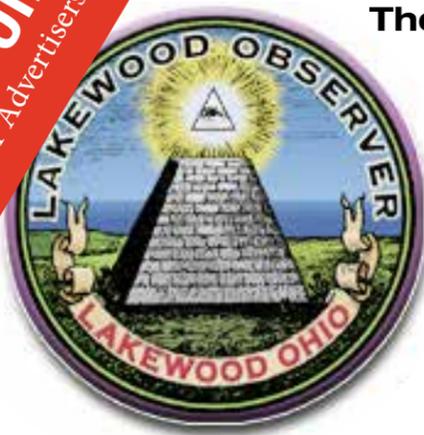


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The "way" we do things is as important as "what" we're doing.
Councilman Tom Bullock (9.12.06 Observation Deck)

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Volume 11, Issue 17, August 18, 2015

Mayor Summers Receives Advisory Opinions From Ohio Ethics Commission

by Jim O'Bryan

On May 1, 2015, the Ohio Ethics Commission sent Law Director Kevin Butler an advisory opinion based, in part, on Butler's hypothetical question of: "Can the Mayor participate in decisions regarding the closing of Lakewood Hospital if his wife serves on the board of the foundation?" In response to Butler's question, Ohio Ethics Commission Staff Advisory Attorney John Rawski opined that, "If the proposed agreement with the Cleveland Clinic would result in the dissolution or alteration of the foundation from its present form, the mayor cannot participate in decisions regarding the closing of Lakewood Hospital."

A second Ohio Ethics Commission advisory opin-

ion dated May 8, 2015, clarifies that, as long as Wendy Summers remains Mayor Summers' wife and on the Lakewood Hospital Foundation Board, Mayor Summers is forbidden from participating in any discussions regarding the closing of Lakewood Hospital.

And, yet, Mayor Summers has not only participated in discussions surrounding the closing of Lakewood Hospital in the past and present, Mayor Summers has been on record as leading the discussion, and recommending the closing of the Lakewood Hospital.

So what role does the Ohio Ethics Commission have in addressing potential ethics violations?

The Ohio Ethics Commission has many functions. One

function is to address "hypothetical" questions like the two Butler submitted on behalf of Mayor Summers and his wife in the form of advisory opinions, which are intended to

help individuals such as Mike and Wendy Summers avoid ethics violations in the future. These advisory opinions are not intended to address prior or current ethics violations.

In order to address prior or current ethics violations, someone must first file a "charge or allegation of unethical

continued on page 17

Get Creative With Bike For Beck And Super Saturday

by Pat Miller

Beck Center for the Arts' fourth annual Bike for Beck was canceled in May when heavy rain flooded the Cleveland Metroparks. The ride, in which cyclists can choose between 12-, 25-, or 60-mile routes, has been rescheduled for Saturday, August 22 with registration taking place from

7 to 9 a.m. Riders who registered for the original May 31 date do not have to re-register. August 22 also marks the return of Beck Center's popular Super Saturday event from 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Bike for Beck is a fundraising cycling tour that benefits programming at Beck Center for the Arts. The rides through

the Cleveland Metroparks begin and end at Beck Center, located at 17801 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood. The cost is \$40 per cyclist and includes a t-shirt and rider packet for the first 175 registrants. SAG support and snack stops are also located throughout the routes. Group rates are available by calling Lauren Brocone at 216.521.2540 x19, and rider registration is available at beckcenter.org. Children under 12 may ride free with a paid adult rider. A 1-mile "Kidical Mass" for children of all ages will begin at 8:30 a.m. Registration is not required for "Kidical Mass," but all riders must be accompanied by an adult and wear helmets to participate.

Once the rides have begun, Super Saturday will return for a morning of family-friendly music and arts activities. This free, popular early childhood event is ideal for ages 1 through 7, with friends and siblings up to age 10 taking part. The fun begins at 9:30 a.m. on the Mackey Main Stage with "Hear & Touch the Music" featuring piano, followed by a plethora

the seven lowest-polling candidates, pulled 6.1 million viewers, which is also a very strong number by historical standards.

Although the debates began at 5 p.m., there was a full day of activity downtown. National media descended on Cleveland in the early morning, with morning shows such as "Morning Joe" reporting from downtown. Media trucks were lined around "The Q", and the media filing room was busy by 9 a.m. Downtown had a festive atmosphere during the day, not unlike Indians' Opening Day or a Cavs playoff

continued on page 5

GOP Debate Brings Spotlight To Cleveland And The Lakewood Observer Is There

by Mike Deneen

After much anticipation, the first 2016 Republican Presidential Debate came to Cleveland on August 6, 2015 at Quicken Loans Arena. As with most things political, Lakewood residents viewed this event through a partisan lens. Local Republicans hoped it would be a first step toward capturing the White House. Lakewood Democrats saw it as a chance to see media sensation Donald Trump and the 16 other candidates, widely disparaged as "The Clown Car." There is one point upon which both sides could agree... the event went very well for Cleveland. The city hosted thousands of visitors, and



LO reporter, Mike Deneen, interviewing presidential hopeful Rick Santorum during the first GOP debate of the 2016 election.

debate protests were peaceful. It was an excellent preview for what everyone hopes will be a successful GOP Convention at "The Q" in summer 2016.

Thanks primarily to Donald Trump, the 9 p.m. primetime portion of the debate was viewed by 24 million people, a record audience for a non-sports cable TV broadcast. The 9 p.m. stage consisted of the top ten candidates in national polls, including

Trump, perceived front-runners such as Jeb Bush and Scott Walker, and local favorite John Kasich (Ohio's Governor). The 5 p.m. debate, which consisted of

Mayor, City Council Invite Citizens To Share Ideas For Lakewood's Downtown Development

by Colin McEwen
City of Lakewood's Public Information Officer

"What's your vision for 5.7 acres of valuable Lakewood property in the heart of its downtown district?" That's the question that economic development experts ask in a series of visioning workshops starting on August 19. Open to the public, the work-

shops will teach citizens how to think like developers and offer them opportunities to design uses for the land currently occupied by Lakewood Hospital.

"Though no decisions have yet been made about how or where health care will continue to be provided to our citizens in the future, we must continue to move forward to build our city,"

said Lakewood Mayor Michael Summers. "There has been a lot of conversation about the consequences of losing Lakewood Hospital. But the fact is that the City owns nearly 6 acres of very valuable land that is in high demand for many interesting uses. We need to focus on future gains from investing in that

continued on page 15



Mike Deneen compares notes with MSNBC's Steve Kornacki host of Up With Steve Kornacki.

photo by Jim O'Bryan

Photo by Alex Belisle

Lakewood Observer



photo by Jim O'Bryan

Summer storm over the Emerald Canyon.



photo by Jim O'Bryan

Chevy served over easy on Atkins, 08.15.2015. No one hurt. Great work Lakewood Police and Fire Departments!



photo by Jim O'Bryan

Kelly Babic, Kazimir Klein, and Jenn Lachendro from Dance Lakewood outside for the Car Kulture Show on Madison Ave. More photos on page 17.

Rep. Antonio To Host Legislative Update In Lakewood

by Nickie Antonio

State Rep. Nickie J. Antonio (D-Lakewood) will host a legislative update on August 24th from 3 pm to 5pm. The meeting will take place in the Multi-purpose room of the Lakewood Public Library-Main Branch.

District office hours are an opportunity for local residents and business leaders to meet and share their ideas, comments, questions and concerns

with Rep. Antonio regarding all things relating to Ohio state government. These events are free and open to the public.

Who: State Rep. Nickie J. Antonio
What: Legislative Update
When: Monday, August 24 from 3:00pm-5:00pm
Where: Lakewood Public Library-Main Branch 15425 Detroit Ave., Lakewood, OH 44107

HOT OFF THE DECK - WHERE LAKEWOOD TALKS

<http://lakewoodobserver.com/forum>

Topic	Author	Posts	LO Reads	Date Posted
Huron Releases Final Analysis of Proposed Plan for Lakewood	Jennifer Pae	18	950	Mon Aug 17
Dru Siley's Game	mark buckley	6	478	Mon Aug 17
SAVE LAKEWOOD HOSPITAL Fundraiser at Bobby O's 8/23/15	Pam Wetula	1	141	Mon Aug 17
Pam Smith, In Your Own Words, What Are The Specific Plans?	Matthew Markling	14	811	Mon Aug 17
Huron Report Exposes LHA Leaders As Incompetent and Worse	Brian Essi	3	246	Mon Aug 17
"Right to Vote" 2300 Signatures	Michael Deneen	3	122	Mon Aug 17
Tom Bullock Responds To Lakewood Hospital Questions	Matthew Markling	3	247	Mon Aug 17
Why And/Or How Does Build Lakewood Know More Than...	im O'Bryan	50	3453	Mon Aug 17,
Jenn, who pays the city for parking in garage?	Marguerite Harkness	14	1165	Mon Aug 17
The \$500,000 Mayoral Race?	Bill Call	2	190	Mon Aug 17
City Hall To Violate Sunshine Laws On Hospital - Yet Again	Matthew Markling	4	477	Sun Aug 16
Chevy Served Over-Easy At 3am On Atkins This Morning	Jim O'Bryan	3	698	Sun Aug 16



THE LAKEWOOD OBSERVER



Your Independent Source for Lakewood News & Opinion

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Upcoming Submission Deadline

Sunday, August 23, 2015
 Sunday, September 6, 2015

Publish Date

Tuesday, September 1, 2015
 Tuesday, September 15, 2015

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 14900 Detroit Avenue, Suite 205, Lakewood, OH 44107

The Lakewood Observer is powered by AGS's:



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PHOTOGRAPHY - Matthew Allen, Alex Belise, LarKesha Burns, Jim Crawford, Cree Criado, Maureen Dostal, Colin McEwen, Dana McSwain, Dan Morgan, Jim O'Bryan, Julie Strunk, Kathrine Ott, and Courtney Russ.

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City News

Lakewood Recycling Rates Continue To Climb

by Colin McEwen
City of Lakewood's Public
Information Officer

The Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District recently released its 2014 Residential Recycling Report, and the results highlight Lakewood's efforts to increase recycling rates.

The city recycled or composted nearly 51 percent of all waste in 2014; compare that to the 36.3 percent of all materials recycled in Cuyahoga County during the same time.

With more than 16,000 tons of total materials recycled in Lakewood, the city collected more tonnage than

all but two communities (Cleveland Heights and Cleveland) out of the county's 59 communities. Lakewood ranked 14th in total recycling rate.

The city has had a significant boost since 2009, when the recycling rate was 42 percent.

The improvement also coincides

with mandated recycling, and with the city's switch to automated collection of trash and recyclables. This year, the city rolled out the third — and final — phase of the program to completely automate the process.

The city continues to strengthen its recycling programs to reduce waste. The higher the recycling rate, the less the city pays in disposal fees. City hall projections show an annual savings of both waste disposal and labor costs at approximately \$300,000 per year.

"We need to be good stewards of the city's finances, but also good stewards of our environment," said Lakewood Mayor Michael Summers. "This report is affirmation of the hard work that we've put in."

Each year the city improved its recycling rate. Last year, the city of Lakewood collected more tonnage of curbside recycling material in a single year than ever before.

"Beginning in 2016, we expect to see a return on investment within five years," Summers said.

The automated curbside recycling program is proving to have an impact by increasing the volume of recyclable material the city collects each year. The goal is to have a 60 percent landfill diversion rate.

"There's still work to be done," said Summers. "We will get there."

Work Begins On Third Phase Of Madison Avenue Resurfacing Project

by Colin McEwen
City of Lakewood's Public
Information Officer

The first two phases of the multi-million-dollar project to resurface Madison Avenue are completed. Work on the third and final phase — from Bunts Road to W. 117th Street — is now underway.

The selected contractor, Shelly Construction, is expected to begin removing the existing pavement near

Riverside Drive, and work east. The 2.6-mile resurfacing project will take place in three phases.

The south side of the third phase could be completed as soon as August 21; the entire project is expected to be finished in mid-October, weather permitting.

The contractor, Shelly Construction, finished each phase before moving on to the next one, with repainting the markings as the final step in each of the

phases. Traffic has been maintained during construction and on-street parking remains available.

Resurfacing began in April on the west end of the 2.6-mile stretch of Madison Avenue, working its way east.

The traffic signalization project is ongoing.

Mayor Michael Summers said the resurfacing project is a part of the city's goal to reinvest in this important commercial district.

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

City Of Lakewood Encourages Residents To File Taxes To Avoid Prosecution

by Colin McEwen

Lakewood residents who have failed to file their tax returns could face criminal charges in Lakewood Municipal Court.

Through a special prosecutor, the city may begin filing charges in August, using data obtained in a partnership with the City of Cleveland's Division of Taxation and the Internal Revenue Service.

"It's much easier for taxpayers to call the tax department to resolve these

issues and get set up with a payment plan than it is to respond to a criminal filing," said Patricia Chittock, the assistant finance director for the city's Division of Municipal Income Tax.

The charge — failure to file a tax return — is a first-degree misdemeanor. Those found guilty face up to six months in jail and a \$1,000 fine per tax return.

Those who haven't filed are encouraged to call the Lakewood Division of Municipal Income Tax at 216-529-6620.

Get Creative With Bike For Beck And Super Saturday

continued from page 1

of interactive arts experiences. Beck Center's very own Big Finish Band will also take the stage at 10:30 a.m. Admission is free for all ages, but registration and adult/guardian participation is required. Reserve tickets today at beck-center.org, or by calling Customer Service at 216.521.2540 x10.

The community partners for Super Saturday are Cleveland Botanical Garden, Great Northern Mall, Faber-Castell, and Beck Center's Associate Board. This event is proudly sponsored by the Lakewood Arts Festival.

Bike for Beck is sponsored the Lakewood Rocky River Rotary, First Federal Lakewood, Lakewood Hospital, Krylon, Turner Construction, Callahan Foundation, Faber-Castell, Adam J. Brinza, Dimit Architects, DS Benefits Group, and Minute Men. SAG support provided by Great Lakes React.

Beck Center for the Arts is a not-for-profit 501(c)3 organization that offers professional theater productions on two stages, arts education programming in dance, music, theater, visual arts, early childhood, and creative arts therapies.

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For more information, visit goarmy.com/lakewood or call SSG Lorek at the Lakewood Recruiting Center: 216-521-4177

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City News

The Judge's Bench:

Rent Deposit Rights And Duties

by Patrick Carroll

Lakewood is a city of homes, and many of those homes are apartments and doubles. Most landlords take care of their property. When a landlord does not maintain or repair the property, a tenant has a special right to deposit the rent into court instead of paying the landlord.

The rent deposit procedure provides a tenant with the ability to make the landlord comply with the lease and housing codes. The court, as the neutral party, will hold the rent. The landlord is deprived of the use of the rent until the repairs are made. Thus, a tenant becomes a code enforcement agent.

There are three requirements for a tenant to pay rent into the court.

1) **The violation must substantially affect the tenant's living conditions.** Lakewood has a lot of old apartment buildings, and just like houses, they usually need some repairs. A tenant cannot deposit rent for minor matter like a burnt out light bulb or dripping faucets. The violation must have a substantial impact on the tenant's use of the apartment. This includes lack of heat, peeling paint, mold, broken appliances and other violations that would prevent the tenant from getting the full use the apartment as part of the rental agreement.

The conditions must be also be a violation of the lease agreement or statute, or a citation by the building department, but most violations serious enough to pay the rent into court will meet this requirement. The statutory duties of a landlord are contained in Ohio Revised Code Sec. 5321.04 and cannot be modified by the landlord or passed on to the tenant.

2) **Notice to the landlord. Before a tenant can put their rent into court, the tenant must give the landlord a chance to make repairs.** A reasonable time is generally 30 days, but can be shorter if the violation is more severe. Conditions that create a risk of harm or health hazard, such as no heat in the winter, rodents, unsafe electrical wires or plumbing may require a shorter

period of time.

The best notice is in writing, stating to the landlord exactly what needs repair. Keep a copy for your records. If there is a building inspector's report, attach it to your notice to the landlord.

The notice requirement makes the landlord and tenant attempt to work out their differences before going to court. In some situations the landlord may not be aware of the defective condition. A tenant may not unreasonably prevent the landlord from going into the apartment to make repairs.

3) **Current in rent.** The tenant cannot be behind in rent or withhold rent because of no response to the landlord. Thus, if an eviction proceeding is started because the rent was not paid to the landlord, the tenant cannot raise the lack of repairs as a defense unless the rent was paid into the court.

Other limitation for rent deposit. A tenant cannot pay rent into court if the landlord owns three or fewer rental units and notifies the tenant of this in writing at the time of the rental agreement. Thus, if the landlord only owns one double, the tenant cannot pay rent into court regardless of the violation if notice was given. If the landlord owns more than three rental units, even if in different cities, the rent deposit remedy is available to the tenant. A rental unit means actual units for rent, not buildings. A six suite apartment building is six rental units, not one.

Once the rent is paid into court, the landlord gets notice. The landlord may apply to the court for release of the rent by showing:

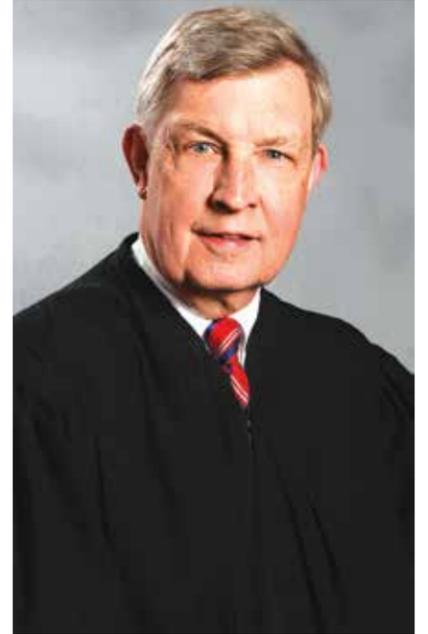
- 1) Conditions have been corrected.
- 2) Tenant did not provide written notice of conditions.
- 3) No violations exist.

A hearing will usually be held to decide these issues. If the tenant shows at the hearing that the repairs have been made, the judge may reduce the amount of rent for the months the defective conditions existed. If the repairs have not been made the judge can continue to hold the rent. The landlord or tenant may ask the judge to release some of the rent to pay for

the repairs. If the conditions are severe, the rental agreement may be terminated and the tenant can leave before the end of the lease. The judge can also prohibit re-rental of the premises until the repairs have been made. A landlord cannot terminate a rental agreement or evict a tenant for paying rent into the court.

There are no court costs to the tenant for paying rent into court, but the tenant could pay the landlord's legal fees if the tenant created the violation or acted in bad faith by paying rent into court when there was no violation. A fee may be charged by the clerk of court, but no more than one percent of the rent paid into court. The fee is not assessed until the rent is paid out. The judge can waive this fee.

There were 33 rent deposit cases in the Lakewood Court last year. With over 15,000 rental units in Lakewood, this is an indication that most tenant disputes are resolved by open com-



munication with their landlords with the common purpose of fixing the property. The rent deposit procedure should be a last resort by the tenant when other attempts have failed.

The Rights Act Turns 50!

by Nickie Antonio

As your state representative, I am working to ensure that every eligible voter in Ohio is registered, every registered voter is able to vote, and that every vote is accurately counted.

While we've made significant progress in securing the right to vote for eligible Americans, too many voters still face difficulties in the voting process, from registering to casting a ballot to having their votes counted.

Those often disproportionately affected are communities of color, young people, the elderly, low-income individuals and disabled voters, as well

as military members and veterans.

It is critical for the faith community to continue to lead in the fight to restore the Voting Rights Act, and I pledge to stand with you in that fight. As we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Voting Rights Act, let's encourage our community members to turn their energies toward creating change at the ballot box.

When more Americans vote, our democracy is stronger.

Our nation is stronger.

Our community is stronger.

For more info visit: www.ohio-house.gov/nickie-j-antonio.



Mayor Summers, City Of Lakewood Host Delegation From India

by Colin McEwen

Mayor Summers welcomed an international delegation from India that stopped by Lakewood City Hall to learn about our city's Lean Six Sigma initiative (101 City of Lakewood employees have been Yellow Belt certified).

The delegation from India has been traveling to cities all over the US for the past three weeks through a US Department of State program in partnership with the Cleveland Council on World Affairs to learn about the importance of local government efficiency and transparency.

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Election 2016

GOP Debate Brings Spotlight To Cleveland And The Lakewood Observer Is There

continued from page 1

game. Clevelanders went to hot spots like East 4th street to seek out celebrities and try to get photos.

"I'm curious to see who's here from the media," said Jane Kander George, a Lakewood resident who spent lunchtime on East 4th. MSNBC had a stage set up nearby, with most of its major personalities appearing throughout the day. CNN and many other media outlets were located on Huron Road, while Fox News, the official co-host of the debate, was set up inside the arena. Among the other celebrities that attended the debate were Steven Tyler of Aerosmith and Rick Harrison from "Pawn Stars."

Like many who gathered downtown, George was anxious to see the debate. "I'm looking forward to seeing what they have to offer," she said. As with many local residents, Donald Trump and Governor Kasich were of particular interest to her. Tom Jelepis, a former longtime Mayor of Bay Village, was also among the East 4th lunchtime crowd. "My wife Bev and I are longtime political junkies," he said enthusiastically. Jelepis is thrilled that the debate was held in Cleveland. "It's just a lot of fun," he said, "It should be great...democracy at its finest." Unlike most residents, Jelepis was looking forward to both of the debates, including the 5 p.m. "Happy Hour" debate. "Both debates will be interesting," he said.

Naturally, not everyone was quite as serious about the debate as Jelepis.



Security was tight downtown, with many protests accompanying the GOP debate.

Mary Coleman, another local spending lunchtime on East 4th, had a different perspective. "I'm doing some people watching before the comedy show," she quipped. When asked what she was looking forward to in the debate, she answered, "Donald Trump getting stuck in a wind tunnel."

The debate took place on an ideal weather day in Cleveland... it was sunny, no rain and not too hot. That, along with the wonderful reception from local residents, made a great impression on the national media. "I'd move here if it was like this everyday," said MSNBC's Steve Kornacki about the weather. He, like most political media, expects to spend a lot of time in Ohio

in 2016. Not only will Cleveland host next year's GOP Convention, but many political analysts believe that Ohio will determine the general election in November 2016. "The fact that the Republicans are starting [their debates] here shows its importance," said Kornacki. Despite Kasich's modest poll numbers entering the debate, Kornacki thought he'd be a factor. "He's getting a lot of traction nationally," he said.

There were over 100 protesters outside the debate, representing a wide range of issues. Among the groups represented were Black Lives Matter, Pro Life Ohioans, Moms Demand Action, and marijuana legalization advocates. Timothy Kelly, a Cleveland resident, was

among the pro-life protesters across the street. "I thought it would be appropriate to say to John Kasich that he should support the Heartbeat Bill," he said.

Lakewood resident Deb Sweeney was among the Democrats that gathered to watch the debate at Market Garden Brewery. The group played a game of "Debate Bingo" where players could win if candidates said certain key phrases. Sweeney, a Hillary Clinton supporter, enjoyed the evening. "It was good entertainment...it was a fun debate, it went a little bit too long. I look forward to the next one." She expressed confidence that the Democratic candidate would do well against the eventual GOP nominee. However, she and other local Democrats expressed frustration that the Democratic field (particularly Bernie Sanders) is not getting enough national media attention.

Michelle Bashian, a Lakewood Republican, spent the day volunteering at the event. She was one of hundreds who helped to make the debate possible. She liked Trump, and thought all the candidates performed well. "They all did well for themselves," she said on her way home from the arena.

Whether "blue" or "red" there is one thing Lakewood voters agree on... no one knows how the Trump story will end. Will he be nominated? Will he drop out? Will he run third party? When the GOP returns to Cleveland in summer 2016, we'll have a clearer picture. In the meantime, we don't know where the story is going, but we expect a fun ride.

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Lakewood Public Library

LPL Calendar Of Events

compiled by Elaine Rosenberger

Thursday, August 20

Booked For Murder: Genres within Genres

"Three Bags Full: A Sheep Detective Story" by Leonie Swann

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, August 21

LakewoodAlive Front Porch Concert Series – Bobby Selvaggio and the No Words Quintet

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.

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

Saturday, August 22

"Newsies" (1992) Directed by Kenny Ortega

This ambitious, ripped-from-the-headlines musical was not a box office success upon its initial release, but over the years it has developed a cult following and has been adapted into a Tony winning Broadway show. For newsboys at the turn of the century, every cent made the difference between having a safe place to sleep or toughing it out on the streets. So when newspaper magnates Joseph Pulitzer and William Randolph Hearst decide to take an extra bite out their profits, it falls to a young Christian Bale to lead them in a strike and let the world know about their exploitation. Kenny Ortega, the sizzling choreographer of Dirty Dancing, leads an energetic young cast, but it is Bale's soulful solo dream song about finding a home in the wide expanse of the West that will break your heart and leave you wondering, "Is that Batman?"

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

Sunday, August 23

Sunday with the Friends: RailShakers

Country with a classically-trained violinist, folk with a Bonham-inspired drummer, rockabilly with a tattoo-deficient guitarist/singer, and rock with a bassist who yearns to play "Pig In a Pen." The RailShakers are proof that these paradoxes do indeed exist. Sweet harmonies, harmonica, well-crafted percussion and clever arrangements make their music feel warm and familiar despite being difficult to compare. Individually, they've been playing in the local music scene for a very long time, but they banded together in early 2013 to satisfy a collective yearning to make their joyful noise in all the different styles they know and love. Purists be damned. Let's make some music.

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



Lego® Robotics Camp participants make adjustments on the details of programming a robotic vehicle to follow a specific path and knock over a mini figure.

S.T.E.M. Programs For Youth Are A Success At LPL

by Julie Strunk

Summer science, technology, engineering and math (S.T.E.M.) programs make learning fun at the Lakewood Public Library! Students in grades second through eighth grade have participated in two-hour Lego® Robotic workshops, two-hour Video Game Creation workshops and four-day Robotics Camps.

Two-hundred and nine students

participated in these programs in June and July.

You still have a chance to join in the fun with more programs like these available in the fall and winter. Put your super brain to creative work.

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

Tuesday, August 25

Ancestry Online: Library Edition

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

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

Friday, August 28

LakewoodAlive Front Porch Concert Series – The Womack Family Band

Bring a lawn chair or blanket and enjoy fantastic music with friends and neighbors in the heart of Downtown Lakewood.

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

Saturday, August 29

"Do the Right Thing" (1989) Directed by Spike Lee

Like Brooklyn's Walt Whitman before him, Spike Lee contains multitudes. He populates his film with an impressive set of richly drawn characters—diverse not only in their ethnic backgrounds, but in their personalities, passions and philosophies. There are no good guys or bad guys. How you feel about one character depends on how they relate to another and how much the people who get on their nerves get on your nerves. That's just life. It's the hottest day of the year, and as the observationally comic first half of the film gives way to the exploding racial tensions of the second, everyone agrees on one thing—you have to do the right thing. But what is that? Lee plants himself in the center of the action as Mookie, the pizza guy who works for the few remaining Italians in the neighborhood. As a simple conflict grows out of hand, he's swept up in the madness like everyone else and has to figure out where he stands. The decision he makes isn't as important as our realization that he's just one man.

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

LPL Children/Youth Events

compiled by Eric Knapp

Saturdays & Sundays

Family Weekend Wonders

Make the Library a part of your family weekend time with programs featuring stories, activities, music and crafts. These free programs are offered every weekend throughout the year at both the Main Library and Madison Branch. No registration is needed. Check out

our website (www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.org/youth) for times and upcoming themes.

Main Library Activity Room and Madison Branch Auditorium

Weekends With Wee Ones

For families with children under 2 years old

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

Madison Branch Children's and Youth Services

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

Library Director Removes Wheels From Chairs To Increase Accessibility

by Nickie Antonio

At a recently held town hall meeting hosted by Lakewood's State Representative Nickie J. Antonio, it became apparent that the wheeled chairs in the Multi-Purpose room were not optimal for many of the community's senior citizens. The chairs were intimidating, the seniors told Antonio, as the wheels made them difficult to get in and out of. Realizing this was a safety concern, Antonio went to the Library Director to see if there was anything that could be done to remediate this issue.

Director James Crawford agreed to look into the problem. The solution did not come easily, as the chairs had been purchased specifically for the room. Ultimately, Crawford determined that the wheels could be removed, and that the Library could purchase new leg bottoms for the chairs.

"The Lakewood Public Library shares Representative Antonio's con-



cern for all patrons, including seniors," Crawford said. "We thank Representative Antonio for her interest."

"James has been a great director and community partner to work with," praised Antonio. "His willingness to listen and problem-solve is a testament to his leadership, and Lakewood's senior citizens are very appreciative."

When the removal had been completed, Crawford sent Antonio a picture to confirm the chairs' new accessibility. Crawford has been Director of the Lakewood Public Library for six years.

Lakewood Public Library

RailShakers Shake Things Up At The Library

by Elaine Rosenberger

RailShakers rock the library on Sunday August 23 at 2 p.m. with a unique mix of Americana, Alt-Country, Folk-Rock, Rockabilly, and Rock-and-roll. This five piece band is fronted by Michael Harvan and includes bassist Ron Cerosky, guitarist James Bucceri, Chris Celleghin on drums, and Kristine Jares on violin and vocals. As individual musicians, they have been playing the local music scene for a long time, but they banded together in early 2013 to form RailShakers.

RailShakers is a self-described lesson in paradoxes: country music played by a classically-trained violinist, folk music with a Bonham-inspired drummer, rockabilly with a tattoo-deficient guitarist/singer. Before their concert, Chris Celleghin takes the time to answer some questions about the band.

LPL: How did you come to form RailShakers?

CC: I had been heavily interested in

old heavy metal/blues made in the 70s by bands like Led Zeppelin. One night I fell asleep with the TV on and was awakened by music the likes of which I had never heard before. It was full of beautiful harmonies and bluegrass instruments played with the energy and passion of the old metal bands. This music resonated deeply with me, and it turned out to be Mumford and Sons live on Austin City Limits. The next day I changed my musical direction 180 degrees and placed an ad to start a Mumford-like band. Nobody replied for months. Then a violin player replied, but she said that although she was interested, she needed a break musically and might do something like this at a later date. I kept sending her emails and many months later she placed an ad to get some musicians together. Several of us decided we liked what we were hearing and began rehearsing regularly. We went through four lead singer/ songwriters, and many instrument players before we finally found Mike - a sim-

ply phenomenal singer/songwriter who plays many instruments. At this point we still wanted another lead instrument to complement the violin, and we kept auditioning guitar players, keyboard players, and a banjo player, but there never was a good fit. We had now been together for about two years and were wondering if the right player would ever come along. Then Jimmy James found us and it was magic. Within a few weeks our sound cemented.

LPL: What does the name signify?

CC: It is a term taken from the 1850s when railroad tracks were laid by hand. Steel drivers, also known as hammer men, would spend their workdays driving holes into rock by hitting thick steel drills or spikes. The hammer man always had a partner, known as a shaker or turner, who would crouch close to the hole and rotate the drill after each blow. The shaker also sang to help the driver with his rhythm. We also liked the double meaning which could be implied, that of the rumble

and thunder of the train on the tracks.

LPL: Tell us a little about the band members.

CC: Mike Harvan is the heart and soul of the band. He writes amazing songs full of emotion and nuance, packed with surprises. Kristine Jares plays electric violin and sings harmonies and occasional leads. Her playing soars majestically, and her voice complements Mike's perfectly. Ron Cerosky plays bass. His style is rock solid and anchors the band. Chris Celleghin plays drums and percussion. He draws influence from many styles, and takes a more groove/feel approach. Jimmy James Bucceri is a tremendous guitar player, capable of accompanying the music with impeccable taste, playing fire-breathing leads, and everything in between.

LPL: Do you have any albums out?

CC: We recorded one and it is in production. We're getting ready to record our second.

LPL: Do you play all original music or do you also do covers?

CC: We do a mix of approximately 75% original music with 25% cover material. We try to play the cover material with our style and sound, but still respect the intent of the original version.

LPL: What musicians have influenced you the most?

CC: Miles Davis, Mumford and Sons, Ray Lamontagne, Led Zeppelin, the Steel Drivers, and The Little Willies

LPL: What is your favorite song at the moment?

CC: Three More Days by Ray LaMontagne from the live BBC sessions tied with Little Lion Man by Mumford and Sons.

LPL: What advice do you have for other young musicians starting out?

CC: Listen intently to everything in every style at least all the way back to the thirties, practice diligently and relentlessly, and learn to play from your heart.

RailShakers' concert takes place on Sunday, August 23, at 2 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium. Admission is free and open to all. For more information, visit www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.org.

Congratulations To 573 Lakewood Super Readers!

by Julie Strunk

Five-hundred seventy-three readers from birth through twelfth grade finished the Lakewood Public Library summer reading club by reading either 30 books or 30 hours from May 19 through August 3.

This summer is shorter than usual and Lakewood readers persevered and became Super Readers. Each Super Reader received a ticket for a free game and shoe rental at Madison Square Lanes, a brand new book, an invitation to the Super Hero Convention at Madison Park on August 5, and a certificate signed by Library Director, James Crawford. Chuck E. Cheese's of North Olmsted donated 2 prize packages which were raffled off at the Super Hero Convention.

A total of 803 readers reached the halfway point of 15 books or 15 hours earning Menchie's Frozen Yogurt and the opportunity to claim a Cleveland Gladiator's Game ticket. What an accomplishment!

Congratulations to all participants and a big thank you to Menchie's, Mad-



Names of all the Super Readers are displayed at the Main and Madison branches of the Lakewood Public Library!

ison Square Lanes, Chuck E. Cheese's, the Friends of the Library and all the parents and caregivers who helped our readers succeed.

Lakewood Area Collaborative Job Club Meeting

by Kathy Augustine

The Lakewood Area Collaborative is hosting a monthly Job Club at the Lakewood Public Library at 15425 Detroit Ave. The next Job Club meeting will be held on Tuesday August 25th, from 6-8 p.m. at the Lakewood Library. We will have a guest speaker from

Cuyahoga community College Career Center. The topic will be "Interviewing Skills". Also, we will provide information and resources to assist people with finding a job in today's market. The Job Club is free and open to the public.

For information contact Becky Carlton at 216-421-6685.

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Lakewood Schools

A Weekend With The Stars Of The Lakewood City Schools

by Missy Toms

Join us for a Homecoming weekend to celebrate the stars of the Lakewood City Schools. All proceeds from the events benefit educational programming in the schools.

2015 Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony, Thursday, September 24, 7 p.m., Lakewood Civic Auditorium

Celebrate the amazing accomplishments of LHS graduates and Lakewood City Schools staff. A dessert reception will be held immediately following. This event is free, but reservations are required.

Athletic:

Luke Beeler '99;
Chad Higgins '91;
Kathy Nortz Lanese '81;
Mark Verdova '75

Distinguished:

Len Forkas '77;
Glenn Mueller '73;
Dean Scarborough '73;
James Wooley '75;
Kathleen Hart Young, PhD '78
(posthumous)

Staff:

Vincent Barra;

Jamie Cure;
Gail Meinke;
Charlene Morford

Pre-game Homecoming Tailgate Party, Friday, September 25, 5:30 p.m., Lakewood Stadium North Tennis Courts

Cheer the Lakewood Rangers as they face the North Olmsted Eagles. Lakewood City Schools 2015 Hall of Fame inductees will be saluted before the game, and the Homecoming king and queen will be crowned at half-time.

Price includes game ticket, picnic food and beverages. Food will be served 5:45-6:45 pm. Single ticket: \$25. Family ticket: \$50, includes two adults and children under 16.

A Night with the Stars of the Lakewood Schools, Saturday, September 26, 7-10 p.m., The Clifton Club

We're rolling out the red carpet, Hollywood-style, for fans of the Lakewood City Schools.

Enjoy drinks, cocktail food, and entertainment while mingling with Hall of Fame inductees. We guarantee you'll see some stars throughout the night. And make sure to bring your phone for some fun selfie opportunities!

Watch for unique raffle and auction items to be announced. Tickets: \$75.

Inaugural Lakewood Ranger Run 5K & Little Ranger Run, Sunday, September 27, 7:30 a.m. Registration; 8:45 am 1-Mile Little Ranger Run; 9 am 5K Run/Walk

Run through the beautiful tree-lined streets of Lakewood while supporting the Lakewood City Schools and the Lakewood Rangers Education Foundation. 5K: \$20/25; Little Ranger Run: \$10.

For tickets and more information, visit www.lakewoodrangers.org/foundation-events.

Attention 1st Through 5th Grade Boys Join Cub Scout Pack 68 – “Do Your Best” And Have Fun!

by Matt Markling

“Do Your Best” is the motto for Cub Scout Pack 68. This long standing Lakewood Pack meets most Tuesday's during the school year in the Lakewood United Methodist Church at the corner of Detroit and Summit. All boys in first through fifth grades can join Pack 68 for camping, community service, and fun-filled activities. Throughout the year, Scouts participate in adventures that will prepare them to be responsible citizens and leaders guided by the principles of the Scout Oath and Law. Boys are organized by age into small groups called “Dens” where they participate in age-appropriate activities through engaged learning.

Pack 68 completes many activities



throughout the year including overnight camping trips, the pinewood derby, the rain gutter regatta (model boat races), seasonal parties, trips to area parks and local civic institutions. During the summer, we participate in the Lakewood Fourth of July Parade, Cub Scout Day Camp, and other activities. Pack 68 is led by Cubmaster Kevin Brown and Committee Chair Matt Markling, as well as many wonderful, dedicated parents and adult leaders. Pack 68 looks forward to seeing all your boys at its first meeting on September 8th in Lakewood United Methodist Church.

You can learn more about Pack 68 during informational meetings at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, August 26th at Horace Mann Elementary School and at 7 p.m. on Thursday, August 27th at Hayes Elementary School. Grab a fishing pole and bring your child to our family fishing trip scheduled for Saturday, August 29th at Wallace Lake in Berea between noon and 3 p.m.

For more information, please email Kevin at Pack68Cubmaster-Kevin@gmail.com.

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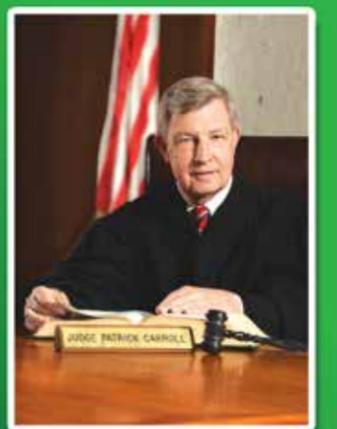
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Lakewood Schools

Lakewood High School Marching Band Holds First-Ever "March-A-Thon"

by Mike Deneen

The Lakewood High School Marching Band held its first-ever "March-a-Thon" on August 11 at Lakewood Park. The fundraising event, which invited the community to request songs from the band in exchange for donations, raised nearly \$9,000 on a beautiful summer evening. The money will be used to obtain new drumline equipment for the band.

The March-a-Thon is the brainchild of LHS Marching Band Director, Clint Steinbrunner. He was formerly with the Glassman Drum and Bugle Corps, which held similar events to raise money. Band parents had the idea of holding the event at Lakewood Park, which enabled the band to better connect with the community.

The fundraising event was part of the band's busy summer. It began in June, with two weeks of practice before the Fourth of July parade. Band members spent four hours per day practicing for the parade, and adjust-



Photo by Alex Beilsie

LHS Marching Band members play in formation during their first-ever "March-a-Thon" at Lakewood Park.

ing to incoming members. The band took a break after the parade performance, and began two more weeks of

practice on August 5th.

The band will make its first football performance on August 28 at

Medina High School, and its first home performance on September 4th at First Federal of Lakewood Stadium. In addition to football games, the band will also perform at the annual Homecoming Spirit parade, its annual Marching Band Festival, and at the "Light up Lakewood" event in December. The band will perform two different shows during the upcoming season. The first will be a Queen show, highlighting hits from the English classic rock band. The second show will be unveiled during the football season.

Senior Tess Marjanovic, a Field Commander in the band, enjoyed the March-a-Thon and is looking forward to the season. "I think it [the March-a-Thon] is a great experience," she said. "It's great being outside and showing the community how much hard work we've done." She also likes the new ninth-graders entering the program. "There's a lot of freshmen this year," she said, "A lot of energy."

Claire Zimmerman, a senior who plays drums in the marching band, is also looking forward to the season. "It will be a really good year," she said. "We sound a lot better than we did at this time last year." She is especially proud of the drum section, "My section is doing a really good job so far."

The band has about 140 members this year. This is an increase from 130 last year, continuing an upward trend. Three years ago, the band was at 120 members. Zimmerman attributes the band's success to Director Steinbrunner, now in his second year. Zimmerman took over in the aftermath of former Director Nathan Harris' arrest in 2014. "He [Steinbrunner] came into a difficult situation," she said, "He has done a really good job. We sound fantastic."

Call For Vendors

by Amy Smith

Vendors with products or services for families have a unique opportunity to showcase their business at the Lincoln MINES Vendor Hall presented by Lincoln Elementary's PTA. Lincoln MINES is a technology and gaming convention for students ages 5-12 featuring Minecraft-themed activities. The event will be held at Harding Middle School (16601 Madison Ave, Lakewood, OH 44107) on November 14, 2015 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

There is no better way to advertise

than personal contact. Vendor tables allow you the opportunity to put your service/product in front of our specific target group of students, families, teachers and other Lakewood community members. Event organizers expect over 500 families to participate. Spaces are available now for this one-of-a-kind event. Purchase a 6' x 8' space for \$30 or a 10' x 10' space for \$50.

Go to www.lincolnmynes.com/vendors for more information. Or email lincolnmynespta@gmail.com to secure your space today.

The Lincoln PTA's mission is to

positively impact the lives of Lincoln Elementary students, family members and the Lakewood Ohio Community. Events like Lincoln MINES raise funds to sponsor programs like teacher grants, extracurricular clubs, technology upgrades, field trips, assemblies and so much more. Supporting this event helps provide student opportunities that are not possible with the current public education funding levels

Minecraft is the copyright of Mojang. Lincoln MINES is not endorsed, associated or affiliated with Mojang in any way.



Come join us for a community education presentation:

"Healthy Skin Tips for Seniors"

August 26 * 11:30 a.m.

RSVP to 216-912-0800 by August 24

Complimentary lunch provided.



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Lakewood Cares

North Coast Health's Celebration Of Caring Gala

by Elizabeth O'Brien

North Coast Health's signature annual fundraising gala, Celebration of Caring, will be held on Thursday, September 3, 2015, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at LaCentre in Westlake.

The evening will feature a cocktail hour with hors d'oeuvres, dinner and dessert, an awards presentation, a live auction conducted by Bob Hale of Benefit Auction Services, LLC, and raffles. Honorary chair for the event is Mrs. Charles Rini, Sr. Event co-chairs are Wendy Kieding, Kathe Serbin, and Carol Sterba. The evening's goal is to raise \$150,000, more than 10 percent of NCH's annual operating budget, to continue to provide life-saving health care to the medically underserved in our community.

The evening will culminate with the drawing of the winning ticket for the Chef's Dinner Raffle. The dinner includes fourteen unique courses with Sommelier selected wine pairings at Dante|Tremont and transportation to and from the restaurant provided by Motorcars Mobility. Raffle tickets are one for \$25, three for \$50 or eight for \$100 and can be purchased at <http://northcoasthealth.org/event/chefs-dinner-raffle/> or by calling the North Coast Health at 216-228-7878 ext. 114.

For nearly three decades, North

Coast Health has provided a safety net for low-income individuals and families struggling to access affordable medical care. We continue to stand in the gaps for the most economically vulnerable in our community by helping to navigate a complex health care landscape and establish programs that address the current needs of the medically underserved. As a faith-based organization, we hold dear the belief that all lives are valuable and that all should have access to high-quality health care regardless of the ability to pay.

Those interested in attending the Celebration of Caring gala can purchase tickets or become a sponsor online at <http://northcoasthealth.org/event/celebration2015/> or by phoning 216-228-7878 ext. 114. Event tickets are \$125 each. Sponsorship opportunities range from \$15,000 to \$500.

Sponsors confirmed as of August 13, 2015 are as follows:

Supporting Sponsors: Cleveland Clinic; Lee and Larry Elmore; First Federal Lakewood; The Charles J. Nock Family; Rae-Ann Skilled Nursing & Rehabilitation Centers; Sanofi; Sea-Land Chemical Company; Kathe and Dan Serbin; The Sherwin-Williams Company; Wegman, Hessler & Vanderburg

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About North Coast Health

North Coast Health is a faith-based charitable clinic that provides and optimizes access to health care for the medically underserved. A vital part of Greater Cleveland's health care



safety net for nearly three decades, North Coast Health provides primary and preventative care, chronic disease management, specialty referrals and health education to individuals and families in need. North Coast Health is recognized as a Patient Centered Medical Home, Level 3, through National Committee for Quality Assurance and has attained the highest possible 4-star Charity Navigator rating for the third consecutive year for sound fiscal management. For more information visit: www.northcoasthealth.org.

Impact Church And LakewoodAlive Team Up To Paint Porch

by Courtney Russ

On August 8, Impact Church teamed with LakewoodAlive to paint a porch on Lewis Drive. Impact Church brought five of their best volunteers to get the porch in great shape in just a few hours for an elderly homeowner who needed assistance after ending up in the City of Lakewood's Municipal Court Diversion Program.

Thank you to Impact Church for your all of your hard work on this project. The porch looks wonderful. This project was made possible by the LakewoodAlive Housing Outreach Program.

For more information on LakewoodAlive's Housing Outreach Program, or would like to volunteer with LakewoodAlive, contact Allison Urbanek,



Impact Church volunteers hard at work.

Housing Outreach Director at 216-521-0655 or aurbanek@lakewoodalive.com.

Celebrity Softball In Kauffman Park

by Missy Toms

Cheer on your favorite local businesses as they face off at Kauffman Park's Jimmie Foxx Memorial Baseball Field, Sunday, August 30, 2-6 pm. This free event includes food for purchase and children's activities. Try your hand at bike polo with the Cleveland Bike Polo club at the tennis courts, and make a promise at the wall provided by "Because I Said I Would."

Lakewood's own Julie Warren will sing the national anthem. The festival will end with the Sokol Aerial Circus, who will perform daring drops, dizzying spins, and audacious grace high, high, high up in the air on silks, lyra, stilts, and hoops in singles, doubles, and triples. This family-friendly show is filled with comedy, beauty, and many moments that will take your breath away!

Thank you to the following sponsors who have shown their love for Kauffman

Park: Beat Cycles, LakewoodAlive, Patton Painting, Deagan's, The Einhouse Family, Great Finds in Lakewood, Humble Wine Bar, Lakewood Chamber of Commerce, Maria L. Shinn LLC, Ross Beverage, Slife Heating and Cooling, and Because I Said I Would.

All proceeds from the event, hosted by Kauffman Park Friends, benefit continued improvements to Kauffman Park, Lakewood's largest downtown green space. Kauffman Park is located at 15450 Detroit Avenue behind Discount Drug Mart. See the Master Plan at www.kauffmanparkfriends.org.

Businesses! Last call to enter a player and show Lakewood your commitment to our parks. Sponsorship levels range from \$100 to \$1,000. To participate, mail a check to The Lakewood Foundation (memo line: KPF), 16024 Madison Ave., Lakewood, OH 44107, or contact Missy Toms at dmtoms@sbcglobal.net.



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Lakewood Is Art

Lakewood's Ballroom Dancers Take Pennsylvania BY STORM!

by Cree Criado

Rhythm & Grace Ballroom Dance Studio located in Uptown Lakewood dominated the floor at The Pittsburgh Dancesport Challenge in Pittsburgh Pennsylvania on August 1st!

Represented by a group of 7 dancers, the Rhythm & Grace team danced over 100 dances placing 1st and 2nd in all dances! Even with some stiff competition in their multi dance championships, students rose to the top!

Lakewood local business owner, Mary Ellen Wank, owner of Natural Skin Revival, stepped out onto the competition floor for the first time after only 6 months of lessons with her instructor Angel Criado. Mary placed first in all her dances and took FIRST place in her 5 Dance Latin Challenge!

Gail DeFrance and her instructor Angel took FIRST place in the 5 Dance Rhythm Challenge as well as FIRST place in her 4 Dance Smooth Challenge!

Dr. Carmen Hansford WON both the 9 Dance American Challenge and the 10 Dance International Challenge dancing with her instructor Angel.

Columbus student (who drives up to Lakewood for lessons) Bobbie Douglass WON the 2 Dance Latin Challenge and the 2 Dance American Rhythm Challenge! She and instructor Angel wowed the judges and crowd with a spicy, sassy



Winners!

merengue which lead her to WIN the Top Open Bronze Student Award!

Debbie Olson, dancing with instructor Angel Criado took FIRST place in the 9 Dance American Challenge as well as the 10 Dance International Challenge. But, that's not all. Debbie partners with another student, Ron Muhic, and they compete as an amateur couple! Together, Ron & Debbie beat out the other amateur cou-

ples and WON their 3 Dance Smooth Challenge and their 5 Dance American Rhythm Challenge.

The students did such an outstanding job that their instructor, Angel Criado, once again, WON Top Teacher for this entire competition beating out 30+ other instructors!

Rhythm & Grace owners, Angel

and Cree Criado, could not be more thankful and proud of their students!

To our students, we thank you for working so hard to excel in your dancing, and consistently exceeding our expectations! Each of you are special and extraordinary! YOU ARE THE FACE OF RHYTHM & GRACE, and we couldn't ask for a better crew!

THANK YOU!

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

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Business News

Y.O.U.'s Summer Employment Program Creates Bright Futures For Students In Lakewood

by LarKesha Burns

For over three decades Youth Opportunities Unlimited has matched thousands of Cuyahoga County youth, ages 14-18, to meaningful summer work experiences. This summer Youth Opportunities Unlimited (Y.O.U.) placed 3,300 youth at over 500 worksites.

For high school students in Northeast Ohio, finding gainful employment can be a difficult process, especially in the summer. Through the Youth Opportunities Unlimited Summer Youth Employment Program and the funding of the Nord Family Foundation, 47 lucky students found work this summer in the city of Lakewood. These students were placed in 11 worksites throughout the community, which included: Lakewood Board of Education (Becks Pool and Foster Pool), Burger King, Asian Services in Action, Inc., By Leaps And Bounds, Lakewood Community Care Center, Lakewood Childcare Center, Lakewood Community Services Center at Grace Lutheran Church, and the City of Lakewood (Division of Aging, Mayor's Office City Hall, and Law Department).

This summer, each student gained more than just a paycheck. They value their summer work experiences for the life lessons learned, as well as the rela-



Summer Youth Employment Program participant Linsey Robertson at the Childcare Center at Lakewood Hospital where she assists with the Pre-K students.

tionships that were made. The students look forward to carrying all their newfound knowledge, and memories, with them as they plan for the next chapters of their lives.

Arrion Stitmon, 18 and a senior at Lakewood High School, is no stranger to the Summer Youth Employment Program. Her older brother is a past participant and his experience motivated her to register for the program. Arrion is thrilled to be in the position of Team Member at the Detroit Avenue Burger King location.

This is Arrion's first job and she has learned so much. "I've learned a lot about sanitation and organization," which she is also utilizing in her daily life at home.

"This job is teaching me how to be independent." Arrion also learned that by making friends with her co-workers, she received more help; rushing causes mistakes; teamwork is important; and showing initiative and doing things without being asked made the experience more rewarding. She will be using all of these skills when she starts school in August.

When asked about her most difficult moment, Arrion stated, "On my first day [of work], I was nervous because I had a lot of orders, but everyone was really nice and told me to go at my own pace."

General Manager, John Duncan, is very familiar with Arrion's experience. He started working at Burger King while he was in high school and has climbed up the ranks from cashier to his current position. "She's a great worker and Youth Opportunities Unlimited is a great program. It lets the student and employer get a trial run of the employment experience." Evidently the trial run has been beneficial. This summer Burger King has extended permanent employment offers to 2 of its 3 summer youth employees.

If Arrion was not working at Burger King this summer, she would be at home watching her two younger siblings. Luckily, she was not sitting at home, as Arrion was offered a full-time position.

Arrion eventually wants to become a Pediatric Nurse and will be moving to Virginia with her grandmother to start college in 2017.

Linsey Robertson, 17, a senior at Lakewood High School and the young-

est of seven siblings, handpicked her employment assignment. Linsey has been working at the Childcare Center at Lakewood Hospital this summer, where she started as a volunteer during her Early Childhood class in high school.

"I love working with kids and the staff is fun and outgoing," Linsey said when asked about how she's enjoying her placement. Her duties include assisting teachers with students and helping out with administrative tasks around the office.

"I'm proud of you and proud to have you here," Tara, the Lead Teacher in the Pre-K room proclaimed as she overheard Linsey being interviewed. "Is it a Linsey day?" Tara asked in imitation of her Pre-K students and smiling as she reflected on how much the students love Linsey.

This is not Linsey's first time working in childcare. She got her start four years ago working as a Counselor-in-Training (CIT) at a summer camp that her sister manages in Michigan. Linsey has already made strides to make childcare her career choice. Upon graduation, she plans on returning to her sister's camp as a CIT in Michigan. She will also be looking at college campuses while in the Michigan area.

"This has definitely been a good experience." Linsey says that she's learned that "you can do work and still have fun." When asked if offered a full-time job would she accept? Her response was a definite YES!!!

These students, along with the other 45 participants, are examples of the positive things that young people are capable of doing when given the opportunity. Based on the values of excellence, equity, and opportunity, Youth Opportunities Unlimited (Y.O.U.) empowers youth to succeed in school, in the workplace, and in life by providing programs that service hundreds of student's each year. For more information on Youth Opportunities Unlimited, please visit their website at <http://www.youthopportunities.org/>.

LarKesha Burns is a Cleveland native and the Volunteer Coordinator for Y.O.U. Y.O.U. empowers youth to succeed in school, in the workplace, and in life.



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Summer Youth Employment Program participant, Arrion Stitmon, with Burger King General Manager, John Duncan.

Forum

Lori J. Allen For Ward 3 Council -

An Ordinary Citizen, Not A Politician

by Matthew Allen

My mother's name is Lori J. Allen and she is running for Ward 3 councilperson in the primary election on Tuesday, September 8th. She and my dad have been Lakewood residents and homeowners for over twenty-four years. When I was younger, our family utilized many of Lakewood's wonderful assets, such as the swimming pools, baseball diamonds, basketball courts, library, and playgrounds. There is nothing more beautiful than to walk or bike up to Lakewood Park and watch the sun set.

My mom has been regularly attending city council meetings for three years, and has learned a great deal about how local government operates. One of the main reasons she has decided to run for Ward 3 councilperson is she feels the citizens should come first and should have a voice in how their government spends their money. Lakewood is the seventh

highest-taxed city in the area. With such a high tax rate, more could be done to benefit all residents of our community.

As she has gone door-to-door talking with residents, they seem to be concerned about the increase in crime in our community and speeding on side streets. Speeding on side streets and in school zones needs to be dealt with. Lakewood is dealing with more urban crime now and less suburban crime. She supports our police and feels they are doing great work. However, more of them need to be out on patrol, especially at night. If elected, she would like to increase the visibility and accessibility of our neighborhood police stations. It would be beneficial to work with Lakewood's court system to ensure that violent crimes, sexual crimes, drug trafficking, crimes against children, animals, the elderly, and assaults against police officers are prosecuted to the fullest extent possible. On several occasions, my

mother and I have watched our firefighters put out fires and they do a fantastic job. Our paramedics receive many calls each day, and they are always quick to respond and are our lifeline between home and the hospital. My mom totally supports both police and fire departments and believes that they should always have the latest and best equipment and training available.

Residents on many streets, to whom she has spoken, are also wondering why their street is in such poor condition. More funds need to be put forth for preventive maintenance for side streets, such as filling cracks which lead to potholes and premature decay. Citizens should not have to wait for years to have their streets paved.

Through grant money and/or outside funding, my mom would like to see more activities, assistance, and opportunities for senior citizens, along with returning our senior centers to full



capacity as they were years ago. Another possibility she is interested in would be to create a drop-in center for the many young people that live in our community. It would be beneficial to work with the school district to start a program where youth could do odd jobs for seniors to introduce them to the workforce. Perhaps willing seniors could tutor some of the youth. The Community Circulator should be brought back to Lakewood.

The issue surrounding Lakewood Hospital is greatly upsetting to my mother. With 1,100 jobs, it is the largest employer in the city. Considering that there are over 51,000 residents in Lakewood that include families with small children and senior citizens, we definitely need a full-service hospital. The handling of the hospital situation by some in our city administration was done in an unprofessional manner. She has been speaking at council meetings, advocating for both city services and for saving the hospital and its 1,100+ jobs. Lori J. Allen is the only candidate in Ward 3 that has openly supported saving the hospital in print.

If elected, she would strictly follow the Sunshine Laws regarding citizen's access to public records so that the citizens can have access to all of the public records at City Hall. Citizens are important, and they should have a say in how their tax money is spent.

My mom is running her campaign using her own money and is trying to keep costs low. She is not endorsed by anyone and has not accepted any campaign contributions. She has no ties to City Hall. That is why you only see a handful of yard signs and no glossy advertisements. You will not be bothered with a robocall, but you can e-mail her at your convenience at ljallen4ward3@outlook.com with questions and she will answer. In closing, Lori would like the privilege to represent those in Ward 3. This is why I think you should vote for my mom, Lori J. Allen, she knows what it is like to live on a budget and also believes that government should be "by the people and for the people." Not "by the government and for the government."

Fixing Our Drug Problem:

Common Sense Rehabilitation Starts In Our Municipal Court

by Brian Taubman

There are many reasons I'm running for Lakewood Municipal Court Judge, including a very personal relationship with the drug epidemic that is eating away at our beautiful city.

I've seen friends battle their addictions to heroin. I lost a good friend from childhood, but have seen others beat their addictions with the help of common sense rehabilitation programs.

Since I started practicing law in courtrooms across Ohio, I have worked diligently with judges and prosecutors to help clients beat their addiction, get treatment and regain control. These judges oversee courts working relentlessly to help individuals get better.

I've also seen plenty of courtrooms who don't take any proactive steps to help - including our court here in Lakewood. Lakewood Municipal Court needs a drug court and a more inclusive diversionary program, right now.

In 2013, 194 people suffered fatal heroin overdoses in Cuyahoga County, a death toll up nearly 400 percent from 2007.

Here's a startling fact: more people died from heroin last year in the county than from homicides or suicides. Lakewood led all suburbs with with 51 heroin deaths in 2013. This cannot stand! With fentanyl now hitting the streets, these deaths will only increase unless we choose to change things.

While campaigning for Lakewood Municipal Court Judge, I've been asked, "How do we help these people before they harm themselves, their neighbors or the community?" My answer: by first caring, by treating all people as humans, not as case numbers, but as individuals in need.

My goal is to implement a drug court program to help first-time, non-violent offenders avoid felonies and

misdemeanors on their records, getting them the treatment they deserve and need. Currently, Lakewood doesn't offer this program.

Once implemented, a drug program is proven to lower death rates related to drug overdoses, increase the number of rehabilitated drug users and decrease the burden on tax payers who are billed for non-violent drug offenders when they are incarcerated.

Lakewood's current Judge, Patrick Carroll, believes that this program won't work because it won't address relapses. Of course relapses will be addressed in this program. But while people relapse for many reasons, I pledge not to quit on individuals who pledge not to quit on themselves.

Remember, these are not violent criminals; these are people who have lost their way and can either be brought back or sent down a path to becoming a criminal career. A municipal court should be there to help people, make people safer, smarter and healthier.

Both Akron and Cleveland Municipal Courts have programs and have successfully helped thousands of people. Why can't Lakewood? In fact, municipalities such as Shaker Heights, Rocky River and Garfield Heights send their drug cases to Cleveland Drug Court. Currently, Lakewood Municipal Court does not do this, despite the fact that it's being done well in other communities and the blueprint is there. How is that OK with our community?

It's clear that the current court has decided to turn a blind eye to modern approaches to drug rehabilitation. If I'm elected this November, I won't take a passive approach.

In addition to a drug court, Lakewood needs a more inclusive diversionary program. This will curtail

recidivism while tackling the underlying problem which led this person to commit their crimes.

In a recent article in the Lakewood Observer, Judge Carroll wrote that "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."

Adults make mistakes as well. Does a 19-year-old who makes a mistake deserve to have it stay with them the rest of their life?

The purpose of this diversionary program will be to educate first-time, non-violent misdemeanor crime offenders on what got them into trouble and how to stay out of it.

The idea is to prevent a blemish on their record from hindering future employment or from getting accepted into college. If the individual has a drug addiction that led to them committing the crime, we will address this in drug court. If the person doesn't have a GED, we will make sure they take classes and receive one. This is about helping struggling neighbors become productive members of our community.

Success stories are what drive me, and my experience with those who have overcome their addiction has molded me into the person I am today. Helping create more stories like these will continue to mold me into what I hope will be a great judge for our community.

As always, I'd love to talk with you about how we can work together to make Lakewood even better. Email me at taubmanforjudge@gmail.com or through my site, taubmanforjudge.com.

Brian Taubman is a candidate for Lakewood Municipal Court Judge.

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Forum

JT Neuffer, Just In Time For Lakewood City Council, Ward 3

by Maureen Dostal

I met JT during the Obama re-election campaign in 2012 when he volunteered to canvass the neighborhood. I was immediately impressed with his passion and ability to relate to people during the campaign. I am proud to support JT Neuffer for City Council Ward 3 because of his strong ability to connect with diverse people, his visionary ideas and his leadership skills.

I continued to stay in touch with JT through the Lakewood Democratic Club and often saw him at community events such as the Community Festival in Madison Park. It was not a surprise to me when I heard he was appointed to serve on the Club's membership committee. JT made a commitment to serve by bringing his enthusiasm, ideas and experience to support the Club.

In 2014, JT and I served together on the Citizens Advisory Commission (CAC). The CAC reviews various proposals from community organizations for federal funds in relation to the needs of the community and provides a recommendation to city council. I noticed during the public meetings JT took his role very seriously. He asked community organizational leaders probing questions and established dialogue to understand their proposals. JT has served on the CAC for the past three years with our best interests in mind.

JT has called Lakewood his home since 2001 and understands the issues and concerns in our neighborhood. He is committed to serving you and your neighbors. He has a strong interest in addressing public safety issues, championing residents or business owner's ideas on how to revitalize Madison Avenue and serving as a liaison for residents frustrated with road conditions and nuisance property issues. He has an MBA from Cleveland State University with experience in marketing, employment and labor.

JT is also concerned about the

Lakewood Hospital and the impact it will have on Lakewood families if the facility is closed.

Every day more information about the hospital is learned and he believes more will be revealed in coming months that will assist in planning for the future of health care in Lakewood. From personal experience with his family, he believes it is important that full health care is available for residents and for those who choose care in Lakewood. It is difficult at this time to exactly pinpoint what that facility will look like, but he believes there is a need to be met and will work to fulfill that need.

Recently I have met some of JT's neighbors on Lewis Drive. They informed me in 2008, JT launched and led the Lewis Drive Block Club with some help from his neighbors to establish a neighborhood network focusing on building community, addressing public safety

concerns and banding together on poor street conditions. During his leadership, he collaborated with neighborhood police officers and city officials to promptly address our concerns. He served as our advocate and ombudsmen allowing us to achieve successful outcomes, which improved the quality of life for his neighbors. JT participated in the Citizens Police Academy to learn more about their services, challenges and opportunities.

Imagine what JT can do when he represents the entire Ward 3 as City Councilman. We deserve a strong leader who has lived here for a significant amount of time to understand our community issues. He cares about the quality of life in our neighborhood and will represent us with honor and integrity. We need JT's leadership on City Council. Please join me and VOTE for JT, Just in Time for Lakewood, on September 8 in the Primary election.

JT Neuffer can be contacted



JT Neuffer, Candidate for City Council, Ward 3. Endorsed by the Cuyahoga County Democratic Party, Cleveland Stonewall Democrats, and Cuyahoga Democratic Women's Caucus.

through electjtneuffer@gmail.com.

Learn more about JT at: www.democracy.com/electjtneuffer

Follow JT on Social Media: www.facebook.com/electjtneuffer or www.twitter.com/electjtneuffer

Maureen Dostal has lived in Lakewood since 1986. She is past president of the Lakewood Jaycees, a member of the Lakewood Democratic Club and a manager in the Mortgage Banking Industry.

Mayor Summers Wins Cuyahoga County Democratic Party Endorsement

by Timothy Laskey

The Lakewood Executive Committee of the Cuyahoga County Democratic Party voted in overwhelming support to endorse the reelection of Mayor Mike Summers. The endorsement comes on the heels of other key endorsements for Mayor Summers from both the Lakewood Democratic Club and the Cleveland Building Trades & Construction Council.

"Receiving the county Democratic Party's endorsement is an honor," said Mayor Summers. "Lakewood has made huge strides in recent years, and I'm extremely proud of all we've accomplished. There's always more work to be done

to improve our community and I am confident that, together, we can ensure that Lakewood continues to grow and thrive."

The endorsement was secured by a wide margin. The Executive Committee voted 17 to 8 to endorse Mayor Summers over his opponent Mike Skindell at its August 8 meeting.

"To win such by such a resounding margin is a real vote of confidence from my fellow Democrats," said Mayor Summers.

Among his accomplishments over the last five years, Mayor Summers cited the following as important to winning the endorsement:

- Lakewood has attracted more than \$100 million in commercial development investments since Mayor Summers took office in 2011 (a figure does not include millions more in school construction dollars);

- Private investment in Lakewood's housing stock has been more than \$10 million in each of the past two years alone;

- Lakewood has become a hotly

desired destination for Millennials and empty-nesters — and everyone in between;

- Despite shrinking budgets, keeping Lakewood Police and Fire Departments at full force, maintaining the number of patrol officers at the highest levels they've been in Lakewood's history, while modernizing emergency radios, adding police cameras, and continuing to provide emergency responders with the best training; and

- Ensuring significant, strategic investments in Lakewood's streets, parking, and parks, including this year's transformational Solstice Steps at Lakewood Park.

"With the support of my fellow Democrats, we can continue our track record of success and growth in Lakewood," said Mayor Summers. "I'm ready to continue moving Lakewood forward."

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Visit our website at: <http://votemikesummers.com>

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Forum

Judge Carroll Best Qualified For Lakewood Municipal Court Judge

by Gary Arbeznik

Over this past year, I have had occasion to sit as acting judge at the Lakewood court when Judge Carroll attended judicial conferences and observed first hand the operations of the Lakewood Municipal Court. We can all be proud of the court's excellent staff who, along with Judge Carroll, are knowledgeable and conscientious public servants.

Recently Judge Carroll's opponent in the upcoming election, who has been a lawyer for about seven years, wrote an article asserting that he has lived in Lakewood for five years and, from the time he was a child, always wanted to be a judge. He claims he is the better can-

didate because Judge Carroll may not be up to the challenge of "bringing the court into modern times" and that, perhaps, the Lakewood Court could better use technology "to be more efficient."

Before running for office, Judge Carroll prepared himself for a career as a public servant. Early in his career, he distinguished himself as a law clerk, researching the law and drafting opinions on a wide variety of legal issues for judges sitting on the Eighth District Court of Appeals. He later served as a lawyer in the Civil Division of the Cuyahoga County Prosecutor's Office gaining valuable experience in understanding and applying the law of

municipal corporations and, on a daily basis, litigating issues affecting the public. Additionally, Judge Carroll acquired a great deal of experience and practical knowledge while engaged in private practice. This breadth of legal experience enabled him to assume the bench of Lakewood Municipal Court with a solid grasp of the substantive law of Ohio, the rules of evidence, and an understanding of the problems, issues, and limitations of authority confronting a municipal judge in the City of Lakewood.

Lakewood citizens can easily contrast the solid preparation for his job and the subsequent broad and distinguished judicial experience Judge Carroll has

achieved with the comparative dearth of preparation to be a judge as well as the narrow and minimal legal experience of his opponent. In an article published in the Lakewood Observer on August 5, 2015, Judge Carroll's opponent evokes a somewhat disturbing misunderstanding of just what criminal jurisdiction a municipal court judge actually possesses. He states that he would "take a tough stand on individuals (who) can cross into Lakewood and commit crimes." What type of crime is he talking about? People who are charged with felony offenses in Lakewood have their cases decided in the downtown County Justice Center by a County Common Pleas Court judge, not the Lakewood Municipal Court judge. Moreover, juvenile perpetrators who are charged with committing felonies or misdemeanor offenses (people under the age of 18) must always be charged in Cuyahoga County Juvenile Court in downtown Cleveland and never in Lakewood Municipal Court. Similarly, the comments of Judge Carroll's opponent reflect a rather limited understanding of changes that are currently being made not only in the Lakewood Court but throughout the county in implementing electronic filing and using other technology to better serve the public.

I make these observations as a longstanding Lakewood resident and as a retired federal prosecutor with 40 years trial experience in both state and federal courts. Although I commend Judge Carroll's opponent for his desire to be involved in public service and I understand one's ambition to someday become a judge, the position requires solid judgment and a wisdom that is only acquired through years of legal experience and service. Judge Carroll's opponent currently lacks the requisite experience and knowledge to head the Lakewood Municipal Court.

Gary Arbeznik has been a Lakewood resident for 40 years. He is a retired U.S. Attorney with 40 years of experience as prosecutor in state and federal courts.

Michael J. Skindell – A Proven Leader For Every Lakewoodite

by Matt Markling

Earlier this month, I had the pleasure of spending the evening with many Republicans from Lakewood at the "Republican Presidential Primary Debate" hosted by Fox News and Facebook in conjunction with the Ohio Republican Party.

What was one of the main topics of discussion?

Surprisingly, we spent a lot of time discussing how we know that Senator Michael J. Skindell can save Lakewood and restore honest, transparent, and accountable leadership to City Hall.

Team Summers and Build Lakewood members have spent a great deal of time ignoring the lengthy and undisputed history Mike Skindell has of fighting for every Lakewoodite – regardless of party affiliation – as a resident, city councilperson, state representative, and state senator.

When I was an elected member of the Lakewood City School District Board

of Education, Senator Skindell would always take time out of his busy schedule to meet and speak with me to discuss very important issues facing public education. And Senator Skindell continues his open door policy to this day.

Throughout the night of the "Republican Presidential Primary Debate," the common theme among my Republican friends was that, while Mike Skindell didn't always agree with them, Mike Skindell always treated them with respect and dignity ... and Mike Skindell never lied to them, ever.

Mike Summers ... not so much.

Matt Markling and his wife, Katie, have three sons and are very proud Lakewood City Schools parents and



Lakewood School Board President Matthew John Markling and Senator Michael J. Skindell discussing public education policy issues over breakfast in April of 2011.

City of Lakewood residents. Matt is a former president of the Lakewood City School District Board of Education. Matt is currently a Pack 68 Cub Scout leader, PTA member, Lakewood Recreation Department volunteer coach and Youth Athletic Commission member, school law professor, and the managing director of the state-wide law firm of McGown & Markling Co., L.P.A.

Mayor, City Council Invite Citizens To Share Ideas For Lakewood's Downtown Development

continued from page 1

property and we want to know what our citizens envision on that land."

Lakewood Director of Planning and Development Dru Siley will present design concepts at the workshops. Each concept explores various options—from mostly commercial/business, to retail/mixed use, to housing and a boutique hotel. "Every idea will be on the table," said Siley. "We are looking for these workshops to shape guiding principles for property development. For example: Should we maintain the Curtis Block or the look of the 1917 hospital structure? How much green space should we maintain? What kind of diversity of property should there be? We will rely on these guiding principles to focus our early stage ideas for development of the property."

The City of Lakewood and Lakewood City Council will co-host the community visioning workshops, which will take place in the community room at

University of Akron Lakewood branch. The first session is slated to take place from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. August 19; additional meetings will be announced soon.

Background

Currently, Lakewood City Council is considering a proposal that would modify the Cleveland Clinic's letter of intent and create a new family medical health center and 24/7 emergency room on the corner of Belle and Detroit avenues. The proposed change to the project would allow the City of Lakewood to redevelop the 5.7 acres of land on the east side of Belle.

In January, the Lakewood Hospital Association and the Cleveland Clinic submitted a letter of intent describing their proposal and vision of healthcare delivery in Lakewood. Since that time, City Council and the administration have been working diligently, in good faith and with all deliberate speed, to understand and assess the proposal. These efforts have included more than 30 meetings by City

Council. Those meetings involved representatives of LHA, the Cleveland Clinic, LHA's consultant Subsidiary Healthcare, the Lakewood Hospital Foundation, human service organizations and other community organizations and members of the public. Additionally, City Council has sought out analysis by outside counsel of the existing definitive agreement and lease relating to Lakewood Hospital.

While it continues to conduct due diligence, City Council has not introduced, considered or adopted any legislation that would carry the terms of this proposal or any proposal regarding the future of Lakewood Hospital into effect.

Huron Consulting Group, an independent national consulting firm hired by the City of Lakewood to assist the City in its due diligence is expected to report new findings to Lakewood City Council this month.



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Forum

Winning The War Over Lakewood Hospital: Keep Your Eyes On The Ball And Hit A Home Run

by Georganne Vartorella, M.D.

Battle lines have been drawn. The pain felt is deep and real. The division and rancor over the fate of Lakewood Hospital has sliced the soul of the community. But that division must dissolve into unity. That rancor must evolve into a commitment to build a better future.

Address To City Council: July 20, 2015

Thank you for the opportunity to speak in support of the Cleveland Clinic and Lakewood Hospital Association's proposal you have before you for the redevelopment of the Lakewood Hospital site.

I'm Dr. Georganne Vartorella, a board certified physician of internal medicine. I had the privilege of serving the community as an independent practitioner in Lakewood and Lakewood Hospital. My husband is still an independent practitioner of ophthalmology in Lakewood.

When I began my career I chose Lakewood and Lakewood Hospital instead of a university teaching hospital in Washington D.C. because the quality of care here was equally superb. But the dedication, compassion, commitment and sense of community I saw in everyone who worked at Lakewood Hospital was unmatched compared to anywhere else I'd been.

We were a family with the singular goal of providing the best service we could to patients and their families.

My husband and I also chose

to practice in the city of Lakewood because of its diversity, its energy and its vibrancy as well as this community's willingness to look ahead and step into the future, embrace change, welcome change, adapt to change and consider the possibilities that change holds.

I remember my time at Lakewood Hospital fondly. Proud of a job well done by all of us.

But it's time to let go and do what this community does best—move Lakewood forward and consider the opportunity that's presented. It will allow patients and all residents to grow and prosper.

The change in medical care and its delivery is seismic and astonishing. And it's going to keep changing at an exponential rate.

The length of an inpatient hospital stay following gall bladder surgery or hip replacement, for example, is a fraction of what it was just a few years ago.

There was a time when a patient who'd had cataract surgery was confined to an inpatient hospital bed for a month with their head sandbagged so they couldn't move and compromise the eye that had been operated on. Today's cataract surgery is a ten minute procedure typically done in an outpatient ambulatory setting. Patients can return to work the next day and sometimes even the same day.

The transition from inpatient treatment to outpatient treatment has been

enormous nationwide. The requirements for inpatient care will continue to rapidly decline across the country. Studies by institutions including the National Institute of Health have cited hospital capacity excess for decades. Collaborative studies by groups such as the American Hospital Association and the Association for Community Health Improvement have shown that hospitals must improve health outside their walls and into the community. Hospitals can no longer simply be organized to deliver acute care. They will be required and they will be mandated to provide health education, healthy lifestyle promotion as well as disease and injury prevention programs.

Consider this. Patients in the remotest parts of the country and the world, generally unable to get to a physician can now access the health-care system and a provider through tools like Skype. Historically, intermittent heart rhythm disturbances have often been difficult for physicians to detect in the office or with conventional technology. Now imagine in the not too distant future, a telephone app that would allow a patient to transmit the abnormal rhythm in real time, as it's occurring, to their doctor or a specialist hundreds of miles away.

It's incredible to think of how medicine has changed globally and will evolve in ways we cannot yet even imagine or envision. And so will the

face and infrastructure of hospitals.

I'm not privy to information about what could have, should have or would have been alternative paths for Lakewood Hospital. But it's not useful or healthy to continue to speculate and wrangle about it.

Nor do I think it's productive or healthy to speculate and wrangle about what independent physicians could have, should have or would have done if we had a "do over." But I am fairly confident that as community hospitals close one after another, day after day across this country, few, if any, are left with the potential for redevelopment that Lakewood has before it.

To squander this potential would be tragic and I believe devastating for Lakewood.

The task ahead is clear. It's necessary. Physicians must do what we're taught to do, what we're bound to do—advocate for patients.

And I ask the City Council to continue the stewardship that has set this community apart from others. Vote for this proposal and guide the community through this time of uncertainty and, perhaps, even fear of change into a future that will advance the care of patients and the growth and development of Lakewood.

This time physicians and the community must get on board and take this train. If we don't we'll leave our patients and Lakewood stranded at the station.

Taster Twins Nosh At Nelly Belly

by Ingrid Dickson & Irene Joyce

A hidden gem at the western border of Lakewood, cheekily named Nelly Belly, is located at the mouth of the Rocky River in the space formerly occupied by Sweetwater Cafe. If you don't know it's there, it is somewhat difficult to find and the signage doesn't help much. Do not give up! Your reward will be delicious food with matchless views nestled in the beauty of the natural world. Located at the Emerald Necklace Marina, Nelly Belly has ample outdoor seating, including a lovely gazebo. Whether enjoying a tasty treat in the cozy dining area, basking on the sunlit patio with a frosty beverage, or relaxing in the shade of majestic leafy trees watching the boats glide by, lunch at Nelly Belly is a pleasure.

Upon arriving at the counter, we were greeted by friendly staff and a plethora of tempting choices, including over a dozen styles of warm and toasty flatbreads called piadinas. After much debate, we ordered a yummy, melty Philly cheese steak and savory meatball piadina with mozzarella and parmesan cheese. As we waited for our sandwiches to be delivered, we sampled the clam chowder, which was creamy and clammy (in the best way). When the piadinas arrived, steaming and swaddled in foil, a generous helping of the fresh ingredients

were wrapped in chewy dough: quite satisfying and delicious!

Other offerings include applewood oven-fired Nelly Belly pizzas with your choice of chef inspired combinations of toppings. Complement your meal with a garden fresh signature salad or (even better) fried coconut shrimp with sweet chili dipping sauce, crispy crinkle cut fries, or pretzel bites served with honey mustard or chipotle ranch. Everything we tried was well-prepared and fulfilled or exceeded our expectations.

A special bonus that we really enjoyed was the delightful little gift/tackle/necessity shop that made our afternoon at Nelly Belly even better. Unsurprisingly, the Taster Twins put shopping right up there with dining on our list of favorite pastimes. This little oasis filled the bill on both fronts! Now that you have been let in on the secret of Nelly Belly, make sure you venture off the beaten path and treat yourself to a wonderful experience in a beautiful setting.



Lakewood Living

Car Kulture 2015 Brings The Heat!



photo by Alex Belisle



photo by Alex Belisle



photo by Alex Belisle



photo by Dan Morgan

Hey there's another photographer trying to shoot my model, no, I guess he is into engines!

Maria Dessofoff Anderson donned her new Poodle skirt for this year's Car Kulture. The 21-year-old hair dresser purchased the skirt at Lakewood's Mission Boutique a few weeks ago. Maria has joined the fun a few years in a row now, playing dress up and posing with

the "Klassic Kars."
Dan Morgan is a Photography and Marketing Specialist as well as life long Lakewood resident and advocate! Dan Morgan/Straight Shooter.www.New.AboutDanMorgan.com



photo by Jim O'Bryan



photo by Jim O'Bryan

This year's Car Kulture Show was the best ever, too good for just this page, so stop by the Lakewood Observer and see the full galleries from Alex, Dan, Jim and others. Isn't it time you joined and shared some pictures? To Jerry and Ruthie Koneigsmark and crew, thank you, thank you, thank you. It is a great summer event with people coming in from all over the Midwest!

Mayor Summers Receives Advisory Opinions From Ohio Ethics Commission

continued from page 1

conduct" with the Ohio Ethics Commission. These charges/allegations can be filed anonymously and the investigation process is explained further on the OEC's website at <http://www.ethics.ohio.gov/investigation/index.shtml>.

According to the Ohio Ethics Commission's website, conflicts of interest "are first-degree misdemeanor criminal offenses, punishable by a fine of up to \$1000 and/or a maximum of 6 months in jail." Likewise, having an unlawful interest in a public contract is either a "fourth-degree felony criminal offenses, punishable by a fine of up to \$5000 and/or a maximum of 18 months in prison" or a "first degree misdemeanor criminal offenses, punishable by a fine of up to \$1000 and/or a maximum of 6 months in jail."

The Ohio Ethics Commission does not address issues of "incompatible positions" as those issues are addressed by the Ohio Attorney General as explained at http://www.ethics.ohio.gov/education/factsheets/authority_of_the_ohio_ethics_commission.pdf.

The May 1, 2015 and May 8, 2015 Ohio Ethics Commission advisory opin-

ions only address issues relating to the Lakewood Hospital as submitted by Butler. Neither decision addresses any hypothetical questions relating to Mayor Summers serving on the boards of local financial insitiutions, private businesses and/or other non-profits and committees operating in Lakewood.

The purpose of this article is to provide the facts as known at the time of submission relating to both ethics opinions regarding Mayor Summers and his wife. Additional ethical issues are reserved for future articles and discussion.

The two letters submitted to the Ohio Ethics Commission by Butler, as well as both responses, can be viewed at: http://media.lakewoodobserver.com/media/docs_1439844079.pdf and: http://media.lakewoodobserver.com/media/docs_1439844176.pdf

You can read all of the documents as they are uncovered at lakewoodobserver.com/forum.

Questions, comments or concerns regarding the various ethics issues facing public officials and employees should be directed to the Ohio Ethics Commission, which can be contacted at <http://www.ethics.ohio.gov/index.shtml>.

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Lakewood Living

Hens In Lakewood: Ward One

by Dana McSwain

Ask long-time Lakewood resident Jan Dregalla why she wanted to be in the Hen Pilot Program and she'll tell you: "It's part of a sustainable lifestyle. My family raised chickens when I was growing up and I'd like to share what I know about returning to a balanced lifestyle and away from the need for a factory farm system." That's her practical answer for keeping backyard hens. All practicality aside, Jan will tell you she takes great pleasure in watching their charming antics around the coop yard, the way they run to her when called and the flock's favorite game: chase the rolling blueberries.

A typical day for a hen keeper starts early. Hen schedules are tied year-round to the rising and setting sun, so that means getting up with the birds, literally. "Every morning, I feed the hens, pick their coop clean, add nitrogen rich droppings to the recycling bin, give them fun snacks in the afternoon and play with them," Jan explains. "Then I ready them for the night, making sure the coop doors are closed tight against night predators by the beginning of dusk."

And what is the reward for all this care and attention? As another Ward One hen pilot member, I can tell you myself. Eggs with yolks the color of marigolds that taste like nothing you can buy at the store. A small clutch of quiet feathered ladies that run around in happy circles



Jan Dregalla's Hen Haven.

when they see you coming with their feed bucket or a slice of watermelon. Compost for the healthiest garden you can imagine. Weeds and grass clippings, kitchen scraps and leftovers? Instead of putting them on the curb for the trucks, you can tip them into the run and watch the ladies devour them, a sensible closed ecosystem on a backyard level. My husband finds watching them so relaxing, he has dubbed them "the best aquarium ever." For myself, I like to watch the hens take lazy dust baths in

the afternoon, content to relax after a productive morning of egg-laying. Jan likes to watch her hens catch a wicked amount of mosquitoes and other pests at dusk.

But all this doesn't come cheap, nor is it a hobby that should be entered into lightly. Initial start up prices for a coop, run, supplies and hens will set you back at least \$500. Jan Dregalla designed and built her own coop with a combination of sweat-equity, family and carpenter friends, costing her \$1600 in materials alone. "I live only a few blocks from the Metroparks. I knew I had to build a fort to protect my hens from predators. My coop might seem over-the-top to some, but whether you build or buy, make sure you ask yourself, "Will this keep land and air predators away from my hens?" Citing the unusually wet spring and difficult terrain, Jan says her coop build took her an unexpected three months, two months longer than anticipated. "So, I'd say multiply whatever you think by three," she adds with a wry laugh.

Donna and Brian Keith, another Ward 1 pilot family, had previous experience keeping chickens out of state. "We built our own henhouse and run, our hens love it," say the Keiths. They estimate their total build costs at \$1000, they built the coop and run over a few days.

I was lucky enough to get a second-hand coop from a friend of mine who

keeps hens in Cleveland Heights, where they've had a successful backyard hen program since 2013. But even with a coop already built, it still took my family about six weeks to prep the build site, place and modify the coop to our needs and build a predator-proof run. Weather was a factor for us as well. Winter hung on through April, followed by almost two solid months of rain. All told, even with a free coop, we spent nearly \$300 in supplies. While keeping chickens isn't exactly a luxury hobby, it is a significant investment in time and resources.

Over the five years backyard hens were debated in Lakewood, there were strong feelings on both sides. Those in favor cited eggs, the environment, and sustainability. Those with reservations worried about smell, noise, and nuisance in Lakewood's densely packed neighborhoods. With the pilot now in its ninth month, how do the neighbors feel about the new backyard residents?

"All my neighbors love them," says Jan. "They visit them and even bring their friends along." As for myself, when I told my neighbors I had five hens in my backyard, they expressed astonishment at how quiet they are, one neighbor joked that the sparrows make a bigger ruckus than the hens do. As for issues of smell, I have had no complaints. A properly maintained coop and run not only assure an absence of odor, but also assure egg quality and the health of your flock. If good fences make good neighbors, good henkeeping makes happy neighbors.

The biggest advice Jan Dregalla, the Keiths and myself can offer anyone considering hens in the future is this: do your homework. Take the OSU Extension Class. Find a mentor with real life experience. Read everything you can find on the subject. The Lakewood Hen Families have created a wonderful resource on their Facebook page with timely, informative links to everything hens. In addition, the pilot families are hosting a free coop tour on September 20th from 1-4pm so people can see for themselves what hens in Lakewood looks like and answer any questions.

Hens are a joy to keep but a serious responsibility, like any pet. They need daily care, morning and night. But unlike any other traditional pet, urban chickens earn their keep.

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Lakewood Living

Lincoln School Memorial Prints Travel To Illinois

by Katharine Ott

As the dust motes settled in the halls of Lincoln Elementary School last June, two more items needed to find a home. Demolition of the venerable brick school was on the calendar and students were to be housed elsewhere until a newly built school on the same site, the corner of Summit Avenue and Clifton Boulevard in Lakewood, Ohio, was completed.

During a conversation with long-time library media assistant Sue Cernanec, my counterpart at Lincoln, who knew of my keen interest in local history, I was introduced to a set of framed prints which had been in storage at the school for many years. The subject matter, a young boy and girl in Spanish garb, were vintage images from the 1940s and 50s, but did not seem to relate to Lincoln School history. BUT, the small metal plaques on the base of each print made that a different story entirely.

"IN MEMORY OF JANE EESLEY 1938--1950" We speculated, could it have been a teacher there, or possibly a student? My research revealed a heartbreaking story. In an era when "human interest" stories were picked up by the wires and made available to other newspapers, the Lima News, the Zanesville Signal, and as far away as the Brownsville Herald in Texas, all reported that young Jane Eesley, "the first girl to captain the safety patrol at



Eesley Family

Lincoln elementary school in suburban Lakewood," had been out riding her bicycle when she was hit by a car. Family members remember, "A car went by her too close and the passenger side's car handle caught Janie's bike handle and flipped her off her bike. She fell unconscious and never recovered. A terrible tragedy."

It's not known who purchased the prints for Lincoln School to commemorate Jane's short life. Although born in New York, her mother's family were Cleveland area natives and Mrs. Eesley brought her three children to Lakewood in the 1940s to be closer to her relatives following the unexpected

death of her husband. Jane's teachers at Lincoln were, in K-6 order, Kroeger, King, Todd, Boyd, Becker, Becker and DiBasio. Following a B+ in kindergarten, she settled down to all A's for the next five years. Jane's two older brothers both graduated from Lakewood High in the 1940s and continued their studies at Ohio Wesleyan University in Delaware, Ohio. One brother, Richard "Dick" Eesley, lives in Illinois where his daughter Jane, the namesake of her aunt, is a Methodist minister.

When I first encountered current evidence of a living Jane Eesley, I was

a bit confused, but phone and email conversations with her made it clear that I had found the family of Lincoln School's Jane. In the fall of 2014, the two prints were shipped to the family, thanks to the goodwill of local art dealer, Paul Sykes. And in the summer of 2015, I was able to meet and talk with the family, Jane and her parents, during their week-long stay at Lakeside Chautauqua. There were so many shared connections it was almost like talking to a former neighbor. I was pleased to have played a part in restoring this bit of Lincoln School memorabilia to the family, and thank Sue Cernanec and Paul Sykes for their assistance. The Eesley family appreciates these efforts made with Jane's memory in mind.



Memorial plaque



Lincoln School prints

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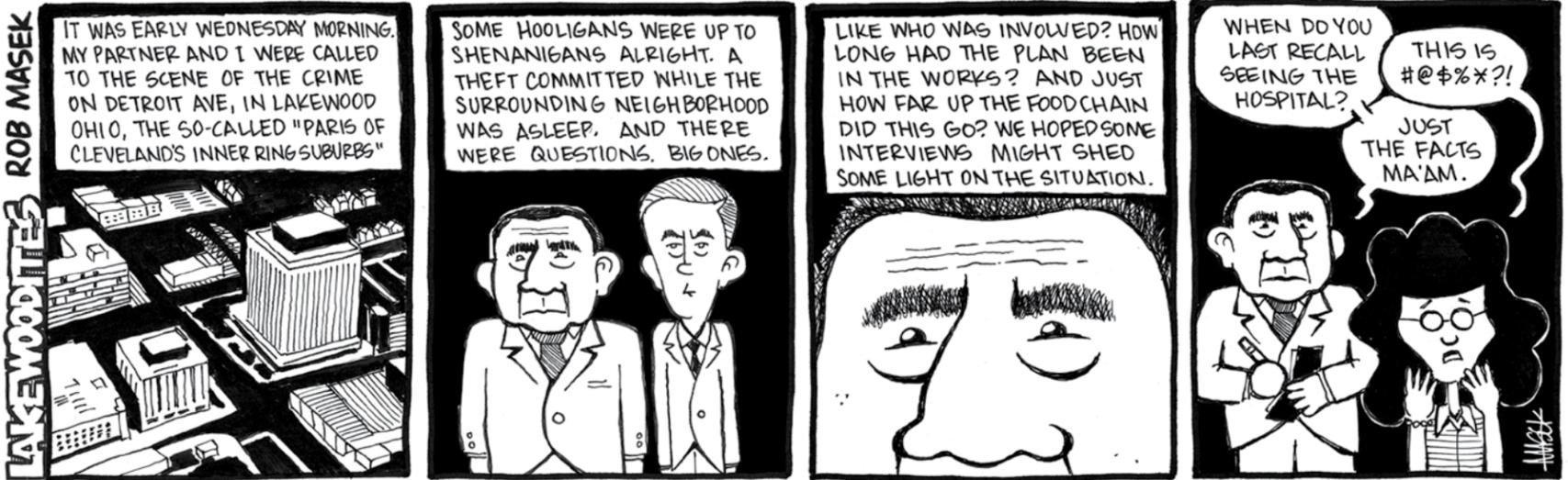
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