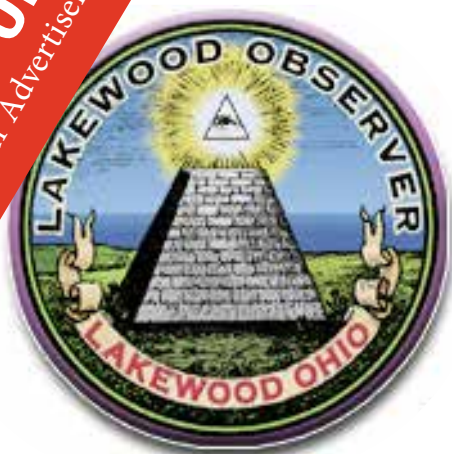


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THE LAKEWOOD OBSERVER



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Volume 11, Issue 23, November 10, 2015

Election Results 2015

Incumbents Retained, Community Split On 64

by Margaret Brinich

At the end of a long night on November 3rd (election results were delayed across the

state due to issues with a new technology for signing in voters at the polls in Hamilton County) it quickly became

clear that for seats in which an incumbent was running, their seat was safe for another four years. This included Mayor

Michael Summers, Ward 1 Councilman David Anderson, Ward 2 Councilman Sam O'Leary, Municipal Court Judge Patrick Carroll, and School Board members Linda Beebe and Tom Einhouse. The third and final seat for school board currently has the sitting President of the Board, Emma Petrie-Barcelona in the lead by one vote over Meghan George and by 75 votes over Kristine Pagsuyoin. Due to the close

nature of this race (within 0.5% of the total votes cast), an automatic recount, including the review of any provisional ballots cast, will likely be triggered. Therefore, the definitive winner of the race will not be known for some time yet.

The other major draw for Lakewood voters was of course the Charter Amendment regarding Lakewood Hospital known as Issue 64. The unofficial **continued on page 21**

LCAC Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive - A Time To Share

by Celia Dorsch

For more than twenty five years, Lakewood Charitable Assistance Corp. (LCAC) has provided Holiday Food Baskets for 600 Lakewood families and senior citizens. This neighborhood food chain is only possible with the support of the entire community. There are so many options for giving!

Share gifts of food...

Non-perishable food items are being collected for the Thanksgiving distribution at the following schools: Grant Elementary School (currently located in St. James School), Harding Middle School, Hayes Elementary School, and Horace Mann Elementary School. The junior class at Lakewood High School is sponsoring a fundraiser to help purchase perishable items needed to

complete the holiday baskets.

Students from St. Edward High School will collect items from participating households in Lakewood. Area residents may see bags appear on their doorsteps throughout the month with instructions regarding items needed and pickup dates. Non-perishable items can also be dropped off at Lakewood Hardware from **continued on page 20**

A Big Thank You To Our Veterans

by Barry Wemyss

As we approach Veterans Day, we here at the Lakewood Division of Aging have been pausing to remember and appreciate the sacrifices made by the members of our armed forces. It is axiomatic that so many of us have so little idea of what has been given on our behalf. On Wednesday, November 18th, at the Lawther Senior Center, we will be saying a big "Thank You"

to those who have served.

In conjunction with Hospice of the Western Reserve, we will be holding our second annual Veterans Celebration. At this event, we will be distributing the official State of Ohio 2015 - 2016 Veterans Pin. This pinning ceremony will be conducted by Mayor Michael Summers, and a veteran representative of Hospice of the Western Reserve. There will be

patriotic music, refreshments and a time for remembrance.

The Lakewood Division of Aging cordially invites all veterans and the spouses of veterans, as well as all those who served in America's armed forces in peacetime to join us for this celebration. We are located at the Lawther Center, 16024 Madison Ave. Lakewood, Ohio. This event **continued on page 4**

The New Solstice Steps At Lakewood Park



photo by Kevin Anderson

A view of the new Solstice Steps at Lakewood Park from 200 feet up over Lake Erie.



A raucous postgame celebration with the student section.

"Holy War" Brings Spotlight To Lakewood

by Mike Deneen

Lakewood hosted the biggest high school game in the Cleveland area on Halloween, as St. Edward defeated archrival St. Ignatius 35-28 in the annual "Holy War" at First Federal Lakewood Stadium. Eagle running back Cole Gest had three touchdowns for St. Edward, leading his team to victory. The loss eliminated Ignatius from playoff consideration, a rare occurrence over the past 30 years. The Eagles will move on to compete in the OHSAA playoffs, where they are the #1 seed in their region.

The "Holy War" brought thousands of visitors into Lakewood for the afternoon game. The game was also broadcast live on Time Warner cable, taking the game to thou-

sands of households around Ohio.

Eagle and Wildcat fans filled bars and restaurants along Madison Avenue in the hours before kickoff. Angelo's Pizza decorated its patio to attract fans for a pregame meal. There were also tailgates around FFL Stadium, most notably a St. Edward tailgate at the Firestone lot across Bunts Road.

As kickoff approached, slow moving cars prowled the side streets around the stadium looking for on-street parking. Many found themselves parked many blocks away, and hustled to make the game before kickoff. Some fans, particularly those from St. Ignatius, gawked at their **continued on page 10**

Observations

Clare Ciolli - Photographer



One of the pleasures of the Observer Project is the number of people we get to work with. Clare Ciolli, a student at Lakewood High School, is working with us like some of the greats, Ivor, Maureen MacGregor, and so many others. Here are some images from her “LHS Pink Out” photoblog, she is good!

Neighbors Talking Over The Digital Fence

http://lakewoodobserver.com/forum

Topic	Author	Posts	LO Reads	Date Posted
Burgers 2 Brew	Matthew Lee	9	285	Mon Nov 09
What's Missing In The Explanation of the Mayor's "Deal"?	Brian Essi	3	168	Mon Nov 09
Smoldering remains of Save Lakewood Hospital movement	P. Manno	11	1043	Mon Nov 09
Defendant Summers Objects To Testifying Under Oath As To Lakewood Hospital Issues	Matt Markling	12	1135	Mon Nov 09
If It Is Such A Good Deal, Why The Lies And BS	Jim O'Bryan	45	1506	Mon Nov 09
Kucinich Files Additional Complaints With Federal Trade Commission	Jim O'Bryan	7	736	Sun Nov 08
Clouds got in the way...		286	38172	Sun Nov 08
Most Disappointing Part of the Election	Michael Deneen	7	874	Sun Nov 08
Eagles Avoid "Miracle on Madison"		3	222	Sun Nov 08
Where will you be this morning?	Gary Rice	14	753	Sun Nov 08
The Comic The Observer Didn't Print...	Jim O'Bryan	6	566	Sun Nov 08
What Happend To The Hospitals \$27.5 Million?	Bill Call	2	214	Sun Nov 08
A Message From Mayor Michael Summers		12	1079	Sun Nov 08
Lakewood Is Getting Poorer and Smaller	Bill Call	14	608	Sun Nov 08
The kids say bedbugs are showing up all over the high school	todd vainisi	3	381	Sat Nov 07
Project on Manor Park and Detroit?	Geoff Wopershall	10	822	Sat Nov 07
Where are the young people on The Deck?	Alex Belisle	20	632	Sat Nov 07



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City News

Council Continues Normal Business On Eve Of Election

On the night before one of Lakewood's most important elections, the City Council met for its regularly scheduled meeting in the City Hall Auditorium. Council President Mary Louise Madigan called the meeting to order at 7:43 P.M.

Councilman Ryan Nowlin (A-Large) delivered a report from the Finance Committee regarding an ordinance providing contracting authority for the City. Often times when ordinances like this come to Council there is not much to remark upon, however, due to the current circumstances in the city, several increases were needed, requiring further explanation. The first two items among the requested increases were both tied to the Lakewood Hospital situation. The first one was a request to increase legal fees from \$300,000 to \$500,000 due to the citizens' lawsuit against the City. The second item was an increase in professional services from \$200,000 to \$275,000 due to matters involved in the hospital discussion.

After visiting the items line by line, Councilman Nowlin reported that the Finance Committee unanimously recommended adoption of the ordinance. After recommending adoption the Committee discussed some possible ways for the City to pay for the unexpected increases in payments. One possible solution was for the City to use some of the unexpected increased revenue it received this year.

by Christopher Bindel

A member of the public, Marguerite Harkness, wished to speak to Council on this matter. She asked Council where its consideration of the loss of income tax revenue due to the loss of the Hospital was in their discussion of these matters.

Councilwoman Madigan told Ms. Harkness that the annual budget conversation would begin in the next couple weeks and all the relevant information regarding costs and revenues connected with the City, including the Hospital, will be covered then.

Further comments and discussion were had by Councilman Tom Bullock (At-Large), Councilman David Anderson (Ward I), Councilman Sam O'Leary (Ward II), Councilman Shawn Juris (Ward III), and the Mayor on some of the finer points of the Hospital issue.

Council proceeded to pass the ordinance.

Councilman O'Leary then asked that Council refer a discussion item to the Public Works Committee. The City has recently completed the separation of storm and sanitary sewers for approximately 100 homes on Edgewater Drive. However there are about 29 more homes in the project area that require further work to be done by the homeowners to complete the separation. These home-

owners have expressed several concerns regarding many aspects of the City's requirement of them to complete the work. A few of the many issues raised were the necessity of compliance, compliance timeframe, technical assistance, and financial assistance. Councilman O'Leary and the Mayor have had several productive meetings on the subject and have resolved some of the residents' issues, however issues persist. Some of the issues that remain pertain to previous actions of Council or possible future appropriations. That is the reason Councilman O'Leary recommended this matter be referred to the Public Works Committee for discussion.

Council referred the matter to the Public Works Committee.

Next, Law Director, Kevin Butler, asked the Public Works Committee to reconvene a discussion they began regarding allowing cyclists to use the rush hour restricted bus lanes on Clifton. With codes on the books that already restrict the use of the lanes for buses only during specified hours, Council would have to approve a specific exemption for bikes. Director Butler said that Council would need to make sure the code is clarified to ensure the exemption and that unsafe cycling conditions are mitigated.

Council referred the matter to the

Public Works Committee.

Law Director Butler then introduced a resolution, which if passed would allow the Mayor to enter into an agreement with the District Advisory Council of Cuyahoga County, Ohio General Health District for the provision of public health services in Lakewood. The cost of the services are not to exceed \$204,354 for the year of 2016. Although the matter was a resolution and did not have to be sent to committee before a vote, Council decided to refer it to the Human Services Committee for Discussion.

Councilman Juris said that considering the discussion going on in the city regarding health care he was looking forward to the discussion.

With no further official business before Council, they moved on to the public comment section of the meeting. Several people from the community got up to speak to Council, all of whom have spoken to Council at least once, if not several times over the last several months. The only topic discussed were issues surrounding Lakewood Hospital. Several Council members responded to the comments made by the public in an attempt to answer questions and clarify points. On the eve of the election, tensions were noticeably heightened, but decorum was maintained.

Council President Madigan adjourned the meeting at 8:54 P.M.

Representative Antonio Joins Leaders, Medical Experts To Discuss New Initiative In Preventing Opioid Abuse

by Nickie Antonio

In recognition of National Recovery Month in September, State Representatives Nickie J. Antonio (D-Lakewood) and Robert Sprague (R-Findlay) held a news conference to urge quick action on H.B. 248, their bill to compel health insurance companies to cover the cost of opioid pain medications formulated with abuse-deterrent properties. The bill is currently before the House Health and Aging Committee.

The legislators were joined by a wide array of supporters representing the medical community, addiction services providers, law enforcement, and community leaders. Dr. Eliza-

beth Lottes of Maryhaven Research Institute noted, "Abuse-deterrent properties make a pain pill harder to crush or melt and therefore harder to abuse. When the FDA approved the first abuse-deterrent formulation, data show instances of snorting or injecting that particular drug dropped by as much as 70 percent. This is a tool we need in the fight against opioid addiction."

Representative Antonio explained that insurance companies sometimes decline to pay for the abuse-deterrent form of an opioid drug, because similar drugs without tamper-resistance properties are less expensive. "People who abuse prescription pain pills are more likely to end up in the hospital and more likely to need outpatient

treatment," she pointed out. "If we can prevent abuse, prevent an overdose, we can save those costs. H.B. 248 is a good financial strategy as well as an effective way to help save lives and keep families from suffering the consequences of drug abuse."

Representative Sprague added, "According to the most recent state statistics, there were 2,110 overdose deaths in 2013. Despite the best efforts of our behavioral health community and our law enforcement, the numbers just keep rising. By making tamper-resistant pain drugs more widely available, we can begin to turn that around."

"For patients who need pain medication, it is impossible for prescribers to know if these medications might end up in the hands of an abuser," said Delaware County Sheriff Russell Martin. "The National Survey on Drug Use and Health found that 70 percent of medications that are abused are stolen, given away or somehow diverted from the patient who actually needs the prescriptions for a medical reason."

September is National Recovery Month. The observance began in 1989 to raise awareness that effective treatment can help those suffering from addiction and behavioral health issues to lead healthy and productive lives. More information is available at: <http://www.recoverymonth.gov/recovery-month/about-recovery-month>.

A Big Thank You To Our Veterans

continued from page 1

will be on Wednesday, November 18, 2015, beginning at 10:30 a.m. Individuals aged 60+ are welcome to join us for lunch immediately following the celebration. Please call the Activities Office at 216-529-5005 for more information.

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From The Statehouse

Representative Antonio To Introduce
Equal Housing And Employment Bill

by Nickie Antonio

Ohio Fairness Act would ban discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender identity

State Rep. Nickie Antonio (D-Lakewood) announced on October 28 that she will be reintroducing legislation to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation in employment, housing or public accommodations. Dubbed “The Ohio Fairness Act,” the legislation will add “sexual orientation” and “gender identity” to the lists of classes protected from discrimination found in the Ohio Revised Code.

“An individual’s ability to pursue a career, enjoy safe housing, and be a contributing member of society should not be based upon one’s sexual orientation,” said Antonio. “While our country has taken an historic step toward equality with the recent Supreme Court ruling on same-sex marriage, an Ohioan can still get married in the morning and get fired from their job in the afternoon just because of who they are or whom they love. That is not acceptable.”

Ohio remains one of 28 states



Rep. Antonio stands with supporters of the Ohio Fairness Act, pending legislation to extend anti-discrimination protections to include members of the LGBT community.

without clear, inclusive, non-discrimination protections for the LGBT community. Fourteen Ohio cities have already passed fully inclusive non-discrimination ordinances, and 80 of the 98 top employers in Ohio have corporate policies that prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation.

“Many companies understand that laws and policies that allow for discrimination against a class of people act as a barrier to attracting the best and brightest talent to our state,” said Antonio. “Ohioans know our state is a great place to live, work, and raise a family – and that should be true for ALL families,

gay and straight alike. The public believes in equal protection for all citizens, and now it’s time for Ohio law to catch up.”

According to a 2013 poll conducted by Goodwin Simon Strategic Research, 79 percent of Ohio registered voters believe that laws should be passed banning discrimination in employment, housing and public accommodations based on both sexual orientation and gender identity.

Legislation has been introduced in the last five General Assemblies to protect all Ohioans from losing their jobs, being denied housing, or being refused public accommodations based on their real or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity. This is the third time Rep. Antonio has introduced an equal protection measure. The Lakewood lawmaker was joined at the press conference today by Equality Ohio Managing Director Alana Jochum, Anti-Defamation League Regional Director Anita Gray, and several LGBT Ohioans who shared past experiences of being discriminated against at work or in regards to housing because of their sexual orientation.

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1 A reward of \$10.00 will be added to the account monthly when recurring direct deposits of \$500.00 or more are made to your Benefits Checking Account each month. The total of the recurring Direct Deposits will be based on a calendar month. Maximum benefit paid is \$120.00.

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3 Participation in the promotion requires you to enroll in Online banking and eStatements within 60 days of opening your new checking account. You will be awarded \$10.00 to your Benefits Checking Account after you receive your first eStatement.

4 First Federal Lakewood will deposit \$50 to open a Statement Savings account in conjunction with the Benefits Checking account. A statement savings account requires a minimum \$200 average daily balance to avoid monthly service charge.

Lakewood Public Library

Ralph Hutchison Brings The Words Of Homer To LPL

by Elaine Rosenberger

As Book I of Homer’s “The Odyssey” begins, Odysseus is being held captive after failing to return home from the Trojan War. Penelope, his ever-patient wife, awaits his return in a palace overrun with suitors. With vengeful gods, invocations to muses, bloodshed, and disasters, “The Odyssey” is filled with adventure and mayhem.

Odysseus’ struggles were immortalized by Homer, a traveling bard. Lakewood has its own traveling bard in the person of Ralph Hutchison. From the fjords of Denmark to the jungles of India, Hutchison has shared his dramatic reading of “The Odyssey” all over the world. Now he gets the oppor-

tunity to share Homer’s words with a hometown crowd.

Ralph Hutchison presents “In the Words of Homer” at Lakewood Public Library on Sunday, November 22 at 2:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium when he reads from “The Odyssey: Book I: A Goddess Intervenes.” But before his performance, he takes the time to answer a few questions. Inevitably, responses from Lakewood’s own bard often take the form of poems.

LPL: Who wrote “The Odyssey”?

RH: Technically, the answer’s “Homer,” but who or what this Homer is, who knows? He might have been a woman or an alien. It might be hymns or songs found in the mountains. It

rides through an ancient world in the hearts of poets.

LPL: How old is the poem?

RH: The age of the poem is really hard to imagine. It was written five or seven generations before the Golden Age of civilization. A poem from seventh century B.C. is as old as a redwood tree and older even than certain pyramids and jars of clay.

LPL: What did you like about Denmark and India?

RH: I like to see things having been through time, old songs and aging buildings, wrinkled skin, to put my feet down on the Earth and feel the breath of those who came to Earth before. In Copenhagen, city of fairy tales, the language of time can reach a thousand

years, but India is older than time itself.

LPL: Which do you prefer, “The Iliad” or “The Odyssey”?

RH: 1. The first poem gets your passions rising up with tympani drums and councils of war, a clash of empires, the generations of leaves. But don’t neglect to hear “The Odyssey”

and hear it as a song in living voice, adventure journalism, travel writing, something personal and just for you.

2. “The Odyssey” lives up to its reputation. No one goes wrong by honoring longing for Homer. I’ll take “The Iliad” and “Odyssey” and even the odes of Homer however they come.

But if I must choose between the hell of warrior love of women and travel and song and hear

what I want, I think I’d choose “The Odyssey.”

LPL: What about Fitzgerald’s translation speaks to you?

RH: Just take a fist of change and let it jingle, feeling in the pocket where the feet fall, feeling where the heartbeats care to catch the syncopation of Fitzgerald’s verse. Then listen to the stars about translation. Ask if there’s a way to lower lines from dreaming ancestors to living Earth.

Ralph Hutchison’s performance of “The Odyssey: Book One: A Goddess Intervenes” takes place on Sunday, November 22 at 2:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium. Admission is free and open to all.

Saturday Night Cinema At LPL

by Lisa Calfee

Terry Meehan wants to take you to the movies. As a popular film host at Lakewood Public Library, he always chooses great titles, educates with anecdotes and rare clips or documentaries and finishes with a lively audience discussion.

His current series “Westerns of the Sixties” continues with “Hour of the Gun,” a 1967 movie based on the historical gunfight of Doc Holliday and Wyatt Earp at the O.K. Corral. It stars Burt Lancaster and Kirk Douglas. The show starts Saturday, November 14 at 6 p.m. on our big screen in the Main Library Auditorium.

According to Meehan, it’s going to be a special night. “I am looking forward to this one because our guest will be Mary Doria Russell, an author of national stature. This will be our third joint pre-

sentation. We have a pseudo debate going on about movies versus history.”

Having authored the newly released novel “Epitaph” (2015), which details the gunfight at the O.K. Corral and “Doc” (2011), an insightful and descriptive account of the legendary Doc Holliday, Mary Doria Russell should have a lot to say about the historical accuracy of the featured film. Both “Doc” and “Epitaph” will be available for sale and signing after the show.

As for Terry Meehan, he has been enamored with movies for decades. His love for cinema led to a Master’s Degree in Literature and Film from Kent State University, and then on to teach film appreciation classes at Lorain Community College and in programs for both Baldwin Wallace and Case Western Reserve University.

Art Club For Teens Winter Session Starts

by Nicka Petruccio

Are you a teen artist? Do you like to draw, paint, sculpt or do mixed media pieces? Maybe you’d like to meet some other teen artists like you, or possibly nothing like you. Sketchbook Club at Lakewood Public Library is a group for artists of all skill levels in the 9th-12th grades. This is a relaxed meetup group where every week there will be a group exercise available exploring different types of drawing and other artmaking, or, you can come with your own sketchbook to work on your own drawings. Bring any art project you are working

on to the club and get some perspective or critique from your peers and the club leader. You can even start something new at Sketchbook--all kinds of supplies and materials will be available for you to use. You can do what you choose! We are looking for teen artists of any kind to join us for this fun and open group so register now and let’s make some art together!

Sketchbook Club will be held Monday evenings from November 23 through December 14, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Register by calling the Lakewood Public Library’s Children & Youth Services department at 216-226-8275 ext. 140.

“Alice” Is 150

by Marge Foley

“Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland” (commonly shortened to “Alice in Wonderland”) was published on November 26, 1865. Written by English author Charles Lutwidge Dodgson under the pseudonym Lewis Carroll, this imaginative story continues to excite young readers. The 150th Anniversary is the perfect occasion to celebrate a brilliant book. Lakewood Public Library invites children to par-

ticipate in an “Alice in Wonderland Picture Search.” Young patrons can hunt the Children’s and Youth Services area to find copies of original illustrations from the book. When they find all ten pictures, their names will be entered into a drawing to win a prize! The fun continues throughout the month of November. Come to the Children’s desk at the Lakewood Public Library to get an entry slip and begin your quest. It’s fun and easy!

LPL Children/Youth Events

compiled by Eric Knapp

Saturday, November 14

Sensory Story Time

For you and your 3-7 year old child

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

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

Sunday, November 15

Homemade Seasonal Centerpiece

For students in sixth through twelfth grade

Make this holiday beautiful with a hand-crafted display to decorate your table. It will be so awesome you’ll have everyone saying, “Wow! You made that!?” Supplies provided. Registration required.

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

Saturday, November 21

Jim Kleefeld’s The Dog-Gone Good Magic Show

For the whole family

Enjoy tricks, comedy and colorful characters with the magic of Jim Kleefeld. Free and open to the public. No registration required.

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

Mondays, November 23 through December 14

Sketchbook Club

For students in eighth through twelfth grade

Teen artists can enjoy a creative environment where you can work on your current project, get professional advice, chat with other artists, share your art, and learn something new. Registration required.

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

Saturdays & Sundays

Family Weekend Wonders

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

Main Library Activity Room and Madison Branch Auditorium

Lakewood Public Library

LPL Calendar Of Events

compiled by Elaine Rosenberger

Saturday, November 14

“Hour of the Gun” (1967)

Directed by John Sturges

In 1957, Sturges made “Gunfight at the O.K. Corral,” starring Burt Lancaster and Kirk Douglas as Wyatt Earp and Doc Holliday. It was very popular with audiences but took a few liberties with history. This time around Sturges wanted to stick closer to the facts in his portrayal of the famous gunfight and its aftermath. The result? Much lower box office figures. Terry Meehan continues his series, “Westerns of the Sixties,” introducing each film with rare clips and original documentaries, followed by audience reaction and a lively discussion. Tonight’s program includes a special guest, novelist Mary Doria Russell, who has written two books on Holliday and Earp. In “Doc” she creates a portrait of Holliday that is more compelling than what has been seen in any movie. In “Epitaph,” she explores the famous gunfight itself and the events that followed. Both books will be available for sale and signing.

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

Sunday, November 15

Sunday Cinema: “The Bad and the Beautiful” (1952)

Directed by Vincente Minnelli

When Hollywood snubs the funeral of his father, producer Kirk Douglas vows to become the most successful filmmaker in the business. In the town that creates “the stuff that dreams are made of,” Douglas casts a conniving net, catching director Barry Sullivan, bit-part actress Lana Turner and bestselling author Dick Powell. The resulting pictures are box office hits, but Douglas’ arrogance knows no bounds. He takes over the director’s chair in the middle of an important film and tanks the whole deal. Years later, Turner, Sullivan and Powell are invited by Walter Pidgeon to a mystery meeting and are presented with an incredible proposal. Will they bite a second time? Barbara Steffek-Hill returns to the Library to present a series of classic films chosen from her personal favorites.

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

Tuesday, November 17

Introduction to Ancestry: Library Edition

The Ancestry genealogy resource is free to use every day at the Library. How far back would you like to trace your family tree? Genealogist Deborah Abbott will show you how to unlock the secrets held by census reports, military records, birth certificates and death notices in this hands-on workshop. Unravel your history with professional results. Space is limited, however, you are welcome to register with a partner and share a computer. Call (216) 226-8275, ext. 127 to register.

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

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 “Eyes of a Child” by Richard North Patterson.

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

Thursday, November 19

Booked For Murder: Murder in Motion

Lovers of mystery take to the skies, seas and rails this season. Murderers look for their

next victim aboard various modes of transport from ships to planes, trains and even a blimp. This Thursday’s book is “The Puzzle of the Pepper Tree” by Stuart Palmer.

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

Saturday, November 21

“Radio Flyer” (1992)

Directed by Richard Donner

This eighties-style fantasy about the magic of childhood came a few years too late and soared a little too high, but we love it dearly. Tom Hanks narrates a story from his childhood, back in the late sixties when he was played by Elijah Wood. Raised by single mother Lorraine Bracco, it’s up to Wood to look out for his little brother when they move across the country to start a new life. Mom’s new man is a drunk and a bully who limits himself to beating only the youngest boy in private. Despite this depressing backdrop, the boys manage to avail themselves of every wonder of childhood, believing all the things that only small children can believe. But when they start to work on building an airplane out of their toy wagon, will you be ready to believe that it can really fly?

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

Sunday, November 22

In the Words of Homer

Don’t miss this chance to hear “The Odyssey” as Homer himself presented it. Ralph Hutchison offers a dramatic reading of “The Odyssey, Book I: A Goddess Intervenes” from Fitzgerald’s landmark 1963 translation. No background knowledge is needed. Come as you are to hear the story of a young boy in trouble, longing for his father. Mr. Hutchison has had the honor of reading for intimate audiences in Denmark and India, but his journey started right here in Lakewood. Come get lost in “The Odyssey.”

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

A Dog-Gone Good Show

by Marge Foley

Close your eyes and imagine a show that combines animals and magic. Now open your eyes and bring your kids to a fascinating program starring magician Jim Kleefeld at the Lakewood Public Library. Children and their parents will meet many vibrant characters, each with a fun and friendly attitude. Your family is sure to enjoy this bright colorful act full of magic tricks and routines about animals.

Magical Entertainer Jim Kleefeld began performing magic at the age of seven when he received a small magic

set. He majored in theater in college and then became an elementary school teacher. After many years of performing, Jim is still fascinated by the art of magic and how entertained people are...especially children. Jim says, “The look of amazement in someone’s eyes when I vanish an object is priceless.”

This captivating performance with audience participation will take place on Saturday, November 21st at 7:00 pm. Funded by the Friends of Lakewood Public Library, Jim Kleefeld’s “The Dog-Gone Good Magic Show” will be held in the Multipurpose Room.

For all ages, for all stages



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Lakewood Schools

LHS Music Marathon Raises Funds For Orchestras

by Christine Gordillo

While their peers will be relaxing and having fun on a school-free Saturday on November 14, members of the Lakewood High School Orchestra Program will be spending 13 hours at school playing music – in their pajamas! The event is the Orchestra Program’s annual Music Marathon fundraiser that runs from 6:30 a.m. – 7:30 p.m. at the Civic Auditorium.

Members of the Chamber, Symphonic, Philharmonia, String and Camarata orchestras as well as The

Lakewood Project will spend the day practicing and performing. In between their time on stage, orchestra members are free to practice some more, do homework, eat, sleep or socialize. They raise money by soliciting sponsorships from family, friends, teachers and the community.

The day caps off with a free concert for the public at 5:30 p.m. Those who donate above a certain level can have their chosen songs performed at the concert or conduct one of the orchestra groups.

The goal for the event is to raise \$10,000, which will go toward purchasing instruments, music and attending off-site activities such as the Violins of Hope concert at Severance Hall.

If you would like to contrib-

ute to Music Marathon, contact Lakewood High Orchestra Director Beth Hankins at Elizabeth.hankins@lakewoodcityschools.org or an LHS orchestra member for a sponsorship form.

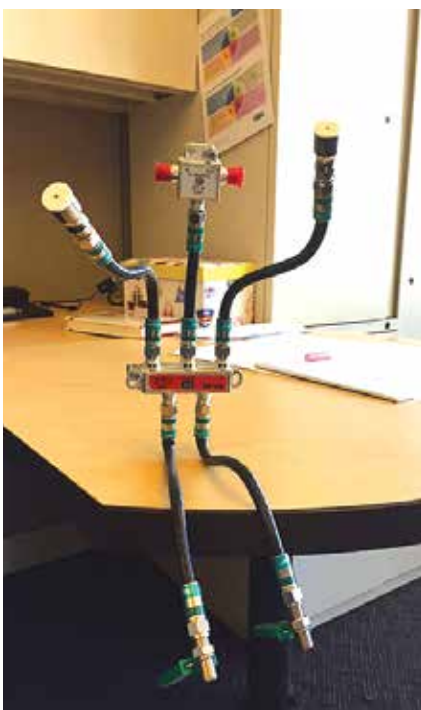
Minecraft Event In Lakewood, Tickets Still Available

by Amy Smith

Minecraft fun is coming to Northeast Ohio for the area’s first-ever Minecraft convention. Lincoln MINES provides families from around the region with five hours of hands-on gaming, Minecraft kids talks, crafts, science, and much more. The event is Saturday, November 14, 2015, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., at Harding Middle School (16601 Madison Ave.) in Lakewood, Ohio. Purchase Tickets online and at the event.

The Cox Connect 2Compete Main Stage features entertainment for all ages. Games Done Legit brings the excitement of Mario Super Smash Brothers Tournament Style. Mad Science digs deep into their laboratory to present Potions Magic. With special brewing stands, cauldrons, and glass bottles Mad Science will create magical potions and astound the audience with science. Get your groove on with deejay DB Toms during our Dance Party featuring Minecraft Parody Songs. You can shake rattle and roll your way to a good time. After all that dancing, you’re sure to want to purchase a snack from the food station.

Don’t know much about Minecraft, but you’ve been thinking about playing? Lincoln MINES is not just for the experts. We have several areas for learning about Minecraft and gaming. Kids Talks create a forum for novices



Cox Connect 2Compete’s Cable Man, one of four Arts & Crafts Activities available at Lincoln MINES.

to experts to talk Minecraft. Combat, Transportation, and Mods are a few of the Kids Talks topics for kids led by kids. Expand your knowledge of gaming through Listen Forums. Expert presenters discuss Toys to Life games, Minecraft for parents, internet safety, and Minecraft deep dives.

Minecraft Play sessions create four unique hands-on play experiences for the Minecraft PC Edition. Each gaming session focuses on essential skills for successful game play. Play continues with Snapology LEGO Building, Pokemon Training, and Games Done Legit’s Gamer Room.

This event is sponsored in part by Cox Communications and presented by Lincoln Elementary PTA. Funds raised directly support PTA enrichment programs like teacher grants, extracurricular clubs, technology upgrades, field trips, and assemblies.

Tickets are on sale now. Tickets are \$15 for students (5-17 years) and \$8 for adults. Children under 5 are free. Visit www.lincolnmynes.com to purchase and learn more.

Minecraft, LEGO and Pokemon are copyright trademarks and are not endorsed, associated or affiliated with Lincoln MINES in any way.

LHS Model UN Team Takes Top Awards

by Christine Gordillo

The Lakewood High School Model United Nations Club turned in a stellar performance at the Cleveland Council on World Affairs Conference November 4 & 5, winning eight awards overall. Junior Ian Bell, representing Finland in the High Commissioner For Refugees Committee, won the “Gavel” for the top delegate in his committee, and teamed up with junior Rachel Daso to win the Superior Delegation Award.

Also winning Superior Delegation awards were junior Evan Suttell and senior Alex Figueroa, representing Ethiopia in the Human Rights Commission, and junior Zach Dudzik, representing Cuba in the United Nations Environmental Programme. Seniors Emily Brown and Amanda Cabot won an Excellent Delegation Award as representatives

for the United States in the World Health Organization. Seniors Tess Marjanovic and Kate McHugh won Honorable Mention for representing the United States in the UN Security Council. Sophomores Abe Dalisky and Kevin Cush also won an Honorable Mention, representing Germany in the Human Rights Council. Junior William Elaban and senior Zeke Dalisky, representing Germany, won the Position Paper Award for their committee, the Economic and Social Council.

Club adviser Chuck Greanoff would like to recognize co-presidents Kate McHugh, Alex Figueroa and Tess Marjanovic for their dedicated attention to all aspects of running the club. Also, junior training directors Ian Bell and Rachel Daso for helping prepare members for the competition.

Hayes 1st Grader This Year’s Tiny Tim



Hayes first-grader Macon Taylor will play Tiny Tim in Great Lakes Theater’s production of “A Christmas Carol.”

by Christine Gordillo

Charles Dickens’ “A Christmas Carol” is a longtime Cleveland holiday tradition and this year, one of our tiniest students will have one of the biggest roles in the Great Lakes Theater production. Hayes first-grader Macon Taylor will appear as Tiny Tim in the holiday classic that has been a family staple for 27 years in Cleveland.

Macon landed the plum role after having only been in one play at the time of the audition. His first performance was as an orphan in the Beck Center’s

“Oliver” last spring. He just finished appearing at the Beck in “The Little Princess” that ran November 6-8. Due to child labor laws, he will split the Tiny Tim role with another young actor.

Macon’s mom, Michelle Mehaffey-Taylor, said Macon got the acting bug after attending two plays, “Mr. Toad’s Wild Ride” and “Mary Poppins.”

“He was standing on his feet throughout both plays and was so entranced,” she said. Soon after, Macon’s mom signed him up for acting

continued on page 17

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Lakewood Schools

Remarks From The Groundbreaking Ceremony At Lakewood High School

by Emma Petrie-Barcelona

“Never has a city made better physical preparation for the education of her youth -- and Lakewood should surpass other cities. We are accustomed to better things here and expect them.” It is great to see you here today for our groundbreaking at Lakewood High School. While the corner of Bunts and Franklin will look very different now as we rebuild, we think today about what we had and what we will create in this space. The quote I opened with was made by Robert L. Short, principal, Lakewood High School (1918-1920), in an article that appeared in the Lakewood Press newspaper on March 7, 1918, in the months leading up to opening some of the buildings that were just torn down.

He stated:
“Lakewood is to Cleveland what Evanston is to Chicago, Mont Claire to New York. What was more fitting then that the people of Lakewood should buy 18 acres of ground as a site for an unusual school for an unusual community? The location is ideal, situated between Bunts Road and Robinwood on Franklin Avenue.... Old Lakewood got its schooling in modest school room quarters. Young Lakewood has facilities beyond those of most colleges of twenty years ago....”

In his article Mr. Short is clearly enthusiastic about and proud of the potential in the new space, an enthusiasm we share today as we break ground on the new portions of our beloved high school.

That said, if you are like me, the past few months of seeing the old buildings demolished was both exciting and sad. For those of us that walked those halls, taught in the classrooms, learned about various topics, competed with everything we had, and shared experiences with others, it was hard to see the buildings broken, exposed and then disappear. The demolition did allow us to see the grandeur of the original 1918 building facing the street in a way that had not been seen since the North Gym was built around 1970. While the North Gym and its other spaces were nice on the inside, it is unfortunate that it was such an eyesore from the outside. My only historical mention of the North Gym is that in July 1967 the school board approved putting the gym on stilts in front of the cafeteria, and the rest, as we say, is history. We could also see more clearly the former Men’s and Women’s buildings-- originally curricularly designed spaces from 1919, a year after the high school opened, when young men and women had different courses of study. The columns, the sandstone, the beauty and craftsmanship of those buildings were something to behold. While these 1918 buildings were part of our high school, this was not the first public high school in Lakewood. In “The Lakewood Story” author Margaret Manor Butler noted that one of the biggest issues in the early 1870s was the construction of a new four-room brick schoolhouse on Warren Road, on the site of the one-room Middle School. It was renamed Central

School and was to be a combination grade and high school. Central opened in 1879. Miss May Hutchins was the first graduate and the first alumnus of Lakewood High. According to a report, she was presented to the audience at a celebration of the 50th anniversary of high school in Lakewood in the early 1930s.

Later, the building on Warren Road, known today as the Board of Education Building, was Lakewood’s first separate high school, a two-story brick colonial called the “High School.” The section facing Warren was started in 1899 and the first class was not held there until the fall of 1900, according to Herbert Kennedy, the first principal, who arrived the day before school opened to find no seats or desks in the building. I assure you that this will not happen when we reopen.

This high school was used until 1904 when a new, much larger high school, called Wilson, was erected opposite it on the east side of Warren. Wilson, also called the “High School,” was the high school until 1918, when the present, now demolished High School was erected. After 1918, Wilson became an elementary school and a Junior High. It later was condemned for school purposes, but was used as a recreation and Red Cross center for a number of years, and finally torn down in 1947. The sale of the land it sat on would later help finance the East Gym and L-Room construction.

So, in a period of 40 years, the high school was located in 4 different buildings. The generations of Lakewood graduates during this time were witness to their buildings-- the ones they learned and grew up in-- being torn down or used for different purposes as new spaces were created. We are fortunate that we are now completing the high school reconstruction project on the same site that was opened in 1918 and the entire space will be completely rehabilitated and transformed by its 100th anniversary here on Franklin and Bunts.

From her book, Margaret Manor Butler goes on to describe the opening of this former high school in 1918:

“The new Lakewood High School, a million dollar plant, was scheduled to open in September, 1918, but the building was not ready and the opening date was rescheduled for October 7, but when that date rolled around, opening was once more postponed because of the prevalence of the ‘flu.’ Teachers, however, had arrived early and soon found themselves unpacking supplies, dusting books, washing dishes, putting up shelves and even canning tomato juice. Seventh, eighth, ninth and tenth grades came in for a short orientation period, but the ‘flu’ epidemic was assuming huge proportions and school was dismissed. The Lakewood Press reports on November 21, 1918, that the new high school, which had finally opened after the epidemic, was a veritable hive of activity, intellectual, physical and mechanical. It was only open for a week, when all schools were closed until the first of the year. The youngsters did not enjoy

their enforced vacation, because all places of amusement were also closed.

School started in earnest in January, 1919, and sessions were held on Saturday to make up work. The assigned curriculum was completed by July 3. Uniforms for the girls were dark blue skirts and middie blouses, and the boys wore khaki uniforms, similar to those adopted by the Cleveland Board of Education.”

That million dollars in the 1917-1918 facility-- including the 4 buildings of the school, men’s, women’s and plant would be anywhere between 15 and 18 million dollars today. In this project, we also said “goodbye” to the East Gym and L-Room, beloved spaces which opened in the early 1950s and served the students and community well for more than 60 years. From Board of Education records, the first plans for the East gym and L-room were voted on in May 1946, the first mention of a “gymnasium-community building” to be erected at Lakewood High School, among other projects throughout the district at the time.

By 1948, there were not enough funds to cover this project as plans for a high school auditorium-gymnasium were costing more than resources. While the board did pay architectural fees for the project, they did so without funds to take the project out to bid at that time. In order to help pay for the project, the schools decided to sell the Wilson School property (it was sold to the city).

One of the goals of this project was to have a “cabin in the sky”- social rooms to be built on the roof of the high school for students and socializing. While this idea of rooms on the roof was promoted in the 1940s, when considering feasibility, the idea and design for the ground floor L-Room were settled on instead.

The project that did go through was built in the early 1950s as designs and funding for the project changed. April 19, 1953 marked the opening of the spaces and included Ohio Sesquicentennial exhibits, celebrated in Lakewood with a historical pageant in the new Lakewood High Gymnasium and an educational exhibit in the new Lakewood High School social rooms (L Room). The formal dedication of the gym was December 11, 1953. The Civic Auditorium project, with its own Schreckengost, started after the gym and community rooms were completed. Additionally, it was reported that students had raised \$20,000 during the war years and an additional \$4,000 raised by current (late-1940s, early 1950s) students to be used to furnish and decorate the L-Room- including the Schreckengost wood relief that is being safely preserved right now for reinstallation. That \$24,000 in the early 1950s is somewhere between \$213,000 and \$313,000 in buying power in today’s dollars.

I am particularly struck by the fact that the students who raised funds for this project during the early 1940’s would have been gone from LHS for around a decade by the time the fruits of their work would come into being.

But that is often the legacy of Lakewood High School students, graduates, and community advocates-- they support and create for the future students, even if they may not enjoy the outcomes themselves.

Our students and community, with partners like the boosters and foundation, continue that ethos to this day in planning for and supporting the future, and advocating positive change. In the case of our current high school project, we also have champions in the Lakewood Rangers Education Foundation and the Lakewood Music Boosters who are working very hard to support the project financially with combined fundraising goals of over half a million dollars. These fundraising efforts are to support the music and performance arts spaces, elements of the gymnasium, and preserving the Schreckengost pieces, among others. We thank them for their support and fundraising- and if you are part of those efforts I would like to recognize you now.

Now, the terms “gymnasium, auditorium, and community rooms” used for those structures built in the 1950s that are gone are quite apt for the new building that will rise from this space. This new wing of the high school will not only link to the west buildings more seamlessly from each side of the Civic, but the new space is also designed with student and learning space and community needs in mind: With a cafeteria situated to serve as function space for the gym, civic, music, and theater spaces. With a gym and ancillary spaces that should meet the physical recreation needs of the students and community. With reasonable and common sense means of accessing all of the spaces by everyone, while maintaining safety and quality spaces for learning and performing-- whether on the court or in the theater. We will also add classroom space adjacent to and on the same floor elevations of the existing “new building” to help facilitate a cohesive academic environment, not only easing the transitions between classes for students and teachers, but also to help facilitate communication and community among the faculty and staff.

In closing, bringing back the proud Principal Short from 1918: “Well may Lakewood be proud of such a school. The value of a community depends on how it teaches its youth “How to live.” For this reason, the new high school is one of Lakewood’s greatest assets.”

Thank you to the citizens of Lakewood for your support of the schools and this project. We promise, as we may have occasional frustrations with this construction and the disruption it can create, that the spaces we’ll have for our students and the community in the end, will be worth it. We are so glad we can continue to share this space into the future. Thanks for being here on this beautiful day.

These remarks were delivered on August 27th, 2015 by Emma Petrie Barcelona, President of the Lakewood Board of Education.

Sports

Rangers Go Out On A High Note

by Mike Deneen

The nightmare is over...the Lakewood Ranger football team beat Amherst Steele 13-10 on October 30 at First Federal Lakewood Stadium. Ranger kicker James Marshall kicked a 31 yard field goal with only one second left on the clock, giving the Rangers their first win of the season and sending the Lakewood crowd into euphoria.

The win breaks a 16 game losing streak, and is Lakewood's first win of the year. It is also their first conference win in three years, and their first win over a non-Parma school in that same span.

Despite nice weather conditions, neither team mustered much offense for most of the game. The game was scoreless after the first quarter, and Steele led 3-0 at the half. The Rangers tied the game in the third quarter, making it 3-3 going into the fourth. The Ranger defense was stubborn throughout. Among the major contributors on defense were Junior Kevin Musai and Seniors Joe Fitchwell and Adam Giffels.

Things finally got interesting in the fourth quarter. Steele started the period with a very nice drive, marching the ball from their own 15 yard line to the Rangers 20. It was a nine-play drive that took nearly five minutes off the clock, setting up a 37 yard field goal attempt.

That's when the Play of the Year happened. As soon as the ball was snapped to the holder, Michael



Senior James Marshall making the game winning field goal.

Goolsby, Lakewood's primary playmaker all season, came flying in from the kicker's left side. He blocked the kick with his stomach, holding on to the ball without letting it hit the ground. Then, without breaking his stride, he outran the Comet players to score a touchdown with 6:11 left in the game. The Rangers had a 10-3 lead, their latest lead in any game all year. The crowd went wild, eagerly anticipating a win.

Then, moments later, the Rangers kicked off. Amherst ran the kick back for touchdown, tying the game within a few seconds. Excitement turned to

fear in the Lakewood crowd. With 6:06 left in the game, it was tied again at 10-10. Lakewood went "three and out" on the next drive, adding to the sense of dread among the Ranger faithful. However, the Ranger defense, which was tough all night, forced a Steele punt with under three minutes to play. Goolsby returned the punt 24 yards to start the next Ranger drive at the Steele 32 yard line.

The Rangers hammered the ball down to the Steele 14 yard line with a clutch two minute drive. Senior Atticus Kenny, who had missed all nine previous games due to injury, provided some tough running yards inside. With less than 10 seconds to go, Lakewood

lined up for a 31 yard potential game winning field goal.

The snap was good, and the hold went down. Kicker James Marshall sent the ball between the uprights, unleashing hysteria among the Purple Faithful. The crowd jumped and cheered, as did Ranger players. But there was still one second left on the clock... the Rangers needed to kick off, and didn't want a repeat of the Comet kick return that happened a few minutes earlier. Marshall sent a squib kick down the field, and the game officially ended with a long-anticipated Ranger win.

The hero of the game, Kicker James Marshall, was modest in victory. "I didn't really think about it too much," he said about the winning kick. "I just blocked out everything."

The team rushed over to the student section in a wild celebration. All the frustration of the season was released in a sea of smiles, laughter, and hugs. The Rangers were winners.

GAME NOTES

*Senior cheerleaders, bandmembers, and athletes of the fall sports were honored in a pregame ceremony. Observer Photographer Alex Belisle has a photo gallery at the Lakewood Observer website.

* Goolsby's blocked kick return has gone viral. It was filmed by Kris Kantor, and first posted on his "Ranger Football Reports" Facebook Page. From there, it was featured by USA Today, and later won "Defensive Play of the Week" from the Plain Dealer.

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“Holy War” Brings
Spotlight To Lakewood

continued from page 1

first look at the empty spot at the corner of Franklin and Bunts where “old” Lakewood High School stood.

Lines formed at both stadium entrances more than an hour before kickoff. In fact, the lines got so long that fans were admitted 90 minutes before the game, a change from normal procedure. Among the first through the doors were students of both schools.

The Halloween holiday brought out a wide array of costumes in the student sections. The first to be seated were a group of St. Ed students dressed in old-school nun costumes. There were superheroes, movie characters, and even Santa Claus.

Once the game began, St. Ignatius boosted its playoff hopes by taking a 7-0 lead in the first quarter. Then St. Ed battled back to take a 21-7 lead to the half. The Wildcats kept scrapping, at one point cutting the lead to 7 points and taking possession of the ball. However, St. Ed put the game away with its final touchdown late in the fourth quarter. Ignatius rallied with a touchdown in the final minute, but fell short.

After the post game handshake, Eagle players ran over to the student section to celebrate. Everyone was thrilled to hold “braggin’ rights” in the rivalry between the two closely-related



Madison Avenue was full of fans, including the mysterious “Green Man.”

schools. This was the second consecutive win for the Eagles in the Holy War, and its third win in four years.

St. Edward ended the regular season 9-1, and ranked #1 both locally and statewide. They will need to win five more games to defend their 2014 State Championship.

To see a full photo gallery of the event, visit the Lakewood Observer website at <http://www.lakewoodobserver.com/photoblogs/mike-deneen/holy-war-2015>.

Lakewood Is Art

It's A Jolly Holiday At Beck Center

by Pat Miller

Beck Center for the Arts is fully prepared for the rapidly approaching holidays this year. With plenty of opportunities to enjoy the most wonderful time of the year, Beck Center is here to help. From original gifts to theater tickets, there are numerous options to suit all styles and age groups.

Beck Center's annual celebration of local art and artists returns with the LimeLight Holiday Gallery Exhibition. This show is perfect for shoppers looking for one-of-a-kind gifts this holiday season. The works of both new and returning artists are featured this year with an opening reception taking place on Friday, November 20 from 6–7:30 p.m. The reception and exhibition are free and open to the public. Designed specifically in the festive spirit, these works will be on display in the Jean Bulicek Galleria through Sunday, January 3.

The festivities continue with a Princess Dance Party hosted by the Dance Alliance of Beck Center on Sunday, November 22. Presented in the Music & Dance Building in two sessions, the parties are scheduled from 1–2:30 p.m. and from 3:30–5 p.m. This magical party encourages children ages 4–7 to come dressed as a princess or prince, make crafts, enjoy snacks, and most importantly...dance! Tickets are \$15 per child with all proceeds benefiting Beck Center dance students competing in the Youth American Grand Prix.

After breaking all previous Beck Center box office records, the magic of Disney and Cameron Mackintosh's "Mary Poppins" returns to the Mackey Theater December 4, 2015 – January 3, 2016. Based on the stories of P.L. Travers and the Walt Disney Film, this smash-hit musical production stars Broadway's Rebecca Pitter. Performances are 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, and 2:30 p.m. Sundays. Double performance dates will take place December 12, 19, 26, and January 2. There are no performances on Fridays, December 25 and January 1. Buy early and save \$5 on adult and senior tickets with Promo Code: POPPINS. Offer valid online or by phone. Not valid on prior purchases or with any other offer. Save even more with group sales!

I Don't Know Where I Am, And I Don't Really Care

Reviews Of Recent Releases By Local Bands, Pt. 14

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.*

DePrator/Kearns - DePrator/Kearns - ELEET Records - 6 songs - CD, download

I ended up liking this more than I thought I would. I wasn't sure how I was gonna feel about "progressive acoustic rock." Turns out, it's not bad. The vocals are interesting and go well with the music. The music itself has lots of layers, especially for what is a two-person band (though others do play on the record). I liked the production, too. Very...I suppose the right word would be 'immersive.' Kinda makes you feel like you're in the center of the room and they're playing around you. I think my favorite on the CD was probably "Things I've Come To Fear," which had a steady rhythm and good lyrics. My main issue with it is that several of the songs are a bit too long, relying a lot on extended instrumental jams. On the other hand, though, I suppose that is a part of the whole "progressive" thing, so really it's neither here nor there. The length also does add something to the 9-minute closing track, "No Fading Star." Anyway. 3.5/5

Perverts Again - Our Big Party - Noncommercial Records - 10 songs - LP

I don't even know where to go or what to say about this, other than I like "Major Minor" (which formed the instrumental part of the later "East Side Story") or "Op. 12," whose length as well as title was expanded and released as "Opus 12." Often described as proto-punk, The Styrenes' sound is all over the map, from whimsical to raging to heartbreaking. The most interesting material here is the completely unheard stuff. The lovely, moving, "Empty Vessels" and the aching ballad "Murder Me" (described in the accompanying booklet as a song that was supposed to be "more bitter than sweet," but ended up going the other way), for example. "Don't you walk out on me, you might as well murder me." Overall, I liked it a lot. A more compelling collection than "Essential Styrenes, Vol. 1," even. Not that you shouldn't get that too, but this has cooler songs and better liner notes. If you're interested in the whole scene of those times (those different times), or bands that have followed in their wake, this is pretty darn essential. 4.5/5.

The Styrenes - CLE 76-79 Unreleased - My Mind's Eye Records - 17 songs - 3x7" box

Mirrors and electric eels both had reissues or compilations last year, so I suppose it was their "Those Were Different Times" contemporaries (with whom they shared members, Jim Jones, Jamie Klimek, and Paul Marotta in Mirrors, Paul Marotta in the electric eels) turn. Unlike those previous two, this box is made up of never-before-heard tracks. Some are different versions of earlier songs by Mirrors and electric eels, like "Penthouse Legend" or everyone's favorite song ever, the legendary "Jaguar Ride." Others are early versions of later-released songs, like "Major Minor" (which formed the instrumental part of the later "East Side Story") or "Op. 12," whose length as well as title was expanded and released as "Opus 12." Often described as proto-punk, The Styrenes' sound is all over the map, from whimsical to raging to heartbreaking. The most interesting material here is the completely unheard stuff. The lovely, moving, "Empty Vessels" and the aching ballad "Murder Me" (described in the accompanying booklet as a song that was supposed to be "more bitter than sweet," but ended up going the other way), for example. "Don't you walk out on me, you might as well murder me." Overall, I liked it a lot. A more compelling collection than "Essential Styrenes, Vol. 1," even. Not that you shouldn't get that too, but this has cooler songs and better liner notes. If you're interested in the whole scene of those times (those different times), or bands that have followed in their wake, this is pretty darn essential. 4.5/5.

Vanity Crash - Love - Grid Records - 5 songs - CD

A stomping EP. The five songs here, I guess, could be categorized as glam rock. I've never been great with the whole sub-sub-subgenre stuff. But yeah, generally glam rock. Sometimes maybe a bit too retro-sounding for its own good, but I enjoyed it nonetheless. Since the last VC release, guitarist Dennis Van Crash has stepped up as vocalist as well, and they've added a new interesting guitarist in Miss Melvis. "Love Is Moving Underground" has a new



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Best in K-2, Owen & Noah Gibbons, Horace Mann, The Beck Center (\$50)

Right: Honorable Mention K-2, Riley Stallbaum, , Lossman Motors, (4 tickets to A Beck Center Youth Production including “A Little Princess,” “ Big the Musical” or “Bright Idea.”)



rigid Sutliff, 1st Grade, Grant



Alexa, Katie and Dan Masten, Hayes



Jessie Robertson, 2nd Grade, Emerson



The Healsey Family

3rd Grade To 5th Grade
Sponsored by The Lakewood Observer



Best of 3 – 5, Tyler and Marcus Marvin , Hayes, 5th Grade, Grey Dog Diner(\$50)



Honorable Mention, 3-5, The Carrolls,, 5th Grade, Hayes, Norris Family Chiropractic. (4 tickets to A Beck Center Youth Production including “A Little Princess,” “Big the Musical” or “Bright Idea.”)



Sophia Zarbo, 4th Grade, Hayes



Julia Kompier and Connie Tucker, 5th/6th Grade, Lincoln/Garfield



Stephanie Harkenrider, 12th Grade, Lakewood High School



Connor & Grace Gray, 3rd and 5th Grade, Roosevelt



Valerie Morris, 3rd Grade, Grant



Megan Sulak, 5th Grade, Horace Mann



The Kanaak Family

Low Painting Contest 2015

6th Grade To 8th Grade
Sponsored by Cuyahoga Safe & Lock



Best in 6-8, Eden Sutliff, 7th Grade, Harding, The Beck Center. (\$50)

Right: Honorable Mention, Mackenzie Moraco, 6th Grade, Harding, The Beck Center, (4 tickets to A Beck Center Youth Production including “A Little Princess,” “Big the Musical” or “Bright Idea.”)



Clair Morrissey, 5th Grade, Grant, (Helped by older brother)



Family
Sponsored by The West End Tavern

Right: Best in Family, The Orlando Family, The Root Cafe, (\$50 Gift Card for the West End Tavern)



McKay Family



Honorable Mention Family, The Wright Family, The West End Tavern, (4 tickets to the Beck Center Youth Theater)

9th Grade To 12th Grade
Sponsored by Angelo’s Pizza

Right: Best in 9-12
Jennifer Meyer, Grade 11, Lakewood High School, Ross Deli, (\$25 Gift Card Angelo’s Pizza and \$25)



Below: 9-12 Honorable Mention
Maya Sutliff, Grade 11, Lakewood High School, The Beck Center, (2 tickets to Beck Center production of “Mary Poppins” or other show this season.)



Adult
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Best in Adult: Kelly Strah, Avenue Tap House, (\$50 Gift Card to 16-Bit)



Adult Honorable Mention: Tim Britton, Avenue Tap House, (2 tickets to Beck Center production of “Mary Poppins” or other show this season.)

Lakewood Cares

Hospice Of The Western Reserve Annual Meeting November 17 To Focus On Storytelling

by Laurie Henrichsen

Ivan Schwarz and HBO “Band of Brothers” Actor James Madio to Provide Keynote

Residents of Lakewood and adjacent communities are invited to join staff and volunteers at Hospice of the Western Reserve’s 37th annual meeting, “Tell Your Story,” on Tuesday, November 17, 5 to 7 p.m., in the Cleveland Convention Center Ballroom, 300 Lakeside Ave. Admission is free; complimentary valet parking will be provided. Keynote speakers are Ivan Schwarz, President and CEO of the Greater Cleveland Film Commission, and award-winning actor, director and producer James Madio, well known for his role as Sgt. Frank Perconte in the award-winning HBO miniseries, “Band of Brothers.” Hors d’oeuvres, beer and wine will be served at 5 p.m.; the evening’s program begins at 5:30 p.m. Registration (requested) is available online at hospicewr.org/story or by phone at 216.383.5291.

This year’s theme, “Tell Your Story,” shines a spotlight on the deeper work of hospice and the significance storytelling plays in communicating values, memories and traditions. “Everyone wants to be remembered. Storytelling provides an avenue to creating a lasting legacy that will live on and be treasured by loved ones and future generations,” said Bill Finn, President and CEO of Hospice of the Western Reserve. “We’re honored that two of Hollywood’s master storytellers – the Greater Cleveland Film Commission’s President and CEO, Ivan Schwarz, and two-time ‘best actor’ award winner James Madio – will be joining us to provide rare glimpses into their craft and to share their personal insights.”

“We’ll also be recognizing individuals and organizations that have gone above and beyond to assist us in sharing the hospice mission across the communities we serve,” Finn said. This year’s honorees will be:

- Dr. Nick Dreher, Chief Medical Officer, HealthSpan, for his continuous advocacy for quality at the end of life
- Cindy L. Steeb, a member of the Medina County Advisory Board, who played a pivotal role in the merger of HMC Hospice of Medina County and Hospice of the Western Reserve
- 107.3-FM, The Wave, for the station’s important role as a community ambassador
- Lubrizol Corporation, for the extraordinary dedication and support of its corporate volunteers

Hospice of the Western Reserve has a few special surprises in store this year. “Forget what you thought you knew about annual meetings,” Finn said. “This one will be very different. The call to serve and commitment we all share will be dramatized in a way we think will be inspiring and entertaining. We encourage everyone in the community interested in learning more about our work to join us.”

Meeting sponsors are First National Bank, HW & Co., Hanson Services Inc., Willis of Ohio, The Adcom Group, HealthSpan, Tri-County Ambulance Services, Hartland & Co., GMS, BeRemembered.com, Busch Funeral and Cremation Services, AdvaCare Systems, Stewart and Donna Kohl and Intellinet Corporation.

About Ivan Schwarz

Ivan Schwarz is well known for his work on HBO’s Emmy Award-winning Band of Brothers miniseries. He is the driving force behind the filming of box office hits in Cleveland, including The Avengers, Draft Day, and Captain America: Winter Soldier.

About James Madio

In addition to his memorable role as Sgt. Perconte in the “Band of Brothers” miniseries, two-time best actor award winner James Madio portrayed “Stosh” in the 2014 film “Jersey Boys,” and his career extends to behind the camera, where he has produced the award-winning independent projects “AppleBox,” “The Box” and “Love Lies Bleeding.”

About Hospice of the Western Reserve

Hospice of the Western Reserve is the region’s leading provider of hospice and palliative care. Now in its 37th year, the nonprofit community agency provides end-of-life care, caregiver support and grief support services for families throughout Northern Ohio as well as many specialized programs for the community at large. In September, Hospice of the Western Reserve and HMC Hospice of Medina County completed a merger. The new organization benefits from combined best practices, increased operational efficiencies and an expanded range of services for patients, families and the communities served. The organization’s Lakewood Office is located at 14601 Detroit Avenue, Suite 100. For more information, call 800.707.8922.

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Lakewood Cares

Building Community One Hot Meal At A Time

by Barry Wemyss

Throughout the city of Lakewood, there are seniors in need of a hot meal and some friendly human contact. These people are living in their own homes, but because of physical issues, are finding it increasingly difficult to get around and keep themselves

well fed. The situation might be temporary: someone recently arrived home from the hospital. On the other hand, the situation may be of a more ongoing nature. Regardless of the circumstances, there are neighbors in our community who need our help.

The Lakewood Division of Aging

operates a Home-Delivered-Meals program that addresses the needs of these frail seniors. We send out a hot, nutritionally-balanced lunch to homebound seniors, Monday through Friday, throughout the year. In addition to providing a meal, our volunteers provide a smile, a friendly word, and the reassurance that there is

someone out there who genuinely cares. Many people would say that the human contact is every bit as important and every bit as valued as the meal itself.

The Division of Aging's Home-Delivered-Meals program relies on its faithful volunteers to get the meals out from the senior center, and into the hands of the people who need them. We are currently looking for people who would be willing to lend a hand. The commitment is very light: one hour a week, between 10:30 AM and 12:00 PM. Deliveries are made entirely within Lakewood, and the routes are grouped geographically, so that volunteers will not find themselves going from one end of town to the other. Volunteers must be over the age of 18, licensed and insured drivers (unless you are a "hopper" and would be working with a driver) and able to pass a background check.

Please consider giving this service opportunity a try. So many of our volunteers report that being able to provide a meal and a smile are among the most rewarding things they have ever done. For more information on this and other opportunities, please call the Lakewood Division of Aging Volunteer Services Office at 216-529-5005.

Lakewood Resident Wins NE Ohio Speech Contest

by Vicky Nann

On Saturday, October 24 Lakewood resident Theresa Bratton won first prize in the Toastmasters International District 10 (Northeastern Ohio) Fall Table Topics contest. Ms. Bratton is a member of Cleveland Toastmasters Club #351.

The contest was the culmination of competition that had begun at the club level in August. Winners advanced successively until the top five in the District reached the highest level of competion. The speech contest capped off a full day of educational sessions and networking opportunities at the Toastmasters District 10 Fall Conference.

In the Table Topics contest, each of the five finalists was challenged to answer the same question in one to two minutes. No preparation was permitted. Contestants who had not yet competed were sequestered to prevent them from getting a head start. The contest question was, "What is something new you have done recently?" Ms. Bratton's winning answer related to the changes motherhood has brought to her life.

"In real life we don't always have a script," said Ms. Bratton, an attorney who practices primarily in civil defense litigation. "Table Topics lets us practice extemporaneous speaking, including keeping our composure when something comes out of left field."

In addition to the Table Topics contest, a humorous speech contest was held. Ed Haller of Warren took first place in the Toastmasters District 10 humorous speech contest.

Toastmasters District 10 comprises more than 100 corporate and

community clubs in Northeastern Ohio and is one of 96 districts worldwide. To learn more about District 10, please visit www.district10.org.

Toastmasters International is a worldwide nonprofit educational organization that empowers individuals to become more effective communicators and leaders. Headquartered in Rancho Santa Margarita, California, the organization's membership exceeds 313,000 in more than 14,650 clubs in 126 countries. Since 1924, Toastmasters International has helped people from diverse backgrounds become more confident speakers, communicators and leaders. For information about local Toastmasters clubs, please visit www.toastmasters.org. Follow @Toastmasters on Twitter.

To get involved in the Lakewood Republican Club, please visit our website at www.lakewoodrepublicanclub.org and our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/lakewoodrepublicanclub

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Band Recital To Benefit LHS Music Fund

by Christine Gordillo

Join the Lakewood High band program for a recital on Sunday, November 22 at 4 p.m. at Lakewood Congregational Church, 1375 West Clifton Blvd. There is no admission fee, however free will donations will be accepted and will benefit the George P. Read Music Fund and music lesson scholarships. Performers include Lakewood High Band

Director Clinton Steinbrunner (piano and flute) and Harding Middle School Band Director John Blasko (trombone) and Lakewood Ranger Marching Band percussion adviser Tim Hampton. Also included in the lineup are five other outstanding musicians who provide private lessons for LHS students. The concert is sponsored by the Lakewood Rangers Education Foundation.

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Shop Local

Urban Bulk Foods Comes To Lakewood

by Dennis Paszkowski

Bringing selection, value and freshness!

There is a new type of shop that is unlike any other in the city and that is Urban Bulk Foods located at 14021 Madison Ave. Family-owned by Cleveland natives, Jen and Dennis, the store opened on October 4th and has been gaining a following ever since. This store has been a dream for the wife and husband since they visited an Amish Bulk store years ago. They wanted to open one of their own when the time was right. “We had a few locations in mind but really wanted to settle into Lakewood for the diversity of the residents,” said Jen. As fate would have it, the couple found the perfect place. “We were driving down Madison Ave. one day when we noticed a ‘for rent’ sign on a store front; we just kind of looked at each other and knew this was it!”

Bulk stores are found mostly in rural/Amish communities. You can find small and large packages of dry goods like cereals, flours, sugars, oats, seeds and soup mixes and as well as wild honey, freshly tapped maple syrup and homemade jams/jellies. Catering to the diverse community, Jen and Dennis also stock



The new storefront on Madison Ave.

organic and gluten free items in addition to Amish butter, cheeses and (cage free) eggs. The selections continue. “We had a customer that was so amazed that we carry organic coconut flour and dried herbs,” Jen said. “We are also the place to stop for snacks!” They carry everything from sarsaparilla soda, trail mixes, dried fruit and nuts to kettle potato chips, dried veggie snacks and dips. Urban Bulk Foods also has a vari-

ety of candy that would make Willie Wonka jealous!

Dennis is a crafty person who has refurbished and repurposed items that would normally end up in a landfill. “The wood shelving was made from crates that were used to ship glass for the atrium of the Cleveland Museum of Art, the crates were going to be thrown out so I asked if I could have them,” said Dennis. “Our counter is made from

an oak tree that was on the property of the former St. Paul Lutheran Church in Lakewood.”

Jen and Dennis are also environmentally concerned which is why they use recyclable packaging and get some of their supplies from local, Ohio sources. Speaking of local, Jen and Dennis hope to have their homemade dog biscuits (Dharma Dog Biscuits) and catnip toys available soon. “We have been so busy opening up the store that we haven’t had time to make any (biscuits & toys). The ingredients mostly came from our own farm and we would cook them down,” Jen says as she thinks of her own fur babies.


Urban Bulk Foods is open six days a week. Dennis is always open to conversation and would be happy to tell you all about the history of the repurposed items. Jen enjoys helping customers with their shopping. It is a locally-owned Mom & Pop store with country charm. Their motto is “freshness, value and selection - in store for you.”



The shelves are lined with all sorts of dry goods from grains and beans to candy and snacks.

Traditions

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Shop Local

Small Business Saturday Is November 28

by Ken Brand

We all know Black Friday is the day after Thanksgiving, but do you know the next day is Small Business Saturday?

In 2010, American Express founded Small Business Saturday to help businesses with their most pressing need — getting more customers to shop locally instead of visiting the

big-box stores. The day has grown into a powerful movement, and more merchants and customers are taking part than ever before. In 2014, more than 88.5 million people shopped small on Small Business Saturday.

This year, the big day is November 28. Lakewood is your authentic city with countless small businesses that know your name and make you feel special each and every time you walk thought their doors.

Join the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce, LakewoodAlive and the Downtown Lakewood Business Alli-



ance and Uptown Lakewood as we celebrate Lakewood’s strong, independent small business community.

Vendors Sought For Light Up Lakewood

by Ken Brand

Would you like a place to showcase your products and services to thousands of Light Up Lakewood visitors while staying toasty and dry? If so, you are invited to become part of the 2015 Vendor Village, a one-day holiday shopping village on December 5, housed in the historic Lakewood Masonic Temple, 15300 Detroit Avenue. We welcome all vendors - from home-based businesses

to retail stores, to churches, schools and community groups – to come in from the cold and participate in this newest addition to Lakewood’s highly-anticipated holiday festival.

Bring your goodies, handmade items, or house specialty. The only restrictions are that no beverages or alcohol are to be sold and all food items must be packaged. Visit www.LightUpLakewood for more details.

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Hayes 1st Grader This Year’s Tiny Tim

continued from page 8

classes at the Beck. Macon also takes voice and dance classes there.

Macon knows that “A Christmas Carol” will be a new level of commitment for him as a young actor. He said it will be “very, very hard work” and to memorize his lines he will have to “practice, practice, practice.” Macon will appear in half of the 21 performances between November 23 and December 23, but will be required to be at every rehearsal starting November 10. Rehearsals are five hours Tuesday-Friday and eight hours Saturday and Sunday.

For Macon, all the hard work and time commitment is worth it because it leads to his favorite part of being in a play: “A lot of people cheer for you at the end.” Break a leg, Mason!

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Wellness Watch

Holiday Coping Skills For Caregivers

by Barry Wemyss

The holidays are almost upon us, and life is about to get a lot more complicated. We are all very well acquainted with the stresses and strains, as well as the moments of joy that the holidays bring. Consider the unique situation that family caregivers find themselves in at this time of year. Whether caring for those with Alzheimers Disease and related types of dementia, or for those with other serious chronic illnesses, caregiving is already a heavy load that can quickly become unbearable.

This year, why not make an investment in time, and figure out how to make the most of the holidays, both for our loved ones, and for ourselves. This informative workshop will address such issues as self-support, setting priorities and balancing family versus individual needs. Learn about the importance of reminiscing about happy holiday memories, as well as creating new memories, to be treasured in the future. There will be plenty of time to share, brainstorm and problem-solve with other family caregivers. Our facilitator, Charline Zimmerman-Miller, LPCC-s, is an experienced counselor and educator, who also has her own

personal experience as a caregiver. The Lakewood Division of Aging will be offering this program at two different times, to accommodate the schedules of family caregivers. There will be a 3:00 PM session on Tuesday, November 17, 2015, and a 7 p.m. session on Thursday, November 19,

2015. This program will be held at the Lawther Center, 16024 Madison Ave. Lakewood, Ohio. Transportation to the 3 p.m. program on November 17th will be available for Lakewood seniors. Please call the Activities Office at 216-529-5005 for more information on this or any other

Division of Aging program. *Barry Wemyss is the Volunteer Services Supervisor for the City of Lakewood, Department of Human Services, Division Of Aging. He is a Lakewood resident, and a husband and the father of a Harding student and an LHS student.*

Tri-C's Westshore Campus Looks At Power Of Gratitude

by John Horton

The Westshore Campus of Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C) will focus on harnessing the power of gratitude during its "Learning for Life" lecture series at 7 p.m. Wednesday, November 18.

The free program — "The Importance of Gratitude" — features author and speaker Lisa Ryan. She will discuss how gratefulness can make a positive difference in your life and those around you.

The lecture is free and open to the public, with no reservation required. The event will take place in the West-

shore Campus Atrium, 31001 Clemens Road in Westlake.

Ryan has authored seven books, including "The Upside of Down Times: Discovering the Power of Gratitude." She is the founder of an organization called Grategy®, which teaches individuals and businesses how to build a gratitude strategy.

The program is part of the "Learning for Life" lecture series being offered

this year by Westshore Campus. Sessions will explore topics such as health and wellness, personal finance, and arts and culture.

The free series offers evening lectures and afternoon brown bag lunch discussions at Westshore Campus and Corporate College® West in Westlake.

For additional information and a schedule of events, visit www.tri-c.edu/LearningforLife.

District Hosting Senior Citizen Breakfast

by Christine Gordillo

Lakewood City Schools Superintendent Jeff Patterson invites the senior citizens of Lakewood to a holiday breakfast on Thursday, December 3 at 9:30 a.m. in Harding Middle School's cafeteria. The event will feature light breakfast, music from Lakewood High's Vive L'Four vocal quartet and

Harding's Cappellas, an all-girl a cappella singing group. Superintendent Patterson will give an update on District achievements and construction and there will be a chance to ask questions as well. Reservations are required. Please call 216-529-4074 or email christine.gordillo@lakewoodcityschools.org to reserve your seat.

Come Join Our Fleet!

by Gina Trebilcock

Are you a high school student looking for a new and challenging sport?

Have you ever had an interest in rowing? Do you know what rowing is?

Rowing is a fun, ultimate team sport that requires no previous experience. It's a great way to work out and stay in shape.

The Cleveland Youth Rowing Association is the only co-ed junior rowing program this winter season for

training and preparation for the Spring racing season. Join us for an Open House on Thursday, November 19th at 5 p.m. for the Junior (9th-12th grade) competitive team. Learn about our sport, competitive season, and training during an open practice. We are located at The Foundry, 1831 Columbus Rd. in Cleveland. (Across from Sainatos, parking on Columbus Rd and around the facility.)

For questions and more information, contact us at: www.cyrarowing.org.



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LPS youngest member Kevin Arnold wins Honorable Mention.



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Meet The Artists

by Donna Seemuth

Come and meet the artists of Lakewood Photographic Society's "Fall Showcase" and discuss how their stunning images were created.

Lakewood Photographic Society started over forty years ago bringing artists of all ages who are interested in the media of photography together. The youngest artist in the fall showcase is seventeen while the oldest is seventy-four, with perspectives represented throughout the gallery in images of this diversity.

Whatever type of images you like from Americana to abstracts, this show case has it. (lakewoodphotographicsociety.org)

The Fall Showcase is October 22 until November 14th.

These events are FREE and open to the public.

Creative Space Art & More (creativespaceartandmore.com) is located at 33760 Lear Industrial Pkwy, Avon, Ohio 44011.

For more information and gallery hours, call 440-823-7406

Forum

Election Analysis: Council And Hospital

by Matt Kuhns

Last week's election results sent mixed signals on Lakewood Hospital's future.

Many advocates for the hospital were disappointed at the defeat of mayoral challenger Mike Skindell, who argued passionately for saving Lakewood Hospital. The narrow rejection of Issue 64, which would have provided an automatic referendum on any action by City Council to close the hospital, also appears to be a setback.

Yet Issue 64 was not, itself, a referendum on closing Lakewood Hospital. What's more, its defeat serves as a reminder that Lakewood's electorate is home to more than one viewpoint. In studying the results of last Tuesday's vote, it's worth examining the point of view of Issue 64's opponents. One of the most prominent publications to oppose Issue 64 warned that it "could doom Lakewood Hospital," which certainly casts doubt on whether its defeat represented a mandate to close that same hospital.

The most consistent argument offered against Issue 64, on the other hand, may have been that the hospital's future should be left up to City Council. If, in light of the issue's rejection, we regard this proposition as endorsed by voters, it suggests that yesterday's results as a whole were a qualified vote against closing Lakewood Hospital.

No person or issue on yesterday's ballot campaigned, formally, on a message that "Lakewood Hospital should close." (Based on published candidate statements, mailings and web sites.) By contrast, a majority of council candidates approved in this year's election have criticized the proposed hospital closure and argued that Lakewood's interests should be better defended.

David Anderson has said: "It is unquestionable that more than a dozen hospital service lines have been severely curtailed, discontinued or transferred since 2005. In fact, I have difficulty in identifying even one Lakewood Hospital Association decision designed to

add patient volume and operating revenue. ... The outline of the now expired Letter of Intent with the Cleveland Clinic might be the best option possible. However, with so many unanswered questions related to process and content, it is hard for me to place complete faith in that option."

Sam O'Leary declared that, "The need for more information is tremendous ... I think it is wishful thinking to suggest that the hospital could close without any Lakewood businesses or entities suffering collateral damage." Along with Anderson, O'Leary pressed for an independent study, which has confirmed that Lakewood Hospital is viable with appropriately reformed management.

John Litten states on his web site only that "Lakewood has a lot of recent economic development successes, and some challenges, not the least of which exists in Lakewood Hospital."

Dan O'Malley has offered by contrast a clear statement of support as reported at cleveland.com:

"Regarding the future of Lakewood Hospital, O'Malley said he strongly believes some sort of hospital with inpatient beds should remain in the city. He said he does not favor the proposal brought to City Council in January to close the hospital and open a Cleveland Clinic outpatient family health center and emergency department in its place."

Ballots, unfortunately, consist of columns of names and ovals, and lack a section for explanatory comment. Therefore voter intent, in the absence of either a direct question on Lakewood Hospital or any candidate or issue directly campaigning for its closure, is impossible to determine with certainty. Nonetheless it seems reasonable to propose that voters endorsed assigning continued responsibility for Lakewood Hospital to City Council—not the mayor, not Lakewood Hospital Association, not Cleveland Clinic—and endorsed council members either skeptical of closing the hospital or firmly committed to keeping it open.

Meanwhile, management of Lakewood Hospital is in the midst of a lawsuit despite constant attempts to disparage the merit of the case. Requests for an independent investigation of the surrounding issues are currently before state and federal agencies, as well.

Within this context, Council would seem very reasonably justified in accepting yesterday's vote as a mandate to defer any proposal to close Lakewood Hospital, and to pursue full information about its management and about alternatives more vigorously than ever.

Check List For Board Members

by Mark Kindt

Given the current controversy over the possible closing of Lakewood Hospital, I thought it might be useful to review some of the potential legal issues those serving on the boards of the Lakewood Hospital Association ("LHA") and the Lakewood Hospital Foundation ("LHF") might want to consider as they fulfill their non-profit or public duties. The need for this review is highlighted by recent opinions issued by the Ohio Ethics Commission related to the Lakewood Hospital negotiations.

In general, those serving on the boards of non-profit charities like the LHA and the LHF are guardians of the charity, serving on behalf of the community, regardless of any personal interests. These duties apply whenever an organization presents itself to the public as honoring or advancing a charitable cause. They include fiduciary duties of care, compliance, loyalty and properly maintaining funds and accounts.

In light of the recent opinions from the Ohio Ethics Commission, if I were serving on the board of either the LHA or the LHF, I would want to meet immediately with my lawyer to discuss whether I faced potential legal action associated with board decisions and my participation in those decisions. I would want my legal counsel to carefully evaluate whether or not my board membership or board activities had the potential for ethical and/or fiduciary conflicts of interest or other legal liability risks. Among the questions I and my counsel would need to consider would be this checklist.

Did I receive any remuneration or compensation from the Cleveland Clinic Foundation, its affiliates or its employees while serving as a board member? Such remuneration can include political contributions, travel expenses, meals, gifts and honoraria, such as speaking or conference fees. Did I disclose such remuneration to organizations or institutions that I am affiliated with? At the time such remunerations were made or received, did I have a disclosure or reporting obligation that I failed to meet? Did organizations or institutions that I am affiliated with receive such remunerations. Were such remunerations, of either category, made while I was aware of negotiations with the party making the payments?

Did I disclose confidential information that I was required to maintain in confidentiality and, conversely, did I fail to disclose information when I had a duty to make a disclosure? Did I make representations or participate in decisions where representations were made that were materially false? Did I fail to act when I had an affirmative duty to act? Did I or the board on which I serve abdicate its duties to others?

If I were on the board of either of these non-profits, I would want to be careful not to delete emails messages associated with LHA or LHF activities and I would want to carefully preserve documents that I had received as a board member. This careful course of action would help minimize the risk of civil or criminal sanctions associated with the destruction of possible evidence.

Additionally, if interviewed by government investigators, I would be careful not to attempt spin or to prevaricate and I would want to have my legal counsel present at all times

Finally, and most important of all, I would immediately want verify that the board on which I serve has directors and officers liability insurance, commonly known as D&O coverage. I would want to know the amount of the coverage and whether board members are covered. I would want to understand if the policy is current and if premiums payments are up to date. I would also want to know how the policy covers costs for legal defense. I would also want to have a clear understanding of the coverage exemptions; those acts of the board and board members that would not be covered.

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Forum

Senator Skindell Thanks Lakewood Community

by Senator Michael Skindell

I want to take this opportunity to thank the greater Lakewood community for considering me for the office of mayor. Our campaign was brought forth by a grassroots call to bring openness, honesty and accountability in government and to instill a fair process in determining the future of Lakewood Hospital. I want to sincerely thank all those supporters who cast a vote, put up a yard sign, volunteered or contributed our campaign. I am deeply grateful for your confidence.

Although our campaign for mayor was not successful, a significant number of citizens continue to promote the principles we advanced in the campaign. These citizens must not be dismissed, but brought to the table for an open and fair discussion of the issues facing our community. Decisions should not be made in private and then presented to the Lakewood community as an accomplished matter. This type of governing promotes distrust. This type of governing is what divides a community.

I am truly honored that I will continue to be Lakewood's representative in the Ohio Senate. In that role, I commit myself, as I have always done, to work with the Mayor and other elected officials or community leaders to advance our community's interest in Columbus. With these partnerships, and a strong working relationship with

Representative Nickie Antonio, we have helped secure a \$400,000 state capital grant for the Beck Center, funding for renovations of Lakewood Park, and increased state appropriations to the local government fund and library fund.

The future of Lakewood depends upon all voices and opinions being heard and acted upon. The role of an elected public leader is to listen to those voices and then promote the common good.

Thank You Lakewood

Friends,

I just wanted to take a moment to thank each and every one of you for all of your support over the last six months. While we were not victorious in our effort to unseat the incumbent judge, my commitment to this city will not falter due to this setback.

The issues facing our court and city today are not going away and I

believe the campaign dialog we had and ideas we proposed will generate progress in the courtroom, even if it is not the sweeping progress we would have liked.

Congratulations are certainly due to my opponent, Judge Pat Carroll. He ran an honest and hard fought campaign.

This is my city and it means the

Michael Skindell, an attorney and former Ohio Assistant Attorney General, has represented the citizens of Lakewood as a Councilperson at Large and State Legislator for more than 12 years.

world to me. I will continue to help Lakewood and its citizens in every way possible through my private law practice, volunteer work and political activism. I encourage you to keep following me--brighter days are just around the corner.

Cheers,
Brian Taubman

Our Nation's Demoniatic Insurgency: On Human Ipseity Must Be Abolished For The Future Of Our Children

by Michael Lauer

Over 7,000 children are hospitalized or killed due to gun violence every year. An additional 3,000 children die from gun injuries before making it to the hospital, bringing the total number injured or killed adolescents to 10,000 each year.—MSNBC January 28,2014.

It will be from our nation's deepest wounds that you and I will triumph over the constant, brutal immorality that is destroying the social fabric of our society. This endless cycle of moral hypocrisy is like a horrid, contagious, scourge that is crippling the minds and spirits of our

most precious assets: our children. This elevated, mindless insurgency of lies, broken promises and deceptions within our families and institutions creates a quagmire of hopelessness and despair that must be abolished for the sake of our children's future. The life-blood of this nation must not be spilled on the streets of Chicago, Cleveland, Baltimore, New York or any other great city because of the demoniac insurgency on human ipseity.

First, on behalf of our children's future, we must call on our great nation of intellectual supremacy to explore a new vision on the integrity

of purpose within our communities. Second, we must call on all citizens of this great nation to be the engineering marvels of prosperity, hope and ingenuity within our communities. Next, we call on all citizens of this great nation to triumph over immorality for the sake of our most precious freight that we bear: our children. Last, based on the concept that founded this great nation over two hundred years ago; we call on all citizens of this great nation to champion one good idea that will catch the imagination of the people in order to preserve and protect the future of our children.

I Don't Know Where I Am, And I Don't Really Care Reviews Of Recent Releases By Local Bands, Pt. 14

continued from page 11

wave kind of sound to it. "Do It In The Movies," besides having a great title and a drum solo, sounds like it could be the soundtrack to a movie. Maybe it was just the word 'movie' evoking this for me and I got thrown off. "Wishful Thinking" has a pretty cool guitar riff. My least favorite, I've gotta say, was "Heart Of Stone," just because I would have rather heard another original. No offense to The Rolling Stones or anything. Anyways, if you enjoy catchy, glam-based rock and roll, this may be something you would like. 4/5

Various Artists - Quality Time Records Volume #1 - Quality Time Records - 14 songs - Cassette, download

It's always good to get a comp in. Especially when the music on it is good. Technically, this is not a comp of entirely Ohio bands, (it includes three that aren't: Pleather, White Mystery, and Dionysian Mysteries) but given that it's like 90% (actually, about 79%. I over-mathed myself. Sorry.) I wasn't gonna turn it down. Musically, most of it falls into the garage/art/punk/power pop styles, until it hits the representatives from Saucepan Records, Yambag (at which point it takes a turn for the hardcore) and Real Regular (at which point it takes a turn for the

really weird). I liked it a lot. It has bands that are already established (see Cleveland favorites Sh*tbox Jimmy (garage rock), The Nico Missile (rock and roll), and Ma Holos (arty glam punk), state champs like Psychic Wheels and Day Creeper, and the aforementioned Saucepan ones), as wells as bands making their first (to my knowledge) on-record appearance like JuJu Shrine and Wesley Who, both of whom I'd like to hear

more of. Wow, looking back, I used a lot of parentheses in this review. Oh well. If any of this sounds interesting to you, check it out. 4.5/5

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

LCAC Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive - A Time To Share

continued from page 1

November 9th – 20th.

Share gifts of time...

Once the food is collected, many volunteers are needed to sort, package and deliver the Thanksgiving fixings and food staples. Save these dates and join LCAC for as little, or as much time as you can give. This is a great service project for all ages!

Where? Lakewood Masonic Temple - 15300 Detroit Ave.

Friday, November 20th – 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. – food donations are collected and sorted 6 - 8 p.m. – non-perish-

able food bags are filled Saturday, November 21st – 9 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. – perishable food is bagged and all items are prepped to deliver 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. – food baskets delivered to 300 Lakewood households.

Lakewood Charitable Assistance Corp. is a non-profit, all-volunteer organization, dedicated to improving the quality of life of Lakewood's families in need. For more information, or to make a monetary donation, visit us at www.LCAC.info or check out Lakewood Charitable Assistance Corp. on Facebook.



Pulse Of The City

The Wyandot Mission Church (And The Return Of The Roses Of Sharon...)

So....what does one do, when one takes a summertime trip on the old historic Lincoln Highway, and then, runs right into Abraham Lincoln in a cemetery? Well of course, if you are Gary Rice, you have just found a great topic for yet another column, or in this case at least, a follow-up.

Just a few weeks ago, I wrote about noticing my backyard Rose of Sharon bushes in full bloom. As that kind of bush had produced my dear late mom's favorite flower, (reminding her of Christ) it suddenly produced a strong memory trigger in me; to the point that I was afraid that I might spend most of the day in tears. Well, I said a little prayer, straightened myself up, and went to the grocery store. On the way home, I saw a garage sale. After unloading the frozen food, I had this unexplainable urge to go back and check the sale out. The seller brought out a banjo. I purchased it, and when I got home, amazingly discovered that it was covered on its back with inlays of those same Rose of Sharon flowers!

Well now, this story goes on a bit farther. For nearly a decade, I've wanted to go on a pilgrimage to Upper Sandusky, to the old Methodist Wyandot Mission Church. The Wyandots (these days, spelled Wyandottes) were Ohio's last Native American tribal residents, being forced from their homes around Upper Sandusky in 1843. I had written about that tragedy in another Lakewood Observer column during the summer of 2014. (The Tragic Time of High Sun and Thunder Moon) Any-

way, on August 28th, I took off down I-71 and then westward on U.S. 30, (the Lincoln Highway, and America's first transcontinental roadway) until arriving at Upper Sandusky. In a short time, I was at the churchyard/graveyard (where the old church building has been rebuilt, and now stands in good condition) with its nearby Native American graves, along with the grave of the church's founder, John Stewart. Stewart was one of those remarkable people that lived an amazing life under incredible circumstances. A multi-racial Black man from Virginia, he had attended a Methodist camp meeting, felt the call of Christ, and soon felt drawn to venture into Ohio to preach the Gospel to Native Americans. In doing so, he was responsible for starting the Methodist missionary work with the Wyandots. Being of ill health, he did not live very long, but the church that he was responsible for starting, and his legacy, both endure to this day. To many Methodists, and Wyandots, Stewart is a heroic and faithful figure.

After the Wyandots left the area, the facility was used by area Methodists and other denominations until they built their larger churches, after which the Wyandot meeting house fell into disrepair until being restored in the 1880's. It remains a shrine of the United Methodist Church, and has been placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Now here's where my part of all this starts to get real interesting. Like

when I went back to that yard sale, it seems that I had felt almost compelled this past week to visit that church. By coincidence, this was also the last week of the summer that the church would be officially open for visitations. Since this was the first time that I'd been out of town since Dad passed away, I was, of course, reluctant to go, but I talked myself into it, and away I went. Behind the church, I discovered the grave of John Stewart and many leading Wyandots in a fenced-in area. At each corner of that fenced-in area, I could not help but notice the most beautiful Rose of Sharon bushes that you will ever see...

I was met at the door of the Wyandot Mission Church by Roger and Judy Jenot, a lovely couple who volunteer to greet guests during the church's visiting hours. It turns out that Roger and Judy also re-enact Abraham Lincoln and his wife, Mary Todd Lincoln. A retired history teacher, Roger is also a spit-tin' image of "Old Abe." As I was taken aback by Roger's resemblance to our

late President, it turns out that he was equally taken aback by what he felt to be my own resemblance to a painting of a Wyandot Chief inside the church! Upon my examination, Roger was right. That Chief could well have been my twin!

So the three of us just sat down and spoke of many things; having several hours of very special time together. I also had the opportunity to play a little music for them. Before long, however, it was time to hop back on the old Lincoln Highway, head east, and, right after passing Mansfield, head on up I-71 to home. As I climbed back over the rolling hills of the St. Lawrence Continental Divide, many thoughts passed through my mind; thoughts about new friends, family, time, space, Native Americans, Abraham Lincoln, and yes too, the special spiritual implications of my sublime encounters this summer with those magnificent Roses of Sharon. Adding further symbolism to my adventure, I saw three bald eagles in flight on my way down there, and a flock of them later showed up to guide me on my homeward journey.

Election Results 2015 Incumbents Retained, Community Split On 64

continued from page 1
cial tally from the Board of Elections has the issue failing with 52.22% of the votes cast against the amendment and 47.78% in favor of the amendment. With a difference just shy of 600 votes, the community is still clearly divided over the charter amendment and the larger question of the future of Lakewood Hospital.

Two other small, precinct-specific measures passed. Both were requesting permission for Sunday liquor sales, one at Mars Bar in Ward 2, precinct G and one for O'Tooles Pub in Ward 3, precinct F. Both establishments had existing liquor licenses, but now may also sell on Sundays between the hours of 10 a.m. and midnight.

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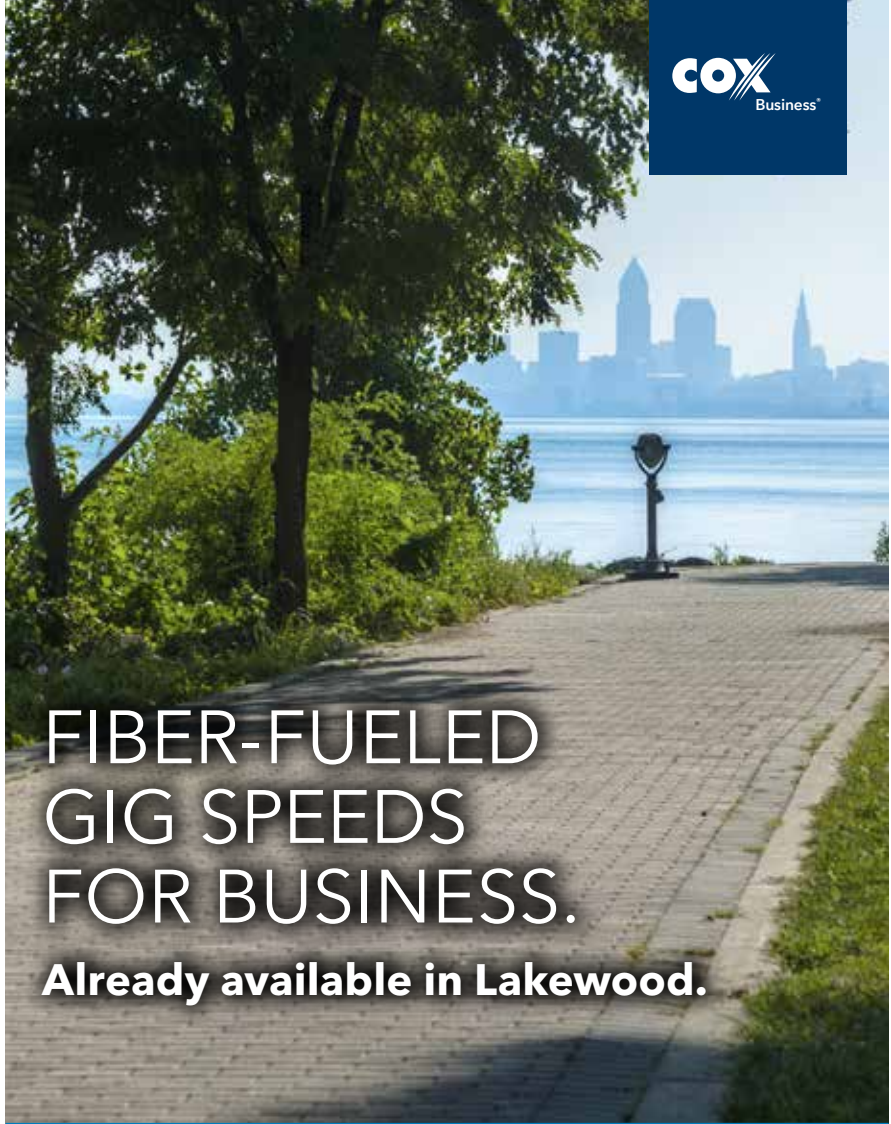

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Lakewood Living

The Lakewood Bed Bug Outbreak

by Shawn Payne
How Bed Bugs Are Currently Affecting Lakewood, OH

As the owner of Lakewood’s only local pest control company, we have a slight insight into the state of local pest infestations. Although not every resident calls us for their pest problems, we do hear from multiple residents per week. We get a lot of carpenter ant calls, along with yellowjackets, mice, cockroaches, and spider calls. It depends on the time of year.

The majority of our Lakewood homes were built pre-1940. All of the gaps, and voids of our older housing structures really make it easy for outdoor insects to become indoor pests. If you have a pest problem, you most likely have a perimeter pest. There are also parasites and stored product pests. Unlike most of Lakewood’s pests, bed bugs are not a perimeter pest. This well-adapted human parasite is taking a liking to Lakewood in a different way.

Well over half of the housing units in Lakewood are rentals. We have over 4,000 duplexes. We have over 6,000 apartment buildings with 20 or more units. Bed bugs flourish in places where large amounts of people in transition come together. This is why hotels can have problems. Bed bugs are everywhere people are. They are even hitchhiking their way into schools. I recently saw a bed bug in the locker room after my kid’s swim class. Think about it, fitness centers have a lot of people coming and going. They are a perfect place for bed bugs to translocate themselves. Another place to be cautious of is movie theaters. There is a constant flow of people, and it is dark! Anyways... Renters in Lakewood, especially the ones in apartment buildings, are being affected most by the local bed bug outbreak. Tenant turnover and ineffective conventional pest control practices are the main reasons bed bugs are gaining a foothold in our local apartment complexes.

Not many people know much about bed bugs. They know you pick them up traveling. They know they have been found in local schools recently. And they know a good way to get rid of them is by using heat treat-

ments. Not many people know that more people get bed bugs from bringing used furniture into their homes than from traveling these days. The used furniture industry is the number one method bed bugs use to proliferate themselves across the country.

Now they are even using the new furniture industry to translocate themselves. Most mattress and furniture companies have a 30-day comfort guarantee on their mattresses. People are buying a new bed set, getting bed bugs, and then returning the mattress. The infected mattress is returned on a truck with new furniture that is getting delivered. Can you see the problem in this? While in the truck, the bed bugs simply crawl into the new furniture. Then this furniture is delivered into people’s homes!

You can pick up bed bugs nearly anywhere nowadays. The places with the highest risk are places like hotels, schools, movie theaters, airports, homeless shelters, hostels, that sort of place. To protect yourself when returning home, keep your shoes, purses, and backpacks in the garage instead of on the home. If that is not possible, place them inside a tight fitting tote right when you enter your home. During the warm months, you can give your suitcases a heat treatment when you return from traveling. Keep them outside. Wrap them in a tightly sealed dark colored trash bag. Place the bag in the hot summer sun and let it heat up. After a few hours, you will have fried any potential hitchhikers.

Vacuuming your bags help, but then instead of being on your luggage, they are in your vacuum. Bed bugs can easily live inside of your vacuum. If you have bed bugs or are vacuuming up potential bed bugs and bed bug eggs, lace the inside of your canister or vacuum bag with an insecticidal dust. Also empty what you suck up into a tightly sealed bag and take it outdoors to the trash can immediately. Do this everytime you vacuum. Vacuuming is a great way to reduce pest populations within the home. But if bed bugs are given the opportunity to crawl out of the vacuum, vacuuming does not do much good. This goes for all pests,

especially fleas and bed bugs. There are bed bugs all over Lakewood. You don’t have to travel to get bed bugs. You don’t have to buy used furniture to get bed bugs. Remember I told you they can live in vacuums? We just had a customer that got them from hiring a cleaning service!

Out of around 28,000 housing units in Lakewood, about 60% are located in multifamily housing structures. Bed bugs travel through walls. If you live in one of these multi-family housing structures they can invade your home from neighboring apartments. They travel through walls. Electrical outlets can be a bed bug’s best friend.

There is a certain stigma that goes along with having a bed bug infestation. Having bed bugs has nothing to do with the cleanliness of a person, but it is embarrassing. Tenants who find out they have bed bugs often delay in reporting it. By then the population has grown enough to spread to neighboring apartments. If bed bugs are found in one unit, the adjacent units must be inspected and treated too. In these cases, it can be difficult to get cooperation from surrounding tenants.

Most of Lakewood’s larger apartment complexes are on a monthly spray cycle. Every month an exterminator comes in and sprays a pyrethroid insecticide under the sink, along kitchen cabinet bases, in door thresholds, and in the bathrooms. They get paid in the range of \$0.75- \$1.00 for each apartment they spray. This is an industry standard. There is no pest monitoring involved. Apartments get treated every month even if they don’t have pests. In essence these large apartment complexes are not doing anything to prevent pest infestations besides the spraying. And even that is relatively ineffective. It’s not like they are spraying DDT that stays around killing bugs for over a year. Pyrethroids are repellents. If you don’t hit them straight on you are pretty much just repelling them somewhere else.

Don’t think that the exterminator wants to talk to tenants about their pest problems at a rate of 0.75\$ per apartment. He wants to keep moving. As a result the landlord becomes the middleman. Communication is essential between the tenant, the landlord, and

the exterminator. Often this is a big reason pest problems get out of hand. Not many landlords have a clue about pest control. It gets even worse when the landlord has the maintenance man do the pest control. Not many of these people are Licensed Commercial Pesticide Applicators.

Recently, our business heard from a number of young women. They have pest problems in their apartment complexes. Their units have been sprayed for bed bugs. None of them received any information before or after the treatment. The exterminator never talked to the tenants. All of the tenants who shared their story with us had small children that crawl on the floor. When they inquired to the landlord about the treatment, all that they were told was that it is safe for children and pests. They were not told where the treatments were made or what product was used. There was no follow-up with the exterminator. They all received one treatment. It is a pretty well-known fact in the industry that a minimum of three treatments is necessary to gain control.

As you can see, there are a number of issues that complicate bed bug control in Lakewood. The fact that hardly anyone has mattress encasements is alarming. Encasements make it very difficult for bed bugs to establish themselves. There are a ton of changes we can implement to stop the spread of bed bugs. One entomologist recently stated that if we do not step in and make changes; that one in every three homes will have bed bugs. As of now Lakewood is facing some heavy pressure from bed bugs. And from our insight as a local pest control company, it looks like we are headed down a slippery slope.

Shawn Payne lives with his family in Lakewood, Ohio. He is a groundskeeper at NASA Glenn Research Center. He is also the small business owner in town. He runs the only pest control company in Lakewood, OH. Lakewood Plant And Pest is his passion and he loves helping the community solve their pest problems. Shawn is a graduate of Ohio State University where he studied horticulture. He is an avid gardener and provides landscaping services to many local residents.

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Lakewood Living

Light Up Lakewood Set For Saturday, December 5, 2015

by Ken Brand

Lakewood’s holiday season will officially kick off on Saturday, December 5 during Light Up Lakewood – one of Northeast Ohio’s largest annual holiday festivals and lighting ceremonies. The event, hosted by LakewoodAlive, takes place in Downtown Lakewood (Detroit Avenue between Marlowe Avenue and Arthur Avenue). LakewoodAlive expects to draw thousands of visitors from Lakewood and surrounding communities. Musical performances will take place throughout the day

in various locations with the festival running from 4-8pm. Check the event website for the performance schedule starting on December 1. In addition to the lighting ceremony, which will take place at the festival’s main stage in front of Lakewood Hospital at 6:30pm, a holiday parade will kick off the festival at 5 p.m. and march down Detroit Avenue featuring Grand Marshals from GV Art & Design. Other special guests include Santa Claus and the Light Up Lakewood King and Queen, two high school students who live in

Lakewood or attend a high school within Lakewood. To participate in the parade, please visit www.LightUpLakewood.com. Other attractions include photos with Santa, ice carvings, street performers and live music. Once again this year will be the indoor Vendor Village in the Historic Lakewood Masonic Temple where over a dozen vendors will be selling some of the best holiday gifts and treats. Warm up the kids and enjoy family games at Discount Drug Mart. Need a bite to eat as you walk up and down

Downtown Lakewood on Detroit Avenue? Stop in a local restaurant or visit the Light Up Lakewood Food Court featuring eight food trucks and vendors. Light Up Lakewood is free and open to the public. Start the day at Dewey’s Pizza for Lunch with Santa. LightUpLakewood.com will post all of the information for this special meal. Event sponsors include Lakewood Hospital, 16-Bit Bar + Arcade, University of Akron Lakewood, Quaker Steak & Lube, Discount Drug Mart, Geiger’s, City of Lakewood, First Federal Lakewood, Plantation Home, Campbell’s Sweets Factory, Lakewood Library, Convey 360, Lakewood City Schools, Lakewood Catholic Academy, Shinn Lander LLP, Lakewood Anglican Church, Forge Public House, The M.F. Cachat Company, Dewey’s Pizza, Lakewood Masonic Temple and the Downtown Lakewood Business Alliance. Up-to-the-minute festival information can be accessed by visiting www.LightUpLakewood.com, facebook.com/LakewoodAlive, twitter.com/LakewoodAlive using #LightUpLakewood.

Roxu Rocks The Taster Twins

by Ingrid Dickson & Irene Joyce

Nestled in an unassuming building at 15607 Madison Avenue is a recently opened eatery with the memorably mysterious name of Roxu, a fusion restaurant. Our dinner companions were feeling adventurous on a Monday night and we decided to give it a go. A lovely hostess greeted and seated us at a cozy table for four in the sparingly decorated dining room. We were in for an authentic fusion experience, encompassing all our senses. With a truly eclectic mix of music buffeting us, we began our taste adventure with sticky duck wings, served with plum tonkatsu sauce and sesame sticky rice and a pork belly steam bun, accompanied by Napa kimchee and sesame cashew crumble. Both of these were flavorful and quite enjoyed. Our entrees efficiently followed and we were treated to aromatic duck fried rice with Ohio sweet corn, shishito, local egg and cashews, “Bibimbap,” a rice bowl with beef and vegetables along with the ubiquitous shishito peppers. We also ordered sesame chicken pierogies, which were deliciously prepared with shitake mushrooms, caramelized onions and five spice crema-- by far the star of the selections. Regular readers of this column will know that we Taster Twins are



A wide variety of carefully composed small plates are filled with unique flavors!

rather timid in the spice arena--fair warning--Roxu is generous with the heat! This is no joke: spicy peppers are plentiful and potent. Be warned and make sure you ask your server if the chef can adjust the temperature of your dish. Even our less wimpy companions’ eyes were tearing up from the spiciness of the food. Fortunately, they had delightful cocktails, beautifully presented and cleverly named “Roxu Like a Hurricane,” to mitigate the burn and cool the palate.

Saving the best for last, we were especially pleased with the lusciously creamy Japanese soufflé cheesecake, enhanced by blackberry granita, bourbon vanilla creme and lavender. This treat was so fluffy and pleasurable. It even came with a pocky, aka a yummy cookie stick. Unquestionably, this sweet delicacy was the highlight of the flavor bazaar that is Roxu’s specialty. The menu offered so many tempting possibilities and intriguing choices, a return trip is definitely warranted. Hope to see “U” at Roxu!



Steam buns are certainly one of the highlights of the menu.

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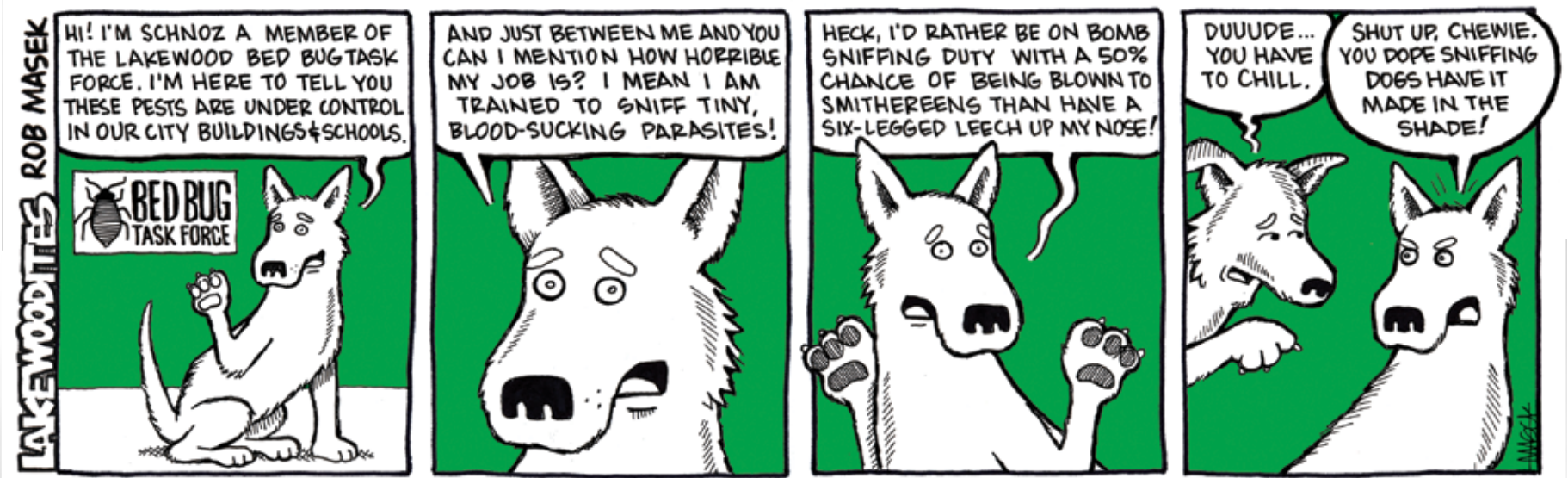
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