

Cavaliers NBA Champions 2016



Taken just as the clock ran out on Game 7 and parties and people swarmed Downtown Cleveland. The partying continued until the early hours Monday in Lakewood at...



Corky's Place above.

Below, Around The Corner.



The Foundry Concert Club above. Whew! That was a party! Below, The Riverwood.



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City

Lead Safety Discussed With Council

by Christopher Bindel

Council President and Ward II Councilman Sam O'Leary called the June 6, 2016 Council Meeting to order at 7:32 P.M.

For the first item of new business Councilwoman Cindy Marx (At-Large) read a report from the Health and Human Services Committee. With all the recent concerns in the news regarding lead lately, especially after the problems in Flint, Michigan, Councilwoman Marx decided to hold a meeting to discuss lead in the city. Topics included, where the city stands as far as lead issues go, if there are any specific problems or concerns, and how they are being managed. The meeting included the City's Director of Human Services, the Fire Chief, a member of the Planning Department, members from the Cuyahoga County Board of Health, the Housing Outreach Director at LakewoodAlive, and Council Health and Human Services Committee members David Anderson (Ward I) and John Litten (Ward III).

Councilwoman Marx reported that despite recent concerns, due to the news, the lead level in Lakewood's water is well below what is considered safe. However, in 2014,

7.8% of Lakewood children tested had elevated lead levels in their blood. This is most likely due to the exposure to lead paint. This is not just paint chips, but more likely the fine powder that is created when lead paint deteriorates over time that is causing the problem. This powder can very easily be inhaled, swallowed, or even sometimes absorbed through the skin. Although lead can be an issue for people of all ages, it is particularly of concern for those ages 6 months to 6 years. These children tend to be more on the level of areas where one is more likely to find deteriorated lead paint and they are less likely to take safety precautions. They are also the group which is at the highest risk of developing life long health issues from lead exposure. Even low levels of lead in the blood have been shown to negatively impact IQ, ability to pay attention, and academic achievement. To make matters worse, the effects of lead can not be corrected. Therefore, prevention is key.

Lead paint is a concern for any building built prior to 1978, but those of biggest concern are those built before 1960. Considering the fact that

the vast majority of buildings, and nearly all homes, in Lakewood fall into both those categories, Lakewood is considered a high-risk community. The group gathered discussed ways Lakewood might be proactive in ensuring a healthy environment for all children. They began with discussing ways to help educate both residents and landlords alike about the dangers of lead and how they can ensure their property is safe. This included making them aware of the Lead Safe Cuyahoga paint abatement program. They also discussed ways to expand lead testing in children under 6 to attempt to catch exposures before they can get worse. Lastly, they discussed possibly changing the code to require all contractors to be trained in lead safe practices.

Council received and filed Councilwoman Marx's report.

Next, Councilman Dan O'Malley (Ward IV) asked Council to consider a resolution supporting the Federal Railroad Administration's (FRA) proposed ruling requiring two person crews on all trains. The FRA is seeking comments from individuals and communities that might be impacted

by the ruling. Since Lakewood has about 27 railroad crossings, almost all of which are adjacent to homes, businesses, and walkways, Councilman O'Malley believes the City should support this ruling.

Although in most cases trains do have a crew of two, it is not always the case, and single person crews are an easy solution when it comes to personnel shortages or trying to save money. Councilman O'Malley listed several safety situations in which a second person is extremely helpful and could possibly prevent disaster.

Councilman O'Leary lent his support of the resolution citing that in a community where large numbers of children still walk to school, many of them crossing the tracks, railroad safety is paramount.

Council proceeded to pass the resolution.

The Mayor then asked Council to pass a resolution that would create a Foundation Planning Task Force. This Task Force would be charged with recommending the process to create the new non-profit that is to be formed with the purpose of addressing community health and wellness needs in Lakewood. The creation of this non-profit was stipulated in the Master Agreement between the City of Lakewood, Lakewood Hospital Association, and the Cleveland Clinic Foundation from December 2015.

After a brief discussion regarding the deadline and make up of applicants, Council referred the matter to the Committee of the Whole.

Law Director, Kevin Butler, then asked Council to pass an ordinance allowing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with AT&T. The agreement will be a three year contract for Centrex analog phone services. Although the City primarily uses digital phone services, it still maintains a few analog lines for things such as "legacy fax lines."

Council referred the ordinance to the Finance Committee.

With no further items on the agenda, Council President O'Leary adjourned the meeting at 8:43 P.M.

Lakewood City Council Stops Cliff Shore Protection Ordinances

by Gabriela Kaplan

Upon careful review, Lakewood City ordinances to float bonds to build cliff shore "protections" on private property were tabled on June 6, 2016.

The geotechnical cliff experts involved in the study of the Meridian and Winton condominiums (Pier W Restaurant) advised that these armored protections are not indicated at this time. They concluded that the plans as designed would not help prevent the cliff from collapsing and would be costly to maintain. Their recommendation is to improve drainage and monitoring from above. Only when these monitors detect cliff fragility, (which could take up to 25 years) should the project be revised, and then by geotechnical cliff experts. Their alternative to the revetment at the base for the Meridian, and concrete wall that would line the iconic Winton, Pier W restaurant's cliff would not ruin their natural beauty, but would be environmentally sound.

The US Geologic Survey paper #1693 mentions: "Armoring shores' which includes revetments, seawalls, etc, (which) create sand-starved beaches that extend kilometers down drift, resulting in greater water turbidity, as shores are exposed to more erosion."

Beachpedia, reports that in Ohio: "Some portions of Lake Erie's shoreline have been 100% modified by shoreline armoring...because each artificial structure can create erosion down drift

of the structure, the affected shoreline, in turn, requires armoring to mitigate the ravages of wave energy directly breaking on the shoreline and bluff as opposed to dissipating along the beach. This 'domino effect' of erosion and shoreline armoring continues to this day."sic. These have been associated with..."Follow-up legal actions, including the assessment of financial penalties, that can be taken from the Office of the Director of the ODNR and the State Attorney General's Office." (1)

"In addition, many shore protection structures have limited natural habitat value and alter the coastal processes and hydrologic connections that support critical ecological processes and biological life cycles in near shore areas. This is particularly significant in that Ohio's Lake Erie sport fishery alone is valued at \$1 billion annually."

http://www.beachpedia.org/State_of_the_Beach/State_Reports/OH/Shoreline_Structures.

Worldwide studies show that man-made revetments/seawalls also contribute to increase in algae blooms, bacterial and environmental destruction because these structures diminish the shore's ability to filter water. It is because of this that dozens of states limit, and even ban these revetments [example (2).] In light of new science, it's time for Ohio's ODNR and Army corps of engineers to update their 1996 guidelines in order to avoid further destruction of our lakes.

It is laudable to see that City Council heeded the Ohio Supreme court ruling that prohibits local governments from forcing landowners by means of ordinances, to pay fees for break walls on private property.(3)

Lakewood often champions environmental causes, so city officials heeded these facts, and tabled the project. This will help set precedent so that no similar projects are implemented in lake Erie shores. Constituents, unaware of these new studies, perceive stone and concrete walls as a sturdy solution. Let's not be misguided by these few groups who are unaware of best practices, so that we do not build harmful structures, and as a community, we do the right thing for all.

The great lakes contain 20% of the fresh water in our planet. It is our responsibility to cherish this most precious commodity, for it is life giving. By protecting our lakes now, we will assure future generations the ability to continue to enjoy the wealth and pleasure our lakes have provided us to date.

(1)<http://fox6now.com/2013/07/24/neighbors-sue-concordia-over-bluff-damage/>

(2) http://pubs.usgs.gov/sir/2010/5254/pdf/sir20105254_chap7.pdf

(3)<http://www.toledoblade.com/Courts/2011/09/14/Supreme-court-overturns-ruling-defines-lake-shoreline.html>



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From The Statehouse

Antonio Announces \$3 Million State Grant To Lessen Infant Mortality

Says state partnership will be crucial in lowering Cuyahoga County's exorbitant rates

by Nickie Antonio

State Representative Nickie Antonio (D-Lakewood) today applauds the allocation of \$3 million in state funds for First Year Cleveland, a city-county initiative to combat Cuyahoga County's alarmingly high infant mortality rates. The state investment is part of a total \$26.8 million allocated in the latest state budget to support community-driven proposals to combat infant mortality at the local level and enhance efficacy among various agencies that provide care for at-risk women and infants.

"I am both pleased and hopeful

to see state funding allocated towards this important issue for Cuyahoga County," said Antonio. "Ohio's abysmal infant mortality rate and strategies for positive change have been a large part of my advocacy in Columbus this past 131st General Assembly. First Year Cleveland's partnership with the state will bolster the efforts of community health advocates and I am hopeful that this partnership will help educate the public on preventative practices, provide prenatal care for mothers, and pursue innovative solutions to help more infants reach their first birthday."

Cuyahoga County averages an infant mortality rate of 14.51 infant deaths per 1,000 live births. Ohio ranks 45th in the nation in overall infant mortality with a rate of 6.8 deaths per 1,000 births, and last in African American infant mortality with a rate of 14.3— more than twice the rate of white babies.

The state investment, from the Ohio Department of Medicaid, will support the following community projects:

-The Centering Pregnancy Program, a state initiative first tested in 2015, will provide prenatal care to groups of eight to twelve women in 90-minute sessions. These sessions are coordinated by a group facilitator and nurse midwives, and follow the schedule of regular prenatal visits. Education and group discussion of breastfeeding, nutrition, parenting and other pregnancy-related concerns will be a primary focus of these meetings. Total Funding Amount: \$760,000.

-Several home visiting programs are to be strengthened by state funding. These programs provide in-home visits to mothers before and after



State Representative Nickie Antonio

Lucinda Einhouse Named 2016 Chamber Of Commerce Business Person Of the Year

continued from page 1

ment departments of hospitals within the Cleveland Clinic Health System, and served as advisor and manager of three of those development departments.

In 2001, Ms. Einhouse was recruited to the Cleveland Institute of Music (CIM) to direct a capital campaign to raise \$40 million for facility expansion and endowment. The Campaign was successfully completed in September, 2006.

Ms. Einhouse has been a member of the Board of LakewoodAlive since 2013, a non-profit economic development organization, where she is on the Executive Committee and chairs the Community Forum Committee. She served on the Board of the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce from 2008-2015 and was Chair of that board from 2013 to 2015.

She co-founded the North Coast Women's Sailing Association in 1995, dedicated to encouraging the development of self-confidence, teamwork, and mentoring in the sport of sailboat racing. Ms. Einhouse has been a participant performer and event host for the past 16 years in a community leaders' chorus to benefit the Cleveland Rape Crisis Center.

She co-chaired the Arts Outreach Committee for the Gay Games 2014 in Cleveland, one of the biggest sports and cultural events in the world, dedicated to promoting inclusion and an open and affirming environment for all.

She is a native Clevelander, a graduate of James Ford Rhodes High School in Old Brooklyn, and has been a resident of Lakewood since 1980. She and her husband of 33 years, Tom Einhouse, have two sons, ages 22 and 18.

For Cindy's role in ensuring Beck Center's viability, growth, and continued presence in Lakewood, her support of the Lakewood business and non-profit communities, her service to the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce and for her passion for Lakewood as a great place to live, work, play and do business, the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce is proud to recognize Ms. Cindy Einhouse as their 2016 Business Person of the Year.

The Lakewood Chamber of Commerce presented the 2016 Business Person of the Year award to Cindy Einhouse at its Annual Awards Luncheon at Vosh Lakewood on June 17th.

The Lakewood Observer is written and edited by volunteers, and exists to help build the community and support an environment friendly to the independent businesses that make this area unique. When you advertise with us you not only help your business, you also do a good deed for the community.

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Lakewood Public Library

Free, Four-week Course On Art And Aesthetics At Lakewood Public Library

by Amy Kloss

What is art?

How does creativity work?

Is art meaningful?

Who decides if a work is good or bad?

If these questions seem like fodder for stimulating summer

conversation, join us at the Main Library Auditorium on four successive Thursdays, July 7-28, from 7-8:30 p.m. for a discussion of Aesthetics and Art Theory.

Michael D. Miller, who holds a PhD in philosophy from The Ohio

State University and has over a decade of university teaching experience, will lead the discussions. The first session will concentrate on the essence or true definition of art. On July 14, discussion will center on creativity and the purpose of art. The remaining

sessions will cover the meaning of art and whether quality is objective or subjective.

This free program comes to the Lakewood Public Library through the Laura and Alvin Siegal Lifelong Learning Program at Case Western Reserve University. To register, go to www.lifelonglearningcleveland.org or call the Library at 216/226 8275, ext. 127.

Lakewood Public Library Welcomes Singer/Songwriter Anne E. DeChant

by Elaine Rosenberger

Nashville recording artist and Cleveland native Anne E. DeChant will give a free acoustic concert at Lakewood Public Library on Sunday, July 3.

DeChant first gained attention as the lead singer for the indie folk-rock band, Odd Girl Out. Since going solo, she has released eight albums including *The Sun Coming In* (2015). That album's first single "Sunday Morning Drive" reached number one on the Root Music Report's national chart. Her songs are known for tackling social justice issues; "Girls and Airplanes" (gender equality) was featured on two soundtracks.

DeChant has performed at the White House and at Nashville's famed Bluebird Café. Her concert takes place on Sunday, July 3, 2016 at 2 p.m.



Anne E. DeChant will perform at LPL on Sunday, July 3.

in the Main Library Auditorium. Admission is free and open to all. For more information, visit www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.org.

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Jungle Bob and his creepy crawler friends

They Creep, They Crawl, All Over The Floor

by Bethany Toth

Join Lakewood Public Library as we welcome Jungle Bob and his creepy crawler friends. Get up-close and personal with tarantulas, see millipedes that will make your skin crawl, experience a hair-raising chill as he handles live scorpions. Jungle Bob's Bug show is an educational and interactive experience that is eye opening and outrageously fun

for kids 1 to 99+ years of age.

The program will take place in the Main Library's Multipurpose room in the Children's and Youth Service Department on Friday, June 24, 2016 at 3 p.m. See you there!

No registration is required. Many thanks to the Friends of Lakewood Public Library for funding this and so many more wonderful programs.

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Lakewood Public Library

Calendar Of Events

compiled by Elaine Rosenberger

Wednesday, June 22

Take Another Look -

James Joyce's "A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man"

The literary and historical aspects of Joyce's thunderous debut will be the primary focus of this free, four-week course, presented by Barbara Parr, an instructor with Case Western Reserve University's Laura and Alvin Siegal Lifelong Learning Program. Participants will rediscover the genius of the writer and his unbridled first novel. Register at www.lifelonglearningcleveland.org

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

Saturday, June 25

"The Distinguished Gentleman" (1992)

Directed by Jonathan Lynn

Substitute teacher Eddie Murphy plays a con man with the audacity to steal a Congressional seat. At first, he is deeply impressed by the schemes of Washington and vows to up his game, but a shred of decency thwarts his ambition.

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

Sunday, June 26

Sunday Cinema:

"Breakfast at Tiffany's" (1961)

Audrey Hepburn, free-spirited New York party girl extraordinaire, dreams of marrying a rich man. Her favorite hangout is the famous Tiffany's. Into her life walks George Peppard; young new neighbor, failed author and kept man. Barbara Steffek-Hill returns to the Lakewood Public Library to present a series of classic films chosen from her personal favorites.

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

Tuesday, June 28

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. 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

Wednesday, June 29

Take Another Look -

James Joyce's "A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man"

The literary and historical aspects of Joyce's thunderous debut will be the primary focus of this free, four-week course, presented by Barbara Parr, an instructor with Case Western Reserve University's Laura and Alvin Siegal Lifelong Learning Program. Participants will rediscover the genius of the writer and his unbridled first novel. Register at www.lifelonglearningcleveland.org

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

Saturday, July 2

"Freaky Friday" (1976)

Directed by Gary Nelson

A whole genre's worth of wacky body-switching comedies have been made in the wake of this trailblazing Disney b-picture, but there's still magic to be found in the original. Thirteen year old Jody Foster plays Annabelle, a girl who can't see eye-to-eye with her mother, Barbara Harris.

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

Sunday, July 3

Anne E. DeChant

Anne E. DeChant is a Nashville recording artist originally from Cleveland, where she was a five-time Singer-Songwriter of the Year. Known for the power of her live performances, as well as the craft and the empathy of her lyrics, DeChant has shared the stage with Sheryl Crow, Stevie Nicks, Nora Jones and the Indigo Girls and has played a host of venues ranging from Nashville's Bluebird Café to the Clinton White House.

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



Roman Fountain Pizza & Subs

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Children/Youth Events

compiled by Eric Knapp

Friday, June 24

Jungle Bob's Bug Show

For the whole family

Experience a variety of bugs and their "cousins" including hissing cockroaches from Madagascar, flying insects from South America, spiders, crabs, and more! Free and open to the public. No registration required.

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

Tuesday, June 28

Afternoon at the Movies: "Alice in Wonderland"

For the whole family

Movies shown on the Library's big screen. Free and open to the public. Remember: no food or drink in the Library. No registration required.

1:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium.

Lakewood Recreation Department's Labor Day Weekend Co-Ed Kickball Tournament

From the time you were a little kid, kickball has been one of America's favorite recreational games. So grab your friends of any age or skill level, and get together for a day of fun!

Team Fees: \$100.00

Teams must have a minimum of 8 players, and can play with up to 10; no roster required. Players must be at least 18 years of age. All teams need to field an equal numbers of male & female players.

To register, please contact Rick Wallenhorst, richardwallenhorst@lakewoodcityschools.org, by Aug 22, 2016.

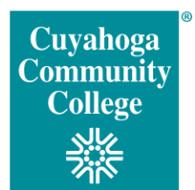


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16-0182

Schools

LHS Academic Challenge Team Is Runner Up In National Tournament

by Christine Gordillo

The Lakewood High School Academic Challenge Team continues to shine in national competition as the varsity squad finished as runner-up in the National Academic Tournament held in Washington, D.C. June 3-5, losing only the title match for the entire tournament for a 9-1 record. Rising senior Ian Bell was named the tournament MVP.

The varsity team lost narrowly in the title match to Briarcliff (New York), 320-305. The match was tied at halftime and came down to the fourth-quarter "Stump the Experts" round at the end to determine the winner. The Rangers had qualified for the championship round as one of the top seeds in the 45-team tournament thanks to their perfect 6-0 record in the preliminary rounds.

"Peter and I are continually amazed at the breadth of knowledge of these individuals and their ability to recall that information in seconds," said Robert Sedlak. Peter Petto and Sedlak are team advisers.

Members of the varsity team are Captain Robby Fehrenbach, Ian Bell, who was named the tournament

MVP, Zeke Dalisky, Alex Grunder, Fox Milenski, Jon Pizzo and Evan Suttell. The JV team finished the tournament with a 3-3 record and gained valuable national competition experience. JV team members who participated are Kevin Cush, Abe Dalisky, Brian Donahoe, Erika Hakko and Veronica Lee.

Although the majority of the varsity squad recently graduated, a strong JV squad and incoming freshman from Garfield and Harding Middle School teams should keep the amazing string of successes going for the team heading into the future.

Congratulations to all!

Lakewood Rangers Education Foundation Presents:

2016 Ranger Classic On July 25

by Ellen Galmitz

The Lakewood Rangers Education Foundation (LREF) will host its second annual "Ranger Classic" golf outing on July 25, 2016. Join the LREF to support programs that directly benefit the students and programs in the Lakewood City Schools! Lunch,

dinner, beverages, and golf carts will be provided.

This year's event will be held at Red Tail Golf Club, 440 Nagel Rd. Avon, Ohio. Registration opens at 11 a.m. and the scramble is slated to begin at 1 p.m. Cocktails and dinner will follow at 5:30 p.m.

Have friends who golf and want to bring out a team – register your foursome for \$600. Individuals can also register for \$150 for a full day of golf. Don't golf, but want to come out and support the Foundation – tickets are \$75 for cocktails and dinner for one. Visit <http://www.lakewoodrangers.com/foundation-events/2015/8/10/the-ranger-classic-golf-outing> to register today!

Many thanks to our generous sponsors who are helping to make this year's event a success!

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Interested in becoming a sponsor of the event? There is still time – contact Ellen Galmitz, Development Director, Lakewood Rangers Education Foundation, at 216-529-4059 or ellen.galmitz@lakewoodcityschools.org for more information.

Lakewood Project To Perform At Park July 4

by Christine Gordillo

Lakewood High School's Lakewood Project, the country's first high school electric rock orchestra, will perform its annual Fourth of July concert on Monday,

July 4 at 7 p.m. at the Lakewood Park bandstand. The group, under the direction of Beth Hankins, will continue their performance right up until the City of Lakewood's fireworks begin at dusk.



Past summer camp participants

Running Rangers Cross Country Camp

by Stephanie Toole

The Lakewood High School Boys and Girls Cross Country Teams are excited about another summer of their Running Rangers Cross Country Camp. The running camp, guided by LHS Head Cross Country Coaches Stephanie Toole and Danielle Hammond and their crew of high school runners is specifically designed for Grades 3-8 and begins Tues. July 5, 2016.

The Cross Country camp is designed to meet the needs of the very new runner to the more experienced middle school runner. The four week

camp, held at Lakewood Park, will focus on proper running form and techniques, fun, nutrition for the young runner, more fun, and so much more!

Grades 6-7-8 meet Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday 7:30-8:30am. Cost is \$60.

Grades 3-4-5 meet Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday 8:30-9:15am. Cost is \$50.

Sign up today through the Lakewood Recreation Department via phone 216-529-4081, in person or on line at www.lakewoodrecreation.com

District PreSchool Program Expands

by Christine Gordillo

Lakewood City Schools' Early Childhood Program has added a program for 3-year-olds at Roosevelt Elementary School beginning with the 2016-2017 school year. The program offers classes for children who will be 3 by September 30, 2016. Children must be Lakewood residents and potty trained.

The District offers AM (8:30-11:00 a.m.) and PM (12:30-3:00 p.m.) sessions Monday through Thursday. Some classes are in operation on Friday. Three-year-old classes are Monday and

Tuesdays or Wednesdays and Fridays.

Early Childhood classes follow the Lakewood City School District calendar and the curriculum is based on Ohio's Early Learning Content Standards.

Tuition is based on a sliding scale fee.

Please pick up a registration packet in the Lakewood Board of Education building in the Student Services Office (2nd Floor). After completing your registration forms, please call 529-4214 to schedule your registration appointment.

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Lakewood Schools

Lakewood Teachers Support The Lakewood Community

by VernaAnn Kotansky

The Lakewood Teachers Association appreciates the continued support of the Lakewood Community. The LTA enjoys showing its gratitude in a variety of ways throughout the community. All first graders in the Lakewood School District received a book, courtesy of the LTA. Books were chosen specifically for each student based upon their individual reading level. If you know a first, soon to be second grader in the District, ask them about their special book and maybe even ask them to read a few pages to you. We are certain they will be excited to show off their reading skills!

The Lakewood Teachers Association is proud to sponsor the 'Rookies' t-ball team through the Lakewood Rec Department! On June 2nd, the Rookies, their families, as well as the opposing team (Zies McGreevey Funeral Home) were treated to Mitchell's ice cream after the game. Members of the LTA were at the game to not only

root on these aspiring t-ball athletes, but to scoop and serve the sweet treats! Best of luck to the Rookies as well as all the t-ball teams for a fun and safe summer session!

We can't forget our 2016 Graduates! The Lakewood Teachers Association is proud and excited to congratulate the graduating Class of 2016. We have watched you grow from learning your ABC's to walking across the stage at graduation and everything in between. The LTA applauds your accomplishments and looks forward to all that your futures hold! The Teachers of the Lakewood City Schools have supported you while you were under our 'watch' and will continue to keep you all in our thoughts as you move on. Do not hesitate to reach out to us for advice, guidance, or just a warm 'Hello.' The purple banners that hang on the light poles along Franklin Ave. are a visual reminder of the support and well-wishes of the Lakewood Teachers Association.

#LTAproud2teach



Top: LTA members ready to serve Mitchell's ice cream to the LTA sponsored t-ball team, the "Rookies". Bottom Left: LTA President, Lisa Shaffer-Gill reads a story to 1st graders at Hayes prior to distributing books. Bottom Right: Banners proudly wave along Franklin with LTA congratulations to the Class of 2016.

Lakewood Rocks!

by Alice Kenny & Mona Atfield

A tradition of community and charity has been celebrated in Lakewood each spring, for more than 40 years, providing a safe place for Lakewood teens to "party" after their prom. It was no different this year when a set of parents of seniors from Lakewood High School organized and hosted a successful After Prom party at Garfield Middle School on Saturday,

May 14. Lead by Tina Carleton and Diane Gorsek, a committee of parents presented their sons and daughters with a themed event, "Lakewood Rocks" aptly named as the seniors & their guests celebrated this year's Prom at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame earlier that evening. The After Prom event consisted of a time warp of "rockin' through the ages" memorabilia, decorations galore, D.J.,



GREASED LIGHTNIN'! Parent volunteers Debbie Martin, Diane Black, & Kim Perez.



All smiles at After Prom! Emily Brown, Isabel Romeo, & Tysaun Blevins.

bouncy houses & obstacle course, laser tag, chocolate fountain, basket raffle, "Lakewood Rocks" t-shirts for all attendees, and lots of donated food & prizes from local establishments.

The greater community responded to the same tradition by being just as charitable this year as in years past. Please join the 2016 LHS After Prom Committee, and the 2016 seniors of Lakewood High School, in thanking & supporting the following After Prom sponsors whose cash and in-kind contributions made our vision of After Prom a reality and made it a great event for Lakewood's youth:

- Ranger Rock Star**
 - Corporate/Community Sponsors –
 - Ranger Rock Star
 - Angelo's Pizza, Lakewood
 - The Avenue Tap House, Lakewood
- continued on page 16**



Tim Trentel, Jimmy Toner, Paula Atfield, & Clare Toole, anxiously await the announcement of the basket raffle winners!

Lakewood Cares

Lakewood Moms March Against Gun Violence

by Mike Deneen

Summer is now officially here, and the Lakewood Fourth of July Parade will soon be upon us. In recent years you might have noticed a new group marching in the parade. Moms Demand Action first participated in 2013, and have been in every parade since. The national group has a chapter here in the Cleveland area, which is led by Lakewood resident Molly Crowe.

Moms Demand Action started on December 15, 2012, the day after the Sandy Hook Massacre in Connecticut. Shannon Watts, a mom in Indianapolis, made a Facebook page called "One Million Moms for Gun Control." In one year it grew to 130,000 members and had chapters in all 50 states. By July 2013, the Cleveland chapter had grown large enough that it first marched in the Lakewood parade. After the Sandy Hook Massacre, there was a lot of talk about federal action to require background checks. Gun safety advocates lobbied for the Manchin-Toomey Bill, a bipartisan Senate bill that would have required them. The bill failed in the US Senate on April 17, 2013. The failure to enact even this minimal bit of legislation angered many people, and spurred our local group to be more active. They chose to march in the 2013 Lakewood Parade as a way to demonstrate their feelings.

Crowe first got involved with the group in 2014. Like many, her life has been impacted by gun violence. When she was only one year old, her grandfather was murdered in an attempted robbery of his convenience store in Columbus. In addition, she saw the ongoing string of mass shootings around the country, which made her



Part of the "Moms Demand Action" contingent at last year's Fourth of July parade.

concerned for her family.

Members have joined the group from a variety of backgrounds. "Our members get involved and volunteer for a number of different reasons," Crowe says. "We have mothers who are concerned about sending their children to school after the Sandy Hook shooting. There are members of the Cleveland community who are tired of hearing about the senseless deaths of children caught in the crossfire. Some of us, like me, have lost family members to gun violence. We also have volunteers who are proud gun owners, but want to see more done to keep guns out of the hands of dangerous people. There are religious leaders who have counseled those who have lost loved ones to gun violence."

The group's activities extend far beyond the annual parade. Their mission is to raise awareness of gun issues, promote safe gun ownership/

storage, and make their voices heard by lawmakers. In February, the local chapter joined others from around the state to meet in Columbus for a lobby day and meetings with a number of lawmakers and staff. Locally, they meet with community groups and appear at events to spread their message. For

example, they have recently been at the "Meet the Trucks" event and at a Lakewood Democratic Club meeting.

The group is promoting its Be SMART campaign for safe gun storage. This is because over 100 children die per year in accidental shootings. Even toddlers have gotten their hands on irresponsibly stored guns, resulting in accidental shootings. In addition, over 400 kids commit suicide by gun annually. Moms Demand Action has given the Be SMART presentation to a range of parent organizations, medical professionals, students, and others. The program specifically discuss safe gun storage, child access prevention, and risks of teen suicide.

Not surprisingly, interest in the group grows after each high profile shooting. The Orlando Massacre is the latest event to put gun issues into the spotlight. However, their main recruiting tool remains community involvement. If you'd like to learn more about the group, visit their website at www.momsdemandaction.org Better yet, you can meet many of the members at the parade.

Far West Center's Denise Ayres Recognized For Outstanding Mental Health Care

by Alicia Goodelle

Longtime employee Denise Ayres, LSW of Far West Center was awarded the prestigious Mental Health Provider Award at NAMI Greater Cleveland's May 22 Annual Meeting. In her 20+-year career at Far West Center, Denise, a licensed social worker, has always stayed true in her dedication to the well-being of the most severely ill clients. Denise's tireless work for the Compeer friendship program, and the AHH! art therapy program, are now recognized broadly in the Greater Cleveland community.

Many providers, consumers, volunteers, and community leaders know Denise by name and admire her lively spirit and the "can-do" energy she shares with those around her. Denise will say that she is honored to do the work she loves for her entire career.

According to Kelly Dylag, President/CEO of Far West Center, "We applaud Denise on her recognition, and are grateful for her efforts, and



Denise Ayres, LSW

now this much-deserved recognition."

Far West Center is an award-winning community mental health center serving residents of western and southern Cuyahoga and Lorain Counties through offices in Westlake and Amherst, Ohio. For more information about Far West Center, call 440-835-6212 ext. 230 or email intake@farwestcenter.com.

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AGES 5 - 11

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Lakewood Cares

Race For Home 5K Run And One Mile Walk

by Marjorie Korcheck

Please join the Lakewood Area Collaborative for an exciting, inaugural event!

The Race For Home is a 5K Run and 1 Mile Walk which will take place on Sunday, July 31, 2016 at Edgewater Park in Cleveland. Proceeds from the race will benefit A Place 4 Me, a community initiative focused on ending youth homelessness in Cuyahoga County. We hope to raise awareness of the need for Foster and Adoptive families for the hundreds of children awaiting a safe, loving home in our neighborhoods.

Over 1700 children in Cuyahoga County are currently in an out-of-home placement and in the custody of the Division of Children and Family Services, with teenagers accounting for about half of the nearly 600 children in permanent custody (<http://cfs.cuyahogacounty.us/en-US/statistics-reports.aspx>). The Lakewood Area Collaborative is committed to working in partnership with CCDCFs to help heighten awareness of the crucial need for foster and adoptive homes and identify individuals and families willing to open their hearts and provide

love and stability.

Sign up to run or walk with friends, neighbors, family, and colleagues. Leashed, well-behaved dogs are welcome too!

For more information and to register online, visit: <http://www.hermescleveland.com/roadracing/events/raceforhome.asp>.

Come to the Race For Home to

run, enjoy the beach and park, make new connections, and learn how YOU can impact a child's life.

The Lakewood Area Collaborative is a group of agencies, organizations, and concerned individuals working together to make sure a network of services and supports are available and accessible to children, youth, and families.

Lakewood Collaborative Job Club Meeting

by Kathy Augustine

The Lakewood Job Club is celebrating its 2 year anniversary this month. The Lakewood Area Collaborative hosts the monthly Job Club on the fourth Tuesday of the month, at Lakewood United Methodist Church, at 15700 Detroit Ave. It is an excellent motivational support system with professional discussions on suggested topics at each meeting, while providing links to necessary resources in the local community to help members find employment in today's job market.

The next Job Club meeting will be held on Tuesday June 28th, from 6-8 p.m. at the Lakewood United Methodist Church. Our guest speaker will be Marty Jaffe from Jewish Family Services. The topic will be Real World

Job Search Strategies.

One of our regular Job Club members says, "No one should tackle a job search alone. The Lakewood Job Club will motivate you and teach you how to find work that is fulfilling and rewarding. Job Club has excellent speakers and resources that will offer encouragement and hope."

The Lakewood Job Seekers Committee plans and evaluates the monthly Job Club. We are recruiting new committee members at this time. We meet the first Tuesday of the month, at 9 am at Lakewood Division of Youth, at 12900 Madison Ave.

If interested in Job Club or in being part of the committee, contact Becky Carlton at Rebeccacarlton12@gmail.com or 216-221-1723.

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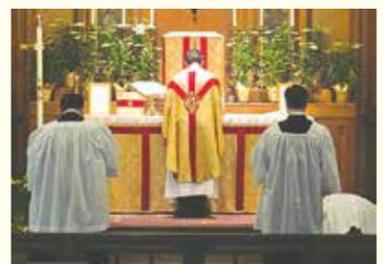
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Lakewood Cares

Special Guest Margaret Wong To Speak At

Annual Summer Supper Of The Lakewood Democratic Club

by Kristine Pagsuyoin

The Lakewood Democratic Club is happy to announce that the Annual Summer Supper will be held next month in the Gardens at the Clifton Club on July 13th at 6pm, featuring special guest speaker, US Immigration Attorney and Cleveland philanthropist,

Margaret Wong. Ms. Wong, author of "The Immigrant's Way" will address the timely topic, Immigration Myth & Reality in Election 2016.

In more than 35 years of practice, Ms. Wong has built Margaret W. Wong & Associates LLC into a firm nationally and internationally renowned for

its knowledge of immigration and nationality law. She is the current co-chair of the Immigration Law Committee for the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association, and chair of the Cleveland Bar Association's Immigration Law Section.

Margaret Wong was named by her peers a "Leading Lawyer," and a "Super Lawyer," distinctions reserved for the top 5% of lawyers. She has also been listed as one of the "Best Lawyers in America" and was named the Honor Professor of People University of China which is the # 1 law school in China. We are very honored to have her as our special guest this year at the Summer Supper.

For over forty years, the Lakewood Democratic Club has fostered and supported the ideals of Democrats in Lakewood and of the Democratic Party through supporting Democratic candidates, hosting special events, and featuring speakers knowledgeable about issues important to Democrats at monthly meetings. Membership is open all year to Lakewood residents and non-residents who share in the Democratic mission.

Friends and members are all welcome to attend the Summer Supper. Tickets are available online now at <http://lakewooddemocrats.com/supper/>. For more information on joining the Lakewood Democratic

Club, or to purchase tickets by check/mail email us at info@lakewooddemocrats.com.



2016 College Club West Scholarship winners from left to right: Silvia Laboy, BWU; Ramona Jasmine Smith BWU; Markisha Monique Robinson, CSU; Julie Brown, Kent State University; Sharie Nicole Bailey, CSU; Katherine Ann Pollard, CSU

2016 College Club West Scholarship Winners

by Anne Nehoda

College Club West held their Annual Meeting and Scholarship Dinner on Wednesday June 1, 2016.

These six extraordinary young women were each given a \$2500 tuition award to continue with their college education. Scholarships are awarded every year to women 25 years or older residing in Cuyahoga, Lorain, and Medina Counties, who are already enrolled in a degree-granting program. CCW has been awarding these scholarships since 1972. The awards are based on educational goals, financial need, and academic

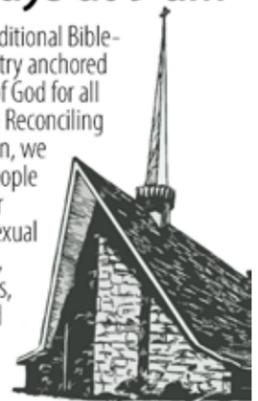
record. College Club West is a non-profit organization offering diverse interest groups for the benefit of college-educated women. For more information visit our website at www.collegeclubwest.org.

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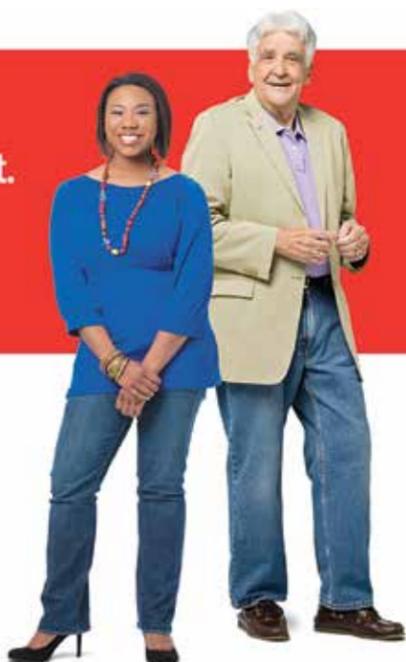
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Lakewood Is Art

Broadway Smash "Billy Elliot, The Musical" Leaps To Beck Center

by Pat Miller

Beck Center for the Arts is pleased to present the locally produced premiere of "Billy Elliot the Musical," July 8 through August 14, 2016 in the Mackey Theater. Show times are 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 3 p.m. Sundays. Tickets are now on sale. Buy early and save with promo code: BILLY to receive \$5 off each adult/senior ticket purchased by July 7. Please note this production contains strong language.

Based on the Academy Award® nominated film and winner of 10 Tony Awards® including Best Musical, "Billy Elliot" is the story of a young boy in a depressed mining town in England. Featuring music by Elton John with book and lyrics by Lee Hall, the show follows Billy as he discovers his unlikely and extraordinary gift for ballet. While his family takes to the picket lines of the 1984 miners' strike, Billy secretly begins to study dance. He soon realizes his only escape is the Royal Ballet School, a place no working-class boy has ever gone before. Praised by TIME Magazine, "Billy Elliot" "does almost everything a musical should do, and more!"

Directed by Scott Spence, "Billy Elliot the Musical" features a talented cast of thirty-five actors. After holding



Left to right: Seth Judice and Maurice Kimball.

a competitive national casting call, Beck Center is thrilled to welcome Seth Judice of Houston, Texas as Billy, and Maurice Kimball of Vancouver, British Columbia as his best friend Michael.

The cast also includes Katherine DeBoer and Allen O'Reilly who appear courtesy of the Actors' Equity Association. This production features musical direction by Larry Goodpaster

and choreography by Martín Céspedes.

Tickets are \$31 for adults, \$27 for seniors (65 and older), and \$12 for students with a valid I.D. A \$3 service fee per ticket will be applied at time of purchase. Preview Night on Thursday, July 7 is \$10 with general admission seating. Group discounts are available for parties of four or more. Purchase tickets online at beckcenter.org or call Customer Service at 216.521.2540 x10. Beck Center for the Arts is located at 17801 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood, just ten minutes west of downtown Cleveland. Free onsite parking is available.

This production of "Billy Elliot the Musical" is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). It is sponsored by COX Communications, the residents of Cuyahoga County through Cuyahoga Arts and Culture, and the Ohio Arts Council.

Beck Center for the Arts is a not-for-profit 501(c)3 organization that offers professional theater productions on two stages, arts education programming for all ages and abilities, including dance, music, theater, visual arts, and creative arts therapies for individuals with special needs, outreach education, and free gallery exhibitions.

Hittin' The Double Digits! Oh, Wait:

Reviews Of Recent Releases By Local Bands, Pt. 26

Obligatory Disclaimer: Record reviews are a tricky business. It's one thing to enjoy music, but to 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.

Glass Traps - Glass Traps - self-released - 4 songs - Cassette, download

From what I understand, this band is very new. They're pretty put-together, though. Decent post-punk all the way through. All the songs are pretty catchy. This makes another female-fronted post-punk band, though the singer's vocal approach here is different from how Pleasure Leftists sound. I think my favorite here is "Obron," which has got some real nice guitar interplay, with "Eiffel" taking a close second. Something about "Eiffel" sounds very familiar, but I can't place it. Maybe it's just proof of the band's catchiness. The apparently hand-painted cassette sleeve is an especially nice touch. 4/5

(glsstrps.bandcamp.com for the download, catch a show for the tape)

Mr. Stress Blues Band - Live At The Brick Cottage 1972-1973 - Smog Veil Records - 14 songs - CD, LP, download

This is the second installment in Smog Veil's inaugural Platters Du Cuyahoga series, following the X__X

by Buzz Kompier

"Albert Ayler's Ghosts" record. This is not like X__X. As you may have guessed from their name, Mr. Stress Blues Band plays the blues. And they do it very well. As one quote says of the late Bill Miller, Mr. Stress himself, it's "the real goddamn deal." They're good musicians playing their kind of music. This release's particular strength, aside from the music, is the exhaustive liner notes by Nick Blakey, which make it a must for anyone interested in Cleveland music history. Lots of info, anecdotes, and photos. It's not the kind of thing I tend to listen to, but for those who are into this kind of blues, it's pretty darn good. And for live recordings, it sounds great. If you like blues or Cleveland music history, this is one you should probably pick up. 4/5

(smogveil.com)

Pack Wolf - Pack Wolf - Quality Time Records - 5 songs - Cassette, download

I don't really know much about this band, other than that they were previously called Steeze Knees, then changed their name to Pack Wolf. Jury's still out on which one's a worse name. They play what on their various pages (Bandcamp, Facebook) is described as punk. I don't hear that. To me, this

is decent indie rock. Parts of it kinda remind me of Cloud Nothings. Is it punk? Not really. It does fit in with the other releases on Quality Time, but it's indie rock. I suppose I haven't seen them live, so maybe the production is to blame for why this is how it is. Or maybe the guitars and general sound is just as echo-y and clean live, and my production comment is misguided. Anyway. My favorites here were "Space Ghost," which has a cool little riff throughout that kinda

sounds like someone playing around with the Twilight Zone theme, and "Death Music," which has a good slow spooky riff and then goes into a faster instrumental part for the end. The songs are catchy and it's a decent tape. 3.5/5

(qualitytimerecords.bandcamp.com)

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.

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Business News

“Scales and Tails” Now Open, Come Meet Some New Friends

by Mike Deneen

Some reality show personalities decide to run for President. Others decide to open a reptile store in Lakewood. Mike Easter, a regular on the Animal Planet show “Gator Boys,” falls into the latter category. Easter and his cousin Tim Connors recently opened “Scales and Tails Ohio” at 13618 Detroit Avenue. The store is a “one stop shop” to purchase pet reptiles, as well as their food and supplies.

Easter recently relocated to Ohio after spending the last 10 years working in South Florida as an animal caretaker, educator, researcher, and TV personality. His career began as a volunteer at “Everglades Outpost Wildlife Refuge,” a rescue and preserve for a variety of exotic wildlife, where he gained knowledge and experience with reptiles. He went on to perform educational demonstrations in the Miami area promoting the conservation and appreciation for all reptiles. He made regular appearances on Animal Planet’s hit TV show, “Gator Boys,” as well as a feature role in, “Monster Croc Invasion,” a documentary following a small team of biologists researching the American Crocodile in Costa Rica.

Connors also relocated to Ohio recently after living in Dallas, Texas. There he worked in the health care industry until deciding to come back



Gary the Bearded Dragon loves the camera. Gary is not for sale...he’s an honorary employee.

his native state. Last winter he and Easter hatched their plan. Northeast Ohio lacked a pet store that specialized in reptiles. Easter had extensive experience with the animals, and Connors was also very familiar with them. They decided to bring a reptile store to the Cleveland area.

Despite being North Olmsted natives, the duo chose Lakewood for the location. They liked the “certain vibe that Lakewood has” says Easter. He also cited the “community feel” of Lakewood. Both Easter and Connors have strong family connections to

Lakewood. Easter is the son of former Lakewood Police Officer Gary Easter. Officer Easter is well known for his long time involvement with Lakewood’s DARE program. Connors’ grandfather Jim Connors was a former Head Coach of the St. Edward basketball team.

They believe that the store is something that can benefit the area. Cleveland has a large reptile-owning community which is very diverse. “We’re trying to dismiss the

stereotype associated with reptile ownership,” says Connors. Business has been steady since the store opened this spring, and growth is expected.

A very wide array of animals are available for purchase. They range from smaller creatures like tree frogs to large python snakes. The store also carries all the supplies and food necessary to take care of them. The store is also a great source for information about how to take care of pet reptiles and amphibians.

Scales and Tails also offers educational programs for schools, youth groups, birthday parties or other special events. The shows are interactive, and feature a variety of reptiles and amphibians from around the world. The program is both fun and educational, and aims to dispel popular misconceptions about reptiles.

Even if you’re just curious, don’t be shy about stopping in to look at the dozens of exotic creatures. Mike and Tim enjoy answering questions and explaining the fascinating world of our scaly neighbors. Their scaly little pals would love to see you, too...furry critters aren’t the only ones that like attention. The store is open daily 12-7 p.m., Saturday 10-7 p.m., and Sunday 12-6 p.m.



Chameleon showing off his colors.



Owners Mike Easter (left) and Tim Connors (right).



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Business News

Frank Scalish Named Lakewood Chamber Of Commerce Outstanding New Member

by Valerie Mechenbier

Mr. Frank A. Scalish, owner and founder of Scalish Construction, a Historic Construction Company on Madison Avenue that specializes in preservation, restoration and specialty construction, has been selected as the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce Outstanding New Member for 2016.

Graduating Cum Laude from Cleveland State University, Frank earned a Bachelor in Business Administration majoring in Management and Labor Relations. Frank's degree has enabled him to lay the foundation for his business. In addition to his degree, Frank studied art, architecture, and apprenticed with a master stone, marble, and wood sculpture artist to give him a comprehensive view of his subject.

Frank's first venture was a start-up painting and remodeling company. He then furthered his expertise in the field by holding the position of National Project Manager for a retail image consulting company. There his responsibilities included interior design and build, value engineering, as well as exterior signage and imaging from inception to completion.

Frank is passionate about historic preservation and restoration and is globally conscious about our environment. He is a member of the Lakewood Historical Society and the Cleveland Restoration Society. He also serves on the Gordon Square Local Landmarks Design Review Board and is a contributing member of the Lakewood Heritage Advisory Board, the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce and Pillars. In the past, he served on the finance council and is the chairman for the building and grounds committee for The Shrine Church of St. Stanislaus.

He is active and extremely knowledgeable in the City of Lakewood's storefront renovation program. Frank supports the green movement and incorporates these principles into his building practice wherever possible. Frank has always been a forward thinker and has implemented his philosophies:

repurpose, reuse, and recycle in both his business and private life.

Besides his passion for historic preservation and restoration, Frank enjoys living a sustainable lifestyle. His many hobbies include growing and cooking the food he loves from numerous recipes he has acquired throughout his local and international travels with his wife, Maria.

Frank and Maria are blessed with two sons Xavier Francis and Josiah Giuseppe and one daughter Sisely Giovannina - in addition to their four legged children, their boxers.

The Lakewood Chamber of Commerce is pleased to recognize

Mr. Scalish as the 2016 Outstanding New Member for his numerous and substantial contributions through his participation on the Chamber's Economic Development Task Force. Frank has been instrumental in engaging contractors and construction companies that do business in Lakewood to partner and collaborate for best business practices and to increase the visibility of their businesses.

The Lakewood Chamber of Commerce presented the 2016 Outstanding New Member award to Mr. Frank Scalish at its Annual Awards Luncheon at Vosh Lakewood on June 17th.



Frank Scalish, Lakewood Chamber of Commerce 2016 Outstanding New Member.

Rotary Club Awards Scholarships To Four Area High School Seniors

by Lynn Donaldson

The Rotary Club of Lakewood and Rocky River has awarded four college scholarships to graduating seniors.

Hannah Sawyer from Rocky River High School and Christin Donahoe, Nastia Kurylyuk, and John McDermott from Lakewood High School each received \$2,500 awards from the Lakewood-Rocky River Rotary Foundation. This \$10,000 scholarship program is part of over \$52,000 that the local club donates to the community each year.

In addition to demonstrating academic achievement and potential, these four Rotary scholarship winners were chosen for their extracurricular and community involvement.

Christin Donahoe was a scholar/athlete at Lakewood High School, where she earned a 4.3 GPA and National Honor Society recognition while playing varsity soccer and basketball. Her community involvement ranged from presenting programs for the "Up Side of Down [Syndrome] of Northeast Ohio" to serving as queen at Lakewood's popular "Light Up Lakewood" holiday event.

Her involvement at St. Mark's Church included portraying the role of

Veronica in the church's "Living Stations of the Cross." "Playing that role," she said, "was symbolic of my life - every day I want to be an 'upstander,' living in the right way." Christin will attend Nazareth College in Rochester, NY, where her double-major in Spanish and exercise science will launch her toward her goal of being a doctor of physical therapy.

Nastia Kurylyuk was mostly "behind the scenes," bringing her artistic talents to bear for Lakewood High School's Barnstormers Drama Club throughout her high school years, even writing and directing her own play at one point. She also played on the school's tennis team and participated in the H2O, Help to Others, volunteer club.

She is a member of the National Honor Society, the National Art Honor Society and the National Society of High School Scholars. Her sketches and paintings have been displayed in the Ninth Congressional District Invitational Art Exhibition and at the Beck Center for the Arts. Her plan to study biomedical art at the Cleveland Institute of Art melds her interests in the sciences and graphic design.

John McDermott has been a self-starter for his whole life, setting lofty

goals and then working hard to achieve them. "I have had so many teachers who have inspired me to make the most of the opportunities I face," he said.

Since he was old enough, John has held employment throughout the year while also earning recognition for academic excellence and being active in Lakewood High School's Key Club, H2O, and the German Language Club. John is headed to Kent State University where he will pursue a degree in either education or business.

Hannah Sawyer was a highly-decorated student at Rocky River High School. That "decoration" might have been on her marching band uniform, varsity tennis uniform, or in the form of academic medals and recognitions for her 4.4 GPA including National Honor Society, French National Honor Society, or the AP Scholar Award. Hannah was a recipient of the President's Volunteer Service Award.

Last year Hannah persevered to raise \$6,000 in order to participate in the Global Student Leaders Summit in Davos, Switzerland. Her travels clarified her desire to pursue degrees in French, Spanish and international relations at Wheaton College in Illinois.

The Rotary Club of Lakewood and Rocky River is part of Rotary International, a worldwide organization of more than 1.2 million business, professional, and community leaders. Members of Rotary clubs (known as Rotarians) provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world.

There are 33,000 Rotary clubs in more than 200 countries and geographical areas. Clubs are nonpolitical, nonreligious, and open to all cultures, races, and creeds. As signified by the motto "Service Above Self," Rotary's main objective is service - in the community, the workplace, and throughout the world. To learn more, visit www.rotary.org.



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Bad Government 7:

Elected Leaders & Build Lakewood PAC Took Public Charitable Money From The Poor For Political Propaganda

by Brian Essi

According to public filings, a Build Lakewood political action committee known as "Voters Engaged to Oppose 64" (the "No Build PAC") obtained 98% percent of its donations from the Lakewood Hospital Association (LHA). The No Build PAC was formed to defeat a ballot issue that would have

given Lakewood voters the right to approve or reject a city council decision to close Lakewood Hospital and prevent charitable money and property from being given away to the Cleveland Clinic (CCF) and other private parties for less than fair value.

Of the \$51,077 donated to the No Build PAC, \$50,000 was donated

by LHA. Mayor Summers, Council President Madigan, Councilmen Tom Bullock and John Litten were all trustees of LHA when the charitable money was diverted to the PAC.

There were only 16 individuals who made donations to the No Build PAC---3 of the 16 donors were elected leaders---Tom Bullock, School Board Member Linda Beebe, and Councilwoman Cindy Marx. Bullock also loaned money from his own campaign as seed money for the No Build PAC. Many of the other handful of donors to the PAC are known friends and supporters of Summers and Bullock, including CCF trustee, Tom Gable.

The same month that LHA funded the PAC, Build Lakewood's attorney and PAC deputy treasurer, Jay Carson, claimed at city council last fall, "We [Build Lakewood] are not the political or marketing arm of anyone." Summers, Bullock, Madigan and Marx were all in attendance. This year, Summers first testified under oath in a pending taxpayer lawsuit that LHA did not fund the political campaign, but then he tried to change his sworn testimony.

The public's charitable money was used by the PAC to hire a public

relations company to make mass mailings to Lakewood residents that contained many false and misleading statements and propaganda. For example, the false PAC mailings said that passage of issue 64 would "Kill Jobs" ---Since the hospital has closed, nearly a 1,000 jobs have been lost and more job losses and business closing are predicted.

LHA was a public charity whose mission was to provide hospital services for all citizens of Lakewood---all of LHA's assets and charitable money were owned by the City of Lakewood. So Summers, Bullock, Madigan and Litten all used their positions on a public charity to allow charitable money to be used in a campaign waged by a small handful of people aligned with those political leaders.

Issue 64 was narrowly defeated and the same elected leaders who supported and continue to support the No Build PAC propaganda are now claiming the defeat of that issue to be a mandate of the voters to close the hospital and give public property to CCF for free.

Taking money designated for the poor and using it for dishonest political purposes is reprehensible.

It is also very bad government.

Ward Comix #1

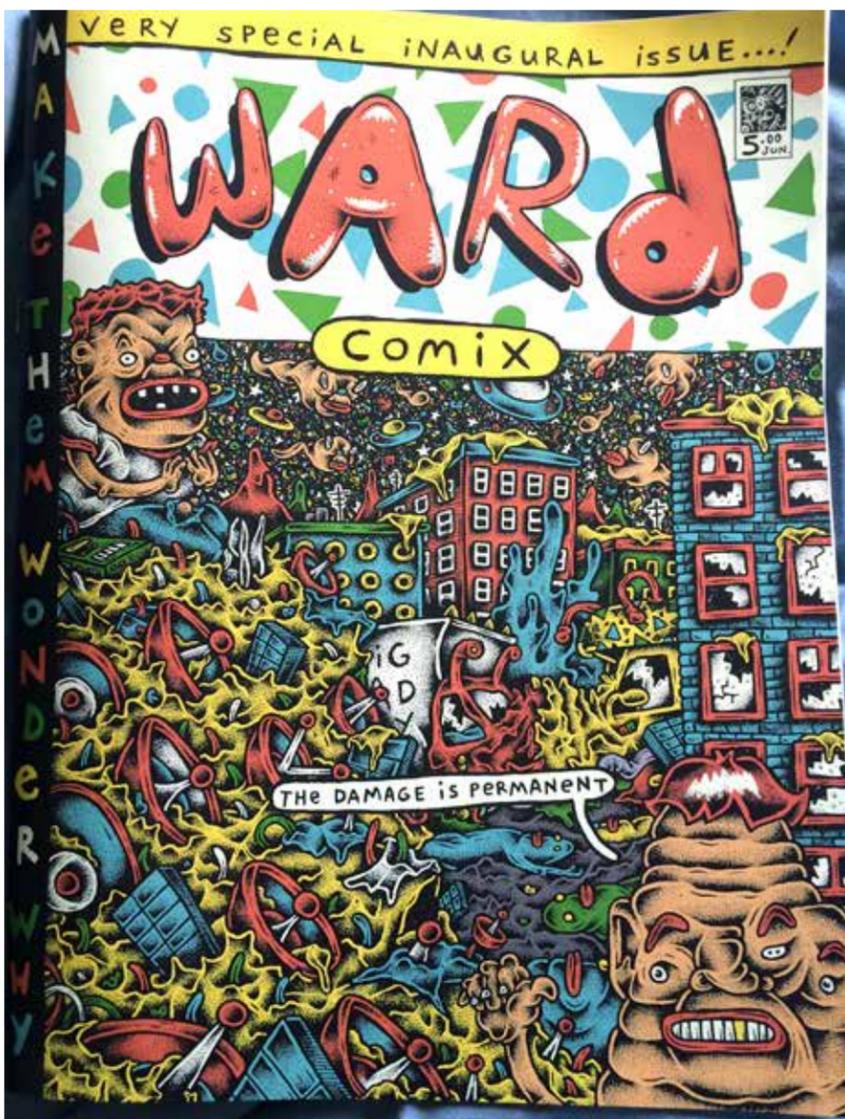
by Buzz Kompier

I'm pretty new at writing reviews of comics, so forgive me if this is not very well done. I'm trying. So, this is the latest from local artist Nathan Ward, whose work you may have seen on flyers, album covers, or comics in publications like Scene Magazine or Stitches In My Head.

The comic book itself itself actually comprises several comics, with the main feature (or at least the longest one) being titled "Inside Cracks And Folds." I really can't tell the plot of this one, as there's just so many things going on in it, but there seems to be some concern about people getting sucked into the ground, and a mysterious radio channel, K7XP. The final page promises that the story will be continued, so I hope to see that continuation. If I've gotten any of this wrong, please feel free to write in and correct me.

Other comics within the book include a single page narrative entitled "A Kid Gone Crazy Winter," which follows the title character as he puzzles over his synthesizers and eats a sandwich, "Dizygonis," about the perils of having a twin, and "Afterschool," which begins with two youths trespassing in what looks to be a junkyard, and quickly takes a turn for the worse.

The whole book is full of bizarre tales in Mr. Ward's wonderful art style, with coloring that seems bold but simultaneously muted. I don't know, is that a thing art people say? Either way, I enjoyed this book quite a bit, and you will too. It will soon be available at www.nwardcomix.com, so you should buy yourself a copy, and purchase the previous comics as well for even more enjoyment. One more time, that's www.nwardcomix.com.



Ward Comix

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Lakewood Living

Hillary Clinton Makes National Security Appearance In Cleveland

by Debra Sweeney

A political rally to unify the country became a somber and reflective event centered on National Security and the hate crime in Orlando. Democratic Presidential Nominee, Hillary Clinton, outlined her plan to defeat the Isis terrorist

group on the battleground, identify lone wolves, pushing our security partners to do more and supporting First Responders in our communities. Secretary Clinton will also work with business owners to develop a plan to protect soft targets from mass shootings as president.



County Executive Armond Budish, Dan Moore from Team Wendy, Mayor of Cleveland Frank Jackson, Congresswoman Marcia Fudge.



Secretary Clinton outlining her National Security Plan.



Connie Schultz, Rep. Marcia Fudge and County Executive Budish.

Show your support of the the Lakewood Observer and help local non-profits spread their message through the Lakewood community.

Lakewood Rocks!

continued frmo page 8

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- Amy Kemp

Again, thanks to all contributors, sponsors, and parents for demonstrating community and charity for all to appreciate. Please support our local businesses as they have supported us.

Sincerely, the 2016 Lakewood After Prom Committee



Nic Binfield Rockin' & Rollin' (literally) in a giant blow up ball!

Lakewood Living



Respected Statesman, Loving Father, George Voinovich Passes

SENATOR GEORGE V. VOINOVICH, age 79; former Mayor of Cleveland and former Governor of Ohio, died peacefully in his sleep at his longtime Collinwood home on June 12, 2016; beloved husband for 54 years of Janet (nee Allan); loving father of George F. (wife Dina), Betsy (husband Paul Kompier), Peter (wife Sasha Thackaberry) and the late Molly; devoted grandfather of Mary Faith, Veronica, John, Jane, Emily, Carys, Julia, Molly and Spencer; cherished son of the late George S. and Josephine (nee Bernot); dearest brother of Michael (wife Elaine), Victor (wife Patricia), Joanne Indre (husband Robert), Mary Ann Schmitz and the late Paul (wife Christine Schepis); dear uncle and great-uncle of many. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in George's memory to the Molly Voinovich Memorial Fund, c/o Cleveland Foundation, 1422 Euclid Ave., Cleveland, OH 44115; Catholic Education Endowment Fund, 1401 E 9th St., Cleveland, OH 44114; or to Our Lady of the Lake Catholic School, 175 E. 200th St., Euclid, OH 44119.

Merchants, Residents Prep For Lakewood's CityWide Street Sale

by Matt Bixenstine

It's a shopper's dream come true and it's right around the corner. Lakewood's 7th Annual CityWide Street Sale takes place June 23-25, and is expected to create an influx of shopping activity in the form of both merchant sidewalk sales and resident yard sales.

Sponsored by First Federal Lakewood and hosted by the Downtown Lakewood Business Alliance—a program of LakewoodAlive—the CityWide Street Sale brings Lakewoodites together for three days of sales from Thursday to Saturday. Open to all Lakewood merchants and residents, this event attracts enthusiastic bargain-hunters from throughout our neighborhoods, as well as from beyond our city limits.

"The CityWide Street Sale offers an excellent opportunity for Lakewood merchants and residents alike to draw shoppers to our neighborhoods," said Ian Andrews, Executive Director for LakewoodAlive. "Equally important, this event enables visitors to discover the numerous amenities Lakewood has to offer—shopping-related and otherwise."

Several dozen Lakewood merchants have registered to participate, comprising a diverse array of businesses from both the Detroit and Madison commercial corridors. Both Downtown and Uptown Lakewood will be well-represented with sidewalk sales featuring discounts and refreshments for sale.

LakewoodAlive and DLBA are promoting the general CityWide Street Sale weekend, and a limited number of complimentary yard sale signs for residents are available for pickup at Lion and Blue (15106 Detroit Avenue) on a first-come, first-served basis. Residents who want to promote their individual garage sales are encouraged to do so on their own—a feat made easier by Lakewood resident Ruth Sholtis-Furyes, who created a digital

map for which residents hosting yard sales can add their addresses.

"I have been doing this sale weekend for several years and it's always been so successful, rain or shine," Sholtis-Furyes said.

For more information regarding the CityWide Street Sale, please contact Noelle Champagne, LakewoodAlive's Special Events and Volunteer Coordinator, at nchampagne@lakewoodalive.com.

Front Porch Concert Series To Bring Diverse Musical Vibes To Downtown Lakewood

continued from page 1

visitors enjoy an entertaining evening at an open-air venue.

"We are pleased to welcome the return of this Lakewood summer tradition," said Ian Andrews, Executive Director of LakewoodAlive. "The Front Porch Concert Series has evolved into a major family entertainment option within our downtown district, remaining true to our ongoing mission to foster and sustain vibrant neighborhoods within our city."

The 2016 edition of this summer series offers something for every musical taste. From folk to reggae to rock and roll, each weekly concert remains family-friendly while delving into diverse musical genres. Attendees

are encouraged to bring family, friends, snacks, blankets and chairs. In the event of inclement weather, the affected concert will be moved into the library.

In addition to title sponsor Bentley Wealth Management of Raymond James, Cuyahoga Arts & Culture, Lakewood Public Library, Lion and Blue, Paisley Monkey, Pillars of Lakewood, Vance Music Studios and the City of Lakewood provide sponsorship for LakewoodAlive's Front Porch Concert Series.

For more information, including the lineup of bands and musicians comprising the 2016 Front Porch Concert Series, please visit the LakewoodAlive website.



From folk to reggae to rock and roll, the Front Porch Concert Series offers something for every musical taste.

Photo by: Alex Belsise

Lakewood Living

Lakewood 10-U Fast Pitch Girls Win First Game

by Kevin Potoczak

The Emerald Necklace Girls Fast-pitch Association is underway and 11 young ladies have worked extremely hard to represent the 10-U Lakewood Rangers travel team. Since last fall the girls have participated in weekly practices learning a new sport for most of the roster. These girls and their parents have dedicated the time and effort for the team to be successful not only now but long into their sports careers. Some had played baseball in the past, however, facing a fastpitch softball pitcher throwing 40 mph is an entirely new experience.

Led by coaches Kelly Carroll and Katie Potoczak, the girls' hard work paid off this past Tuesday night as they put on a great performance under the lights at Harding Middle School. Paced by great pitching and some timely hitting, the girls were able to notch their first victory in 6 tries over Amherst 17-7.

The Rangers pride themselves in playing the game the way it is meant to be played with good fundamentals, smart baserunning, and hustle no matter the outcome. Despite some early season jitters the girls maintain a positive attitude that shows on and off the field and paid dividends against Amherst.

Each girl brings a team-first attitude



Victory Celebration!

to the game which is reflected in the creative team spirit throughout the game. If you see some of these girls around town

wearing the familiar Purple and Gold Rangers' colors, be sure to congratulate them on their efforts and future success.

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30 boats competed in the 11th annual Battle of Lake Erie Walleye Tournament. The winner is determined by the weight of the largest five fish of each team. Kammy and Brian Essi's 5 winning fish weighed in at 41.18 pounds. Kammy and Brian were the first Lakewoodites to win the tournament and the first husband-wife team ever to win. 2nd place went to Greg Mylett of Rocky River.

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Lakewood Living

Picture-Perfect Day Greet Inaugural Historic Birdtown Walk & Picnic

by Matt Bixenstine

They flocked to Madison Park from Quail, Lark, Robin and beyond, seeking to discover their neighborhood's storied past and celebrate a flawless Lakewood afternoon.

Those Lakewoodites and visitors in attendance Sunday, June 12, at the inaugural Historic Birdtown Walk & Picnic received a real treat. Not only did the weather cooperate fully with comfortable temperatures and cloud-free skies, but the collective pride of a unique working-class neighborhood was on full display through everything from spirited cornhole games to a genuine interest in their eastern Lakewood predecessors.

Presented by LakewoodAlive and the Lakewood Historical Society, the event first drew more than 100 attendees to the Madison Park Pavilion for a community picnic complete with complimentary refreshments, games, music and neighborly camaraderie. The Gorilla Lakewood fired up the grill, offering hot dogs to everyone in the vicinity of the pavilion.

Following the picnic, attendees were invited to the intersection of Madison and Halstead Avenues to embark on a volunteer-led guided walking tour of Birdtown. Steeped in history, the neighborhood dates to the late 19th century, when the National



The volunteer-led guided walking tours of Birdtown drew 125 participants.

Carbon Company (now GrafTech) acquired 115 acres and divided them into 424 lots to be occupied primarily by its employees. The present-day name is derived from the five streets within the neighborhood named after indigenous bird species.

The mile-long tour delved into the neighborhood's rich history, as participants encountered ornate churches, charming century homes and numerous examples of residences that once served other purposes, such as former cafes, meat markets and social halls. Approximately 125

attendees partook in the tour.

Birdtown pride remained readily apparent. Residents who witnessed the tour shared historical tidbits about their homes to passing tour groups, and several elderly tour participants pointed out their childhood homes. One tour group even sang happy birthday to a child they encountered at a home along the route.

The tour concluded with participants receiving an opportunity to walk through the former Templar Motors Factory within the Lake Erie

Building at the south-end of Madison Park, where several 1920s-era vehicles were on the display. It was yet another nod to a century ago on this picture-perfect summer day in Birdtown.

"The Historic Birdtown Neighborhood represents an integral part of Lakewood's urban fabric," said Allison Urbanek, Housing Outreach Director for LakewoodAlive. It's a privilege for us to be able to showcase its proud history and celebrate the essence of this unique neighborhood."

Sponsored by Citizens Bank, the City of Lakewood, Dollar Bank, First Federal Lakewood and The Gorilla Lakewood, the Historic Birdtown Walk & Picnic was orchestrated by LakewoodAlive's Housing Outreach Community Engagement Program. Through developing community outreach and engagement initiatives for homeowners and residents in low-to-moderate income neighborhoods, this program seeks to cultivate a heightened sense of pride and ownership, while ensuring all residents live in healthy, safe homes.

To view more images from the inaugural Historic Birdtown Walk & Picnic, please visit our Facebook photo album regarding this event.



Above: Templar Motor Museum owner and curator, David Buehler, gives a history lesson on his museum just outside the iconic Lake Erie Screw Factory Building.

Below: A peek inside at the Templar cars.



Great times were had by all at the picnic portion of the day, which featured Birdtown business The Gorilla.



Birdtown, has so many great old buildings, churches and structures the walk is a must do for anyone serious about Lakewood or cares about Birdtown. See ya next year!

The Back Page



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