiasts across the West side are eagerly anticipating the opening, the store is also entering a marketplace of high-end grocery stores in an area that is already fairly congested.

EarthFare, Heinen's, and Nature's Bin all have stores in close proximity to the new Whole Foods location. While shoppers will have a wide variety of options to choose from, all of these stores will be competing harder than ever for business. Ultimately, the large Whole Foods chain may end up taking out one its smaller competitors and taking business away from all of them.

An EarthFare location in Solon was closed in March 2014 after being open for less than a year. When a Giant Eagle Market District opened nearby, it caused a store that was already struggling to lose a significant portion of its business. Now the EarthFare in Rocky River will have to compete with its bigger, more well-known competitor. While Heinen's and Nature's Bin may retain some loyal supporters due to

their local roots, EarthFare will have to find other ways to differentiate itself from Whole Foods.

While the new store will add jobs to the local economy, some of that growth may eventually come at the expense of job losses to its rivals. In

addition to competing for customers, these stores will also be competing for employees. Current employees of Whole Foods' competitors may see an opportunity to get a raise, better job title, or more stability by seeking work at the new Whole Foods Store.

While shoppers and jobs seekers can look forward to more opportunities when the new store opens, local competitors must be prepared for some difficult financial decisions when yet another grocery store enters the crowded marketplace.

## Rhythm & Grace Ballroom Dance Studio Is Home To Three Amateur Ballroom Dancers

*by Cree Criado*

Rhythm & Grace Ballroom Dance Studio located on Madison Avenue in Uptown Lakewood dominated at Northcoast Ballroom Championships this year!

Northcoast Ballroom Championships were held in Downtown Cleveland June 25th-27th where over 125 couples took the dance floor to compete! Rhythm & Grace was represented by owner and professional dancer Angel Criado who partnered with three lovely amateur lady students, Gail DeFrance, Debbie Olson, and Dr. Carmen Hansford. After three days of competing and over 130 dances by Angel, Gail, Debbie, and Carmen, results were posted. All girls placed in all 130 dances and Debbie placed 3rd in her Rhythm Scholarship, Gail placed 3rd in her Smooth

multi-dance Championship and Dr. Carmen won the Dance for a Cure Championship!

In the end, Gail DeFrance took home Top Bronze Student of the competition and Debbie Olson won Top Newcomer Student of the competition! Rhythm & Grace as a studio won Top Small Studio and our very own Angel Criado won Top Teacher, beating out 50+ other teachers! We could not be more proud! We hope Lakewood is proud too as it is now home to three Amateur Lady Champions: Gail DeFrance, American 3 Dance Champion, Debbie Olson, American Smooth Scholarship Champion, and Dr. Carmen Hansford, American Rhythm Scholarship Vice-Champion!

Stop by and congratulate everyone



*Rhythm & Grace dancers and their teacher, Angel Criado.*

involved!

*Angel and Cree Criado are the owners of Rhythm & Grace Ballroom Dance Studio located in Uptown Lakewood, Ohio.*

## Neubert Painting Readies For 7th Charity Paint Giveaway

*by Jeanne Bluffstone*

On July 16, Neubert Painting and their crew of volunteers will show up bright and early at 1356 Lakeland Avenue in Lakewood to paint the house of Sean Collins free of charge. Collins is the winner of Neubert Painting's 7th annual Charity Paint Giveaway, an event created in 2008 to provide free house-painting services to a homeowner or non-profit organization whose building needs painting, but its owners can't afford it. Nominations for the Charity Paint Giveaway are requested through the company's Facebook page.

Collins, the current recipient of the giveaway, has cerebral palsy and is on disability, but his physical challenges don't stop him from his community involvement. Collins volunteers with New Life Church and participates in Return to Golf®, a program designed to help physically disabled persons

through a creative combination of rehabilitation-based golf fitness and recreational therapy.

"We have been trusted by Northeast Ohio homeowners since 1975, and we feel part of our mission is to give back to our community," says John Neubert, owner of Neubert Painting. "As long as Neubert Painting is in the business of painting homes, giving back to our community will always be part of our culture," he says.

Neubert Painting is a 40-year-old Lakewood family-owned business with a long history of partnering with local lower-income schools and churches to help them maintain the interior and exterior of their buildings.

More than \$100,000 in free painting services has been provided through the Charity Paint Giveaway since 2008. Sherwin Williams, Chipotle Mexican Grill and Einstein Bagels are additional sponsors of the event.

## *Anarchy On Yr Face*

### **Reviews Of Recent Releases By Local Bands, Pt. 7**

continued from page 14

Cause played a similar style of hardcore punk, but with cleaner vocals. Also, it seemed a little more metal-influenced as a whole to me (especially on "Dead Leaves"), whereas Cruelster was more just all over the place in sub-sub-subgenre. I don't know, I don't have anything I can think of to compare it to. But yeah, if you like good

hardcore, you should probably check both bands out. Cruelster 4/5, Putrid Cause, 3.5.

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



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Business News

# Key Ingredients For The Perfect Grilled Cheese: Art, Music And Food

by Madison Wright

In Matt Fish’s vision, these three ingredients make for the perfect grilled cheese sandwich experience and reflect his personality to a tee. Since opening his first restaurant in Downtown Lakewood in 2006, Fish has used his Business Management and Culinary Arts degrees from Tri-C to ensure that his customers keep coming back to Melt Bar and Grilled for more.

In order to get a sense of Fish’s vision, a visit to the original location in Downtown Lakewood at 14718 Detroit Avenue was in order.

Prior to being seated by friendly staff, one can’t help but notice the prominence of art, music and entertainment within his restaurant. The design of the menus on vinyl records and music in the background accents Fish’s musical talents as a drummer for The Chargers Street Gang. The artwork and entertainment coupled with a fun and relaxing atmosphere make it the perfect place to go out with friends.

Fish designed his seven restaurant locations for his customers to be completely satisfied with every aspect of their experience. The Melt Challenge and tattoo promotions are

available to every customer and show Fish’s playful and fun personality. In 2010, Man Versus Food conquered the challenge of consuming a monster grilled cheese sandwich featuring 13 different cheeses, 3 slices of grilled bread and a pile of hand-cut fries & slaw that many have failed to eat. Victors join the few others on the Melt Challenge Hall of Fame, receive a t-shirt or pint glass and a \$10 gift certificate. Roughly 650 members have tattooed a Melt logo on their body and were awarded with 25% off for life along with a membership card. Fish declared these members “will never be replaced in the Melt Tattoo Family.”

“Specific demographics are not targeted, nor was there an effort to try to place a label on the type of restaurant Melt is,” Fish explained when asked to describe his marketing approach. He adapts his business to the changes in current trends and the cultures of each “strategically chosen location.” Fish wants workers to be able to stop by Melt and quickly grab lunch on their breaks, while serving family or friends who want to sit down and enjoy a meal. Everyone is welcome to walk through the doors of Melt and experience the

perfection of Fish’s lifelong love for food, especially the grilled cheese sandwich.

Despite the original intention of Melt to be a craft beer joint that served grilled cheese, the sandwiches became more popular than the craft beer. The gourmet grilled cheese sandwiches are made with bread that is baked fresh daily with local ingredients. Consideration and effort are exercised within each community the Melt operates to ensure the restaurant is involved with the community and assists local businesses and organizations. Fish goes above and beyond by buying local ingredients; however, he takes it a step further by sponsoring local nonprofit events.

LakewoodAlive’s annual Summer Meltdown was described by Fish as “one of the premiere outdoor parties of the year for the Cleveland area.” All ages are welcome to enjoy the Burning River Rambler band and 40+ vendors after the 1-Mile Kids Fun Run and evening 5k that Fish participates in. The beer garden will also be filled with local brews from the Buckeye Brewing Company. Fish has chosen to sponsor the Meltdown once again because of the number

of people it attracts and the enjoyment people have at the event. While the event has changed dramatically throughout the years, Fish’s commitment has remained the same all this time.

The success of Melt cannot simply be defined by the 100 different types of beer offered, gourmet grilled cheese sandwiches, friendly staff, unique interior design and regional expansion. Fish defines his success as seeing new and returning customers laughing with friends and family as they enjoy the always improving atmosphere, food and drinks.

Passionately driven, Fish is never complacent with Melt. Monetary goals were not an objective established in Fish’s itinerary. His focus remains on the happiness, satisfaction and entertainment of his customers, as well maintaining the competitive advantage of operating an “honest business with unwavering core values” since its opening day nearly 10 years ago.

*Madison Wright  
LakewoodAlive  
Marketing and Event Intern.*

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Opinion

# Water Bill Full Of Hot Air

by Betsy Voinovich

If you looked at your latest water bill you saw that you received a message from Mayor Summers “updating” you on what he and the Cleveland Clinic are proposing as a replacement for the hospital the mayor and the Clinic would like us to demolish (with our own money).

The mayor’s letter gives a long list of services that will supposedly be provided by a “state-of-the-art family health center.” He says there will be a 24/7 Emergency Room, and a whole list of other services, nothing where you would stay overnight, like Labor and Delivery, and nothing where you would need serious care like a real Cardiac or Stroke unit. Things like Behavioral Health, Ophthalmology/Optometry, Digestive Diseases and a PHARMACY!

He mentions a new “\$32 million ‘Wellness Foundation’ funded with money left over after the hospital is destroyed, which he says we should think of it as Lakewood’s own Cleveland Foundation with the sole focus on “health and wellness.”

What it doesn’t say is that it isn’t a real Emergency Room, and if you had a real emergency, you would NEVER be sent there, but somewhere much further away, like Fairview, or Avon, or Metro. If you stopped there first, you would be in greater danger for wasting time there waiting for a referral to somewhere else.

It doesn’t say that the “Wellness

Foundation” money was promised the week after the hospital closure announcement to the “Active Living Task Force” a group run by close friends of the mayor who are the some of the same people who wanted to tear down the West End neighborhood. Money has also been offered to groups all over town from arts education facilities to local businesses if they will support the plan to tear down the hospital.

Another thing it doesn’t say is that at an April 30th meeting where our City

Council questioned questioned Cleveland Clinic doctors about what was actually going to be in the “Wellness Center,” THEY DIDN’T KNOW WHAT WAS GOING TO BE IN THE WELLNESS CENTER. They couldn’t give ANY ANSWER. They sure didn’t say, “Well, there’s the Emergency Room and---“

THEY SAID THEY DIDN’T KNOW, ABOUT ANY OF IT.

This is actually the LATEST NEWS on what is going to be at the Wellness Center for which we are supposed to

tear down our full service hospital. I don’t understand how the mayor could be using our tax dollars and our water bills to put this information into every household when he knows that there is no certainty about this.

To have this come into my residence under the guise of something simple and straightforward like a water bill makes me feel unsafe in the hands of the current administration.

The water bill is a place to find out about recycling and when the trash pick up will be during holidays, not some kind of con job about why it’s okay to tear down our hospital.

## Mayor’s Hospital Scam, Council’s Cover-Up

by Steve Gannis

Lakewood Mayor Mike Summers should not be re-elected as his past election campaign manager Timothy Laskey wrote in the June 23 Lakewood Observer.

Laskey omitted the key proven fact that Summers (who was elected 4 years ago because nobody ran against him) has run a scam to dupe and mislead the public to support the plan he announced January 15 with Cleveland Clinic CEO Toby Cosgrove, to wrongfully close Lakewood Hospital, which is owned by Lakewood and leased to Cleveland Clinic to 2026 (so why rush to close it?) so it would not compete with Cleveland Clinic’s new Avon hospital and its expanded Fairview Hospital.

Summers in 2014 and again the in past several weeks acted against the

residents of Lakewood by rudely sabotaging proposals by MetroHealth to run Lakewood Hospital because he intends to demolish it as his pal Cleveland Clinic wants. He should be impeached by City Council, which won’t do that because they are almost as bad as he is on this issue.

Lakewood’s State Senator former Lakewood councilman Mike Skindell is running for election as Lakewood mayor to save Lakewood Hospital. Within the next few weeks Lakewood City Council may vote to close Lakewood Hospital. Call all seven councilpersons at 216-521-7580 and email them at City Hall website onelakewood.com to save the hospital. Call the group Save Lakewood Hospital at 216-221-9202 for information or to help. A Lakewood referendum can save the hospital, put on the election ballot by collecting signatures on official petitions, so voters can decide - bypassing shifty, untrustworthy, insincere, uncaring politicians.

Desperately trying to get re-elected, Summers is mailing at taxpayer’s expense, a propaganda letter he signed, in Lakewood residents’ water bill, misleadingly claiming the hospital should be closed. But not mentioning the October 3, 2014 letter to Summers from MetroHealth CEO Dr. Akram Boutros reminding Summers that he missed the October 1 deadline to finish negotiations with MetroHealth to run Lakewood Hospital. Summers had stalled several months, missing that deadline on purpose, to stop MetroHealth from saving Lakewood Hospital.

Exposed by local news media this Spring for ruining these negotiations with MetroHealth, Mayor Summers acted fast to try to save his reputation and public image by writing an insulting, obnoxious, outrageously demanding May 18, 2015 letter to Boutros, insisting that Boutros answer 25 questions by May 29, some of which could only be answered by the MetroHealth board of trustees which only meets once a month. This way Summers could pretend he was trying to get MetroHealth to save Lakewood hospital - when in reality he was trying to upset and repel MetroHealth so it would stop offering to run the hospital.

He got his wish, as proven by the May 20 reply letter to him from Boutros, stating that MetroHealth no longer agrees to run Lakewood Hospital because Summers was “not responsibly collaborating” about this. In other words, being an ass. So Summers poisoned the relationship between Lakewood City Hall and MetroHealth by his misconduct, phoniness and treason.

Summers, City Council president

Mary Louise Madigan and councilman Tom Bullock, as members of the Lakewood Hospital Association (the hospital’s board of trustees, controlled by Cleveland Clinic) paved the way for bulldozing Lakewood Hospital.

At the November 19, 2012 Lakewood Hospital Association meeting, the minutes state that “a change to the health care delivery model of Lakewood Hospital is needed.” At that same LHA meeting, a “Select Committee” was formed with Mayor Summers as its chairman, to plan the future of Lakewood Hospital (closing it.) In other words, Cleveland Clinic wanted to close Lakewood Hospital way back then, or earlier, and Summers was their man to close it.

To justify closing it, the LHA, Cleveland Clinic, Mayor Summers and their cronies (who are circling like vultures hoping corruptly to feed on the carcass of the Lakewood Hospital Foundation’s millions of dollars and get deals to profit from re-using the hospital land) claim the hospital will go broke.

If so, it is because LHA (Cleveland Clinic) have been eliminating and cutting medical services for years at Lakewood Hospital, to weaken its operations and finances, as a false pretext for closing it. But the “definitive agreement” document of the lease requires Cleveland Clinic to fund Lakewood Hospital for the duration of the lease till 2026, to prevent it from going broke.

Other hospitals in Greater Cleveland, including Saint Vincent Charity Hospital and Lutheran Hospital - both in poorer parts of Cleveland than Lakewood - are doing well, because they are managed properly. But the Lakewood Hospital Association (LHA), Cleveland Clinic, Summers and City Council have been ruining Lakewood Hospital. The lease states that no medical services can be eliminated unless Lakewood City Council votes to eliminate them.

Instead, LHA illegally eliminated numerous services without City Council voting to allow the cuts. Worthless City Council let this illegally occur and is doing nothing about it, not doing its job. They all should be replaced, now.

City Council should not vote in 2015 on closing the hospital. Let a new mayor elected in November deal with this very important issue and honestly save the hospital. The current lawsuit to save the hospital may uncover a fraudulent criminal conspiracy to close it.

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Opinion

Undocumented Children And Father’s Day

by Chris Stark

As a minister I have always enjoyed celebrating those folks who function as caretakers and servants of our youngest generation. From naming the role of the Divine as eternal parent from the pulpit, to lifting up in liturgy the roles of the mothers and fathers in our midst, the affirmation of those who give of themselves that our youth may be raised in love and compassion is of the utmost importance. These roles take on a new depth to me this Father’s Day since in the past month I have had the joy to have new life within our household. I affirm the sanctity of those who are willing to give so much so that those whom they love and care for lack nothing.

In that lens, I must then call attention to the practices of our nation that allow that sacred bond to become unbound. We have not yet adequately addressed the issue of undocumented and unaccompanied children seeking refuge in our communities. Certainly, the practices that we have currently enacted only exacerbate the harrowing

journey that these children have experienced in their hope for a better life. Estimates place up to 3000 unaccompanied children that make this journey every month.[1] These children travel from the destabilized regions of Mexico, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras to face an uncertain future. They often must hike through inhospitable deserts such as the Sonora with no training, little equipment, and no help in emergency. If they cannot make the journey on their own, they might be forced to turn to Coyotaje, professional smugglers whose concern is more about the profit than the preservation of life. These children, if picked up by border patrol or law enforcement, face further uncertainty.

Current practices in the United States do not ensure unaccompanied children seeking refuge the right to be heard. Locking up displaced children in detention centers, which have a necessary minimum quota, restricts their liberty and exposes them to overcrowded, unsanitary, and potentially abusive conditions. Detention also impedes children’s access

to asylum and may illegitimately discourage others from seeking international protection. Furthermore, even if children have access to a hearing before an immigration judge, few do so with legal representation, according to studies done by TRAC Immigration and Syracuse University. Outcomes in immigration court are far too often determined by whether or not a child is represented by an attorney. Although a large number of children have legitimate legal grounds to remain in the U.S., 90 percent of children appearing before an immigration judge without representation will be ordered deported. By contrast, children who do have access to an attorney are allowed to stay in the U.S. nearly half of the time.[2] Language barriers, the complex legal nature of immigration proceedings, and the financial burden of hiring an attorney prevent many children who have legitimate claims to international protection from finding refuge in the United States.

In order to ensure that these displaced children are treated justly and provided the protection that they deserve, it is imperative that these children are given ample opportunity to tell their stories and have access to people who will advocate on their behalf. The best interests of these children should be central to all policy decisions pertaining to the protection needs of children and to their treatment while under assessment of a claim for refugee status or asylum.

Please defend the rights of displaced children and their families by urging your Members of Congress to oppose funding for family detention in Fiscal Year 2016 and to speak out publicly against the use of family detention. You can also help by calling on your

Member of Congress to support the Deutch-Foster amendment to end the costly and inhumane practice of imposing arbitrary immigrant detention requirements. This legislation would strike language in the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act that requires Immigration and Customs Enforcement to have at least 34,000 immigrants in detention at all times.

*Rev. Christopher Stark is a board member for the InterReligious Taskforce on Central America. Their website can be found at IRTFCleveland.org. For more information on the push to end the detention bed quota, please visit this website: <http://www.immigrantjustice.org/eliminate-detention-bed-quota>*

[1]<http://www.washington-times.com/news/2015/apr/6/illegal-immigrant-children-surge-across-border-at-/?page=all>

[2]<http://trac.syr.edu/immigration/reports/359/>

Car Rolls On Hilliard Bridge



July 1, a driver lost control of his car on Hilliard Bridge and it rolled. The passenger claimed to have dropped his burrito which caused the accident. Both on the right were ok, and in good spirits considering what they had been through.

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Opinion

# Curious Questions And Facts

by Terence Kilroy

Curious Questions and Evidence:  
Can Lakewood Hospital be saved?  
It is an important question, deserving a thoughtful answer.

It was with interest that I attended the Committee of the Whole meeting on June 23rd, at which Mr. Gable (President of the Lakewood Hospital Association) and Mr. Haber (Chairman of the LHA Finance Committee) addressed our City Council. It appears that they came to the meeting to pressure our City Council to cut short their deliberations regarding the Letter of Intent (LOI) to close Lakewood Hospital, and perhaps to plant an article in the Plain Dealer intended to convince our citizens that the hospital under the current administration is not viable.

The meeting format left no option for the public to ask questions pertinent to making informed decisions. As the only person in the room who speaks with the Lakewood Hospital nurses and attends on the hospital wards on a daily basis, I found this presentation a curious mixture of facts and conjecture inspiring many unanswered questions.

First, Mr. Gable reported that nurse morale is decreasing and that senior nurses are finding other jobs outside Lakewood Hospital. He implied that this is the result of his inability to begin the closure process because of council's delay.

How he arrived at this conclusion

is unclear. In my direct discussions with the floor nurses, they relate that the morale is low because having spent 10-35 years working at the hospital and they now struggle to do their jobs under the constraints in staffing, policies and service availability as structured by the hospital's administration. Many nurses have spent their entire career at Lakewood Hospital and feel frustrated by the resulting decline in the personal high quality care they have provided in the past.

Supervisory nurses have been leaving. In January, when the Clinic/LHA announced its plans to close the hospital, Mr. Ritchie (Chief Operating Officer) was asking the rank and file nurses to stay. Meanwhile, the Cleveland Clinic approached the Head nurse of the Neuro ICU, ICU and Critical Care Stepdown to leave and take over the Neuro/Critical Care program at Main Campus. A month ago, Fairview Hospital's nursing administrator approached the Head nurse of our Telemetry Unit and offered her a job at Fairview Hospital with the proviso that she could bring some of the other floor nurses with her.

Needless to say, morale among the rank and file suffers, when the "officers" are getting into the life boats before the decision to abandon ship has been made.

Has Mr. Gable asked the Clinic to stop "poaching" our employees? I see no evidence of this. I am glad that Mr. Gable and the LHA board are concerned about the nurses; however, the fiduciary responsibility is to the 52,000 residents of Lakewood, Ohio.

Does the LHA have any concern regarding the morale of the independent physician practices that have left the city since their closure announcement?

In the last six months, Drs. Suntala and Erossy have moved their practices out of Lakewood. These are two of the largest primary care practices and they have been serving our community for more than 30 years. Several other younger primary care practices and the city's only allergist are, likewise, actively in the process of moving out of

our service area.

Is the LHA aware of the impact of the loss of independent physician practices and do they even care? I see no evidence of this.

Mr. Haber then reported that since the LOI was approved by the LHA board, the hospital is losing more per month on operating expenses than in all of last year. He also states that the hospital made a profit on hospital operations in 2013, and that in 2014, hospital operations lost \$400,000. Mr. Haber reported that these operating loss figures do not take into account gains realized on the approximately \$50 million that the hospital has in investments.

This raises the question, if the hospital has been in "the black" for the last few years, what is the rush to close it?

Mr. Haber gave only vague analysis for the recent operating losses, implying that the cause is an acute decline in patient admissions, and conjecturing that the decrease in patient utilization of the emergency room is the primary issue. Mr. Gable then reported that the admissions decline started with the LHA letter in January to the home addresses of the citizens of Lakewood telling them that the hospital would be closing and the resultant citizen's confusion concerning the status of the hospital.

Did the LHA send clarifying letters to all the citizens to inform them that hospital closure is not a "done deal" unless and until the owners of the hospital assets (the citizens of Lakewood), acting through their elected city council, agree? I see no evidence of this.

Has the LHA gathered data regarding the actual flow of patients in our community? Did they find out the numbers of patients who reside in Lakewood or our service area that have been transported to other hospitals by our EMS, been transferred from our emergency room to other hospitals or have been transferred from the Lakewood Hospital inpatient service to Fairview Hospital or Main Campus CCF?

Have they tracked the number of residents of Lakewood that have been admitted to other CCF hospitals since

January? I see no evidence of this.

Have they approached the extended care facilities, several of which have owners or administrators who serve on the LHA, urging them to continue to send their patients to Lakewood Hospital rather than bypass our ER and send patients directly to Fairview Hospital?

Have the LHA communicated with the free standing emergency rooms and EMS to clarify the current condition of our services and that we are still open for business? I see no evidence of this.

Mr. Gable reported that they have spoken with the independent physicians to encourage the continued use of the hospital. I am an independent physician; neither my colleagues nor I have been contacted.

Did Mr. Gable approach the CCF hierarchy about helping offset this decline in admissions as the CCF is bound to do by the 1996 Definitive Agreement?

When the Clinic purchased Lutheran Hospital, they assigned several orthopedic surgeons from main campus to bring cases to Lutheran and they moved the Lakewood Hospital inpatient psychiatry unit there, with the acquiescence of the LHA, making Lutheran profitable.

Did the LHA discuss with Dr. Cosgrove bringing back the neurosurgical, thoracic, cardiac, oncology and vascular cases that they have moved to Fairview Hospital? I see no evidence of this.

In summary, it was a curious presentation, in which the LHA leadership spent over an hour convincing the City Council that under their current hospital guidance and administration the hospital is being abandoned and, therefore, cannot survive. I agree.


It is clearly time to replace the hospital's leadership before they completely destroy a valuable community asset.

Terence Kilroy, MD

*Dr. Terence Kilroy has a medical practice at Lakewood Hospital with an office in Lakewood since 1985. His specialties are Pulmonary and Critical Care.*

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Pulse Of The City

Lakewood’s Shape-Shifting Ghosts...

Yeah, I know, it’s nowhere near Halloween.

Still, this column is about ghosts. Some of you might even be thinking that this column was written by a ghost.

How are you all doing? Yeah, I’m still around. I’m the same Gary Rice who wrote hundreds of columns and articles for the Lakewood Observer and other publications over the last ten years. We’ve covered just about every subject under the sun, have we not? (And likely a few that, in one way or another, related to the moon, as well.) Yeah, I’m the same Gary Rice....except of course...I’m not.

Times change. So do people, and so have I. The last ten years of my life were spent caring for my dear late father; Lakewood Schools Staff Hall of Fame member and music teacher, Robert Rice. They were good years too. For the most part, in fact, they were great ones for both of us. Dad’s smile and positive attitude shown brightly...up to, and including on the day of his passing. Dad certainly showed me how to live, and he showed all of us how to bravely face that last chapter in our lives. As Dad aged however, and the trials of his life increased exponentially, maintaining that brave smile and encouragement for me and others became more challenging for him with each passing hour. “But Gary,” he would say, “always remember to smile every single day of your life, because it might be the only smile that someone will see on that day.” Honestly, he even kept that smile in his coffin.

As for me? Oh sure, I could smile with the best of them. The thing is, I just so often took life too dang seriously. Whether with teaching special needs children, fighting for the rights of the disabled, working with bands, fixing guitars, writing columns, shooting photography, you-name-it, I just took everything so seriously that there were times that I did indeed forget to have fun. My smile was therefore all too often, a forced one. No, it was not like Dad’s, but (and I would hope that he knows this by now) I’ve been really working on that genuine smile nowadays. :-)

Oh yeah, back to those shape-shifting ghosts. (Isn’t “shape-shifting” the current buzz phrase these days

for objects that are para-normal and change from one form into another?) Some of us older folks laugh that sort of thing off, don’t we? The only thing is, when you really think about it, it’s really not a “para-normal” concept at all. Actually, some very normal things in our lives can’t be destroyed, but they can indeed “shape-shift.” Take water, for example: If I gave you a classroom assignment to destroy the water in a glass, you could not do it. You could drink it, pour it on the ground, evaporate it, freeze it, etc...but all you would be doing would be shape-shifting it into a different form. The same is true of energy. Ask any scientist. You can’t destroy it, only transform it (shape-shift it?) from one form into another.

Could that therefore also be true of the human soul? I think so. There is, after all, a profound difference between a living and a deceased body, and that is indeed the spark of life-- that sublime energy life force, that many do call the soul. When it leaves the body, does that soul in fact, (since it is indeed life energy in its purest form) transform? That is, shape-shift?

Where indeed, does life’s energy go when it leaves a body? It has to go somewhere and if so, does it become a spirit? Churches often caution us against communicating with such spirits, (although they generally make exception for the Holy Spirit, or other spirits who are already in Heaven.) Are there therefore, spirits still on the earth, that for one reason or another, have not yet taken the journey to Heaven? Are some of them walking with us? Could they be either trying to help or harm us? Interesting speculation indeed.

Orbs are also a fascinating topic. As a photographer, I’ve often seen them pop up as unwanted circular blobs in a photo. Some feel that those orbs represent ghostly spirits that show up in photos. What I can tell you is simply that when orbs have appeared in my pictures, they came at times when ghostly apparitions would have certainly been appropriate, such as a funeral, a wedding, or some other spiritually memorable setting.

by Gary Rice

There’s another kind of ghost however, and those are the ones that all of us can probably identify with. They’re the “ghosts” that pop up unexpectedly, whether in our memories or in our dreams. So many times at home, I’ll “see” Dad on the couch, or in his chair, or sadly yes, on the floor where he died. More often, I’ll see him in so many dreams in the night. Many MANY times, I’ll “hear” his words when I’m about to make a decision. The same would be true about Mom. She’s been gone over a decade now but she’s really not. I just saw her last night in a dream, as a matter of fact. That dream was absolutely as real as they come.

We “see” more than our deceased parents from time to time, do we not? As I’m now in my 60’s, I’ve had many friends and acquaintances who have passed away; only they really haven’t, have they? I’ll come across something that triggers a memory, and those people come back to me very quickly, as I suspect, so do your deceased friends appear to you once in awhile. We’re not talking about ghostly apparitions here either. I think you know what I mean.

Walking around Lakewood, I remember the people who once lived in this house, or that one. I remember my friend just up the street, who died over

in Viet Nam. I also remember the guys who ran their business off their tricycles. There was the knife-sharpening man, the fruit-vendor, and once in awhile, there was a guy who peddled ice cream, before the trucks came and eventually went away. I remember the milk chute and the milk man too. I also remember the neighbors. For a couple of them, WWII did not go away, and neither did their alcohol. For others, they turned their little postage-stamp side street Lakewood yards into veritable Gardens of Eden.

The elderly sister ladies we originally rented from on Rosewood still had their WWII Victory garden, and there was a never-ending supply of tomatoes, green beans, onions, and of course, beautiful seasonal flowers.

Can an eight-inch tomato be a ghost? Can a Snapdragon flower? I still see those so very clearly, even after all these years.

Even now, out of the corner of my eye, I sometimes catch a shadow, a glimpse, a memory...or was it just the residue of a salty old tear, from a salty old guy?

Time indeed goes on, but for now at least, those old Lakewood ghosts and memories are never very far away for me. Many of them, perhaps even most of them...(and especially Dad) taught me about the smile that you will be hopefully seeing me with... from now on.



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## Lakewood Living

# LakewoodAlive’s Knowing Your Home Series Continues In July With Two New Workshops

by Courtney Russ

LakewoodAlive will hold two workshops this month as part of the Knowing Your Home Series.

The first workshop, “How to Contract a Repair,” will be held on July 9th at the Lakewood Public Library, Main Branch on Thursday in the Main Auditorium from 7-8:30 p.m. This workshop will be presented by LakewoodAlive’s Housing Outreach Director Allison Urbanek and will focus on the process of working with a home repair/improvement contractor. We will start with the basics of understanding your repair and then work our way through the process of getting estimates, scheduling the job and then making sure the repair has been completed in a workmanlike manner ensuring a well done job. The goal of this presentation is to help remove the guesswork from the daunting task of home repair and improvement projects, getting the work done correctly the first time, saving your precious time, sanity and money.

The second workshop, “Property

Value 101 - Impact of Repairing and Renovating Your Home,” will be held on July 23rd at The Bevy in Birdtown (12112 Madison Avenue), formerly the Winchester. The workshop will be led by William J. Gaydos, SRA, from William J. Gaydos & Assoc., LLC. We will focus on educating homeowners on

Tis the season! Repair season is in full force in more ways than one and not just the orange barrels throughout Lakewood. I am talking about the tender love and care our Lakewood homes need after the long winter.

One of the many benefits that LakewoodAlive offers is the Paint Lakewood Program, which helps income qualifying homeowners with the cost of paint, materials and now labor.

what property value actually is, how numbers are calculated and provide insight into home repairs that create and improve value. This is a workshop that can’t be missed, especially in today’s real estate market.

For more information visit Lakewoodalive.com.

The Knowing Your Home Series is generously sponsored by: Citizens Bank, City of Lakewood,, Cleveland Lumber Company, Third Federal and The Cleveland Foundation which allows LakewoodAlive to offer our workshops free of charge and open to all residents.

## Freshen Up With LakewoodAlive’s Paint Lakewood Program

by Lisa LaRochelle

Paint Lakewood’s new program income guidelines are as follows:

2015 HUD Income Limits			
Cleveland-Elyria-Mentor, OH MSA			
Family Size	Category 2 (80%)	Category 3 (50%)	Category 4 (30%)
1 person	\$23,151 - \$37,050	\$13,901 - \$23,150	\$0 - \$13,900
2 persons	\$26,451 - \$42,350	\$15,931 - \$26,450	\$0 - \$15,930
3 persons	\$29,751 - \$47,650	\$20,091 - \$29,750	\$0 - \$20,090
4 persons	\$33,051 - \$52,900	\$24,251 - \$33,050	\$0 - \$24,250
5 persons	\$35,701 - \$57,150	\$28,411 - \$35,700	\$0 - \$28,410
6 persons	\$38,351 - \$61,400	\$32,571 - \$38,350	\$0 - \$32,570
7 persons	\$41,001 - \$65,600	\$36,731 - \$41,000	\$0 - \$36,730
8 persons	\$43,651 - \$69,850	\$40,891 - \$43,650	\$0 - \$40,890

Households that are considered very-low income (up 30% of area median income) would be eligible for the highest rebate up to \$3,500 towards painting labor and materials.

Households considered low-income (up to 50% of area median income) would be eligible to receive a

chelle at 216-521-0655 or visit our website at lakewoodalive.com and download the application. The Paint Lakewood Program is a partnership with the City of Lakewood through a Community Development Block Grant.

## Birdtown Picnic A Titanical Success

by Courtney Russ

On Saturday, June 27, LakewoodAlive hosted a picnic at Madison Park for the residents of Birdtown, coordinated by Mark McNamara, LakewoodAlive Community Engager. Despite the rain-soaked weather, resi-

dents came out to enjoy food, prepared by LakewoodAlive volunteers, music by DJ Larry, games provided by Jess Parker of The City of Lakewood Family Room, and the company of one another. The picnic was the first of many events to come in Birdtown. LakewoodAlive



Volunteers and residents making the best of a rainy day.

hopes to establish a stronger sense of community among the residents by bringing them together at events such as the Birdtown picnic.

A special thank you goes out to our volunteers: Rich Clark, Cheryl Ann & Evan Meredith, Judge Patrick Carroll, DJ Larry, Tom Ostromek, Nora McNamara, and Jess Parker of The City of Lakewood Family Room and to our sponsors: Birdtown Bi-Rite, Citizens Bank, City of

Lakewood and Dollar Bank.

LakewoodAlive also thanks Cox Communications and First Federal Lakewood for their continued support.

If you are looking for exciting hands-on volunteer opportunities, consider volunteering with LakewoodAlive. For more information, contact Allison Urbanek, Housing Outreach Director at aurbanek@lakewoodalive.com or 216-521-0655.



Before



After

rebate up to \$2,500 towards painting labor and materials.

Households considered low-to-moderate income (up to 80% of area median income) would be eligible to receive a rebate up to \$1,500 towards painting labor and materials.

The PaintLakewood Program has been improved this year to include labor. The cost of labor has been a challenge since the program started, especially with our larger Lakewood homes. We, at LakewoodAlive, have worked hard to add this aspect to the program to help folks get their homes painted either as a do-self or a contracted job.

If you would like more information about the Paint Lakewood program, you can call Lisa LaRo-

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Lakewood Living

# Mid Year Real Estate Review

by Chris Bergin

The first half of 2015 is officially in the books! Can anyone believe it is already July?! It is time once again to take a look at the state of real estate in Lakewood and compare the first half of 2015 to what happened a year ago.

Sales in the first half of 2014 were brisk. Sales of Single Family Homes totaled 188 units. It took the average home only 84 days to sell! Almost amazingly, the average home sold for

nearly 98% of list price!

This year, Lakewood has already witnessed 190 sales of Single Family Homes. The average Days to Sell dropped to 78 days! Nearly identical to last year, homes are selling for 97% of list price.

The Sales Volume for the first half of 2014 topped out at \$31,267,276. This year is slightly ahead, registering in at \$31,322,003. Lakewood continues to be one of the top locations for home buyers on the west side.

The largest differences between 2014 and this year can be found amongst list prices and sales prices. The Average List Price for the first half of last year was \$163, 300. The Average List Price for 2015 increased to \$173,000.

The Average Sales Price last year was \$159,500 compared to \$164,800 for the first 6 months of 2015. The Median Sales Price improved from \$128,000 to \$131,500. Lakewood is in a great

position to post another solid year of modest growth and recovery.

The largest challenge for 2015 can be found in inventory levels. As of July 1st, there were 99 Single Family Homes for sale in Lakewood. Lakewood is averaging nearly 32 sales per month. At this pace, we have only 3 months of inventory on the market. This is historically low, especially for the summer months. The pace of sales, coupled with low inventory, makes this a strong seller's market. Not surprisingly, 35% of sales this year were at or over list price! Buyers, in fear of missing out on their dream home, are making strong offers. The days of low-balling and "stealing" homes are gone.

## Lakewood Democratic Club Annual Summer Supper And Fundraiser

by Debra Sweeney

The Lakewood Democratic Club is preparing for its Annual Summer Supper to be held at the Gardens at the Clifton Club, 17884 Lake Rd. in Lakewood. The event will be on Wednesday, July 22nd from 6-9 p.m. For over forty years, the Lakewood Democratic Club has supported the ideals of the Democratic Party by

providing energizing speakers at every meeting including our elected leaders from State, Federal, County and City government, nonpartisan groups such as Policy Matters Ohio, NARAL Pro-Choice Ohio, AFL-CIO and Mr. PG Sittenfeld, Candidate for US Senate. The funds raised from this annual event supports the efforts for the upcoming election

and club operations for 2016.

The supper is open to members and nonmembers of the Lakewood Democratic Club. Tickets can be purchased before July 19th for \$50 and \$75 after the deadline through the website [www.lakewooddemocrats.com](http://www.lakewooddemocrats.com). The supper will include either BBQ chicken or vegetarian meal, door prizes, auction items, good company and summer fun!

## Tampa Punk Bob Suren At My Mind's Eye

by Buzz Kompier

Bob Suren, author of "Crate Digger: An Obsession With Punk Records" will be reading from the book and talking at My Mind's Eye on July 16. The

reading will begin at 7 p.m. and is free. "Bob's been involved with stuff for a long time," says Charles, owner of My Mind's Eye. "Playing in bands, releasing stuff on his label, writing, all kinds

of things." It promises to be an interesting time of recollections and stories all about punk.

My Mind's Eye is located at 16010 Detroit Avenue.

Sellers looking to take advantage of this strong housing market should do their homework. Talk to a full-time licensed real estate professional. Find out your home value at [www.HomeValuesInLakewood.Info](http://www.HomeValuesInLakewood.Info). Another good tool is [www.HomeValuesInCleveland.Info](http://www.HomeValuesInCleveland.Info). Home owners will be able to access a value range, view active listings in their neighborhood, and through the "Inside Access" feature, view sold and pending data.

Here's to a strong second half for Lakewood real estate!

Chris Bergin is a licensed real estate professional with Berkshire Hathaway Lucien Realty in Lakewood and can be reached at [Chris@ChrisBergin.com](mailto:Chris@ChrisBergin.com).

## Hospital, Recreation & Land Development Interests Conflict

continued from page 1

on the hospital site that included a community wellness center with a pool/gym, a park and mentioned as potential affiliates the Lakewood YMCA (as manager), Lakewood City Schools and Lakewood Recreation Department. Over 8 months later, on January 28, 2015, Summers said concerning the development of hospital land: *"The question is what do we do with those 4 acres and the options really are residential, retail or commercial....we have just begun to think about 4 acres of redevelopment downtown....something else could happen there...it could be years in the making."* He made no mention of a wellness campus or recreation center plans.

On February 3, 2015, Mayor Summers attended a Recreation Task Force meeting. He displayed a map of the hospital site with the proposed FHC and green space available for development. He told the task force members that money from the new foundation (proposed by the Clinic, Summers and LHA) could be used by the Task Force. The task force was told to "Think Big." So the Mayor tied the Recreation Task Force, the new foundation and the hospital site all together. At an April 15, 2015, forum about what to do with the new foundation money, Summers made no mention of the task force or and development.

PLANS FOR A HOSPITAL ABANDONED EARLIER IN THE PROCESS

In June, 2015 water bills, a Sum-

mers letter stated: *"Only one party, the Cleveland Clinic, submitted a comprehensive plan."* MetroHealth submitted two proposals—the first was submitted to Summers in May, 2014—Summers only released that proposal in May, 2015 after much public pressure. The second proposal was made in September, 2014 and was just released by City Hall on July 1, 2015 after repeated records requests and only after Metro stepped back from what it described as a "maelstrom" occurring in Lakewood. At City Council on May 4, 2015, Summers said *"I am not aware of any second proposal from Metro....I've not seen any proposal."* Metro's second proposal included: (1) maintaining Lakewood as a full service, low acuity inpatient hospital, (2) 900 jobs; (3) \$100 million in capital improvements and medical technology over ten years.

Back on January 28, 2015, Mayor Summers said concerning Metro: *"There was some serious interest on their part strategically on starting off as a family health center and considering whether or not they would consider running it as a community hospital. It was a very exciting possibility and then at the beginning of October they withdrew their interest. So it went away."* The documents reveal that Summers and LHA had others plans for the hospital and land before either of the Metro proposals.

Negotiations with the Cleveland

Clinic began in June, 2014. Summers never responded to the second Metro proposal.

**SUMMERS/LHA/CLINIC KNEW RISKS, BUT PURSUED AGENDA**

Documents dated as early as October, 2013, referred to the need for a "community dialogue" as being "critical" and further identified several risks of the plan being pursued:

1. "Risk that current [hospital] staff will get nervous about possible job losses and leave before we are ready to change the scope of the facility."
2. "Risk that once the community begins to understand the changes

to the scope of services, that they will stop coming to [Lakewood Hospital] and operating losses will escalate significantly."

3. "Risk that the public dialogue about the decision is prolonged and it increases the likelihood of other executions risks occurring."

All of these things are occurring now. The public dialogue on the FHC portion of plan did not begin until January, 2015 over 16 months after these words were written.

Public dialogue on the land development portion of the plan has not yet begun.

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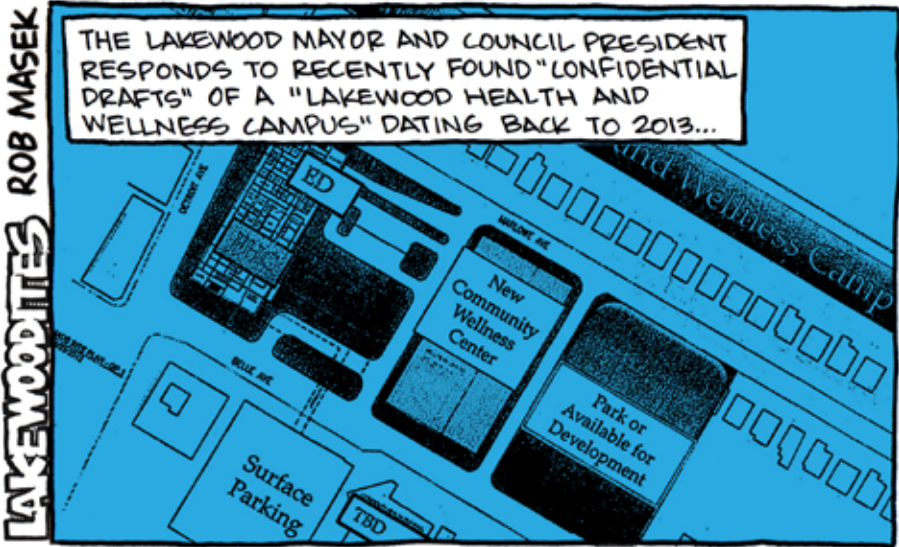
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