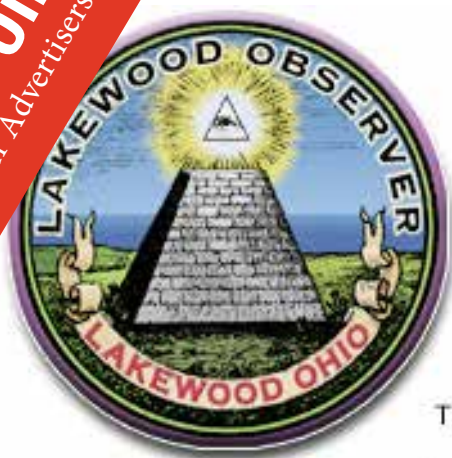


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# THE LAKEWOOD OBSERVER

10  
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Volume 11, Issue 18, September 1, 2015

"Delay is preferable to error." - Thomas Jefferson

## Lakewood Community Festival At Madison Park

by Melissa Garrett

The 28th annual Lakewood Community Festival is scheduled for Saturday, September 12, 2015 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Madison Park, 13029 Madison Avenue. The festival celebrates community, cultural heritage and families. It is a day of fun and activities for everyone.

Craft and game booths, bounce houses, pony rides, children's games will all be

part of the festivities, as well as a variety of delectable foods including stuffed cabbage, pierogis, potato cakes, cabbage and noodles, kielbasa and sauerkraut, pizza, french fries, funnel cakes and other dishes. An assortment of traditional ethnic baked goods and other desserts will be available.

Entertainment for the day will include the Birdtown Boys, Victor Samalot, the Polka Pirates, The Riley Brothers and 2 Guys 12 Strings, pony

rides, a bubble man, Lake Erie Science and Nature Center and more.

The festival, sponsored by the Lakewood Community Festival, Inc. and the City of Lakewood, is traditionally the last event of the summer. Proceeds from the festival will be donated to various local organizations. This event will be held rain or shine.



Photo by Jim O'Bryan

The food is always the highlight of the Lakewood Community Festival!

Saturday, September 12th

## Third Annual Lakewood Wine & Craft Beer Festival

by Ken Brand

Imagine sipping a glass of wine or sampling an ale or a new session IPA outdoors in the heart of Downtown Lakewood. Add live music, delicious food from local restaurants, plus the last remnants of summer's glow and you have the Lakewood Wine & Craft Beer Festival, to be held Saturday, September 12 from 5-10 p.m. on the open-air deck behind the INA and Bailey Buildings.

To enhance the experience, we have partnered with 13 Lakewood restaurants to sell food for palates of all different stripes.

The Lakewood Wine & Craft Beer Festival is sponsored by Great Lakes Brewing Company and presented by the Downtown Lakewood Business Alliance and LakewoodAlive. Tickets are available online at

WineAndCraftBeerFestival.com and at Rozi's Wine House. Each ticket holder will receive 15 tasting tickets, each good for one 2 oz. wine tasting or 4 oz. beer tasting. Additional sample tickets will also be available for purchase the day of the event.

Admission and Designated Driver tickets are still available. VIP tickets are SOLD OUT.

General admission tickets are \$40 in advance; \$50 at the gate on September 12 (if available). Designated driver tickets are \$10 and only available online (pre-sale only). There are no refunds and it will take place, rain or shine.

The festival offers a unique experience to highlight over 40 wines in the Rozi's Wine House Wine Row, 170+ craft beers along with 13 food vendors, several sideshow vendors, live music, The University of Akron



Lakewood Wine & Beer School and much more. The Lakewood Wine & Craft Beer Festival is only for those 21 and over. Please leave the children and dogs at home. The event will be located at 14701 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood, OH 44107, between St. Charles Avenue and Warren Road, south of Detroit Avenue.

continued on page 20



photo by Alex Belisle

## New Beginnings At Lakewood High School

by Christine Gordillo

The official groundbreaking at Lakewood High School was held Aug. 27. Joining Superintendent Jeff Patterson (far right) was Board VP Tom Einhouse, State Sen. Mike Skindell, Law Director Kevin Butler, LHS students Zach Howe, Erin Black, Board President Emma Petrie Barcelona, Principal Keith Ahearn, LHS students Jonathan Thompson and Angela Vogli, Board members Ed Favre and Linda Beebe and PTA President Karen Zingale.

## Calleri For School Board

by Woody Calleri

Dear Neighbor,

For the last 18 years my wife and I have been proud to call Lakewood our home and the place that we have chosen to raise our 3 children - ages 14, 11 and 8. In that time we have seen a remarkable improvement in what our city has to offer and how it is viewed by outsiders.

I also know that for this to continue the residents of Lakewood have to step up and get involved. To give their time, expertise and knowledge where needed to strengthen our community, improve our public institutions and



BOE Candidate Gregory "Woody" Calleri

increase the attractiveness of our city.

Over the past several years continued on page 14

## Elect Kristine Pagsuyoin To Lakewood Board Of Education

by Debra Sweeney

Kristine and I met four years ago over coffee and pastry. As a former PTA Council President and Board of Education member, I always make time for parents who are interested in child and family advocacy. We discussed parent involvement in Lakewood City Schools and education issues. It was at that time that I found out her background was in corporate training for non-continued on page 2



Welcome Back to School Event at Garfield with past Ohio PTA and Lakewood BOE member Deb Sweeney, Deb Tidwell, Past Ohio PTA President and current Fairview Park BOE member and Kristine Pagsuyoin, Past Lakewood PTA Council President and Lakewood BOE Candidate.



Lakewood Observer

# County Board Of Elections Makes Some Changes To Precincts, Polling Locations

by Colin McEwen

The Cuyahoga County Board of Elections recently completed a precinct reduction plan for a number of municipalities in the county — including a few in Lakewood. As a result, some precinct-to-polling place assignments were revised.

Board of Elections officials have said that the Lakewood High School reconstruction is part of the reason why the changes were made.

Here are the precinct changes; those interested in more can also look at the new precinct map ([http://boe.cuyahogacounty.us/pdf\\_boe/en-US/maps/Lakewood.pdf](http://boe.cuyahogacounty.us/pdf_boe/en-US/maps/Lakewood.pdf)):

- Move precinct 2A from Lakewood United Methodist Church to Lakewood Women's Club Pavilion
- Move precinct 3A from Emerson Elementary to Lakewood Women's Club Pavilion

- Move precinct 3C from Lakewood High School to Harding Middle School
- Move precinct 3D from Lakewood High School to Hayes Elementary School
- Move precinct 3H from Lakewood High School to Harrison Elementary School
- Move precincts 4A and D from Winton Place to Emerson Elementary School

In addition, some of the eastern and western boundaries were redrawn, said election officials. Those interested to find out more about their polling location are encouraged to check out the Board of Elections' website (<http://boe.cuyahogacounty.us/en-US/My-Polling-Location.aspx>).

All residents that have changes — in precinct or location — will receive a postcard in the mail.

# Elect Kristine Pagsuyoin To Lakewood Board Of Education

continued from page 1

profits; she is a classroom teacher and served in a number of district committees affecting kids and families. It is because of Kristine's proven leadership and experience that I know she will be an effective member of the school board.

Kristine and her husband, Art, have both volunteered for a number of committees with Lakewood City Schools through the activities of their two children. It is Kristine's involvement on school committees that makes her uniquely qualified for school board because she understands the issues that affect students, parents, and teachers.

Kristine is an educator. She currently teaches in the College of Education at Cleveland State University. She believes that teachers need the support of their community, not just financially, but to be included in the choices made by a district for educating students. As an educator, she knows how kids learn. She will work diligently to offer and keep high-quality programs that allow students to compete in a global job market. The

district music program is one example of a program that she is passionate to maintain.

Kristine understands parents. She has been a proud member of the PTA for 15 years beginning with Early Childhood PTA and recently finishing a two-year term as Lakewood Council of PTAs president serving over 1200 parents and teachers. During her two years as Council President, she worked directly with the superintendent to identify parent issues and to solve problems. She understands that parents want engaged school board members who are responsive to their concerns. Together, by working directly with parents and the community, she will help build a school district that is collaborative and supportive of families.

Kristine has been endorsed by the Lakewood Democratic Club, Cuyahoga County Democratic Party and is the 2014 Lakewood Democrat of the Year, recipient of the 2012 Community Builder Award from the Lakewood Family Collaborative and has received the Ohio PTA Gold Key Leadership Award.

## HOT OFF THE DECK - WHERE LAKEWOOD TALKS

<http://lakewoodobserver.com/forum>

Topic	Author	Posts	LO Reads	Last Post
Council Should Support the Charter Amendment	Bill Call	24	657	Mon Aug 31
Law Director Kevin M. Butler - Show Us The CCF Release!	Matthew Markling	2	229	Mon Aug 31
Post Issue 47 - Lakewood Is A Bricks-and-Mortar Town	Matthew Markling	1	211	Mon Aug 31
Is Summers Soft on Speeding & Tailgating?	Lori Allen	6	556	Mon Aug 31
Kauffman Park Celebrity Softball Game	Dan Alaimo	10	726	Mon Aug 31
Yellow Journalism? So, When Did Wendy Summers Resign?	Matthew Markling	0	190	Mon Aug 31
"Catching the Light in Lakewood"	Alex Belisle	151	6079	Sun Aug 30
One Of Build Lakewood's . Founding Members Cranks Up..	Jim O'Bryan	18	1150	Sun Aug 30
"Unacceptable behavior," by Councilman Shawn Juris	stephen davis	179	16679	Sun Aug 30
2014 Letter Shows Summers' HYPOCRISY and BETRAYA	Brian Essi	10	799	Sat Aug 29
\$1 Million Spent So Far - That's How Bad The Deal Is	Jim O'Bryan	0	247	Sat Aug 29



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**Upcoming Submission Deadline**  
Sunday, May September 6, 2015  
Sunday, May August 20, 2015

**Publish Date**  
Tuesday, September 15, 2015  
Tuesday, September 29, 2015

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**14900 Detroit Avenue, Suite 205, Lakewood, OH 44107**

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**PRODUCTION** - A Graphic Solution, Inc.

**PHOTOGRAPHY** - Alexander Belise, Mike Deneen, DeDe MacNamee-Gold, Mary Johnson, Christine Gordillo, Colin McEwen, Heidi Murray, Jim O'Bryan, and Debra Sweeney.

**CONTRIBUTING WRITERS** - Chris Bergin, Ken Brand, Lisa Calfee, Woody Calleri, Judge Patrick carroll, Bruce Chamberlin, Mike Deneen, Jan Dregalla, Susan Dunn, Celia Dorsch, Brian Essi, Melissa Garrett, DeDe MacNamee-Gold, Christine Gordillo, Diane Helbig, Lisa Hofmann, Mary Johnson, Karen Karp, Cynthia Kessler, Eric Knapp, John Kompier, Margorie Korcheck, John Litten, Paula Maust, Colin McEwen, Pat Miller, Heidi Murray, Ted angel, Erin Naso, JT Neuffer, Kathy Rigdon, Courtney Russ, Elaine Rosenberger, Mark Schneider, Tammy Sibert, Ellen Stephens, Cindy Bischof-Steinbrick, April Stoltz, Allison Urbanek, and Daniel Wenger.

Celebrating Over 10 Years of Community Discussion at: [www.lakewoodobserver.com](http://www.lakewoodobserver.com)



City News

# City Of Lakewood Consultant Huron Releases Final Analysis Of Proposed Plan For Lakewood Hospital

by Colin McEwen

Lakewood city officials received the final report from Huron Consulting Group, an independent national consulting firm hired by the City of Lakewood to assist the city in its due diligence following a January 2015 proposal by the Cleveland Clinic and Lakewood Hospital Association over the future of Lakewood Hospital.

The initial phase of Huron’s work, released in a report on July 14, was to advise the city on current healthcare trends, including population, health and conversions of acute care hospitals into ambulatory centers.

The final report received today details the remaining phases of Huron’s consultancy for the city, which included reviewing the analysis and recommendations made by Subsidiary Healthcare in its report to LHA; reviewing the obligations contained in the 1996 Definitive Agreement between the Cleveland Clinic and LHA; and analyzing Lakewood Hospital’s financial position.

Huron’s final report to the City of Lakewood is available online, and its lead consultant, John Bodine, discussed Huron’s findings at a public City Council committee meeting on Monday, August 17. To watch the video from that meeting, follow this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AfS1MsMdgCI>

Since receiving the Letter of Intent from the LHA and Cleveland Clinic with respect to a proposed plan for Lakewood Hospital and future healthcare delivery in Lakewood, City Council and the administration of the city have been working diligently, in good faith and with all deliberate speed, to understand and assess the proposed plan. These efforts have included over 30 meetings by City Council with representatives of LHA, the Cleveland Clinic, LHA’s consultant Subsidiary, the Lakewood Hospital Foundation, human service organizations and other community organizations and

m e m b e r s of the public, as well as 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 is a market leader in providing integrated performance improvements solutions and financial advisory services to hospitals and other healthcare organizations. Additional information on Huron is available at [huronconsulting-group.com](http://huronconsulting-group.com). Additional information on the members of the Huron team performing the Lakewood Hospital analysis is available in the final report.

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## Ohio Career Exploration Internship Program In Lakewood


by Colin McEwen

Councilman Sam O’Leary attended the kick off of the second round of Ohio Career Exploration Internship Program, a state initiative that helps high school juniors and seniors identify a career path and gain work experience. The event took place at Marrell Music on Madison Avenue.

O’Leary, at the left, was joined by David Goodman, Director of the Ohio Development Services Agency; Parker Kimes, a 2015 graduate of Lakewood High and West Shore Career-Technical District, who was the program’s intern at Marrell Music; Sharon Marrell of Marrell Music; William DiMascio, Educational Coordinator, West Shore Career-Technical District; State Rep. Nan Baker, who sponsored legislation for the program; Nancy Ralls, Career Development Coordinator, West Shore CTD; and Patty Ryan, the executive director of the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce.

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## City News

### The Judge's Bench:

# Recognizing Veterans In The Lakewood Court

by Patrick Carroll

The men and women who enlist in our armed forces make sacrifices for our safety. I am reminded of this every time I talk with retired Lakewood school teacher Doc Unger, a World War II POW. Unlike most other professions, members of the military may be transferred without notice, making it difficult to respond to lawsuits. As a result, laws have been enacted for additional protections for our military service members.

Some multi-judge courts have developed a veterans' court, with one judge from that court handling all the cases involving militarily service members' issues. As Lakewood is a single judge court, I have become the veteran court judge, along with being the traffic, criminal, civil, mental health, drug and alcohol abuse, and housing court judge.

The Servicemembers Civil Relief Act is a federal statute that protects against civil lawsuits when a defendant is in the military and cannot appear in court. It recognizes that military service often compromises a service member on active duty to assert and protect their legal rights while protecting the rest of us. Originally enacted as the Soldier and Sailors' Relief Act in World War I, the purpose of the law was to protect members of the military deployed in warzones. The purpose of the law dates back to the Civil War, when Congress created a moratorium for civil cases against all soldiers and sailors. Later amendments through World War II and Desert Storm have brought it up to date.

The basic purpose of the federal law is to temporarily suspend enforcement of financial obligations to permit service members to give full attention to their military duties, while reducing stress to their family members while they are away on duty.

For civil judgments of mortgage payments and credit card debt, a judge may:

- Prevent a default judgment against a service member who cannot appear in court because of his or her

duty assignment.

- Appoint an attorney to protect the service member's rights.

- Postpone the case up to 90 days if there is a valid defense that cannot be raised without the service member or the service member is not available.

For landlord tenant cases, a judge is authorized to:

- Terminate a lease due to transfer of service member.

- Reduce rent due to service member's additional expenses due to deployment.

- Stay eviction proceedings against the spouse, children or other dependents of the service member.

- Prevent eviction if failure to pay rent was materially affected by his/her military service.

In addition to civil cases, the criminal law also provides consideration to service members convicted of criminal offenses.

In 2014, the Ohio General Assembly added factors that a judge is required to consider for sentence in a criminal case to include:

- Whether the defendant has an emotional, mental, or physical condition traceable to the defendant's military service and a contributing factor to the offense, and

- The defendant's military service record.

Military service can cause tension in families when mothers or fathers who are in the military are separated from their family for an extended period of time. Additional stress is compounded for those involved in active combat in a foreign country. While physical injuries are immediately apparent, emotional issues, brought on by the stress of military service, may not be as apparent.

In dealing with mental health issues, I am aware of the impact of post traumatic stress disorder. As I noted in a recent case in the Lakewood Court, stress may come from a variety of sources or circumstances, at any time and unrelated to the immediate situation. As such, an otherwise normal event may give rise to a stressful situation for a person with post traumatic stress disorder. Lakewood v. Boyd, Case No. 2014 B 1305.

The Veteran's Administration, located on Cleveland's east side, offers a wide range of medical services to military veterans, including vocational rehabilitation and employment services, education financial assistance, home loans housing grants, and numerous other services. (<http://www.cleveland.va.gov/>). The VA also is an excellent resource for mental health and substance abuse treatment for veterans. When these issues arise in a criminal case, the Lakewood Court has referred veterans to these in patient or outpatient services for effective available treatment instead of a more costly private treatment program.

A second, often overlooked resource is the Cuyahoga County Veterans Service Commission. Located in downtown Cleveland at 1849 Prospect Avenue, the Veterans Service Commission offers financial services for mortgages, rent, security deposit, food, clothing, personal hygiene, utilities, health care and dental services. (For more information visit <http://vsc.cuyahogacounty.us/>). The Veterans Service Commission also has a social work case management program to assist veterans with referral for housing, legal issues, employment, physical



Judge Patrick Carroll

and mental health issues as well as consumer credit and other financial issues.

From my experience on the bench, some veterans have issues different from civilian life, requiring closer examination in order for a judge to make the correct decision. I am grateful for the resources available to the court for drug abuse and mental health treatment when needed, as well as all the other services available. We honor our veterans on Memorial Day and Veteran's day, but should remember that military veterans served year round, year after year.

## No Blue Bags Needed (Or Permitted): A Few Reminders About Recycling In Lakewood

by Colin McEwen

Did you know that blue bags are no longer necessary? In fact, they're no longer permitted.

The city's Division of Refuse and Recycling is reminding residents about some of the changes in the recycling policy since rolling out the third and final phase of the automated collection initiative.

"Now that we have carts, we just can't accept blue bags," said Chris Perry, the city's unit manager of refuse and recycling. "I know some people like them because they make things feel more organized, but it puts a wrench into the separation process." Plastic bags do not get recycled; there is not a viable post-consumer product that they can be repurposed for.

Cans, bottles, plastics with recycle symbols numbered 1 through 7 (such as soda and water bottles — leave the caps on), cardboard and newspapers can — and should — be placed together in the new blue bins. Breaking down boxes is no longer required, but encouraged to save space inside the bins, as more material fits inside the bin when cardboard is broken down. All recycle materials must be contained inside the bin each week for collection.

Hardcover books and pizza boxes aren't accepted, however paperback books and phone books can be recycled.

"Our recycling tonnages have gone up with every phase," added Perry. "This year, we're projected to collect 600 more tons of curbside recycling than we did last year. That's 600 tons of additional waste that we will keep out of the landfills."

Lakewood recycled or composted nearly 51 percent of all waste in 2014; 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.

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.

To see the recycling rules and regulations: <http://www.onelakewood.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/Rules-and-Regulations-2015-August-Update.pdf>

To see the recycling guidelines: <http://www.onelakewood.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/Recycling-Guidelines-Update-August-2015.pdf>

For more about the city's recycling initiative: <http://www.onelakewood.com/pdf/GreenRefuseRecyclingInitiative.pdf>

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# Lakewood Hospital Emergency Department is ready for unexpected seasonal mishaps.

The change of seasons often brings unexpected mishaps which may require a trip to the emergency department.

“This time of year, we tend to see back-to-school illnesses and injuries related to sports or work around the home,” says Manjot Rataul, MD, Assistant Medical Director of the Emergency Department at Lakewood Hospital. “Our board certified emergency medicine physicians and certified emergency nurses have the latest training to respond to any medical issue that may come your family’s way.”

Dr. Rataul offers insight on some common maladies and when to seek care:

- **Bee stings**, in most circumstances, can be treated by carefully removing the stinger, washing the area with soap and water, then applying ice wrapped in a cloth. Taking an antihistamine will reduce inflammation. Watch for difficulty breathing, a rash or extreme swelling around the site. If you suspect an allergic reaction, immediately seek emergency medical care.

- **Poison ivy**, poison oak or poison sumac contains oil that often causes an itchy, blistering rash when it touches the skin. Most people can safely treat the rash with calamine lotion or hydrocortisone cream. However, you should get immediate medical attention if you have trouble breathing, swallowing or swelling. If the rash covers the face or a large portion of the body, or if itching persists, you may need prescription medicine.
- **Gaping cuts** or those with jagged edges typically require stitches. Even small cuts on the face, eyelids, lips, palms or fingers may require stitches, as the skin is taut and difficult to heal. Seek medical help if a dirty or rusty object caused the injury, especially if you have not had a recent tetanus vaccination, or if the wound shows signs of infection.
- **Heat illness** can range from heat cramps, heat syncope (fainting), and heat exhaustion to heat stroke. If you participate in outdoor activities, drink fluids (preferably with electrolytes) to prevent dehydration, and take frequent breaks. Seek immediate medical help if your body temperature starts to rise and you have muscle cramps.

- **Swimmers ear and ear infections** are especially common in children. Ear infections occur when fluid or other debris gets trapped in the middle ear and becomes infected. Symptoms of an ear infection include pain in the ear, and trouble sleeping or eating. Antibiotics are often prescribed as treatment.
- **Asthma Attacks.** Air pollution, high pollen levels and increased mold growth due to high humidity can cause a spike in asthma attacks. Symptoms include difficulty breathing, wheezing, coughing, shortness of breath and difficulty performing daily activities. The severity of an asthma attack can escalate rapidly, so it’s important to see a doctor if these symptoms occur.
- If you are suffering from **food poisoning**, avoid solid foods until nausea and vomiting ends and drink clear fluids to prevent dehydration. Seek treatment if symptoms last more than two days or you have severe stomach pain, fever or signs of dehydration.

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

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Lakewood Public Library

Jonathan Hooper:  
Cool And Classic At Lakewood Public Library

by Lisa Calfee

It had to be you, Jonathan Hooper. Who else could come to Lakewood Public Library and make us feel like we are at Rhett's Piano Bar, the New Orleans-inspired piano bar where you used to work back in sunny old St. Augustine? On Sunday, September 13

at 2 p.m., that classically trained pianist crooning at the back of the joint is waking up the grand piano in our Multipurpose Room for a Sunday With The Friends concert.

Classically trained in both voice and piano, Hooper is still learning and growing as a musician. He is studying

improvisation via webcam with Dave Frank, who, according to Hooper, is, "a monster jazz pianist in New York who studied under the legendary Lennie Tristano."

He continues, "One of the lessons Dave Frank has taught me is that jazz is an expression of the unending flow of music within the mind. Training the fingers to express what you hear in the mind is one of the most fulfilling things about playing jazz. I hope that the joy I have in making this type of improvised, expressive music will be communicated to the audience."

addition to soloing, he is currently the pianist and a singer for Cleveland's Prime Time Big Band.

For Sunday's performance he will be singing a number of self-accompanied standards mixed in with solo piano tunes. And according to Hooper, there just might be a special mystery guest joining him onstage. Who could it be? He's not talking, except to say, "She sings in the Cleveland Orchestra Chorus and is the best singer I know."

Hmm... We will just have to see who shows up on Sunday, September 13 in our Multipurpose Room for another great concert with the accomplished Jonathan Hooper.

The Sunday with the Friends programming is generously funded by the Friends of Lakewood Public Library, famous for their well-loved book sales.

The Famous And  
Infamous Women  
Of Millionaires' Row

by Susan Dunn

Behind every great man there is a great woman...or so they say. During the late 1800's and early 1900's, Euclid Avenue was the home to some of the country's richest and most influential men. John D. Rockefeller, Mark Hanna and Thomas Howard White are just a few of the millionaires who lived on the avenue called "the Showplace of America." While much is known about these men, their fortunes and the companies they started, little is known about their wives...until now. On Sunday, September 20, Dan Ruminski, Cleveland's Storyteller, will be at Lakewood Public

Library to regale us with tales of the famous and infamous women behind the men of Millionaires' Row.

Mr. Ruminski, a lifelong resident of the Cleveland area, has spent a great deal of time carefully researching Cleveland history, especially Millionaires' Row. In this talk he will give the audience a personal look at the women who shaped the very streets we walk. We hope you will join us for what promises to be a lively and entertaining afternoon. This free program, sponsored by the Friends of Lakewood Public Library, will take place at 2 p.m. in the First Floor Multipurpose Room.

Zombies Invade Lakewood

by Eric Knapp

*A Zombie Roleplay Experience for youth in fifth through eighth grade.*

*Stop the zombie menace... or join the undead army? Both!*

Ever wonder how you'd fare in a zombie apocalypse? Now's your chance! Join us in a series of team-based challenges, trivia, games, and activities. Over a ghoulish 7 weeks, you'll plan how to repel the zombie invasion, make tough survival choices, fight off the zombie hordes, build the perfect zombie-proof shelter, and even get to paint yourselves in the disgusting make-up of the


undead! Nothing is creepier than zombies invading the Library and you'll have the pictures to prove it as you pose for our action shots both inside and outside. On our last day, come dressed as a survivor or a zombie to compete in our awesome costume contest!

If you think you've got the brains (or eat them), please stop into the library to register, or call (216) 226-8275, ext. 140.

Program takes place Wednesdays, 7 - 8:30 p.m., September 9 through October 21, in the Main Library Multipurpose Room.

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# Lakewood Public Library

## LPL Calendar Of Events

compiled by Elaine Rosenberger

### Wednesday, September 2

#### Internet Search Skills

Discover what's been waiting for you online while learning search strategies. To register, stop in or call (216) 226-8275, ext. 127.

10:00 a.m. in the Main Learning Lab

### Thursday, September 3

#### One-on-One Job Search

Spend a half hour with an instructor polishing your resume, brushing up on computer skills and exploring resources. To register, stop in or call (216) 226-8275, ext. 127.

10:00 a.m. in the Main Learning Lab

### Sunday, September 6

Library closed - Sunday before Labor Day

### Monday, September 7 Library closed - Labor Day

### Thursday, September 10

#### Computer Basics

You can do this. We recommend practicing with a mouse before class. To register, stop in or call (216) 226-8275, ext. 127.

10:00 a.m. in the Main Learning Lab

### Sunday, September 13

#### Jonathan Hooper

Jonathan Hooper is a nice young man with an old soul whom we imagine would fit right in at a 1940s New Orleans piano bar. This classically trained vocalist can croon a tune that will transport you back to the golden age of American music, but his true love since age five has always been the piano. After studying in New York with jazz giant Dave Frank, he's back in his hometown to entertain you with some of his favorite music, combining the solo jazz piano of Bill Evans, Art Tatum and others with the timeless crooning of Frank Sinatra. Who knows, there may even be a few jokes!

2:00 p.m. in the First Floor Multipurpose Room

### Tuesday, September 15

#### Knit and Lit Book Club

Come Share your passion for great literature and show off your knitting, crocheting, counted cross-stitch, embroidery, and quilting works-in-progress. This Tuesday's book is Capital Dames by Cokie Roberts.

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

## LPL Children/Youth Events

compiled by Eric Knapp

### Wednesday, September 9

#### Lego® Bricks – Our Utopia

##### For students in kindergarten through second grade

Hands-on engineering and architectural basics while building a city with Lego® Bricks. In-person registration required.

4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room.

### Saturday, September 12

#### Tail Waggin' Tutors

##### For school-age children

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

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

### Sunday, September 13

#### Lakewood Lego® League

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

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

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

### Monday, September 14 – Thursday, November 5

#### Fall Story Times Start

##### For children birth to age 6

Enjoy books, songs, and movements while meeting with other parents. See program guide for specific themes, age ranges, dates, and times. Registration required.

Main and Madison Branch Libraries.

### 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](http://www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.org/youth)) for times and upcoming themes.

Main Library Activity Room and Madison Branch Auditorium

### Wee Ones Drop-In Story Time

#### 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. 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. through November 22

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## Lakewood Schools

# District Offers Laptops To Every Middle Schooler

by Christine Gordillo

A goal that has been in the sights of the administration for a number of years is now a reality as every middle schooler in the District has been given the opportunity to have a personal laptop for use during the school year.

The rollout of this 1-to-1 computing project and its 1,200 Chromebooks began August 31 at Garfield and should wrap up by Sept. 16 at Harding when the last of the middle school students will receive their machines. Each student will be assessed a \$50 technology fee for the machine that will allow for a one-time replacement if the student's laptop is damaged. Students who receive supply fee waivers will also receive a waiver for the tech fee. After three years, a student may purchase the Chromebook for \$1.

The goal of the 1-to-1 project is to get technology in the hands of every

student both in and out of school as the need to be technologically fluent is more and more pressing for our students. District officials recognize that using technology is no longer an option but a requirement for preparing Lakewood City Schools students for the job market and the proliferation of online tests and courses that are becoming more common.

Realizing that not every household will be ready to support a laptop at home, the District provided parents with a number of resources to help them connect with low-cost and free Internet services. The District will also be offering after-school access to our school buildings' Wi-Fi and has enlisted the Lakewood Public Library to offer support for those parents and students who need it.

In late August, the District held parent information sessions that

educated parents about the responsibilities of having a student laptop at home, including reminding them about social media dangers and cyberbullying. The Chromebooks will also be secure in that they will only work with a Lakewood City Schools login.

Administrators see this new initiative as one more step in achieving a stated goal of becoming one of the top 20 districts in the state.

"Many of the top school districts in Ohio are moving in this direction (1:1 computing)," said Superintendent Jeff Patterson.

## Winning Contest Yields Internship Opportunity

by Lynn Foran

When four engineering students signed up to compete in the Hyland Innovation Showdown last spring, little did they know the winning prize of an iPad was only one of many benefits in store for them. Hyland Software sponsors the Innovation Showdown each

year to encourage young innovators to learn how to create a business plan, prototype, and presentation to answer the question: "How can you use technology to solve a business problem?"

Engineering teacher, Bob Sedlak announced the contest to his classes to see if anyone was interested in forming a team and Ian Bell, Zach Dudzik, Connor Kloepper, and Julia Neff signed up. All four students are enrolled in the Engineering Program at West Shore Career-Technical District located at Lakewood High School. Ian, Zach, and Julia also attend Lakewood High while Connor's home school is Bay High. The students didn't even know each other before they became a team. Over the course of one week, including two Saturdays with Hyland's industry professionals, the team built a personal time management app. The team won first prize and received iPads.

The story doesn't stop here for these students. It wasn't long before Caitlin Nowlin, Hyland's Technical Outreach Coordinator, came knocking on West Shore Career-Tech's door to offer paid summer internships to Julia, Connor, Zach, and Ian. Hyland was offering to pay them to develop a viable product for their app. Being smart people, they accepted!

The students spent eight weeks this summer learning about mobile app development and applied this knowledge towards creating a cross-platform app using web technologies. "While the students worked mostly with people from the mobile development team, they also interacted with people from Quality Assurance and User Interface/Experience areas," noted Nowlin.

"Each of the interns approached their project with optimism and enthusiasm. Despite having no prior experience with software development, they tackled many complex problems related to the planning, visual design, and coding of their applications. They were accepting of critical feedback and were not discouraged when seemingly good ideas had to be left behind in pursuit of better ones. The interns were also able to adapt to their work environment and effectively communicate problems and ideas with other software developer twice their age," remarked Alex Stulock, Hyland Software Developer.

West Shore CTD Educational Coordinator William DiMascio is highly supportive of these experiences outside the classroom: "We appreciate Hyland investing in our West Shore

## Fifth Annual "Let's Love Lakewood" Event - A Huge Success

by Ellen Stephens

On Saturday August 15th, Lakewood New Life Church (LNLC) gave away over 700 backpacks filled with school supplies at their 5th annual "Let's Love Lakewood" event, which specifically targeted the students on the free and reduced lunch program at Lakewood Elementary schools. People from all over Cuyahoga county came out to enjoy the free food, bounce houses, face painting, magic show by Ricky Smith Jr, feats of strength by "the strongman" JD Anderson, and Outback Ray's amazing animal show.

The festival was a huge success, attracting over 3,000 people. LNLC would like to thank the sponsors that made "Let's Love Lakewood" possible: First Federal of Lakewood, Pepsi, Quaker State & Lube of Lakewood, Aladdin's, Immortals Inc., the Lakewood Public Library, PNC, and the many other Lakewood businesses that donated raffle prizes. This event wouldn't have been possible without your support!

LNLC strives to "live like Jesus and share His love" by reaching out to the



Huge crowds waited in line to pick up free backpacks filled with school supplies at the annual "Let's Love Lakewood" event.

community and meeting their needs. They desire to make a difference in this city and are always looking for ways to demonstrate their love for the people who live here. LNLC meets every Sunday at 10am and 11:30am, and starting

on October 4th, their Spanish service will be at 1:30 p.m. All are welcome and free to come as they are, no perfect people allowed. If you would like to learn more about LNLC, you can visit their website [www.lnlc.org](http://www.lnlc.org).

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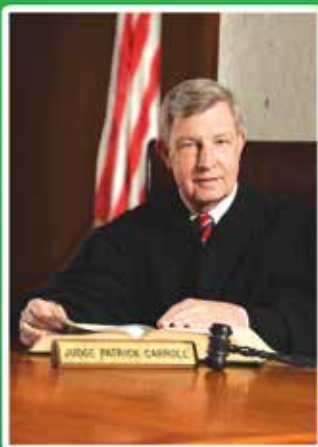
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# Lakewood Schools

## Eighth Annual Celebration Of Foster And Adoptive Families

by Marjorie Korcheck

The Lakewood Area Collaborative would like to invite all foster and adoptive families in the west side and Parma area communities to our Eighth

Annual Celebration of Families night. Please be our guest Friday, September 4, 2015 at Lakewood High School Rangers Stadium for the Rangers vs. Berea-Midpark football game, which

begins at 7pm. Your family will be invited onto the field to be recognized by the community, throw mini footballs into the crowd, and help bring awareness of the need for foster and adoptive homes. Families who RSVP by September 3 will be provided free admission as well as tickets for concession stand treats.

Approximately 1800 children in Cuyahoga County are currently in an out-of-home placement with teenagers accounting for nearly half of the 600 children in permanent custody (<http://cfs.cuyahogacounty.us/en-US/statistics-reports.aspx>; [http://cfs.cuyahogacounty.us/pdf\\_cfs/en-US/reports/2015\\_Qtr2\\_QuarterlyStatisticalReport.pdf](http://cfs.cuyahogacounty.us/pdf_cfs/en-US/reports/2015_Qtr2_QuarterlyStatisticalReport.pdf)). Many children in

need of safe, loving homes are part of a sibling group. The Lakewood Collaborative Family to Family program and Cuyahoga County Division of Children and Family Services are committed to working together to help heighten awareness of the crucial need for foster and adoptive homes.

For more details about the Celebration of Families event and to RSVP, please call Lisa on our Resource Line at 216-529-6108. Lisa may also be reached at [Lisa.Lowrie@lakewoodoh.net](mailto:Lisa.Lowrie@lakewoodoh.net).

Foster and adoptive families deserve to be recognized for their choice to open their hearts and homes. We look forward to celebrating YOU!

## Ranger Football Team Looking Forward To Home Opener

by Mike Deneen

The Lakewood High School football team starts its home schedule on Friday, September 4th. The Rangers will start their second season under head coach Mike Ribar. Ribar and his team have been working hard during the off-season to prepare for the new campaign.

Ribar is optimistic about the team, which he feels is far ahead of where it was last year at this time last year. "We got stronger and faster [this off-season]," he said, "kids are ready to go." When asked what his goals are for the season, he responded, "To compete every night, to win the conference and make the playoffs." He says that the keys to the season will be preparation and execution of the fundamentals.

This season's schedule will present many challenges for the team. For the third time since 2006, the program is switching conferences. After three years in the West Shore Conference, this will their first year in the Southwestern Conference (SWC). The SWC is an upgrade in competition, featuring four teams in this year's preseason Plain Dealer top 25 (Midview, Avon, Berea-Midpark, North Olmsted). Ribar says the new league will present, "a test every week. The team that stays healthy will do well."

The strength of this year's team will be its skill position players on offense. Ribar is confident that the passing game will be much better than in 2014. "I feel very good about the passing game. Quarterback will throw the ball

and let the receivers do the work." Jack Witri, who started three games at QB last year, will be the starter. He is joined in the backfield by Senior Running Back Michael Goolsby and Junior Back Quentin Palmer. Palmer, who started at fullback last year, rushed for over 300 yards in 2014. The receiving corps will include Junior Sean Wiggins.

The defense will be led by a veteran linebacking corps. Junior Kevin Musai, already a two-year starter, will be a key part of the LB group. The secondary features Senior Safety Adam Giffels, Sean Wiggins, and Atticus Kenny. Senior Joe Fitchwell, a two-year starter and all-conference player in 2014, will lead the defensive line.

The team is hoping for strong fan support at home games this year. "Home field advantage is a huge thing to high school athletes," says Ribar. The Rangers have five home games this season. In addition to the home opener against Berea-Midpark, they will host four other conference opponents. Homecoming will be September 25 against North Olmsted. The September 18 game vs. Avon Lake will be "Youth Night." The regular season will end on October 30 vs. Amherst Steele at "Senior Night." Senior players, cheerleaders, and band members will be recognized before the game.

LHS football tickets cost \$6 for ages 6-59. LHS students can get \$4 tickets via presale at school. Lakewood senior citizens (age 60+) and kids aged five and under are admitted FREE.

## PTA & Board Of Ed To Host Ice Cream Social

by Christine Gordillo

The annual beginning-of-the-year Ice Cream Social sponsored by the Lakewood Council of PTAs and the Board of Education will take place Tuesday, Sept. 8, from 6:15-7 p.m. in the Garfield Middle School Gym. The Ranger Marching Band will kick things off. Following the band's entertainment, as is the long-standing tradition, Board

of Education members will scoop free ice cream for community members, students and their families. There will be fixings for sundaes, too! Come enjoy the music and meet your elected officials at this family-friendly event!

If you are civically minded, you can stay on afterward and attend the Board's regular monthly meeting, which begins at 7 p.m.

## Winning Contest Yields Internship Opportunity

**continued from previous page**  
students through this incredible opportunity. Hyland is ranked on the Fortune 100 "Best Companies to Work For" List--placing Hyland on your resume is impressive feat for an adult let alone a 15 or 16 year old in high school. These students received a priceless experience. The West Shore Career Technical District seeks out and prepares its students for such opportunities."

On average, Hyland hires 70 interns

each year. Internships are traditionally through the summer, however some interns may work during the school year. Hyland hires interns for departments throughout the company, from Software Development to Marketing. The application process for summer internships starts in the previous Fall. Nowlin recommends, "The best time for someone to start checking our website would be September. The posting can be found here: [www.onbase.com/internships](http://www.onbase.com/internships)."

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## Lakewood Cares

# Lakewood Collaborative Celebrates & Focuses On The Future

by Bruce Chamberlin

One of the original goals of the Lakewood Family Collaborative was to interconnect our community, linking social service agencies, schools, churches, mental health providers, treatment programs, citizens and any interested entities to one another. This vital connection helped increased the collaboration of participating organizations to better serve individuals and families throughout Lakewood and other western suburbs as well as parts of Cleveland.

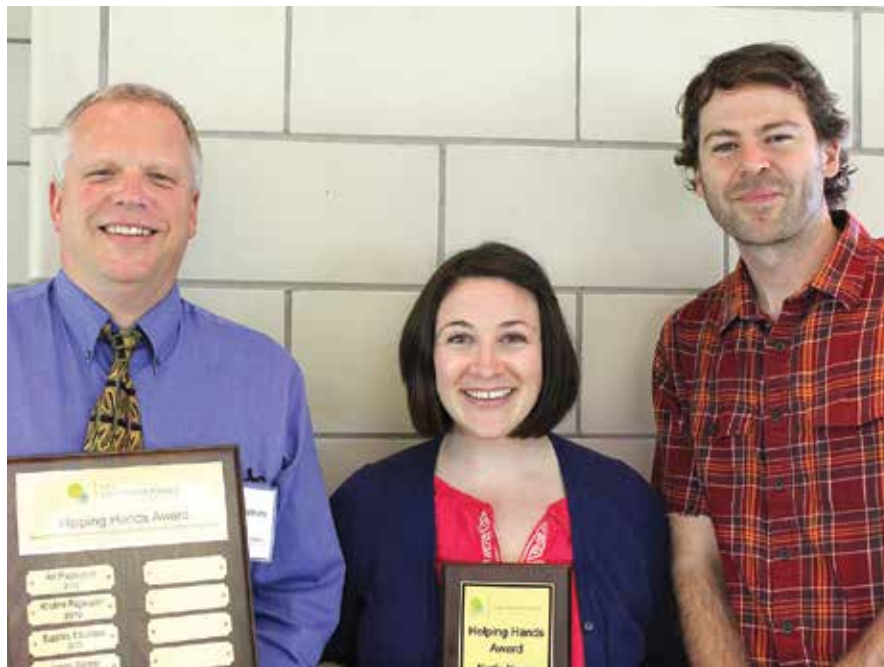
At the May end-of-year meeting it was stated that the Collaborative, which serves Lakewood, Cleveland west of West 117, Bay Village, Fairview Park, Rocky River and Westlake, is officially changing its name this summer to ensure it captures its true mission. **The name, Lakewood 'Area' Collaborative better reflects the neighbors we serve and the collaboration between those who provide support throughout those communities.**

### Collaborative Leadership Team

At the May end-of-year meeting, the Collaborative thanked the outgoing members of the Leadership Team. Todd Calaway, outgoing Chair of the Lakewood Family Collaborative, headed our eleven member Leadership Team. Todd, pastor of Crosspoint Church, served two years coordinating the efforts of our group. Bruce Chamberlin is the incoming Chair of the Leadership team. Bruce is an employee of The City of Lakewood and part of the grant funded team of social workers who works with families through the Lakewood Area Collaborative.

Other members finishing their terms on the Leadership Team include Ken Brand of Lakewood Alive, Abby Hanley and Katie Kurtz of the Cleveland Rape Crisis Center. Katie is stepping off the Leadership Team but staying on as Chair of the Mental Health Awareness Committee. All bring skills and talents to the table that truly will be missed.

Members joining the Leader-



Katie Kurtz (center), recipient of the 2015 Lakewood Area Collaborative Helping Hands Award, Bruce Chamberlin (left), upcoming Chair and Todd Calaway (right), outgoing Chair of the Lakewood Area Collaborative

ship Team this year include Ellen Ospelt of North Coast Health, Jessica Parker of the City of Lakewood Department of Human Services, Robert DeQuadri of Lakewood City Schools, and Ryan Fisher, pastor of Impact Church.

Other members of the Leadership Team include Toni Gelsomino, City of Lakewood Director of Human Services, Michelle Pellman of the Cuyahoga County Department of Children and Family Services, Laura Jaissle, pastor of Lakewood United Methodist Church, Karen Lee, citizen and community leader, Kathy Augustine of the Cuyahoga County Department of Jobs and Family Services, Jillian Svala of the Council of Neighborhood Leaders, Colleen McNamara of the City of Lakewood's Division of Youth.

### Join Us!

September marks the beginning of a new program year for the Lakewood Area Collaborative.

**Our September meeting, which is our official kickoff luncheon, will include a complimentary lunch provided by Karen King Catering. We'll**

**meet Thursday, September 24 from 12:30 – 2 p.m. at the Lakewood Park Women's Club Pavilion.** Members and guests are always welcome to bring their own lunch to the meetings. Collaborative meetings are typically held on the fourth Thursday of each month (except for the holiday months of November and December - then the third Thursday) and are held in the Lakewood Park Women's Club Pavilion.

Collaborative meetings include our Spotlight Series highlighting a specific program or issue as well as providing an opportunity for networking, information sharing and connecting with others. Working together as a community makes all the difference to those in need, and makes our work easier and more effectively impacts families.

### Focus on Community and Committees

Last May, the Collaborative celebrated the hard work of all of its committees including:

- **Job Seekers:** supports employment and networking for job seekers
- **Mental Health Awareness:** In addition to mental health, this committee also addressed the heroin

epidemic in our region

- **Foster Care/Adoption:** celebrates foster and adoptive families as well as recruiting new families

- **Ranger 360:** addressing healthy relationships for teens and resources for families

- **Supplies for Success:** connecting Lakewood students with proper school supplies, removing this barrier to learning.

Interested in the goal and purpose of one of these committees? Contact us at 216-529-6868 to become more involved. Your expertise is needed.

### The 2015 Helping Hands Award

The 2015 Lakewood Area Collaborative Helping Hands Award was presented to Katie Kurtz of the Cleveland Rape Crisis Center. This award is given for outstanding service to the community. Katie, who chairs the Collab's Mental Health Awareness Committee, received the award due to her incredible leadership, vision, work ethic and attention to detail. She spearheaded the Heroin and Hope event in March, bringing together communities to learn about the serious heroin epidemic and work to reduce the number of opioid fatalities. Katie by far received the most nominations from our community, and graciously accepted the award giving credit to the great people who work with and around her, in collaboration.

**Hope to see you at our free luncheon at the Lakewood Area Collaborative Kick-off meeting on Thursday, September 24 from 12:30 – 2 p.m. at the Lakewood Park Women's Club Pavilion!**

### To learn more about the Lakewood Area Collaborative:

Find us on Facebook! <https://www.facebook.com/LakewoodAreaCollaborative>

Visit our website for our calendar: <http://thelakewoodfoundation.org/lakewood-area-collaborative>

Questions? Email us at: [lakewood-familycollab@gmail.com](mailto:lakewood-familycollab@gmail.com)



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Lakewood Cares

Coming Soon!

# Hens In Lakewood’s Coop Tour

by April Stoltz and Jan Dregalla

Mark your calendars for Sunday, September 20th, 1 to 4 p.m. and come to The Lakewood Coop Tour!

In November 2014, City Council voted in support of a pilot project allowing a limited number of Lakewood families to raise hens for eggs in their yards. Eleven families went through the necessary steps to apply for their city permit to do this. The intention of the Hen Pilot Project is to experience first-hand how responsible hen raising could work in Lakewood.

65% of major American cities currently allow backyard hens. Cleveland passed its own ordinance allowing hens in residential backyards with some restrictions in 2009.

Those who want to raise their own hens do so for many reasons. Besides the nutritional value and taste being far superior to most commercial eggs purchased at a grocery store, hens provide their owners with rich manure for their yards and gardens and they will devour table scraps, saving them from the trash and going to landfill.

The eleven families in the Hen Pilot Project are excited about being able to feed their families quality eggs from hens that have been fed and treated well. Their children discover that eggs don’t come from a store and they participate in the feeding and care of their hens. In so doing, they learn how to raise their own food and become more resilient in the face of an ever changing world.

Now these pilot families would like to share their excitement with you. On Sunday, September 20th, from 1:00 to 4:00pm, they are inviting you to visit their yards and see their coops, runs and hens first-hand. Maps of participating pilot family’s locations will be available from 1:00 to 3:00pm in front

of the main branch of the Lakewood Library located at 15425 Detroit Ave. This is a no charge, fun-filled, informational opportunity to learn more about backyard hen raising and to see first hand how it is done.

Now here is what the hens want you to know...

*“We can be easily upset by new, strange and loud noises so we will be in our coops for most of the day. We don’t want to get scared because some of us might stop laying eggs for a while. Thanks in advance for being calm and soft-spoken during your visit as much as possible. We are happy you are visiting*

*us today in our new homes. We want you to enjoy your visit as much as we enjoy being here. Our people can answer your questions.”*

So, come one, come all, as polite guests to the yards of Lakewood’s hen owners, and witness the “yard to table” movement here in our hometown!

# Lakewood Park Hosts Superhero Dash

by Kathy Rigdon

Hundreds of runners, walkers and rollers (participants in wheelchairs) will be dressing as their favorite Superheroes and helping raise money for children with physical disabilities at the Youth Challenge Superhero Dash. The 30th Annual Race Day, in memory of former Trustee Dave Hardman, will take place Saturday, September 19 at Lakewood Park.

The Superhero Dash will raise funds for Youth Challenge (YC), a nonprofit that provides adapted sports and recreational opportunities to chil-

dren with physical disabilities. Trained teen volunteers are paired one-on-one with participants to play, socialize and have fun. YC serves children throughout Northeast Ohio and has offices in Westlake and Shaker Heights.

The 5K run kicks off at 9:15 a.m. and the 1 Mile Walk/Roll starts at 10 a.m. Awards will go to the top three men and women overall and in each age group, as well as the challenged division. Achievement ribbons will go to all 1 Mile finishers. There will be prizes for best costumes, so be sure to dress up as your favorite superhero.

Event participation is \$20 per person for early registration, \$25 on Race Day, \$10 for children 18 and under (pre-registered and same day). First 300 registrants will receive T-shirts. Register online at [hermescleveland.com](http://hermescleveland.com).

Sponsors for the Superhero Dash are American Tank & Fabricating, First Federal of Lakewood, Oatey Foundation, Oatey Co., Linda & Doug Hardman, with support from Metro West Kiwanis, Bruegger’s Bagels and Giant Eagle.

Visit [youthchallengesports.com](http://youthchallengesports.com) or call 440-892-1001 for more details.

# The O’Neill Healthcare Lakewood 8th Annual Community Dog Show

by Tammy Sibert

O’Neill Healthcare Lakewood Hosted Their 8th Annual Community Dog Show on Saturday, August 15, 2015.

Contest Winners were:

Biggest Dog – “Hazel,” 3-year-old shepherd/lab mix, Owner: Mark, Lakewood

Smallest Dog – “Lil Mo,” 5-year-old Pomeranian, Owner: Donna, North Olmsted

Cutest Dog – “Levi,” 2 ½-year-old Cavalier King Charles Spaniel, Owner: Sherry, Lakewood

Best Dog Trick – “Barney,” 10-year-old Beagle, Owner: Donna, Lakewood

Best Trained – “Dixie,” 7-year-old German Shepherd, Owner: Emily

A very special thank-you to all of the vendors and raffle sponsors: Lakewood Animal Hospital, Pet’s General Store, Merry Go-Hound Dog Day Care, Elite Medical Distributors, A Sweet Side, Howe Crafty, Darlene Noonan, and Jean Berlinghausen.

100% of the proceeds from food and raffle sales were donated to the Lakewood Animal Shelter.



Levi, “The Cutest” dog in the show.

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Ward 3 Primary Election

John Litten

**Name:** John Litten  
**Occupation:** Executive Director, St. Vincent de Paul Society  
I currently reside on **Chesterland Ave.** in Ward 3.

- 1) **What is the primary motivation behind your decision to run for Ward 3 council?**
- I have always been an involved Lakewoodite. Everything I've ever been involved with personally, professionally and in volunteering has been about making what is around me, and what I care about, better. As a councilman, this will translate into keeping Lakewood a safe place to live, building partnerships between the city and the schools to provide a first class education to all our students, improving our parks and recreation opportunities for all ages, helping homeowners maintain their aging but unique and beautiful homes, attracting businesses and creating jobs to strengthen our tax base, and helping seniors in their daily lives. In short, a safer, more sustainable, more service-oriented Lakewood!
- 2) **What qualifications do you have that set you apart from the rest of the field of Ward 3 candidates?**
- I have been in leadership roles for over fifteen years, my entire professional life, and wrote a book about developing young leaders, building upon my experiences. Those experiences taught me to be a troubleshooter, and to embrace all viewpoints and voices while achieving solutions. One example is budgeting, where the realities of limitations have to accommodate choices as well as provide for progress on strategic goals. I have experience in leading organizations through day to day struggles and through growth, while also being a good steward of others' generosity.
- 3) **Aside from the current debate over the future of Lakewood Hospital, what do you feel is the most pressing issue currently facing Ward 3? How do you plan to address this issue if elected?**
- In walking to thousands of Ward 3 households door-to-door, and listening to what our residents have to say, safety is fundamental. People are often afraid of what might be going on around them, which is increased when they read or hear about recent issues in their neighborhood. My own neighborhood has seen its share of cars broken into in back yards and other issues. This prompted us to start a block watch for our street and neighboring streets. Our police force does an incredible job, and we can meet them half way by having an engaged, watchful citizenry. The city already provides meetings for block watch captains, and other resources. This, coupled with our Ward 3 Police Officer Matt Wintrick and his resources has prompted me to want to start a block watch on every street in our ward. There are already a lot of good ones, with some definite room to grow. Neighbors knowing neighbors is a huge key to our safety, and also contributes to a greater sense of community, and even the upkeep of homes.
- 4) **The fate of Lakewood Hospital has been a hotly contested debate among Lakewood residents over the past several months. Given that the hospital is located in Ward 3, If you are elected to represent Ward 3 residents, what steps will you take to ensure that you are representing the wants and needs of your constituents on this issue?**
- Listening and transparency are keys to public decision making, and with many perspectives and levels of information received and considered by residents, I will be a conduit for that information so that I can represent all people in city decisions. Our public debate continues. No matter what happens, the bottom line is that I support keeping a 24/7 Emergency Room at the heart of Lakewood, ensuring that hospital services continue, and that jobs are saved. The Lakewood Hospital location in Ward 3 is the very heart of Lakewood, and will always be an active, dynamic part of our city economy. Across Lakewood but

especially at this location, we must maintain active resident input to creatively balance economic development and change with the high quality of our residential life. I will be the watchdog and advocate for the residents of Ward 3 to protect our neighborhoods, no matter what changes unfold, so we can maintain the livable, dynamic and walkable mix that makes Lakewood so special. I am glad that we have engaged residents who care deeply about our city and its assets. I have listened and will continue to listen to all of them.

- 5) **What is your favorite "hidden-gem" (i.e. business, restaurant, green space, recreational activity, etc.) in Ward 3 and why?**
- My hidden gem is the tremendous work of our St. Vincent de Paul volunteer group at St. Clement Church on Madison, which I have the privilege of seeing via my day job. Volunteers visit neighbors in need who come to the church or call in, often by first visiting them in their homes, and help with issues like emergency assistance with rent or utilities, food and other needs. They do the work anonymously and have been since 1935! They work in conjunction with Ward 3 gems like the Lakewood Community Services Center and other surrounding churches.



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JT Neuffer

**Name:** JT Neuffer  
**Occupation:** Director of Employer Relations  
I currently reside on **Lewis Drive** in Ward 3.

- 1) **What is the primary motivation behind your decision to run for Ward 3 council?**
- The residents of Ward 3 are asking me to be a leader and to address their concerns, addressing their issues and identifying solutions. I want to meet their expectations by advocating for public safety, revitalizing Madison Avenue. I would like the opportunity to increase tax revenue with a focus on helping our community.
- 2) **What qualifications do you have that set you apart from the rest of the field of Ward 3 candidates?**
- My career path has been to serve the public as a leader and to strive to advocate and provide equal opportunities for all. My voice allows me to best represent residents as their leader. I have the experience working within the community, successfully addressing conditions in my neighborhood, utilizing the Block Club concept, and understanding in marketing, planning, personnel and business.
- 3) **Aside from the current debate over the future of Lakewood Hospital, what do you feel is the most pressing issue currently facing Ward 3? How do you plan to address this issue if elected?**
- Public Safety is an issue and concern that has come up in many concerns will need an active community to promptly address and prevent safety issues. Our public safety issues are not limited to Residential and Commercial sectors in Lakewood are all impacted. I would like to create a Public Safety Community Action Committee, Fire dept., business owners, residential renters, land and prevention. This group will be chartered to:
- Build awareness with residents on how to secure homes and neighborhood discussions.
  - Develop a block club safety training and guide residents through Police Academy training.
  - Create safe zones for reporting criminal activity and
  - Propose public safety legislation recommendations
- I am committed to working with City Councilmembers to ensure safety is a priority and funding is available to support the community.
- 4) **The fate of Lakewood Hospital has been a hotly contested debate among Lakewood residents over the past several months. Given that the hospital is located in Ward 3, If you are elected to represent Ward 3 residents, what steps will you take to ensure that you are representing the wants and needs of your constituents on this issue?**
- The concern for hospital services has gained momentum. Residents I have spoken to are concerned about the welfare and future of the hospital. I recently attended a community meeting sponsored by the city to listen to the proposed plans if City Council accepted the plan and heard the suggestions or concerns by our neighbors. The plan to include a hospital and wellness center in the existing hospital location has not been any decision made on the future of our hospital. I have listened to both sides of this issue with Ward 3 residents and the future of Lakewood. There will be more information revealed with factual data on the viability of the existing hospital. I will keep the communication open with the community to determine the best solution possible for our residents.
- 5) **What is your favorite "hidden-gem" (i.e. business, restaurant, green space, recreational activity, etc.) in Ward 3 and why?**
- My favorite green space in Ward 3 is Lakewood Park because of the community. As an adult, I have used the park to play sandy volleyball with my niece and nephews to play, watch fireworks and participate competitively for Solon Swim Club and regularly in youth sports.

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Mark A. Schneider: September 8th, 2015

Mark A. Schneider

**Name:** Mark A. Schneider  
**Occupation:** Assistant Prosecuting Attorney and Assistant Law Director for the City of Parma Heights  
I reside on **Clifton Boulevard** in Ward 3.

**Why do you want to run for Ward 3 council?**  
I am a member of the City Council who will represent them through listening to the community and finding a solution or resource. I want to serve my neighbors and retain existing hospital services, improving senior services, and create jobs for residents through a HIRE Lakewood program to help our residents to gain employment and retain their residency.

**How do you differ from the rest of the field of Ward 3 candidates?**  
I have worked in Human Resources, Education and Career Services for many years. My ability to listen and understand everyone's needs is what sets me apart. As an active homeowner since 2001, I have been actively addressing public safety, ordinance violations and street cleaning programs. My education includes an MBA affording me the ability to budgeting.

**What is the biggest issue facing Lakewood Hospital, what do you feel is the most pressing issue currently facing Ward 3? How do you plan to address this issue if elected?**

The biggest issue facing Ward 3, exclusive of the hospital, is the need to deliver superior services in very difficult times. This encompasses safety services, economic development services, and other traditional city services such as road repair, garbage pickup, and senior and recreation services. As the City deals with a loss of revenue from the state, our leaders need to be creative in their approach to delivering superior services. Much of my time as an assistant city law director is spent finding such creative solutions. Calling upon my background as a prosecutor, I want to ensure that our neighborhoods are safe by forging new bonds between police, prosecutors and residents through proven programs like community-based prosecution and community policing that have been successful in this county and in other parts of the state. For economic development, I want to focus on public-private partnerships with businesses that identify and meet business needs while encouraging investment. Lakewood Alive is an excellent example of such a partnership. To deliver superior traditional city services, I want to explore regional cooperation with surrounding cities to keep our costs low and our services high. My fifteen years of government experience will serve me well in these tasks.

**What do you think is the most pressing issue facing the community, cars and other personal belongings through community programs on how to address public safety issues through Citizens' Patrol?**

I will continue to work with our police department to reduce crime and subject to one group or street within our community. I will be impacted by crime and violation of city safety ordinances. I will be a part of the Action Team led by City Officials and comprised of the Police, Fire, and Homeowners with the goal in mind of education and outreach.

**What is the most contested debate among Lakewood residents over the past several months. Given that the hospital is located in Ward 3, If you are elected to represent Ward 3 residents, what steps will you take to ensure that you are representing the wants and needs of your constituents on this issue?**

My aim and desire is for the future of Lakewood Hospital to include inpatient acute care. Over 80 percent of the residents that I have met at the doors in Ward 3, particularly the elderly, depend on Lakewood Hospital as their primary source of inpatient health care. I urge council to exhaustively pursue all opportunities to meet that demand of Ward 3 residents. While I respect the individuals who serve on the Hospital Association Board, Council must conduct its own, independent examination of the current state of Lakewood Hospital, and its own, independent examination of the strategic decisions that must be made for its long-term future. Council must have all necessary tools at its disposal, including independent corporate counsel, a real estate broker, and an investment bank if necessary. Most important, all deliberations must be public and transparent in order to make this a community process. Members of the Save the Hospital movement should be a real part of this evaluation process to ensure that all paths are included and evaluated. Council, in ensuring the long-term viability of our health care system, needs to address the very real need for inpatient acute treatment at whatever capacity our community can support.

**What is your favorite "hidden-gem" (i.e. business, restaurant, green space, recreational activity, etc.) in Ward 3 and why?**  
My favorite hidden gem in Lakewood is my running route. I have a route that takes me down Lake Avenue, back up Edgewater, and that finishes through Lakewood Park that never fails to put me in a good mood, while allowing me some time with my thoughts. The scenery on that route, close to the lake, always makes me appreciate the beauty and accessibility of our outdoor community. In order to not come off as overly-obsessed with fitness, I should also include that I am a sucker for Angelo's pizza and Winking Lizard chicken wings!

**What is your favorite "hidden-gem" (i.e. business, restaurant, green space, recreational activity, etc.) in Ward 3 and why?**

Because it offers something for everyone at any age in the community. I have fond memories of Lakewood Park and am looking forward to enjoying the lakefront renovation. The park brings us all together and is one of our greatest assets.

Editorial Note From The Editor

In cases where a Ward Council seat has three or more candidates, a primary run-off is required. For this reason Ward 3 will have a primary election on September 8th, 2015.

Allen is also a candidate for Ward 3 council but at the time of publication had not been added to the LO's candidate list.

Mark A. Schneider

**Name:** Mark A. Schneider  
**Occupation:** Assistant Prosecuting Attorney and Assistant Law Director for the City of Parma Heights  
I reside on **Clifton Boulevard** in Ward 3.

1) What is the primary motivation behind your decision to run for Ward 3 council?

My decision to run for Council is an expression of the civic duty that has driven my entire career. I decided as a young man during law school at the Ohio State University to dedicate my career as an attorney to public service. For the last fifteen years since graduation, I have been fortunate to do just that. When an opening occurred in Ward 3 for Council, I realized that I offer a unique level of experience in government that is not often seen in candidates for this office. This position is yet another way to serve my community.

2) What qualifications do you have that set you apart from the rest of the field of Ward 3 candidates?

My fifteen years of experience at the city, county, and state levels of government are what set me apart in this race. I currently work for the City of Parma Heights as an Assistant Prosecutor and Assistant Law Director. I served eight years as an Assistant Cuyahoga County Prosecutor, and two years as a State Representative. That experience will allow me to hit the ground running to get things done for Ward 3. I am also a member of St. Luke's Parish, the Lakewood-Rocky River Sunrise Rotary Club, The Lakewood Chamber of Commerce, and the West Shore Bar Association.

3) Aside from the current debate over the future of Lakewood Hospital, what do you feel is the most pressing issue currently facing Ward 3? How do you plan to address this issue if elected?

The biggest issue facing Ward 3, exclusive of the hospital, is the need to deliver superior services in very difficult times. This encompasses safety services, economic development services, and other traditional city services such as road repair, garbage pickup, and senior and recreation services. As the City deals with a loss of revenue from the state, our leaders need to be creative in their approach to delivering superior services. Much of my time as an assistant city law director is spent finding such creative solutions. Calling upon my background as a prosecutor, I want to ensure that our neighborhoods are safe by forging new bonds between police, prosecutors and residents through proven programs like community-based prosecution and community policing that have been successful in this county and in other parts of the state. For economic development, I want to focus on public-private partnerships with businesses that identify and meet business needs while encouraging investment. Lakewood Alive is an excellent example of such a partnership. To deliver superior traditional city services, I want to explore regional cooperation with surrounding cities to keep our costs low and our services high. My fifteen years of government experience will serve me well in these tasks.

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Lakewood Is Art

Introducing Beck Center’s 2015-2016 Youth Theater Season!

by Pat Miller

Founded in 1948, Beck Center Youth Theater is considered to be one of the longest continuously running youth theater programs in the country. This year marks the 67th anniversary of Beck Center’s Youth Theater program, and the 2015–2016 season is filled with just the right balance of titles that allow teaching opportunities along with community interest. Ranging from family favorites to a twisted take on “Macbeth” for teens, this upcoming season is sure to delight audiences of all ages.

With such a spectacular season in store, it is important to note that students must be enrolled at Beck Center in the semester that the show performs in. By enrolling in any art form, children and teens may participate in the productions. This Fall Semester, Beck Center Theater Education is offering exciting theater packages on Saturdays that include two classes in various performance styles. Private Theater Lessons are also a wonderful opportunity for students to prepare for auditions throughout the year. Students do not have to be enrolled at the time of auditions.

The season opens with “A Little Princess,” which runs November 5–8, 2015 on the Mackey Main Stage. In this story, from the same author of “The Secret Garden,” Sara Crewe begins her adventures in “Miss Minchin’s Select Seminary for Young Ladies.” When her fortune changes from rich girl to poor orphan, she is challenged by a cruel headmistress, hard labor, and terrible living conditions. Despite all of this, Sara maintains her generosity and imagination, ultimately reversing her destiny in this timeless tale. The auditions for “A Little Princess” are open to Beck Center students ages 6 to 19, and will occur Saturday, September 19 between 2:30-5:30 p.m. and Sunday, September 20 between 1-4 p.m.; Callbacks are Monday, September 21 between 5-8 p.m.

Just in time for the holidays, “Happily Forever After” will run December 11– 20, 2015 in the Studio Theater. Directed by Rachel Spence, this comedy explores what happens when happily-ever-after isn’t quite what our favorite fairy tale characters imagined.

Still, Princess Wallflower is hoping for one of her own. Kidnapped by the wickedest person in the kingdom, the princess pleads for a handsome prince to come to her rescue. Will Princess Wallflower’s dreams come true? Will her rescuer be a typical hero? Stay tuned to see who saves the day! The auditions for “Happily Forever After” are open to Beck Center students ages 6 to 12, and will occur Saturday, October 24 from 2:30-5 p.m. and Sunday, October 25 from 1-4pm; Callbacks are Monday, October 26 from 4:30-7:30 p.m.

Beck Center Teen Theater will present “Bright Ideas” by Cleveland’s most prolific playwright Eric Coble from February 26–March 6, 2016 in the Studio Theater. Directed by Associate Director of Theater Education Jonathan Kronenberger, this play is perfect for high school classes to attend. Geneva and Joshua Bradley have a problem: their three year old son is on the waiting list for Bright Ideas Early Childhood Development Academy. Since this is the best preschool in town, the Bradley’s are desperate to get

their son enrolled. With a plan devised, they become one fatal dinner party away from entering “Bright Ideas.” You may never look at preschool—or pesto—the same way again... Auditions for “Bright Ideas” are open to Beck Center students ages 12 to 19, and will occur Saturday, November 21 between 2:30-6:30 p.m. and Sunday, November 22 between 1-5 p.m.; Callbacks are Monday, November 23 between 5:30-8:30 p.m.

The 2015–2016 youth theater season will close with “big THE MUSICAL,” running May 13–22, 2016 on the Mackey Main Stage. This classic 1987 film is reinvented with theater magic when Josh Baskin goes from kid to grown up over night! Feeling stuck in his awkward youth, Josh wishes for adulthood. To his shock, his wish is granted! This dream come true is soon overshadowed by the pressures of adult responsibility. Follow Josh as he realizes not to grow up so fast, and to embrace all that life has to offer! Directed by Russel Stich with musical direction of Matt Dolan, auditions for

“big THE MUSICAL” are open to Beck Center students ages 6 to 19. They will occur Saturday, February 13 between 2:30-6:30 p.m. and Sunday, February 14 between 1-5 p.m.; Callbacks are Monday, February 15 between 5-8:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$12 for Adults/Seniors and \$10 for Children (18 and under) and may be purchased online at [beckcenter.org](http://beckcenter.org) or by calling 216.521.2540 x10. Special discounted group rates are available for groups 13 or more and for student matinees. Call Customer Service Manager Rennie Tisdale at 216.521.2540 x28 for more information and to schedule your student matinee.

*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 for individuals with special needs, and free gallery exhibits featuring local, regional, and international artists.*

Calleri For School Board

continued from page 1

I have made a concerted effort to give back to the community that has provided my family with so much. My parents, like yours, taught me a set of principles to live by including believe in something bigger than yourself, serve your community, and work hard to build a neighborhood you can be proud of.

As such I have attended the vast majority of our school board meetings for the past 4 years and spent hours working with our teachers, administration and principals to improve our schools and solve the challenges we face. However, I have been unable to make meaningful change from the outside. That is why I am reaching out to you to announce that I have decided to run for Lakewood School Board.

I see this as an opportunity to use my unique combination of knowledge, skills and experience to meet the challenges facing our school district while

ensuring that our students get the best our teachers have to offer. I also promise to do this in a transparent manner to ensure that I am a good steward of the trust the Lakewood taxpayers have given me.

What Will I Bring To The Board?

I can offer a unique combination of knowledge, skills and experience to meet the challenges facing our school district while ensuring that our students get the best our teachers have to offer.

**Teaching Knowledge** - I have 5+ years of experience as a teacher in the City of Buffalo, NY working with high risk students. This experience includes 2 years working with emotionally disturbed/special needs students and 3 years creating and implementing a mastery learning program targeting at risk students at high risk schools. My experience has given me first-hand knowledge of the challenges our teachers/administrators face and the

support they need.

**Financial Expertise** - I have 10+ years of experience in the finance industry (National City, Midwest Research and ELMS Research) as a research analyst, department head, business creator and CEO. This experience has enabled me to build an extensive set of financial skills and expertise in financial planning, forecasting, and budget optimization. This is especially important as the sustainability of our finances is one of the top threats to the continued success of our schools. None of our current board members possess the necessary skills to address this issue.

**Small Business Skills** - I have 12+ years of experience as a successful Lakewood small business owner (Burning River Lacrosse). In this business I have to deal with thousands of young men and women and their par-

continued on next page

A compelling story that flows with grace...a soul-satisfying musical" - The New York Times

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## Lakewood Is Art

How's The Saying Go?:

# Reviews Of Recent Releases By Local Bands, Pt. 10

by Buzz Kompier

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

*Cheap Clone - Cheap Clone - Peanut Butter Records - 9 songs - Cassette, download*

If you want some good power pop, this is the band for you. Very catchy and melodic. Nice boy-girl harmonies as well. In a way, some of it reminds me of Cleveland's own The Mice because of a couple different things (singer's voice, lyrical style, melodies, etc.). And coming from me, that's pretty

high praise, 'cause I love The Mice. But even though these comparisons can be made, it's quite different from The Mice, and they totally have their own thing going on. There were some melodic components in some of the songs that somewhat reminded me of The Replacements. Anyway, jangly guitars, major-minor stuff, harmonies, very memorable melodies and songs. My favorites on the tape were "Call," "Been Told," and "Why Would You Care," though I thought the whole thing was pretty good. Fans of good power pop, you should check these guys out. 5/5

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

I already reviewed this, but I wanted to redo it 'cause I rushed it the first time. If you want all the pedantry, go track down my original review. So to the music: This a gosh-darn great record! Great hooks, melodies, and overall songs abound. Ron House's trademark vocals and sly lyrics mix perfectly with the tight rhythm section of Craig Dunson and Ted Hattemer, while Bob Petric's guitar slashes through the whole thing. I've heard his playing described as "Buzzcocks meets Van Halen," and I'd say that's pretty accurate. Good backing vocals, too. The whole record is great, but highlights include the earworm garage punk great "Lightnin' Rod," the three-chord stomp of "Outside My Scene," and the slow burn closer "When The Entertainment Ends," which almost reminds me of "Final Solution," probably due to the hypnotic rhythm. 5/5

*Numbskull - Final Days Of Torture - My Mind's Eye Records/Collinwood Records - 19 + 5 songs - LP + 7"*

Ok, so this isn't technically "new." The original pressing came out in 2006, and this one is from 2013, I believe. But whatever, I'll mix things up every here and there. These technicalities don't really matter, I'm here to talk about the music. These numbskulls are great! I've heard it called hardcore, but I don't

know if that's really how I'd describe it. I'd probably just call it punk and let someone else decide the sub-sub-subgenre to their liking. Whichever you choose, this is a pretty darn good record. You'd be surprised how just bass and drums can totally hold down a song, and make them all completely unique. The "Final Days" LP has such punk classics as "Ugly" and "Why Don't You Cut Your Hair" and the title track and many others, but the bonus 7" EP, "Paranoid Problem," has some great songs on it too, especially the title track and "Lying About Lying." As for the musical qualities and such of the package as a whole, the bass work is great, the drumming is fantastic, and the singing, while described on the back as "vocal torture," really adds a great element to it all. If you're looking for some great punk stuff, this is the record for you. This is available for download as well, but you should buy the physical LP, 'cause the download doesn't included the "Paranoid Problem" songs. I'm giving a 4/5 to the 7" and 5/5 to the LP.

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

## Italian Baroque Concert At Lakewood Congregational Church

by Paula Maust

Join Burning River Baroque for a special one-night-only-in-Cleveland performance of exquisite and dynamic 17th-century Italian vocal works. Malina Rauschenfels (soprano, baroque violin) and Paula Maust (harpsichord, mezzo-soprano) will be joined by Canadian guest artist Bud Roach (tenor and baroque guitar) for a program of music and texts from Northern Italy that explores the various facets of love.

Beloved songs of Monteverdi and Merula, rare works by Marini and Borlasca, a playful Sances dialogue, and exciting Frescobaldi duets will be seamlessly woven into an extraordinary and dramatic hour. The concert will be held at Lakewood Congregational Church, 1375 W. Clifton Blvd. on Friday, Sep-

tember 18 at 7:30 p.m. Admission is free; donations are gratefully accepted.

Praised by the Boston Musical Intelligencer as a group that "...left an indelible imprint on my psyche," Cleveland-based Burning River Baroque is committed to performing music full of vitality and passion. They strive on every attainable level to involve the audience in the drama that is occurring on stage. More information is available at [www.burningriverbaroque.org](http://www.burningriverbaroque.org).

Paula Maust is currently the organist, children's choir director, and bell choir director at Lakewood Presbyterian Church and the vigil mass organist and cantor at Immaculate Conception Parish. Additionally, she has a large private piano studio at the Avon School of Music.

## Calleri For School Board

**continued from previous page**

ents on a daily basis. This experience has given me a wealth of knowledge in public relations, listening to concerns, addressing issues, researching solutions, and creative problem solving. This is in addition to my skills in marketing, contract negotiation and fiscal responsibility.

### Community Leadership

- **2013 - Present:** Audit Committee - City of Lakewood: In 2013 and 2014 Lakewood received Ohio's Distinguished Audit Award

- **2010 - Present:** Hayes PTO active member and executive committee (3 years)

- **2012 - Present:** Harding PTSA active member, exec. Committee (2 years), council of PTA rep (1 year)

- **2008 - Present:** Cleveland Fisher House - raised \$318,000 for the families of the war wounded.

- **2010 - Present:** Crosse Out Can-

cer - raised \$88,000 for breast cancer research.

My experience working in the community has provided me with a broad knowledge of how to connect with stakeholders, listen to concerns, build consensus, and manage a diverse group of non-employee stakeholders to achieve a goal.

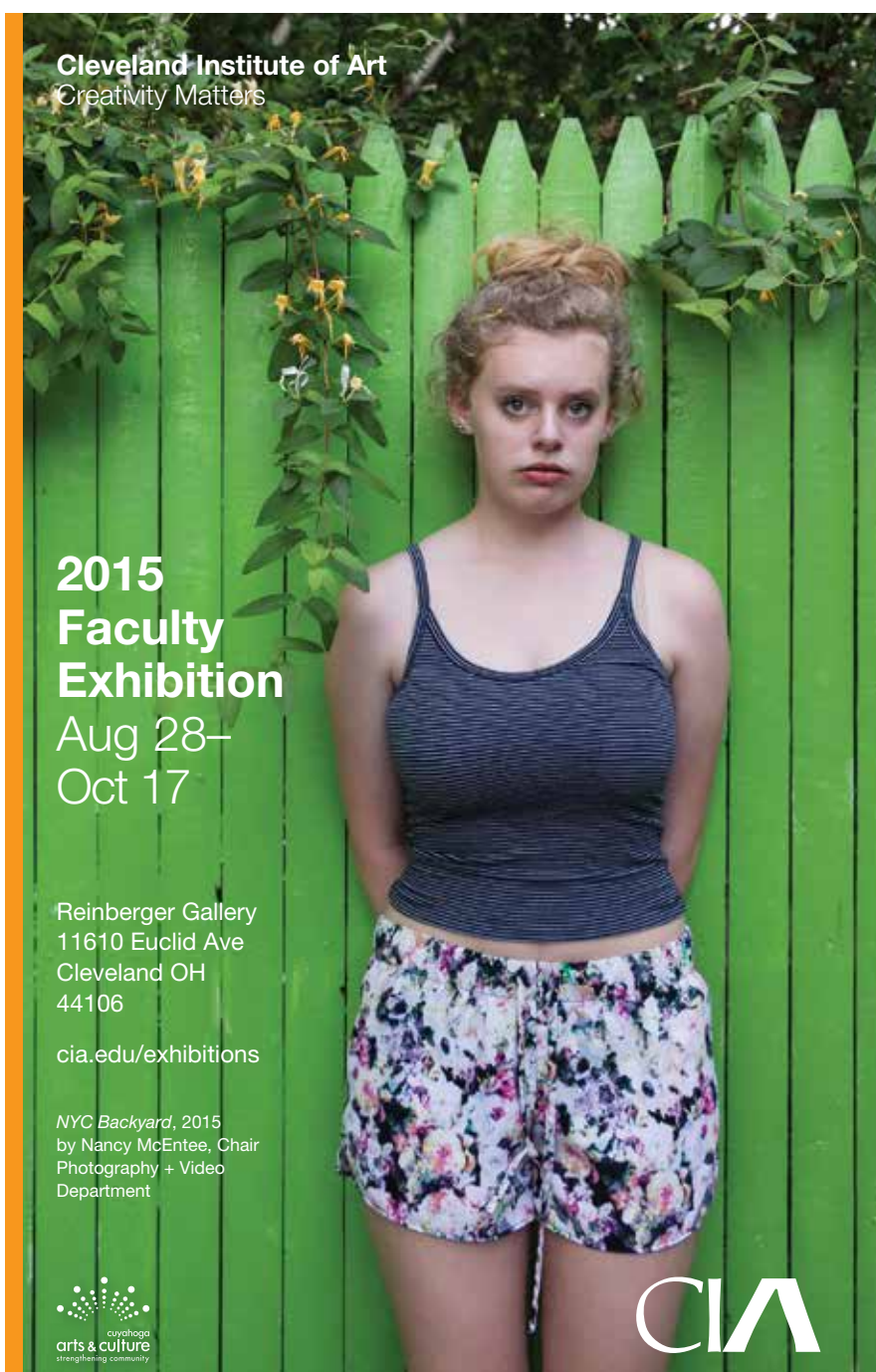
I appreciate your willingness to consider my candidacy and I hope that you find that my background in education, small business, our community and finance has given me the knowledge and skills that will allow me to improve our schools, build our neighborhoods and contribute to our community.

*Sincerely,*  
**Gregory "Woody" Calleri - Candidate for School Board**

<http://www.calleriforschoolboard.info>

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FB - CalleriForSchoolBoard



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Business News

# The Return Of The Scarecrows To Madison Ave.

by DeDe MacNamee-Gold

Express yourself and get your creativity on! Lakewood Kiwanis and Uptown Lakewood are conducting the Third Annual Lakewood Scarecrow Festival beginning Friday, October 9 through Sunday, October 25, 2015. Scarecrows will line Madison Avenue from W 117th to Riverside Drive. This is a fun opportunity for individuals, families, businesses, clubs and organizations to get involved and build their own scarecrows. Last year, PTAs, Girl Scout Troops, businesses, and neighbors took advantage of this fun project making Madison Avenue a lively destination.

You can pick up your weighted portable base on Saturday, October 3rd 8 a.m. to noon at the Buckeye Beer Engine, 15315 Madison Avenue. There will be silly props available to put the finishing touches on your unique scarecrow. You are welcome to donate items



The annual Lakewood Scarecrow Festival is making a spooky return to the businesses of Madison Avenue this October. Be sure to check them out and shop local!

for others to use on their creation. As an exciting kick-off, Mayor Summers will be declaring all of the scarecrows honorary citizens on Friday, October 9th at 6:30 at the Buckeye Beer Engine. Please plan on joining us at the Honorary Citi-

zenship Ceremony. The Scarecrows will take their place of honor from October 9 through October 26, 2015.

Judges will be awarding for Best of Show; Best Entry by a Community Organization; Best Entry by a Business; Best Entry by a School; Scariest and Most Creative! The final award will be the People's Choice, where visitors to the Scarecrow Festival can cast their vote. People's Choice ballot boxes will be at the Lakewood Hardware- 16608 Madison; Buckeye Beer Engine- 15315 Madison Ave.; Great Finds- 15220 Madison; Cottage of Flowers- 14519 Madison Ave.; Angelo's Pizza- 13715 Madison Ave.; Griffin Cider Works- 12401 Madison. Awards will be presented on Monday, October 26, 2015 at 7:00 PM at the Buckeye Beer Engine, 15315 Madison Ave.

Registration for a scarecrow is \$25 with proceeds benefiting Lakewood Kiwanis' Eliminate Project and Uptown Lakewood. Scarecrows must be registered by October 3, 2015. Corporate Sponsorship is available for \$100 which entitles sponsors to be recognized on the window flyer and in local papers paper and they are encouraged to enter a scarecrow of their own creation.

The Scarecrow Festival will have everyone thoroughly charmed again this year. Make your plans with family and friends for a stroll on Madison Avenue between Friday, October 9 and Sunday, October 25, 2015.

Form available on [www.lakewoodkiwanis.com](http://www.lakewoodkiwanis.com) & [www.uptownlakewood.com](http://www.uptownlakewood.com).

# On The Job 29 Years... And Counting!

by Mary Johnson

Lakewood, Ohio has been the home to Cornucopia and Nature's Bin for 40 years. Cornucopia is the nonprofit that operates Nature's Bin. Nature's Bin natural foods market is one of Cornucopia's seven vocational training sites where people with disabilities can go to learn job skills and workplace behaviors so that they can succeed at a job in the community. Thousands of people have participated in vocational training through Cornucopia, thereby learning skills that last a lifetime.

Mike Simpson is a Cornucopia graduate. Mike completed a vocational training program in 1986 through the original "Bin" on Madison Avenue. He worked alongside Cornucopia Case Manager, Sandy Gross to learn key elements of various jobs in a grocery store and of being a good employee and co-worker. Mike must have learned these skills well because upon graduation from Cornucopia he was hired by Rini-Rego Stop-n-Shop, which became Giant Eagle, and has been working there ever since.



Mike stopped by Nature's Bin to see some old friends, including case manager, Sandy Gross.

That's 29 years! "I learned that each of us has a role to fill and that every role is important," Mike explained.

"When I first started at Giant Eagle I used to do price checks and clean-ups but my eyesight isn't so good anymore so now I mostly collect carts from the parking lot and bag purchases for customers," Mike

said. Mike works 15 - 20 hours per week. When he's not at work Mike is following along with his favorite Cleveland sports teams, especially the Cleveland Indians.

Programs hosted at Nature's Bin, Lakewood's own independent natural foods store, serve people with a wide range of disabilities including developmental disabilities, autism, mental illness, visual, speech and hearing impairments, and injuries resulting from accident or illness. Cornucopia and Nature's Bin have been serving the greater Cleveland community since 1975.

## Saturday, September 12th Third Annual Lakewood Wine & Craft Beer Festival

continued from page 1

For all details for the event, please visit [WineAndCraftBeerFestival.com](http://WineAndCraftBeerFestival.com).

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

Many thanks to the other sponsors of the event include First Federal Lakewood, The University of Akron Lakewood, Cox Communications, Sprokets, Geiger's, City of Lakewood, Forge Public House, Kowit & Company Real Estate Group, El Carnicero, Rozi's Wine House, North Country Brewing Com-

pany, Goose Island Beer Company, Blue Point Brewing Company, Deschutes Brewery, Thirsty Dog Brewing Company, Whole Foods, Quaker Steak & Lube, Men's Cuts, Jackie O's Brewery, Lakewood Hardware, Laskey Costello, Southern Tier Brewing Company, Discount Drug Mart and The Butcher And The Brewer.

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

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Forum

# My Choice Is Mike Summers

by Celia Dorsch

I support Mike Summers for Mayor because I love Lakewood. Like many others, I was born in Lakewood, attended Lakewood Schools and am passionate about our community. I do not consider myself a political person and avoid affiliations with any one party. I am compelled to speak out today because I feel strongly about this candidate and how important his leadership is to the future of Lakewood.

Mike Summers is a man of integrity. As past coordinator of Lakewood’s H2O – Help to Others youth volunteer program, I had the privilege of serving under six mayors. I witnessed Mayor Summers successfully guide our city through tenuous financial times. He worked diligently with Lakewood Department of Human Services to make sure our senior citizens, youth and all populations of the community continued to receive much needed support. Mayor Summers constantly challenged city employees to find the best possible way to serve the public.

As a resident, I am grateful for the many housing and commercial improvements that have enhanced our city during Mike Summers’ tenure. It is no accident that people are taking notice of Lakewood. Progress like this requires complex negotiating skills. Summers ‘gets’ that people, and all the multi-layered connections



Mayor Summers and Celia Dorsch

between city/schools/churches/businesses/organizations, are what make Lakewood special. Under Mayor Summers’ leadership, Lakewood’s outstanding neighborhood potential will continue to thrive.

Last, but by no means least, Mike Summers has an excellent working relationship with Lakewood Police and Fire Departments, which is a huge benefit to us all. He has successfully demonstrated his commitment to safety and quality of life for all Lakewood residents. Re-elect Mayor Summers, so Lakewood continues to be the best place to live!

# Lakewood Democratic Club Candidate Endorsements

by Debra Sweeney

The Lakewood Democratic Club endorsements for the upcoming November election include:

- Mayor, Michael P. Summers for re-election,
- Ward 1 - David Anderson,
- Ward 2 - Sam O’Leary,
- Ward 3 - no endorsement,
- Ward 4 - Dan O’Mally,
- Judge Patrick Carroll for Municipal Judge,
- Emma Petrie Barcelona and Kristine Pagsuyoin for Lakewood Board of



Join the Lakewood Dem Club the last Thursday of every month at 7:30 p.m. in the Lakewood Women’s Club Pavillion.

Education. The club has also endorsed the Arts and Culture Issue.

# Friends Of Kauffman Park Put Together Fun Event



photo by Alex Baisla

Kauffman Park Friends staged their Celebrity Baseball Game and Festival. Not only did the Madison Avenue business owners hand out a royal beating to Detroit Avenue merchants, there was Cleveland bike polo, a “Because I said I would” promise wall, the Sokol Aerial Circus (above), Julie Wang Warren of Erie Design singing the National Anthem and fun things for everyone to enjoy. Thank you, Kauffman Park Friends.

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Forum

# My Vision For A Strong Lakewood

by Ohio State Senator  
Mike Skindell

Lakewood is a fantastic community in which to live, raise a family and retire. We have great schools, diverse neighborhoods, a vibrant night life, and a hospital which is the economic engine of it all. As a life-long democrat, I am running for mayor because Lakewood needs a proven leader with an unquestioned commitment to open and honest government. I am running for mayor, to make city hall work for Lakewood residents and not for special interests. We have much work to do during the next four years.

**Saving Lakewood Hospital** - I am working to save Lakewood Hospital. City Council's consultant agreed that Lakewood can support an hospital with inpatient beds. I will work to ensure our hospital continues to serve

our healthcare needs and keep the hospital as the economic engine of our community. I will end the backroom deals that have resulted in the plan to close our hospital.

**Restoring Trust at City Hall** - I am committed to open government giving public access to city hall, both online and in person. As mayor, I will empower residents by providing access to information and will work to increase citizen participation.

**Public Safety** - a Safer Community - Making our city safe and secure allows us to solve other city issues. The growing heroin epidemic threatens Lakewood's safe neighborhoods. In 2013, Lakewood lead Cleveland-area suburbs in heroin deaths with 51. I will tackle, not ignore, this threat by creating a Heroin Recovery Project. Further, as area cities considered outsourcing

emergency medical transportation services, I am committed to keeping EMT a city service.

**Protecting Housing** - After years of cuts, we need to rebuild the Building and Housing Departments. Quality of our housing stock is directly linked to safety in our neighborhoods. As mayor, I will crack down on the neglectful banks and absentee landlords.

**Strengthening Senior Services** - I will work to improve senior services and transportation. As mayor, I will focus the Office on Aging to aid homebound seniors. As a former Ohio Assistant Attorney General, I worked to protect the elderly from abuse and neglect. I will do the same as Lakewood Mayor.

**Championing our Kids** - Our kids are the future of Lakewood. I firmly believe it is the mayor's job to protect and improve our schools. As mayor,

I will be champion of our Lakewood schools. I will work to expand recreation and re-open closed outdoor basketball courts.

**Protecting City Services** - City Hall is outsourcing city services, like review of building permits. Outsourcing lacks accountability. It now can take up to a month to get approval of a simple building permit. I believe city services are best performed by dedicated city employees.

**Smart Development** - I will focus on smart economic development on Detroit Road and Madison Avenue while maintaining the unique historic and architectural character of Lakewood. I will work to help local businesses grow, create sustainable, living-wage jobs, and develop a vibrant community for all.

This year's election for mayor offers a choice of two completely different approaches. I bring trusted and experienced leadership to city hall.

# Lakewood Can Keep The Hospital, But Summers Must Go

by Brian Essi

It is now clear that Lakewood Hospital was profitable prior to the January 15th closure announcement by Mayor Summers and also that it can be viable in the future with the right leadership.

However, it is also clear that Mayor Summers, through acts of commission and omission, has been complicit with the Cleveland Clinic (CCF) in causing damage to the hospital and preventing Lakewood from optimizing its options for the future. So Lakewood can keep the hospital, but Summers must first be replaced to do so.

Here is where we are and what we know:

**1. Lakewood needs a hospital.** CCF admitted this fact in its "Decanting Plan"---a plan to take assets from Lakewood and invest \$190 million in Fairview Hospital where CCF hopes to profit from Lakewoodites forced to go Fairview if Lakewood closes.

**2. Another manager can be found for Lakewood Hospital, but CCF and Summers have not allowed it--Summers and others tasked with protecting us from the Clinic are actually protecting the Clinic in order to pursue Summers' political agenda that is in conflict with keeping the hospital:**

a. CCF wants to demolish the hospital and control the hospital site to prevent any competitor from competing with them in Lakewood. Summers has known the CCF's goal and he wants to close the hospital too---otherwise he would have asked the Clinic to sign a written agreement to step aside and not interfere with finding a new hospital system manager.

Huron Consulting found that no agreement was in place. It was later revealed that CCF had interfered with Metro---the only suitor that came forward last year. In addition, Summers not only ignored Metro's proposal, but he told Lakewood Hospital Association (LHA) trustees more than once that he didn't want "those people" in Lakewood--- His statements exposed Summers' personal prejudice against Metro and his ignorance of how healthcare works. When Metro

expressed interest again in May, 2015, they asked Summers for a written assurance of an open and honest process where they would not be threatened. The events proved that prospective suitors are not comfortable proceeding without written legal assurances from Summers and CCF.

b. Summers admitted at the Beck Center forum on January 28, 2015, that while he was leading LHA in considering the future of the hospital, he was focused on "advancing the economic revitalization of the downtown business district." Summers' personal political agenda is a clear conflict with Summers' legal duty of loyalty to Lakewood Hospital.

c. No broker-dealer or investment banker was ever hired to find a new manager for the hospital and the team Summers assembled had no experience at marketing and selling a hospital---3 of the 4 team members he chose had conflicts of interest in and were loyal to CCF;

d. No lawyers were hired to give advice on the process of marketing the hospital.

e. LHA trustees were compromised by CCF---the City is the proper party to market its hospital and assets and determine its future;

**3. Lakewood Hospital is the highest and best use of the hospital site.** No alternative economic development exists that can match the economic benefits of the hospital. Despite years of planning for development on the hospital site, Summers and his City Hall planners have no market data, no traffic studies, no estimates of employees, no estimates of tax revenues, no prospective employers, no estimates of numbers of residents, and not even one business that would use, build or occupy ANY of the development scenarios they propose.

Nothing is as viable as a hospital and everything proposed by Summers is more risky than keeping the hospital open.

**4. Lakewood Hospital was profitable until the Summers Plan caused losses this year---Summers is using these manufactured losses to pur-**

**sue his agenda.** The audited financial statements show that LHA made over \$2.5 million and \$5.3 million in net profits in 2014 and 2013, respectively.

There is no debate over the fact that Summers' announcement to close the hospital, and his complicity in allowing CCF to dismantle the hospital are the sole causes for the recent losses.

Summers is charged with protecting the hospital and has not simply failed to stop the ongoing looting and theft by CCF, he has used the ensuing calamity and losses caused as political pressure and justification for proceeding with that plan. He continues to promote the idea that the hospital is not viable when his own actions and his complicity with CCF are the only reasons that the hospital is losing money.


**5. The Huron and Subsidium appraisals of Lakewood Hospital did not account for prior thefts and looting by the Clinic so they were fashioned by Summers to support his plan.** Summers was in control of the engagements of both of the Huron and Subsidium consultants and they were not engaged to put a value on the damage that the Clinic and LHA caused to the hospital.

So the resulting appraisals did not reflect the damage that CCF, LHA and Summers caused, thereby favoring

Summers' plan to close the hospital.

The prior efforts to find a new manager were bogus, because Summers and the Clinic had other plans besides operating a hospital in Lakewood. Summers has been the key actor in manufacturing and perpetuating the current crisis at the hospital. Replacing Summers with a new Mayor will enable Lakewood to fully explore all options to keep Lakewood Hospital operating and serving our community.

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Forum

# Passage Of Arts And Culture Levy Critical To Cuyahoga County And Lakewood

by Erin Naso

On November 3rd, Cuyahoga County voters will have the opportunity to continue to invest in Cuyahoga County's critical Arts & Culture community by renewing the penny-and-a-half per cigarette tax they originally approved in 2006. In the decade since voters passed the levy by a resounding 57%, our arts and culture

sector has helped fuel Cuyahoga County's revitalization.

Since grants funded by the Arts & Culture Levy were distributed in 2007, more than \$125 million has been awarded for operations and projects to more than 300 organizations operating at more than 2,500 locations in every corner of the county. These include everything from museums and cul-

tural institutions to small community theaters, non-profit galleries, nature centers and much more.

Organizations receiving levy-funded grants provide nearly 9,000 jobs, and offer nearly 1.4 million annual educational experiences for kids, including more than 18,000 annual field trips.

Lakewood has seen significant

benefits from the levy. More than \$1.6 million has been invested in Lakewood with general operating and program support to Beck Center for the Arts, Green Triangle, Lakewood Historical Society, Lakewood Public Library, Lakewood Alive and The West Shore Chorale since 2007.

The levy, which has already received endorsements from more than 200 elected officials, public bodies and organizations including Ohio Senator Michael Skindell, 23rd District, Ohio Representative Nickie J. Antonio, 13th District, Mayor Mike Summers, City Councilman-at-Large Tom Bullock, City Council President Mary Louise Madigan, and City Councilmember-at-Large Cindy Marx, Lakewood City Council as well as ArtNEO and Beck Center for the Arts.

Mayor Summers believes the renewal is essential in supporting the arts and culture sector. "This tax has proven how a vibrant arts community drives our economy, improves education performance of school children, attracts tourists, residents and businesses and is a source of pride for us all. It's certainly beneficial to Lakewood and the arts community we support but also to Cuyahoga County and our region as a whole."

For more information on the levy, its reach and how to get involved, go to [www.ACAC2015.org](http://www.ACAC2015.org).

# Mayor Summers Protests Clinic's Damaging Of Lakewood Hospital

by Mike Zannoni

A letter turned up in the discovery process of the "taxpayer lawsuit" against the City of Lakewood, in which plaintiffs allege improper stewardship and oversight of the Clinic's management of Lakewood Hospital.

It was turned over to the plaintiffs by Lakewood Law Director Kevin Butler, Attorney of Counsel for the City, in response to a Request for Production of Documents, and is dated July 3, 2014. It is addressed Dr. Brian Donley, President of Cleveland Clinic Regional Hospitals, and reads in its entirety as follows (bold mine):

Dear Dr. Donley:

*This letter is a formal protest of the Cleveland Clinic's recent decision and subsequent announcement to move the Rehabilitation Service to a soon to be built Select Medical 60 bed facility in Avon.*

*This service at Lakewood Hospital recently received in excess of \$3.7 million of Lakewood Hospital Association and Lakewood Hospital Foundation monies. These investments were made in good faith that CCF intended to honor the spirit and letter of our definitive agreement of services to be offered by CCF at Lakewood Hospital.*

*This particular service delivers approximately three million dollars of contribution to the financial performance of Lakewood Hospital. Consequently, the absence of these mon-*

*ies will have a devastating impact on the financial viability of our hospital.*

*This decision, and others similar to it, is a continuation of Cleveland Clinic's unilateral strategic approach to seemingly disregarding the impact on Lakewood Hospital to the benefit of the Clinic system as a whole. I recognize the market and regulatory pressures that might compel these decisions, but I must protest their detrimental impact on Lakewood Hospital. I believe the service losses are in violation of the letter and spirit of the definitive agreement between the Lakewood Hospital board of trustees and The Cleveland Clinic foundation.*

Sincerely,  
Michael P. Summers

It is unknown if the letter was sent, but it appears to be something that the mayor of a city whose hospital is under siege would reasonably write on behalf of the city, its citizens and financial donors, who collectively have an interest in the hospital as a major repository of investment and as the city's largest employer and foremost health resource.

The letter raises questions as to what would explain an apparent reversal of attitude and perspective on the Mayor's part, especially as it espouses that the hospital has been undermined financially by a series of purposeful decisions by the Clinic to move important and lucrative

services elsewhere, in violation of what is called the Definitive Agreement.

Recently, the financial losses experienced by the hospital, which are said to necessitate its closure, are explained by the Mayor and others in support of the Clinic's plans as due to unavoidable changes in the health care industry and market forces.

Mayor Summers at this time, 14 months after the letter is dated, is a leading proponent of the Clinic's plan to close Lakewood Hospital and build in its place an outpatient facility with limited services. This plan requires that Lakewood's needs for hospitalization be served by Fairview Hospital, or a yet-to-be-built hospital in Avon, or some other area hospital.

# Judge Patrick Carroll Is The Right Choice To Lead Lakewood Municipal Court

by Diane Helbig

The vast majority of us never have a reason to interact with Lakewood municipal court. Frankly, I would guess that there are few of us who have ever entered the court or have any idea what actually goes on there day to day.

So, voting for judge may seem like a small issue in light of the hot topics in Lakewood right now. I submit that it is tremendously important to the continued growth and safety of our city.

Judge Patrick Carroll is an engaged, involved, dedicated member of our community. He has implemented numerous programs that actually speak to the needs of our residents. And it's not only the voters and taxpayers who are served. For me the best thing about the Judge is his commitment to the struggling among us.

Did you know that our municipal court is actively involved in helping those with addiction? In 2011 the judge received the Bronze Key from Recovery Resources for his commitment to the field of addiction and mental health. And using common sense and good judgement, the court uses the courts diversion program for first time offenders. Or how about the

Judge's commitment to helping the mentally ill? Judge Carroll was instrumental in establishing the Mental Health Court Initiative in 2003. This initiative is now in place throughout Cuyahoga County. It matters to us for so many reasons. The mentally ill should be handled with compassion and care while ensuring the community remains safe. For me this is one more example of how Judge Carroll shows his commitment to the entire community of Lakewood.

And then there's housing court. My neighbors and I experienced this firsthand when we had a problem with a house owned by an absentee landlord. The court was instrumental in helping us resolve the problem. Now the house is in far better shape and the residents are not a nuisance to the neighborhood. The judge understands how important our housing stock is to our community, and he also understands the challenges some homeowners experience when trying to maintain their homes. So he works with them to help them resolve their issues. Everyone wins when homeowners can maintain their homes

continued on page 22

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Lakewood Living

# Lakewood Adventure Guides Kicks Off New Year

by *Cindy Bischof-Steinbrick*

The Lakewood YMCA Adventure Guides is also known as Lake Trail Nation (LTN). We are a group of about 60 families with over 175 members. Our members include single and married parents, grandparents, and of

course, the kids we care about. We provide opportunities for adults and boys and girls age 5-12 to spend enjoyable, constructive time together, fostering companionship and an understanding for a foundation to lifelong friendship.

Some of our recent activities have

included Tent Camping at different Ohio State Parks, Halloween Party, Moon Rock Bowling, Holiday Party, Game Night at the Y, Induction Camp out in the Metroparks, Pinewood Derby, Marching in the Lakewood July 4th Parade, Camp Y-Noah, Pool

Parties, Hiking, Biking, Community Service, Camp Fitch (Winter camp-out!), Model Rockets, and Skiing. Smaller groups of children the same age and gender with their parents, called Circles, also plan monthly activities such as jewelry making parties, movie nights, pumpkin carving, spa day, and other activities.

Please join us for information nights for potential members at the Lakewood YMCA on September 16 and 17th from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Registration forms are available at information night, or contact [ltmagymca@gmail.com](mailto:ltmagymca@gmail.com). Our first event of the year, a kick off dinner, will be held on September 26th.

Our programs launch parents and their children on a journey of discovery, with the child as the explorer and the parent as the guide. Adventure Guides encourages parents to get to know your kids while they are still a kid with group activities. The one-on-one time in a fun, special environment builds important bonds through shared experiences.

Whether it is mother, father, grandparent, or guardian with sons, daughters or both, ALL are welcome to the Lake Trail Nation to create great memories together. It is our belief that the best thing you can spend on your child is YOUR time.

## Lakewood Soccer Association U12 Girls Team Division Champs

by *Ted Nagel*

The LSA Girls U12 soccer team played in the American Amateur Soccer League (AASL) U13 B Division last season. After being finalists the season before in U12 A, the girls were looking for a new challenge. Despite playing up an age division, they went undefeated playing to a 7-0-1 record with their only blemish coming against a strong Amherst team at home.

The girls are led by a veteran core of players who have been playing together for the past eight seasons. Those players are Aubree Nagel, Georgia Popovic-Ita, Quinn Costanzo, Aiden Kelley and Sydney Hudock. Leading scorer, Katie Donnelly, joined the team three seasons ago and has been the team's primary target at Striker since joining. With a strong defense in front of goalie Cali Cook, the team was able to shut out 5 of its opponents last season.

The newer players all have integrated seamlessly with the veteran players to create one of the powerhouse teams in the area for their age in Travel Soccer. They include Annika Cook,



LSA U13 League Champions (first row) Jamina Cook, Georgia Popovic-Ita, Aiden Kelley, Annika Cook, Bella Segreto, Quinn Costanzo (second row) Gianna McAuliffe, Nevaeh Yarber, Cali Cook, Sydney Hudock, Charlotte Melinski, Aubree Nagel, Katie Donnelly, Ted Nagel

Gianna McAuliffe, Nevaeh Yarber, Bella Segretto and Charlotte Milenski.

The team has accumulated a record of 14-1-1 over the past two seasons, coming home with the Finalist trophy in the Fall of 2014 and the Championship trophy in the Spring of 2015. They've also brought home two tournament Finalist medals and the

NOSO Cup Championship in their last three tournaments. The team opened the Fall 2015 season with a 6-0 win against Amherst at Lakewood High School.

The team is coached by Ted Nagel and managed by Jamina Cook.

You will definitely be seeing some of these girls soon in Ranger uniforms!

## Blue Ribbon Fun At The County Fair

by *Heidi Murray*

Lakewood Girl Scout Troop 70109 had a great experience at the Cuyahoga County Fair. The troop, comprised of 16 girls from sixth to ninth grade, prepared over 200 entries for the junior fair. The girls created papercrafts, recycled art, photography, sculptures, jewelry and

many more items. The entries were on display at the fair all week.

On Tuesday, the troop participated in activities at the fairgrounds including Project Runway and Creative Writing and Drawing. That evening they set up camp and prepared to sleep out under the stars. Just as the girls were ready to toast marsh-

mallows, torrential rains started (along with a spectacular lighting show)! Luckily the storm was short-lived. Although they were a bit wet, they still enjoyed a roaring fire and a night of camping.

The girls won eight Blue Ribbons, 14 second place finishes, 12 third place finishes, 12 fourth place finishes and seven honorable mentions. This is the second year the girls have participated and camped out at the fairgrounds.



Front: Lena Strazek, Jake Hirsch  
Middle: Aubree Nagel, Sydney Hudock, Emma Hirsch, Dashuanna Carter  
Back: Abby Hirsch, Emma Murray, Lucy McIntire, Veruca Jouriles, Eva Strazek, Ale McKissick, Molly Burke and Owen Murray  
Not Pictured: Gabby Murray, Amy and Molly Pilgrim, Amelia Moore and Ava Molinski

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# Lakewood Living

## First Annual LakewoodAlive Homebuyer Fair To Be Held In September

by Allison Urbanek

Lakewood, one of Northeast Ohio's best communities, is a place to put down roots. Where else can you find great housing, good schools, restaurants, convenient shopping, parks and recreation all within minutes of downtown Cleveland or Hopkins airport?

Whether it is walking or biking or participating in one of the area's most creative communities, this diverse community is welcoming to all.

Now you have an opportunity to learn how to become a homebuyer as LakewoodAlive announces its first annual Homebuyer Fair on Tuesday, September 29th from 6-9 p.m. at

Lakewood Methodist Church, 15700 Detroit Avenue.

Meet with representatives of LakewoodAlive, local lenders, title companies, home inspection, realtors, insurance companies, contractors and businesses to learn what you need to know to find and purchase the Lakewood home of your

dreams!

Even if you are not quite ready to make a purchase, this gathering has valuable information for you so don't forget to mark the date, time and location on your calendar or call Allison at the LakewoodAlive offices for more information: 216-521-0655 or [aurbanek@lakewoodalive.com](mailto:aurbanek@lakewoodalive.com).

## LakewoodAlive Has Busy, Very Productive Weekend

by Courtney Russ

On Saturday, August 15, LakewoodAlive's staff and board members came together to paint a house for a resident on Riverside Drive who had been cited by the city for peeling paint.

Twenty-five staff, board members and community members were able to get the house painted in just five hours. The participants had fun while completing this project and the homeowner is very happy with her newly painted home.

Thank you to the LakewoodAlive board and community members for helping to make this project a success!

On Sunday, August 16, Cross Point Church worked with LakewoodAlive as part of their Day of Service to help with a yard clean-up on Eldred Avenue, for a homeowner who had also been cited by the city. Nine Cross

Point Church members worked tirelessly all morning long cutting down trees and removing all of the ivy off of the house. The work of the church members made a world of difference on the house.

LakewoodAlive thanks Cross Point Church for all of their hard work on this project.

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LakewoodAlive staff and board members painting a house on Riverside Drive.



Cross Point Church members working on a yard clean-up as part of their Day of Service.



**lakewoodalive**

**Homebuyer Fair 2015**

**When? Tuesday, September 29th 6-8:30 pm**

**Where? Lakewood United Methodist Church**

**15700 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio**



Meet with local realtors, home inspectors, insurance companies, bankers, contractors, title companies and more.

Free workshops will also be available.

This event is free to all and will be a great opportunity to learn all about home buying!

Questions? Contact Allison Urbanek, LakewoodAlive Housing Outreach Director  
[aurbanek@lakewoodalive.com](mailto:aurbanek@lakewoodalive.com) or 216-521-0655

## Judge Patrick Carroll Is The Right Choice To Lead Lakewood Municipal Court

continued from page 20

effectively.

People can say that long term incumbents should be replaced simply by virtue of their tenure. I agree with that when the incumbent is sitting back on his laurels and riding out his term. That just isn't the case with Judge Carroll. Judge Carroll continues to bring his passion, energy, and leadership to the

Lakewood Municipal Court. He understands the impact his decisions have on the community as a whole. He's raised his children here and remains an active member of the community. I believe the judge will continue to work for all of the residents of Lakewood and that's why I'm voting for him. He truly is the right choice to lead Lakewood Municipal Court.

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Lakewood Living

Real Estate Update

by Chris Bergin

The Northern Ohio Regional Multiple Listing Service recently released the July Statistical Report for the 15-county area that makes up NE Ohio. Year to date, New Listings are up 4.8%. Sold Listings are up 13.4%. Sales Volume is up 17.1%! The Average Sales Price continues to improve, up 3.3% through 7 months. Market Time continues to improve, dropping 4% to an average of 90 days.

Locally, while Lakewood remains one of the hottest cities on Cleveland's west side, challenges remain. As of August 25th, there were only 93 Single Family Homes for sale. As of the same date there were 90 homes under con-

tract. For comparison, back in 2008 there were over 300 homes for sale!

Through August 25th, 280 Single Family Homes have sold. During the same period last year, 283 homes sold. The average time on the market has continued to improve, dropping from 78 days to 70. The Average List Price has increased 7%, from \$163,800 last year to \$175,000 this year. The Average Sales Price has also continued to improve, increasing by 8% to \$165,300. The Closed Price-to-List Price Ratio remains nearly unchanged, with the average home selling for 98% of list.

The challenge remains with inventory. The market remains very competitive for buyers, with only 93

homes for sale (as of 8/25). While the number of new listings is up across NE Ohio by nearly 5%, new inventory in Lakewood is down nearly 9% compared to last year. It is interesting to note that the sales volume remains unchanged, with \$4.6M in real estate changing hands this year as well as last. Until more inventory comes on market sellers will continue to have the upper hand and buyers will continue to find themselves in multiple offer situations.

A quick analysis of the sold inventory reveals what buyers are looking for. Year to Date sales under \$100k comprised 25% of the market. Sales between \$100-150k (109 units) were the highest making up 39% of the market.

Sales between \$150-200k represented 18%; \$200-300k was 11%; \$300-400k was 4.6%; \$400-600k was 1.4%; and sales over \$600k was just under 2% of the market.

The good news is that of the 93 homes for sale, 39% are between \$100-150k. Buyers, however, looking in other price points are going to find the market extremely competitive. Investors have even had to "sharpen" their pencils-- there are only 16 homes for sale under \$100k!

The expectation is for Lakewood to remain a hot, desirable community for buyers to call home. Buyers will need to be ready to act when their dream home hits the market, at least until the number of homes for sale climbs to levels well over 100. Buyers ready to act can keep an eye on market conditions at [www.HomeValuesInLakewood.info](http://www.HomeValuesInLakewood.info). Home owners thinking of selling may access the same site and track sold inventory, home values, and view potential competition. Buyers should also secure a professional real estate agent that can help identify potential properties quickly and ensure the buyer gets their foot in the door before the property is sold. If you are looking to buy you will be glad you did!

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

Seeking Food And Craft Vendors For The Evening: LEAF Community Harvest Fest

by Lisa Hofmann

Celebrate autumn and our local harvest at LEAF Community's Annual Harvest Festival. This year, our signature event will be held earlier in the season, on Thursday, October 1, from 5:30-8 p.m. Join us on the porch of Lakewood Library, Detroit Avenue.

Your whole family can enjoy this free event. The evolving details of the evening include:

- **Food:** Come hungry and nosh on a variety of soups and stews, home-made from mainly local produce, locally made breads, and other foods, available with a nominal donation to support LEAF.
- **Pumpkin patch:** Pick out a pumpkin to take home to carve in our pumpkin patch.
- **Live music:** Local musicians will provide the soundtrack to our festival fun.
- **Pie bake-off:** Show off your baking skills by entering our pie contest (or use your pie-tasting skills, if you prefer.)
- **Games:** Ever tried squash bowling? Now's your chance. We'll have corn hole, too.
- **Face painting:** Add a little color to the kids' faces!
- **Vendors:** Local food and craft vendors will have fresh produce, home-made breads/desserts, crafts, dry goods, and prepared foods for purchase.
- **CSA pick up:** LEAF's usual Thursday evening CSA pick up will still be going on.

Interested in vending at the Harvest Fest? We're seeking local food and craft vendors. LEAF is 100% powered by volunteers; let us know if you are able to volunteer at the event. Email [leafcommunity@gmail.com](mailto:leafcommunity@gmail.com) if you're interested in vending or volunteering.

Learn more about LEAF Community and our programs at [leaf-community.org](http://leaf-community.org).

Foster Pool Going To The Dogs

by Karen Karp

Got dogs? Got water? Put the two together and you have the recipe for a splashing good time. Join Friends of the Lakewood Dog Park (FLDP) for the 2015 Dog Swim at Foster Pool in Lakewood Park, 14532 Lake Ave., on Monday, September 8 from 5-8 p.m.

Grab your towels, round up the four-legged family members, and you'll be ready for the most anticipated event of the K-9 calendar. Dogs must be up to date on their vaccinations and owners are responsible for cleaning up after their dogs as well as their safety.

Cost for admission to the annual fundraiser, now in its eleventh year, is \$5 for 1 dog, \$8 for 2 dogs, and \$10 for 3 dogs. Proceeds will benefit FLDP, the all-volunteer, non-profit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization that works with the City of Lakewood to care for the Lakewood

Dog Park and raises funds for dog park improvements.

Check the FLDP website, [lakewood-dogpark.com](http://lakewood-dogpark.com), or find us on Facebook, Lakewood Dog Park - Friends of the Lakewood Dog Park, to learn more about FLDP. Up-coming events include: a Dine to Donate event at the Lakewood Bob Evans Restaurant on September 19; a celebration of World Animal Day on October 3; and Photos with Santa Paws on December 6.

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CCLAS Adopt-A-Pet: Opal

by Mike Deneen

Opal (Collar #81) is great with other cats and dogs, LOVES to snuggle with her foster parents, and just has a really sweet disposition. She had 4 kittens that were all adopted very quickly, so she's in the situation that we see many mom cats endure at the shelter - sitting and waiting for a very long time because everyone wants the tiny kittens instead of the adult cats. She was a fantastic mother and really deserves a loving home.

For more info on Opal or any of the other adoptable animals at the



Opal waiting for a new home.

Lakewood Animal Shelter, call 216-529-5020 or visit the CCLAS website [www.cclas.info](http://www.cclas.info).

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3 Items	\$8.00	\$10.25	\$13.50	\$16.00
4 Items	\$8.50	\$11.00	\$14.50	\$17.50
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