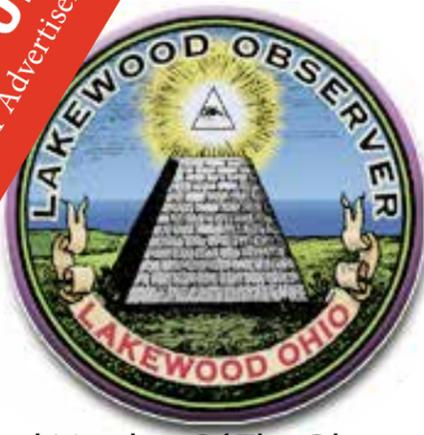


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Winston Churchill

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Volume 12, Issue 21, October 11, 2016

State Auditor Report Confirms Clinic Paid \$9.6 Million, A Fraction Of Hospital Value, For Lakewood Hospital

by Brian Essi

- The Cleveland Clinic Foundation admits liability to Lakewood of \$278 million.
- Clinic records show Clinic will make \$11.5 million additional profit each year into the future due to the hospital closure.
- State Auditor Report shows the Clinic paid only \$9.6 million in the purchase of Lakewood Hospital.
- In exchange for only \$9.6 million, the Clinic received \$108 million or 60% of \$180 million fair market value of Lakewood Hospital.

Clinic records prove the Clinic was liable for \$278 million prior to the Master Agreement

Internal planning documents prepared by the Clinic and filed in Court in the

pending taxpayer lawsuit on October 5, 2016, prove that the Clinic was liable for required capital improvements and all losses at Lakewood Hospital through 2026. The Clinic's own documents from 2011 declare the amount of the Clinic's liability was \$278 million beginning in 2017 which would have made Lakewood Hospital a state-of-the-art hospital on par with the Clinic's other hospitals.

This is at odds with Lakewood Law Director Kevin Butler's September, 2015 legal opinion in which he stated: "The Cleveland Clinic is not required to cover LHA's operating losses. And neither LHA nor the Cleveland Clinic is obligated to invest significant capital money into the

hospital facility--making major improvements at the hospital is the city's responsibility." Butler's legal opinion was the most important reason cited by City Council when they authorized Butler to negotiate the Master Agreement.

The Clinic will make over \$11.5 million per year into the future from the Master Agreement.

Other internal planning documents from 2011 just filed in Court, show that the Clinic planners "calculated the closing of Lakewood Hospital would result in a \$11.5 million a year windfall" profit to the Clinic's other hospitals because "CCF hospitals would capture an additional 5,000 inpatient visits per year with a closed Lakewood Hospital." The documents show

that as far back as 2011, the Clinic wanted to avoid its \$278 million obligation by closing the hospital and harvesting the "premium payer mix" of Lakewood patients using the proposed family health center (FHC) to refer patients to the Clinic's other hospitals.

On January 14, 2015, CCF's Brian Donley (continued on page 4)

LakewoodAlive To Host Resource Fair October 20

by Matt Bixenstine

If you're a Lakewood resident, there are a multitude of local resources at your disposal - you simply need to know where to find them. That's

why LakewoodAlive is hosting Resource Fair 2016 on Thursday, October 20, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Turkish Cultural Center (13303 Madison Avenue).

Residents are encouraged to attend, grab a snack and learn about local resources available to them in Lakewood. These resources range from housing outreach programs and educational initiatives to community wellness activities and cultural opportunities.

Representatives from various local organizations and companies will be on hand to explain the benefits associated with their offerings and discuss your individual needs. Bring your questions, needs and a list of interests with you.

"There's simply a wealth of local resources available to Lakewood residents, but you



have to know how and where to find them," said Allison Urbaneck, LakewoodAlive's Housing Outreach Director. "Our Resource Fair is designed to connect residents with those resources that best fulfill their needs and improve their quality of life."

For more information regarding Resource Fair 2016, please contact Allison at aurbanek@lakewoodalive.org or at 216-521-0655.

Harrison's New Outreach Program Focuses On Kindness, Community

by Christine Gordillo

Students and staff at Harrison Elementary have embarked on a yearlong community service program dubbed Harrison Outreach Program (HOP). The school celebrated with a rousing kickoff assembly at the end of September that included a visit from the One Million Acts of Kindness bus of Bob Vortruba and his dog, Bogart. Vortruba and Bogart travel the country in his bus covered in words and acts of kindness spreading his organization's message.

Staff members developed HOP as a replacement for Student Council in an effort to offer a way for more students to be involved and participate in making a difference in their community. Besides offering a means for students to give back to the community, HOP is designed to provide students with opportunities to help others as well as offer support in helping students practice kindness, compassion and empathy.

The school already has its first outreach project under its belt. In late September, some Harrison staff members



Kindergarteners at Harrison check out the One Million Acts of Kindness bus.

delivered water, snacks and office supply donations to the Lakewood Police Department, bought with loose change the students brought to school over several weeks. The school chose to honor police officers in their first project as they are someone in the community with which even our youngest students are familiar.

"We wanted to provide a

greater opportunity for more students to take on leadership roles and increase our opportunity for student involvement in community service experiences that support various entities within our own community," Principal Sabrina Crawford said about HOP. "By doing this, we are giving every student at Harrison the chance to demonstrate acts of kindness and give back."

Lakewood Chamber Hosts Luncheon With County Executive Armond Budish

by Valerie Mechenbier

The Lakewood Chamber of Commerce hosts an annual Speaker Series that features well known business, economic development, and political leaders from the greater Cleveland region. Join us for the fourth and final event in the Chamber's 2016 Speaker Series on Friday, October 21st. Cuyahoga County Executive Armond Budish will speak on the topic: "What County Government is Doing for

Your Business".

The luncheon will be held at Brennan's Catering & Banquet Center, 13000 Triskett Road in Cleveland. Registration and networking begin at 11:30 a.m. The cost is \$20 for members, \$25 for non-members. Register online at lakewoodchamber.org.

Special thanks to our 2016 Speaker Series Sponsors: First Federal Lakewood, COSE | Council of Smaller Enterprises and Cox Business.

Lakewood Observer

Doughnuts And Cider Coming From Lakewood Kiwanis

by David Norton

The Kiwanis Club of Lakewood will be hosting its 39th annual Doughnut and Cider Sale on Wednesday, October 21, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Thursday, October 22, from 7 a.m. to 10 a.m.

The doughnuts will be sold or delivered from St. James Church, 17514 Detroit Ave. They come in five delicious varieties: plain, sugared, cinnamon, vanilla icing, and chocolate icing. A standard box has four plain donuts and two of each of

the other varieties. Buyers may also place advance orders for customized selections.

Cider from local orchards will be \$5 for a half gallon.

Pre-sale orders for doughnuts can be given to any Lakewood Kiwanis member. Lakewood High School Key Club members will also accept orders.

Stock up for all of your fall festivities! All proceeds from the sale will stay in Lakewood to benefit family and youth organizations.

From The Deck



If you still have questions about the Lakewood Hospital Debate, and our elected officials' role in losing our hospital and largest employer, check out Brian Essi's "Bad Government" series on The Observation Deck.

Brian has spent over 3,000 hours interviewing players, officials and examining documents. Even with City Hall fighting his and other people's record requests, he has been able to put together amazing information.

We also have Dan Alaimo, making it easy to understand for everyone. Stay tuned for our public meeting.

Join the Lakewood Observer today! Residents, businesses, and others working together to help understand Lakewood better than ever. No agenda other than conversation, and an understanding that for Lakewood to be its best, we need a government we can trust, and a community not afraid to talk. Talk about the fun stuff, and the tough stuff. Together with honesty from City Hall, we can chart a better future for all.

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Brian Essi's fact finding and why City Hall is fighting him every day.



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Upcoming Submission Deadline	Publish Date
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Statehouse News

State Can, Should Do More To Combat Statewide Opioid Emergency

by *Nickie Antonio*

Democratic lawmakers from the Ohio House and Senate held a press conference earlier this month pushing for legislative action to combat the worsening statewide opioid emergency. Senate Democratic Leader Joe Schiavoni (D-Boardman) and state Reps. Nickie J. Antonio (D-Lakewood), Denise Driehaus (D-Cincinnati) and Greta Johnson (D-Akron) pushed for the legislature and the governor to finish work on Senate Bill (SB) 319, opioid and heroin omnibus legislation that the Senate passed before the summer recess but has since stalled in the House.

“Treatment providers, law enforcement and those on the front lines of this epidemic are working tirelessly to prevent more families from losing loved ones to opioid-related deaths,” said Antonio. “But, the legislature must do its part as well. Ohio’s families cannot wait for election season to end – the legislature should continue working on SB 319 to strengthen it so we can better fight back against the growing opioid emergency.”

“Senate Bill 319— which helps decrease the availability of opioids throughout Ohio— is a good piece of legislation, and I was proud to support it,” said Schiavoni. “However, we know there is much more work to be done. Communities have experienced a troubling number of overdoses this

summer. The public is calling for action, and it’s time we equip them with the resources they need to fight this epidemic.”

The Dem lawmakers’ call to action comes as data recently released by the Ohio Department of Health shows that drug overdoses killed a record 3,050 people – an average of eight each day – in the state last year. As part of the push for immediate action, state Reps. Johnson and Driehaus recently introduced legislation urging the governor to declare the opioid epidemic a statewide emergency and to divert additional state funds to local efforts aimed at prevention, treatment and law enforcement. In an unrelated emergency declaration for the Republican National Committee’s 2016 Cleveland Convention, the legislature approved \$9 million in emergency funds Monday to pay extra first responders that were on hand for the political convention.

“Communities throughout our state are doing everything in their power to fight back against opioid use and overdoses, but without active partnership and a sense of urgency from the state, we risk losing ground,” said Driehaus. “We have a duty and obligation to press pause on politics and campaigns to get back to the unfinished work we were elected to do. There are meaningful measures **continued on next page 14**

Democratic Lawmakers Recognize Domestic Violence Awareness Month

by *Nickie Antonio*

State Reps. Nickie J. Antonio (D-Lakewood) and Janine R. Boyd (D-Cleveland Heights) today introduced a bipartisan resolution to recognize October as National Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Ohio. Advocates with the Ohio Domestic Violence Network today gathered to present an annual report of Ohio Domestic Fatality Data at a press conference in the state capitol.

“We must remember the women, children and family members victimized by domestic violence,” said Antonio. “I join the Ohio Domestic Violence Network in working on public policy responses that can reduce and eventually prevent the all too frequent tragedies we see as a result of domestic violence.”

Earlier this year, State Reps. Nickie J. Antonio (D-Lakewood) and Janine R. Boyd (D-Cleveland Heights) introduced legislation aimed at protecting victims of domestic violence from gun violence by requiring individuals convicted of a domestic violence crime or served with a civil protection order to turn over

their firearms to law enforcement.

“We know that too many domestic violence cases end in murder, and adding a gun increases that probability. As legislators, advocates, friends and family members who represent and love the victims and the abusers, looking the other way is not an option,” said Boyd. “When an abuser is at risk of shooting his or her victim, the constitutionally protected right to bear arms cannot preclude us from protecting the victim’s right to live. We cannot take a bullet back once it’s exploded inside a mother, a wife, or a girlfriend, but we can take the firearm away from the abuser, before the bullet has a chance. If we don’t, we fail every victim and every community.”

Domestic Violence Awareness Month evolved from the “Day of Unity” held in October 1981 by the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence. The Day of Unity soon became an entire week to end violence against women and their children. In 1989, the U.S. Congress designated October of that year as National Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

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City

City Council Bestows Honors On Deserving Lakewoodites

by Margaret Brinich

The October 3, 2016 City Council Meeting was called to order at 7:45 p.m. by Council President Sam O'Leary (Ward 2). All council members were present and both the minutes from the September 19th regular council meeting and the September 26th special joint meeting with the Lakewood Board of Education were quickly disposed of.

The meeting began with several awards and honorary resolutions.

The first was presented to Finance Director Pae—the State Auditor's Award for Audit with Distinction. O'Leary (Ward 2) and Bullock (At-Large) both praised the Finance Department for their ongoing excellence.

Next, Council members presented a resolution recognizing the service of and honoring long time Lakewood firefighter Terrance Scavone who recently passed away. A number of the members of the Lakewood Fire Department were on hand at the meeting in Mr. Scavone's honor.

Finally, Councilman Litten (Ward 3)

presented a resolution recognizing LHS graduate Makorobondo Salukombo who recently competed in the marathon at the Rio Summer Olympics with a finishing time of 2:24:58. "Dee" spoke briefly about his experience, emphasizing the importance of acceptance in his journey as a refugee to Lakewood and ultimately how that impacted his success in Rio.

Then, Councilman Bullock presented several amendments to the ongoing prioritization of budget items that Council has undergone in Finance Committee recently. Bullock emphasized that the amendments were to help clarify that the final list of priorities (also presented as an amendment) are simply guides to the final budget and are not all encompassing of all priorities of Council. The items that were ultimately listed and then adopted unanimously under the amended Resolution 8886-16 include: (1) implement the bicycle master plan, (2) ensure net gain of 500 trees for 2017, (3) pool equipment, (4) block club coordinator position, (5)

make St. Charles Green a city park, (6) Clifton Extension road diet and all-purpose trail, (7) redesign Webb Park master plan, and (8) reforestation of West end sewer project area.

Two other previously discussed Finance related ordinances (36-15C) and (38-15A) that had been recommended for passage were on third reading and were adopted. Ordinance 35-16, which updated certain language to remove references to mimeographs in the City Code was also on third reading and passed.

Mayor Summers then reported out on the September 26 Special Meeting with the Lakewood Board of Education and City Council, referencing specifically an opportunity to make a public investment of City funds in some of the new gymnasium facilities at the schools. The Mayor indicated he believed the City's support of these projects would fit within the stated goals of the Active Living Taskforce and the discussion was referred to the Committee of the Whole

for additional consideration.

Law Director Butler then submitted his quarterly request to allow the codifier to update the City code to reflect Council's actions in the prior quarter (Ord. 36-16). He also presented Resolution 8891-16 which would provide the Mayor with his annual authorization to contract with the Cuyahoga County Board of Health for the provision of public health services to Lakewood for 2017. This resolution was referred to the Health and Human Services Committee.

Finally, the Director of Public Works, Joe Beno, requested that an additional project be added to the a previous resolution (8892-16) regarding the Ohio Public Works Commission Funding for 2017 – it was referred to Public Works Committee for discussion.

Although the meeting continued with several public comments on the list for the evening, so ended the official agenda of the October 3rd Lakewood City Council Meeting.

State Auditor Report Confirms Clinic Paid \$9.6 Million, A Fraction Of Hospital Value, For Lakewood Hospital

continued from page 1

ond in charge to Toby Cosgrove) referred to the FHC as a "specialty referral center." Lakewood's low-pay and self-pay patients would be referred out of Lakewood to Metro Hospital and other non-Clinic hospitals. The Master Agreement gives the Clinic a non-compete, or restrictive covenant (terms are interchangeable), that prohibits its competitors from operating at the former Lakewood Hospital site and assures the Clinic's dominance in Lakewood as a "referral center." The non-compete also guarantees that the land will be available to developers—which court documents and sworn testimony show that Summers and the Clinic planned since 2011, and earlier.

The State Auditor Report shows the Clinic paid only \$9.6 million in the hospital "sale."

Public records released by Finance Director Jenn Pae on September 29, 2016 to support the City of Lakewood Comprehensive Annual Financial Review (CAFR), clearly demonstrate that the Cleveland Clinic paid only \$9.6M to the city to purchase 60% of Lakewood Hos-

pital's \$180 million FMV. The CAFR was prepared by the State Auditor's office so the \$9.6 million number is not subject to debate.

According to the CAFR, which was prepared with the participation of Mayor Summers and his administration: The Master Agreement disposed of "The City-owned Lakewood Hospital" (CAFR, page 47) in a "sale of Lakewood Hospital to the Cleveland Clinic" (CAFR, pages 42 and 44). The full CAFR can be found at https://ohioauditor.gov/auditsearch/Reports/2016/City_Lakewood_15-Cuyahoga.pdf

In his January, 2016 deposition in the taxpayer lawsuit, when Summers (a defendant) was asked why there were no appraisals of hospital assets and why an investment banker was not hired to market the hospital, he testified: "We weren't selling this hospital." [Summers transcript page 155; line 14.]

In the last issue of the Lakewood Observer, Councilman David Anderson wrote: "...the Lakewood Hospital Association's net assets were valued at \$128 million. The negotiated deal accounts for all of the \$128 million." However, it has been previously established through public records

requests that neither the Mayor nor City Council conducted any appraisal of the hospital assets and Mr. Anderson's \$128 million number is the net "book value" of the assets and not a fair market value of the assets.

The Fair Market Value of Lakewood Hospital was \$180 million.

Nevertheless, now that it has been established that a "sale of Lakewood Hospital to the Clinic" took place, and that the Clinic paid only \$9.6 million, the question remains:

What was the value of hospital assets sold to the Clinic for the \$9.6 million the Clinic paid?

Investment bankers and hospital valuation experts generally agree that the fair market value (FMV) for the sale of a hospital, is about 75% of annual "net revenues." The logic behind this valuation approach is that the purchaser is paying for the revenue stream from existing patient lists as part of a going concern. Using this valuation method would produce a \$180 million FMV when Lakewood's \$87 million liquid investment portfolio is included. This valuation is supported by the reported comparable sale price of St. John's Hospital in Westlake to University Hospitals in 2015.

The Clinic Received \$108 million of the Hospital FMV paying only \$9.6 million.

The Master Agreement terms and the CAFR together establish that the Clinic received \$108 million of hospital FMV in exchange for \$9.6 million. The Clinic received:

1.) \$63.4 million—Net Value of

the Non-Compete/Restrictive covenant, together with all patient records and patient information, equipment, furniture, fixtures, bed licenses and tangible and intangible property. 2.) \$30 million--cash portion of the hospitals liquid investments. 3.) \$1.6 million--value of 1.8 Acres of cleared land on Belle and Detroit. 4.) \$13 million--FMV of Columbia Road surgical center.

Total Cash, Property and Rights to Clinic: \$108 million.

Summary of how \$180 million hospital value was distributed/sold

So here is the summary of what each party gets from the \$180 million city-owned hospital:

1.) \$22 million returned to the City (12%)

2.) \$16.5 million (net present value) to new foundation (9%).

3.) \$33.5 million released to Lakewood Hospital Foundation for private charitable use. (19%) 4. \$108 million to the Clinic. (60%)

Total: \$180 million

Issue 64 on November 8th gives voters the chance to vote for or against the Master Agreement.

Lakewood Voters must judge whether the Master Agreement is a good or bad financial deal for Lakewood; and a good or bad deal for their future healthcare.

Note: more detail substantiating the numbers contained in this article can be found in the online version of the Lakewood Observer.

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Giffords was seriously wounded by a gunman while speaking with constituents in 2009. She has been a strong leader in the fight for common sense gun reform.

Gabby Giffords In Lakewood For Hillary

by Mike Deneen

Gabby Giffords, former US Representative from Arizona, was in Lakewood Saturday to promote the Clinton for President campaign. US Senator Sherrod Brown, current Senate candidate Ted Strickland, and State Representative Nickie Antonio also spoke on behalf of both Clinton and common sense gun reform. The event took place in front of the Hillary Clinton campaign office, located at the corner of Belle and Detroit.

Clinton. "I've seen great courage when my life was on the line" Giffords told the crowd. "The nation is counting on you."



Senate Candidate and former Governor Ted Strickland introduced Giffords as a person who "Never gave up, never gave out, never gave in."

Living A Healthy Life With HIV: Join A Positive Self-Management Workshop

by Barry Wemyss

We all now know that with proper diagnosis and treatment, HIV has become a chronic medical condition similar to diabetes or heart disease. There is no reason why older HIV positive adults should not live rich, full, active lives. This six-part, evidence-based workshop will help people to feel better and have better qualities of life.

loved ones, medication management and evaluations of new treatment strategies, monitoring symptoms and effective use of community resources. The emphasis throughout the course is sharing tips, strategies and success stories that will make day-to-day life smoother and more enjoyable.

"Positive Self-Management" is presented by the City of Lakewood, Division of Aging, in conjunction with Fairhill Partners. This six-session program is designed to provide practical coping strategies for HIV positive older adults. Topics to be addressed include long-term planning, effective communication with family and other

"Positive Self-Management" will be offered at the Lawther Center, 16024 Madison Ave., beginning Tuesday, November 8, 2016, from 9:30 a.m. to noon. This workshop will run for six weeks, through Tuesday, December 20, 2016. There will be no class on Tuesday, November 15th. This class is free, but participants are requested to preregister, by calling the Activities Office at 216-529-5005.



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Meet “Winston Churchill” At LPL

by Amy Kloss

Imagine you've been summoned to meet with Winston Churchill, the powerful leader of the United Kingdom who weathered World War II and witnessed the rise of a nuclear threat from the Soviet Union. A gifted orator who

inspired the British people during WWII, Churchill served as Prime Minister from 1940 to 1945 and again from 1951 to 1955. On Sunday, October 23rd, you can do more than imagine when Kevin Radaker brings to life this world-famous British statesman in a performance that

embodies the spirit of Churchill? Physical resemblance plays a part, as well as the professor's keen interest in the era of WWII and the Cold War. Radaker is a veteran actor-scholar who has portrayed Henry David Thoreau and C.S. Lewis hundreds of times since 1991. He began offering his portrayal of Winston Churchill during the summer tour of the 2016 Oklahoma Chautauqua.

Radaker deeply researches a historical figure's personality and methods of expression when preparing a portrayal. In addition to reading books by and about Churchill, Radaker viewed recordings of his speeches and interviews. Portraying Churchill is a challenge due to the length and complexity of his public service, but Radaker sees benefits in examining the leader and his works. Churchill's promotion of a society based on law and the values of

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Winston Churchill

democracy are as relevant in today's political climate as they were in the 20th century.

Join Kevin Radaker at 2 p.m. on October 23 in the Main Library Auditorium to see his revealing portrayal of Winston Churchill.

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Lakewood Historical Society Presents: Eyewitness To A President's Assassination

by Lisa Calfee

Only two Secret Service agents who witnessed the assassination of President John F. Kennedy are still living. One of these men is Paul Landis, who will visit Lakewood Public Library on Wednesday, October 19, 2016 at 7 p.m. to discuss his memories of that fateful day as well as the evolving work of the Secret Service through the years.

Paul Landis was a special agent from 1959 to 1964. His assignments included guarding the grandchildren of President Dwight Eisenhower, the Kennedy children, Caroline and John Jr., and eventually First Lady Jacqueline Kennedy.

Landis was standing on the running boards of the vehicle behind Kennedy during the parade in Dallas on November 22, 1963. He hung on to the President's

Cadillac as it raced to the emergency room and he sat with the President's wife in the hospital. He watched her grief and carried his own.

Landis will also discuss the evolution of the Secret Service, which was started 151 years ago on April 14, 1865. Abraham Lincoln signed the piece of legislation that created the organization during the day; that same Friday evening he was shot at Ford's Theater.

This program is being presented in the Main Library Basement Auditorium at 15425 Detroit Avenue by the Lakewood Historical Society.



October Events

**October 25th - 2:00 p.m.
Candidates Forum**

Assisted Living Building, 4th Floor Education Room

**October 26th - 2:00-4:00 p.m.
Movers & Shakers Senior Dance**

Assisted Living Building, 4th Floor Education Room
Entertainer will be Al Battistelli.

**October 27th - 6:00-7:00 p.m.
Trick or Treat Night**

The parade route starts in our Skilled Nursing and ends in our Assisted Living where “tricks” will accompany “treats”.

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Lakewood Public Library

Calendar Of Events

compiled by Elaine Rosenberger

Thursday, October 13

Author Event - "A Madness So Discreet" by Mindy McGinnis

Grace Mae is already familiar with madness when family secrets and the bulge in her belly send her to an insane asylum. When a visiting doctor recognizes Grace's brilliant mind beneath her rage, he recruits her as his assistant. But gruesome nights bring Grace and the doctor into the circle of a killer. Books will be available for sale and signing at the event.

7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

Saturday, October 15

Film - "Days of Heaven" (1978)

Richard Gere plays Bill, who, after hitting his boss in the head with a pipe at the Chicago steel yard, flees with his little sister, Linda (Linda Manz), and lover, Abby (Brooke Adams). They hop a train to the Texas panhandle and work harvesting wheat on the farm of a dying man (Sam Shepard).

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

Sunday, October 16

Concert - The Clifton Beat

The Clifton Beat features tight arrangements, edgy guitars and well-conceived harmonies. Formed in 2011, the band is made up of guitarists Bill Rouse and Dave Lowery, bassist Mark Bluhm and drummer Paul Nickels.

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

Tuesday, October 18

Discussion - Privacy: Public Health and Safety

When does the good of the community override the right to individual choice? Topics will whether to vaccinate, disease control, recall issues on food and public products, and the availability and costs of pharmaceuticals.

7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

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. Tonight we will discuss "The Midwife and the Assassin" by Sam Thomas.

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

Wednesday, October 19

Lakewood Historical Society

Paul Landis: Eyewitness to a President's Assassination

Where were you on November 22, 1963? Paul Landis was in Dallas and today is one of only two surviving Secret Service agents who witnessed the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. Landis's talk will include comparisons of the Secret Service then and now as well as his personal experiences and memories of the tragic events of more than half a century ago in Dallas.

7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

Thursday, October 20

Author Event - "Death's Summer Coat" by Brandy Schillace, PhD

Death is something we all confront, and yet we have grown used to denying its existence, treating it as an enemy to be beaten back with medical advances. Brandy Schillace shows how talking about death, and the rituals associated with it, can bring us closer together—conversation and community are just as important for living as for dying.

7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

Booked For Murder: A Who's Who of Mystery Novels

Identity can be a curious thing. Join us, and explore how these mystery novels grapple with one of life's most disturbing predicaments: an identity crisis. Tonight we will discuss "Stranger In My Grave" by Margaret Millar.

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

Saturday, October 22

Film: "The Secret in Their Eyes" (2009)

Retired federal detective Ricardo Darin is haunted by a murder he and assistant Guillermo Francella investigated when Soledad Villamil was department chief. Now middle-aged Darin is writing a novel based upon the old case and decides to track down Pablo Rago, husband of the murdered young woman. In Spanish with English subtitles.

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

Sunday, October 23

Performance - Winston Churchill

Winston Churchill recalls his most memorable moments and eloquent speeches during his incredible fifty-year career. Kevin Radaker, professor of English at Anderson University in Indiana, brings Winston Churchill back to life. Radaker's program will be infused with Churchill's marvelous wit and pugnacious personality.

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

Tuesday, October 25

Workshop - Genealogy

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. Call (216) 226-8275 ext. 127 to register.

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

Discussion - Technology

Is technology better or worse as we get better at it? Topics include cell phone privacy, social media, national security and surveillance issues.

7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

Children & Youth Events

compiled by Eric Knapp

Friday, October 14

Art Connection

For students in kindergarten through fifth grade

Create your own unique piece of art to take home and show off to friends and family. Registration required.

Choose one: 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. in the Main Library Activity Room OR 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. in the Madison Branch Auditorium.

Saturday, October 15

Realm of the Reptile

For the whole family

Interact with tortoises, lizards, snakes, and other creatures. Free and open to the public. No registration required.

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

Every day, October 18 through November 8

Election 2016

For youth of all ages

Children can have fun and learn about the election process at the Library by voting for their favorite picture book character.

At the Main Library and Madison Branch.

Saturday, October 22

Sew Your Own Library Tote

For anyone age 8 and up

Create your own unique and stylish tote bag in this hands-on, no experience necessary craft program. Registration required.

2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. in the Main Library Homework Room.

Sunday, October 23

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.

3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. in the Main Library Toddler Story Time Room.

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Lakewood Schools

Garfield, Harding Take Sandy Hook Promise

by Christine Gordillo

Students at Garfield and Harding Middle Schools are now part of the Sandy Hook Promise community. In the wake of threats at Harding and Lakewood High last month, our middle school administrators asked the organization born out of the 2012 tragedy at Sandy Hook Elementary School to come visit and educate our middle schoolers on how to

help prevent violence in their school community and drive home themes of empowerment and inclusion.

Sandy Hook Promise's message is that every act of violence is preventable and that every student has the ability to save lives. The organization's "Say Something" program teaches students the three simple steps to help reach the goal of reducing violence, suicide attempts and threats among teens. The

three steps include 1) Look for warning signs, signals; 2) Act immediately and take it seriously; and 3) Say something to a trusted adult.

In grade-level assemblies, Sandy Hook presenter Andre Elliott shared that most threats of violence are known to at least one other person before it happens. For teens in particular, social media is often the vehicle by which the warning comes. Elliott shared a number of different scenarios in which students might pick up subtle warnings from a troubled teen such as mood swings, excessive anger, a change in appearance and a fascination with violence.

At a later time, Sandy Hook Promise will share its "Start With

Hello" program with our middle school students. The "Start With Hello" message reinforces how important inclusion and compassion is in creating a safe school environment.

Administrators and staff members will sustain the messages of the "Say Something" and "Start With Hello" with presentations during lunch periods throughout the school year.

Sandy Hook Promise is a national non-profit organization that aims to honor all victims of gun violence by turning the Sandy Hook tragedy into a moment of transformation by providing programs and practices that protect children and prevent the senseless violence. For more information visit www.sandyhookpromise.org.

Music/Art Festival Coming To LHS

by Christine Gordillo

Lakewood High School is one of only three Ohio high schools to be a stop on The High School Nation Tour, a musical and arts festival founded to celebrate the arts in public schools. Besides music appreciation, the festival, set for October 13, will highlight journalism, film, fine & performing arts, fashion, photography, and stage production. As part of the tour, Lakewood High art and music departments will receive more than \$10,000 in donations from tour sponsors.

LHS students will visit the two-hour concert and festival at First Federal Stadium during the last two periods of the school day. Performers include headliner Drake Bell (Nickelodeon's Drake & Josh), YouTube sensation Skylar Stecker, Pop duo Tryon, young pop-rock act The Catching. Students will visit interactive zones including

the Full Sail University Media Zone, Guitar Center Music Zone, Crayola Art With Edge Zone, The Style Zone, and the Truth Truck.

Earlier in the day, students in art and music classes will have the chance to participate in a panel about the career possibilities in the arts.

HSN, together with its partner Takis, has garnered more than \$1 million in donations for schools over the four tours in two years it has presented. HSN Founders Jimmy Cantillon and Kevin Cantillon had this to say about the tour: "For High School Nation to have surpassed one million dollars in donations, with the support of Takis, is a real dream for us. It's important to us to support creative expression among teens. We're honored to do our part to keep the arts alive."

For more information and to view videos of previous festivals, go to www.Highschoolnation.org.



Eagles celebrate Community Cup win.

Eagles Win Annual "Community Cup" Game

by Mike Deneen

St. Edward defeated Lakewood 2-0 Monday night in the annual "Community Cup" boys soccer game at First Federal Lakewood Stadium. The win avenges last year's Ranger victory over the Eagles in the OHSAA tournament. St. Edward now leads the all-time series between the schools with 19 wins, 12 losses, and seven ties. The series dates back to 1978, and includes three postseason games.

St. Edward had the upper hand for the first ten minutes of the game, possessing the ball in Lakewood territory and putting pressure on Lakewood goalkeeper Jordan Schultz. Schultz made a couple saves to keep the game scoreless, and possession was much more equal for the rest of the half. Lakewood had a couple corner kick opportunities late in the half, but failed to connect. The half ended with Lakewood controlling the ball in front of the Eagles goal, but keeper Alexander Dudley grabbed the ball with two seconds left to keep the match scoreless.

The second half started with early opportunities for both teams. St. Edward missed a shot in the 42nd minute, as it flew high over the crossbar. Lakewood's Malvin Gblah fired a strong shot from the left side in the 44th minute, but Dudley made a nice save. The teams battled back and forth for the next ten minutes.

Lakewood had some corner kick opportunities but couldn't convert. St. Edward made quality shots that were saved by Schultz.

The stalemate broke in the 56th minute, when Eagle defender Anthony Nauman scored the first goal of the game from in front of the Ranger net. The goal seemed to deflate the Rangers, as from then on St. Edward controlled possession for most of the game. Schultz made another save in the 59th minute off a corner kick. Eagle midfielder Thomas Paltani nearly put the game away in the 64th minute, but his missile shot hit the crossbar. The back-breaking goal came in the 71st minute, when Richard Nsabimana scored to make the game 2-0. Lakewood continued to fight, but was unable to score before the end of the game.

After the postgame handshake, the Eagles celebrated their win by hoisting the Community Cup on their sideline. "The season begins now" said Head Coach Jim Duffy, looking ahead to the OHSAA tournament. His young Eagle team, now 3-8-1, has struggled with a difficult schedule. However, he has seen improvement. "The last five games we have played well", he said. Duffy, a graduate of Lakewood High School, was a member of the first Ranger soccer teams in the early 1970s. He was thrilled with the win but also described his feeling as "bittersweet".

Make Your Reservations Today For Ranger Cafe!

by Christine Gordillo

The Ranger Café at West Shore, located at Lakewood High School, will open its doors to the public on Tuesday, Oct. 25, 2016. The café is now taking dining room reservations, which are highly recommended. The restaurant, operated by students in the West Shore Career-Tech District's Culinary Arts

RANGER Cafe
@ West Shore

program, will be open Tuesdays & Wednesdays from 12:00-1:30 pm. To make a dining room reservation please call 216.529.4165 ext.1



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Lakewood Schools

Theater Program Helps Bring Classic Literature To Life At LHS

by Christine Gordillo

Students in the English 1 classes at Lakewood High in late September were treated to a weeklong immersion into classic literature acting when the Great Lakes Theater Residency Program paid a visit.

Two trained actors brought scripts, props, costumes to lead a hands-on dramatic approach to delving into classic literature from an actor's perspective. Each day consisted of three components: acting, discussion and theater exercises.

English & Drama teacher Domenic Farinelli, who brought the residency to LHS with support from the Lakewood Rangers Education Foundation and the LHS PTA, thought it would be a perfect complement to the students' study of "Romeo & Juliet."

"Shakespearean drama is extremely



Members of the Great Lakes Theater Residency Program instruct Lakewood High drama students on the art of stage combat.

complex and difficult to understand. However, Shakespeare is arguably one

of the greatest writers of the English language," Farinelli said. "This program will not only assist students in understanding and enjoying the play,

but it will also ensure increased student engagement, foster critical thinking skills, and enhance close reading skills."

"I know how difficult it can be for students to read and appreciate classic literature," Farinelli continued. "The residency program reaches students in a fun, hands-on way that allows them to learn while enjoying themselves."

Drama students were also treated to the week-long residency but with a bit different focus. "I was also lucky enough to invite the actor-teachers into my Drama classes to host workshops in posture and stage combat, both of which are elements of theatre that students will be able to carry into future performances," Farinelli said.

The residency program, which has been around since 1981 and is designed to meet the Common Core standards, serves more than 16,000 students in over 100 schools each year.

Emerson Elementary's Father Walk

by Sophia Kowalski and

Jillian Jaroszewicz - Grade 5

September 22 was the Emerson Elementary's Father & Father-figure Walk. At this year's Father Walk there were 60 dozen donuts, coffee, and water for participants who decided to put down their phones and spend some quality time with their children. It was a full house in the gym where the Father Walk was held.

Many students said things like, "I had a great time and it was so much fun." I think it is fair to say that everybody had a great time even if his or her father couldn't be there, because of the Lakewood High School football team. If a child didn't have a father for the event one of the players would eat doughnuts and draw and color on the placemats with them.

There was also a raffle. Each child filled out a ticket to win awesome stuff like Indians jerseys, purple and gold balloons and Lakewood Ranger prizes. There were many prizes with many winners.

Some of the kids said it was the best Father Walk they had ever been to. We cannot wait for the next Father Walk at Emerson Elementary!



Lots of dads of Emerson Elementary students came out for this year's Father Walk.



Preschool Information Night Is October 24th

by Kate Ingersoll

The Lakewood Early Childhood PTA (LECPTA) is hosting its annual Preschool Information Night on Monday, October 24th from 6:30 - 8 p.m. at Hayes Elementary School (16401 Delaware Avenue) in the Cafeteria. Representatives from area preschools provide information about their programs at tables and answer individual questions from parents and caregivers. Preschool Information Night is a great opportunity for young area

families to learn about the variety of preschool options in our community.

Application deadlines for preschool programs tend to be in the first few months of the new year and this event will help you learn when and how to apply for different schools.

The event is free and open to the community. You do not need to be an LECPTA member to attend and all are welcome. We hope to see you on October 24th!

Lakewood Schools' Elementary Curriculum Night Set For Oct. 20

by Christine Gordillo

Parents of Lakewood City Schools elementary students are encouraged to attend the Elementary Curriculum Night set for Thursday, Oct. 20 at 6:30 pm at Grant Elementary School. The Teaching & Learning Department will review the District's new reading, writing and math curriculums: Reading and Writing Workshop and Eureka Math. Staff will share with parents how they can support their child at home and where they can

find resources to do so.

The District began implementing the curriculums in several phases beginning two years ago. Grades 3-5 added the Reading and Writing Workshop this year as did our middle schools. Whether your child is supported through Title One or Special Education services or receiving intervention/enrichment with their classroom teacher, the District invites parents to learn more about the impact of these important new curriculums.



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Lakewood Cares

Lakewood Community Loses Beloved Pediatrician At Age 95

by John Litten

Some of my earliest memories place me naively waiting in a Lakewood doctor's office waiting area, playing with cardboard bricks that we begged our parents to get for us. I was blissfully unaware of the next shot (1, 2, 3 this will hurt!) nor really aware of how good our family had it going to Dr. McEvoy for our pediatrician visits. In hindsight the good was obvious, because "Bowtie Bob" would also take calls at his home, stop by your house, ask mom to put a sick kid on the phone so he could listen to them, call in prescriptions and in many ways, help parents to learn how to be parents by teaching them to trust their instincts.

Fast forward to my wife Carrie and I first meeting at summer camp and starting to date. I remember finding that we had a lot of things in common, which seemed to pop up daily. Then one day she told me she'd like me to meet her grandparents, the McEvoy's... "THE Dr. McEvoy?" I asked? (okay I'm paraphrasing and probably making it more dramatic, but Dr. McEvoy was royalty in our house).

Ultimately, I married Dr. McEvoy's oldest granddaughter, an amazing nurse practitioner in her own right, and came to know Bob and Anita as family.

Unfortunately, our community lost Dr. Robert Jude McEvoy on September 24th at Ennis Court at the age of 95. He leaves behind his wife of 69 years, Anita. He was also a father of four – Robert Jr. (deceased) and daughters Anne, Ellen (deceased) and Laura (Martin); a loving grandfather of nine; and a proud great-grandpa to another 9, three of whom I am blessed to call my own. Little Everett, just born at the end of August in Denver, didn't get to meet his great-grandpa in person, but will carry his middle name Jude for life, and no doubt has a guardian looking after him as well!

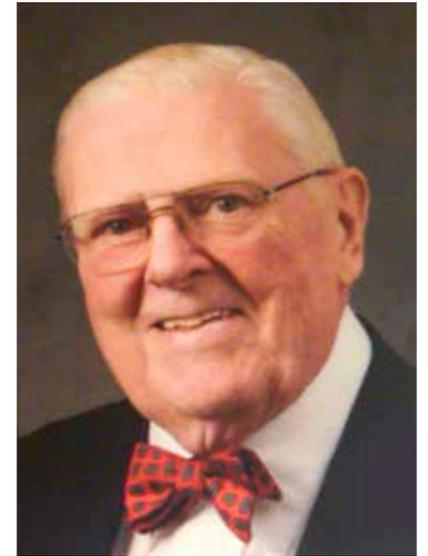
Dr. Bob was born at home in Brooklyn, NY in 1921, and is also survived by his devoted sister Loretta with whom he shared loving memories of their three older sibling John, Bruce and Rita (Dawson). He obtained his MD in 1946 from St. Louis University where he met Anita. His training

brought him back to Brooklyn, as well as Japan, where he was stationed as an officer in the Air Force.

In Lakewood, he would devote nearly 50 years to his private pediatric practice. Even after he retired, I can remember that my mother would call ahead to his old office, to see what days he might be moonlighting. Needless to say, we Litten's got a few bonus visits after his retirement.

He won numerous awards, including the Cleveland Academy of Medicine Clinician of the Year, Irish American Archives Society Walks of Life Award, Society of St. Luke inductee and founding member of the Irish American Pediatric Society.

Awards aside, he was an incredible man who will be missed dearly. The stories at his funeral from people whose lives he saved, from people with disabilities and their families whom they'd befriended through Bob and Anita's



Dr. Robert Jude McEvoy

daughter Ellen, and even on social media, where a family let us know that they lived in "The McEvoy House" on Lake. A great doctor and an even better person. Thank you, Dr. McEvoy!

Lakewood Historical Society Fall Sale

by Heidi Murray

Lakewood Historical Society will hold its popular Fall Sale on Saturday, October 22 from 9 a.m.-3p.m. The Skate House at Lakewood Park, 14710 Lake Ave will open its doors for this one day, rain or shine sale. Items are priced to sell and include small furniture, lamps, fall decorations

and lots of framed artwork. We have several salvage pieces including oak flooring and interior/exterior doors. Are you entertaining a crowd for holiday dinner? We have a large set of china and plenty of serving pieces to set a beautiful table. Additional items include a tea cart, baby cradle, oak high chair, bookshelves, dining chairs, 3

dining tables, oak office chair, 6 sets of golf clubs, over 20 lamps in every style and shape you can imagine!

Come early for the best selection of this one day sale. Cash, check or credit accepted. Contact Lakewood Historical society for more information 216-221-7343 or visit us online lakewoodhistory.org.

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Tri-C Focuses On Fitness Strategies For Seniors

by John Horton

The Westshore Campus of Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C) will examine fitness training strategies for seniors as part of its free "Learning for Life" lecture series at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 19.

The program — "Never Grow Old Fitness" — features Paul O'Donoghue, a personal trainer and certified Functional Aging Specialist. He and his wife, Mary, will discuss the Functional Aging Training model.

The training regimen emphasizes flexibility, balance, agility, reaction, cognition and power to help older adults stay physically fit.

The lecture is free and open to the public, with no reservation required. The event will take place in Room 112 at Westshore Campus, located at 31001 Clemens Road in Westlake. Parking is free.

The program is part of a wide-ranging education series taking place this academic year on campus. For more information, visit www.tri-c.edu/Lear-



Mary and Paul O'Donoghue
ningforLife or call Bhavna Thakkar at 216-987-5803.

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Lakewood Cares

7th Annual Harvest Pork Chop Dinner & Raffle

by Kathy Corridoni

Please mark your calendar now and plan to participate in Transfiguration Parish's 7th Annual Harvest Pork Chop Dinner & Raffle to be held on Sunday, October 30th, in the parish hall at 12608 Madison Ave. in Lakewood. Dinner will be

served from 12:00-3:30 p.m. This is Transfiguration Parish's primary fundraiser of the year and a wonderful tradition for our parish community. Help us make it a successful one!

The dinner includes two pork chops, mashed potatoes and gravy, sauerkraut (optional), green beans,

applesauce, dinner roll, dessert, and coffee. Dinner tickets are \$15 for adults, \$6 for children 5 to 12, and free for children 4 and under. Reservations are strongly recommended for dine-in and take-out dinners. A limited number of dinners will be available at the door. Any unclaimed reservations will not be held past 3:00 p.m. Please call 216-228-1134 or 216-269-9801 for tickets or reservations by Sunday, October 23rd.

This family event is more than a delicious dinner. There will be a Grand Raffle, a Split-the-Pot drawing, the always-favorite Basket Raffle, door prizes, and sideboards, too. The Grand Raffle has a top prize of \$1,500 and five prizes of \$100 each. Grand Raffle tickets are \$5 per ticket or six tickets for \$25. The Split-the-Pot drawing is a 60/40 split to church/winners. Split-the-Pot tickets are \$1 per ticket or six tickets for \$5. Winners do not need to be present. Grand Raffle and Split-the-Pot tickets will be available for purchase at the event or can be purchased prior to the event by calling the Rectory at 216-521-7288 on Monday to Friday between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

The Basket Raffle prizes include a Ganley Ford package for an oil change and car detail valued at approximately \$228, brunch for four at Pier W valued at \$144, Miller's Detroit Lakewood Sunoco certificate for lube, oil (non-synthetic oil up to five quarts), filter,

and tire rotation service valued at \$50 along with five \$10 certificates for gas, two Beck Center theater tickets valued at \$68 along with a \$50 gift certificate to Don's Lighthouse, an Ohio Clinic Skin Care rejuvenating facial valued at \$90, and many other great prizes. Tickets for the Basket Raffle are \$1 each or six tickets for \$5. The drawings for the Basket Raffle will begin around 3:00 p.m. followed by the Split-the-Pot and Grand Raffle drawings.

Admission to the event is free. All are welcome to attend. Hope you can join us on Sunday, October 30th!

Calvary Church

by Libby Hampton

Spunky. Perseverant. Patient. Adaptable. Loving. Kind. Open Armed. Home. These are all words that describe, Calvary United Methodist Church. Calvary has gone through a lot over the years: Fires, broken windows, broken ovens, new pastors, parishioners coming and going, debating whether or not it's the right choice to close, however; here we stand. At the corner of Northland and Hilliard, a beautiful brick building, beautiful trees in the front yard, a wittily worded sign and a little family of faith inside.

Calvary has seen its ups and downs but we have refused to give up. We provide the community with as much as we have in us and we want you to know, we're still here. And we're planning on staying. So why not familiarize yourself with everything we have to offer?

A free Carnival every spring, with bounce houses, free food, games and prizes; outdoor praise services in

the summer, a prison ministry which provides the children of inmates Christmas gifts and a big Christmas party, crafts fairs (We're having one on October 22 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.), 4th of July parades, community meals, and an open pantry of toiletries, along with food and clothing located at the churches next door and potlucks galore.

We open our doors to any and all. If you are looking for a place to fill your heart, to energize your spirit and give you the opportunities for love and kindness that you've been looking for, we're the place.

The congregation and Pastor Nick are ready to set things in motion this year and we hope you remember that Calvary is booming on the inside and we are coming outside to the community to make sure you know we're here! Lakewood is abundant in churches, but there is only one Calvary United Methodist and we may be exactly what you need.

Free Lunch And Concerts At Church Of The Ascension

by Corky Thacker

The community is invited to enjoy lunch and concerts to entertain varied musical tastes beginning at noon on Sun., Oct. 16 at Church of the Ascension, located at 13216 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood.

A recital of unusual arrangements of hymn tunes will be performed by Linda & Friends, featuring Ascension's organist, Linda Gardner, Steve Ashby

on alto saxophone, and Margie Hildebrandt, soprano, with narration by Jon Peterson. This will be followed by a concert of Broadway show tunes presented by Lauren Dockery, alto and Gwen Stembridge, soprano, accompanied by Aaron Rutz, piano.

Lunch will be served at noon in Ascension Hall, and the music will begin at 1:00 in the sanctuary. All are welcome!

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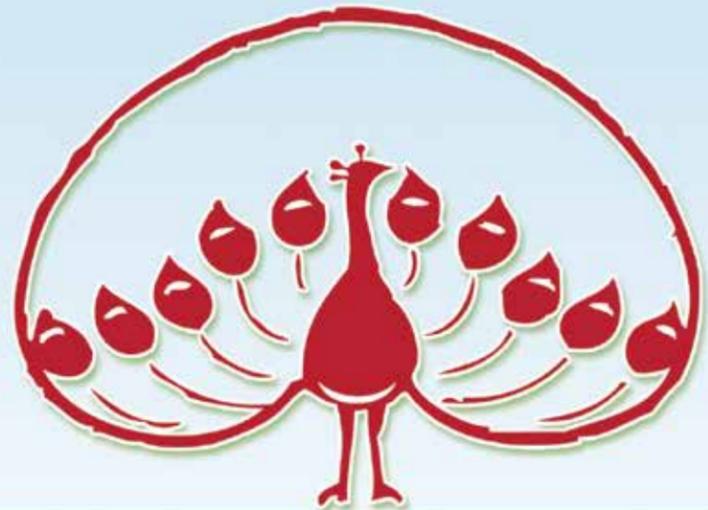
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Lakewood Is Art

The Big O's Fault:

Reviews Of Recent Releases By Local Bands, Pt. 34

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.

Bulsch - Tiw - Tall Tee Tapes - 6 songs - Cassette, download

I'm glad to see Bulsch are more than a one-off band, as they came out of nowhere as one of my favorites from "Enjoy Cleveland." The members come from bands such as Cruelster, The Roobydocks, Vanilla Poppers, and countless thousands more, just in case you ever doubted the ability of musicians in Cleveland to multitask. I think the songs on this tape that best establish what Bulsch is all about are "Tiw" and "Roontackle Shop," which serve as the opening and closing tracks, respectively— they're jumper punk singalong tunes, except you can't sing along with the very enthusiastic gang vocals because the lyrics are in a made up language. It's always nice to hear a group of people having a good time, and although the best way to experience Bulsch is live, the liveliness comes across well on these recordings. If you thought Perverts Again was too slow and comprehensible, or you thought Cruelster was too fast and incomprehensible, or maybe that Vanilla

Poppers were about the right tempo but just too intense, Bulsch might be exactly what you're looking for. 4.375/5

(bulsch.bandcamp.com to download, I believe you can probably email tallteetapes@gmail.com if you'd like to buy a tape)

Bulsch - Tartington - Saucepan Records - 4 songs - Cassette/Download

Our friends Vanellum, Punxatawnyff, and Ton are back (at least, I think those are the names of the people in the band— they've appeared on both tapes so far without explanation) with four more bangers. The songs are still catchy punkers, the lyrics are still foreign, and the guitar solos are unimproved. They take their sound to a few new places on this one, but it's still the same Bulsch you know and love. My favorites here were "Inee-Inee Outbawl" and the title track, for what it's worth. And even better, this tape includes what "Tiw" lacked: complete lyrics, so you too can sing along: "Durst woll ryne thip-thip-thip. Guadaloopy villy tartington." This is probably because they've vertically integrated to the major labels and signed with Saucepan, in what I hear was a \$2.5 million deal. Not bad. 4/5

(saucepanrecords.bigcartel.com for the tape, or bulsch.bandcamp.com

to download)

Bwak Dwagon - Plum Island - self-released - 10 songs - LP

I wasn't sure what to expect here, given that the name of the band is Bwak Dwagon and their lead singer, who doubles as their drummer, is the member of Heavenly Queen who does the falsetto parts in "Lollipop Dumpster." As it turns out, they play an interesting mix of hard rock, psychedelic, and post-punk, I'd say, with some songs being shaped more heavily by one of those genres than the others, depending on which song. Does that make sense? I don't care. You also may remember them from their appearance on Short Shorts II. Or maybe not, as if you have no prior knowledge of that, the review is further down on this page, so unless you read in some strange way...I'm losing track of what I'm talking about. The instrumental section of the band is pretty tight, played by Jason Robinson, David Busch, and Matthew Clement, though what makes this record (and band, I guess, probably) stand out is Matt Clement's vocals. They seem conversational and calm, only to explode into soaring arena rock stylings moments later. Maybe you had to be there. My favorites were the opening track, "Skeleton Sweet," within which suspenseful verses move to big choruses, the faster punk stylings of "Gored By A Boar" (their Short Short), and the catchy and melodic hard rocker "Crimson Flame." Actually, all of Side 1 was pretty good. Side 2 has its moments, but Side 1 was what really hooked me. Maybe you're more a fan of Side 2. Maybe you haven't even listened to the record at all. Maybe you had no intention to but now will, just to say you liked Side 2 better. Make sure you email me to let me know if you do. 4/5

(try messaging Bwak Dwagon through Facebook to snag the record)

Fascinating - Dice Game - Quality Time Records / Greenway Records - 11 songs - LP, download

This is the first "real" release from Fascinating, if for some reason you don't count their demo CD "Songs From A Tomb" as being real (maybe you just imagined it). And hey, it's not bad! Several of

the songs here are repeats from the previous disc, though here they're performed by the full Fascinating band, instead of just singer/guitarist Ricky Hamilton. There's grimy pop tunes like "Always Later" and "Rough Boy," "Superconductive," which is very Ramones-esque, except for the lyrics, "Julia's House," which really encapsulates their self-professed genre(s) of "gutter pop/dark glam," and the total punk groover "Whirlwind Romance," in which Ricky gets yelly at points, which I enjoy, as sometimes his vocal stylings seem a bit restrained. And this is all just Side A! Carrying on to the second side, there's "Emily Street," which is a great catchy tune, and for what it's worth, there is an Emily Avenue right here in Lakewood, so I'd like to think that Ricky was inspired by that and just got the type of roadway wrong. "Get Me Higher" has backing vocals that really do it for me, and Alfred Hood is an interesting lead guitarist— also, on some of his appearances as backing vocalist, especially on this one and "Always Later," he's singing in a key that can only be described as "dissonant." It's a very interesting (I mean, fascinating) choice, one that I actually kind of like. Unfortunately, "Typical," which was probably my favorite from the demo, kills the momentum for me here— maybe it's the placement on the record, or maybe it's the fact that on the earlier version, Ricky's typical (ha) whisper-singing weirdness worked really well, whereas here his approach seems to be testing how low he can possibly sing. Still a good song, though! "Your Place Or Mine" has a melody that sounds like it's constantly on the edge of losing track of itself. I have the same problem with "Sarah's Records" as I did last time, which is that, come on, man, you can't write any more lyrics than that? I think maybe just a little more would've really tied it together. I can't say it's not still a very catchy song. The last track, "Tonight Is For Love," works very well as a closing track, and it's got a good melody and decent lyrics. That's every song on the record, take that. 11 songs, 11 minutes per side, and all their amps are turned up to 11. Maybe, I can't actually confirm the last one. Ask Ricky. What I really enjoy about

continued on page 19

Cleveland Institute of Art
Creativity Matters

Living
Dangerously
Angela Dufresne
Nicola Tyson



Nicola Tyson, courtesy the artist and Petzel Gallery

Cleveland Institute of Art
Reinberger Gallery
opening reception
Fri Nov 4, 6:30–8:30pm

Visceral and immediate, the paintings of American artist Angela Dufresne and drawings of British-born Nicola Tyson confront the risks of walking the line between figural and abstract work.

Cleveland Institute of Art
11610 Euclid Avenue
cia.edu/exhibitions



CIA



Lakewood Is Art

Journey Down The Rabbit Hole With Beck Center Youth Theater

by Pat Miller

Beck Center Youth Theater presents the first production of their 2016–2017 season, *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, November 3–6, 2016, in the Mackey Theater. Show times are 7:30 p.m. Friday, November 4 and 3 p.m. on Saturday, November 5 and Sunday, November 5. A special student matinee will take place at

10 a.m. on Thursday, November 3. Tickets are now on sale by calling 216.521.2540 x10 or visiting beckcenter.org

This classic production is adapted by Tim Kelly from the story *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* by Lewis Carroll. In this timeless tale, Alice follows the White Rabbit into a world of talking flowers, comic royalty, and continually

circling races! Along the way she must deal with the Mad Hatter's frantic tea party, a mysteriously disappearing Cheshire Cat, and the never ending bickering from Tweedledee and Tweedledum – all before attending a trial where she suddenly finds herself accused!

With a cast of 36 Beck Center students ages 7 to 19, this family-friendly production

is directed by Russel Stich. "The 2016–2017 season includes many classics with wonderful educational tie-ins," remarked Associate Director of Youth Theater Education Jonathan Kronenberger. "There is a direct literary connection for *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, and a plethora of beloved characters for our wide age range of students to research and play."

The 2016–2017 season also includes *Aargh!*, December 9–18, 2016, *CARRIE the musical*, presented by Beck Teen Theater, March 24–April 2, 2017, and *Schoolhouse Rock Live!*, May 12–21, 2017. Tickets are \$12 for Adults/Seniors and \$10 for Children (18 and under), and may be purchased online at beckcenter.org or by calling 216.521.2540 x10. Tickets for *Aargh!* go on sale in November. Discounted group rates are available and can be scheduled by calling Customer Service Manager Rennie Tisdale at 216.521.2450 x28.

Beck Center is located at 17801 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood. Free onsite parking is available. This production of *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* is produced by special arrangement with Pioneer Drama Service, Inc., Englewood, Colorado. The 2016–2017 Youth Theater season is presented by the Mort and Iris November Philanthropy Fund, and is made possible by the support of Cuyahoga County residents through Cuyahoga Arts and Culture and the Ohio Arts Council.

More Ballroom Dance Champions

by Cree Criado

In late September, students of Rhythm & Grace Ballroom Dance Studio danced in one of Ohio's biggest competitions, Cleveland Dancesport Challenge! Dancers, representing 50 plus studios from all over the United States and Canada, gathered together to show what they are made of. It was a strong competition with some great competitors but Rhythm & Grace showed them how it's done, bringing home 227 placements with 113 of those placements being firsts! But, that's not all they achieved!

Gail DeFrance, dancing with instructor Angel Criado, placed 2nd

in her Closed Bronze Rhythm 3 Dance and 3rd in her Closed Bronze Smooth!

Amateur Couple, Debbie Olson and Ron Muhic are now Cleveland's Closed Amateur 3 Dance Rhythm Champions!

Cree, dancing with husband and instructor Angel, is now Cleveland's Closed Silver Rhythm 4 Dance Champion and runner up in Cleveland's Silver Rhythm Scholarship!

Carmen Hansford, dancing with instructor Angel, won the Top Silver Female Student at the competition. She is the Closed Silver 6 Dance Champion, the Closed Latin 3 Dance Champion, and the Closed Silver Ballroom Champion!

All of his students wonderful dancing earned Angel Criado 2nd Place in the Top Teacher Lineup out of 77 professionals and he was 1 of only 2 teachers to be considered as a 'Hall of Famer' at Cleveland Dancesport!

Angel says "My students never disappoint. I require them to do their best and they always surpass my expectations. I enjoy watching them reach not only their dance goals but their personal goals as well and this competition was no different."

Stop by their Facebook page, Rhythm & Grace Ballroom Dance Studio, to check out all the photos from the competition and to congratulate them! While they don't have any more competitions scheduled in 2016, the studio has a bunch of local events lined up and they invite you to come and check them out!

There's Still Time! Session 2 Beginning At Beck Center

by Pat Miller

The first 8-week period of the Fall Semester at Beck Center is wrapping up, but Session 2 is just getting started. A variety of dance, visual arts, and creative arts therapies classes are offered through Beck Center Education including ballet, jazz, drawing, painting, mixed media, pottery, and adapted dance, music, and theater. Many professionally-recognized teachers and art therapists are on staff to share their artistic knowledge and talents with students. Classes are designed to allow students to acquire the skills they need to fully realize their potential and create beautiful art.

Session 2, beginning throughout the week of November 7, has a wide spectrum of classes and lessons. Beck Center's comprehensive Dance and Visual Arts and Creative Arts

Therapies programs offer courses for children, teens, and adults of all abilities. Choose from several creative opportunities that include Preballet, Kids-N-Dance, Family Clay Time, Pottery, Music Makers, Art Makers, and more! Students have the chance to try out different ways of art making, find out what they love, and even move on to concentrate in a specific area.

Create your own art experiences at Beck Center by registering for Session 2 today. Classes run from November 7, 2016 through January 21, 2017. Students may also enroll in private lessons at any point throughout the year. The complete catalog with full descriptions and easy online registration is available at beckcenter.org, or call Customer Service at 216.521.2540 x10. Beck Center is located at 17801 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood.

Spotlight
Beck Center for the Arts **Gala**
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29
6 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. followed by dancing until midnight.

Spotlight returns after a sold out event last year. Dinner seating is limited. Reserve now!
Honoring David T. Dombrowiak, President & CEO of the Community West Foundation.
Silent & Live Auctions | Catering by Chef Chris Hodgson | Music by DJ Fabrizio-Dongo
All proceeds benefit Beck Center's dynamic arts education and performance programming.

Beck Center for the Arts | Venue Sponsor: beckcenter.org | 216.521.2540 x19
Hyland Building 3, 28105 Clemens Road
Westlake, Ohio 44145

Two Comedies on Two Stages!

Ruthless!
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"A triumph of outrageous fun" – SCENE Magazine. Contains adult language and content.

Body Awareness
OCT 7 - NOV 6 | Studio Theater
Regional Premiere by Pulitzer Prize Winner Annie Baker! This smart and funny play follows a family disrupted by a guest artist spending a week in their home.
"An engaging new comedy" – The New York Times. Contains adult language and content.

Beck Center for the Arts | 216.521.2540 x 10 | beckcenter.org
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Discount rates for groups | Student Tickets: \$15 with valid I.D.

Fall Semester ENROLL TODAY FOR SESSION 2!

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SESSION 2: November 7 - January 21

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Business News

Holiday Online Auction Returns November 21st

by Valerie Mechenbier

Starting on November 21st, the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce will begin an online auction showcasing items donated by some of the area's best locally owned businesses.

Now in its 8th year, the Holiday Bid & Buy Online Auction allows the Chamber to promote local businesses while encouraging bidders to shop local this holiday season. The auction is held

in conjunction with Small Business Saturday where 'Neighborhood Champions' across the country, like the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce, hold special events that promote small businesses and rally our communities for Small Business Saturday on November 26th.

Give a little and get a lot in return.

By donating to the Holiday Bid & Buy online auction, you can

promote your business while making a difference in your community. The Holiday Bid & Buy Auction allows local shoppers – plus a community of over 400,000 cause-minded bidders on the "Bidding For Good" platform – to find great deals while supporting the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce and our economic development efforts. Past auctions have attracted bidders from throughout Northeast Ohio and

from coast to coast, from Seattle WA to Baltimore MD!

Businesses can get involved by donating an auction item, or sponsoring the auction, or both. When you donate to the Holiday Bid & Buy auction, your donated item will be featured with its own bidding page with your business's logo and a direct link to your website, plus a terrific write-up of the item and a photo. Don't have a 'good' or 'service' to offer? No problem! We're looking for a variety of items worth \$25 or more, so donate an item purchased locally and both businesses will get online exposure!

Sponsoring the auction is another easy way to promote your business. Affordable 'Star', 'Mistletoe', and 'Jingle Bell' sponsorship levels are available. Visit lakewoodchamber.org/sponsor-the-auction/ to view sponsorship levels & benefits and a convenient link to pay for your sponsorship online.

Donate an item at biddingforgood.com/lakewoodchamber or become a sponsor by November 18th for maximum exposure. Questions? Email the Chamber at info@lakewoodchamber.org or call us at 216-226-2900. New items will be added daily, but the sooner you contribute the more exposure your organization receives!

Get Your Groove On And Party For The Children

by Sheila Barry

What are you doing on Friday, October 21st? If you're hip and groovy, you'll be partying on down at *That 80s Party* at Vosh starting at 6 p.m. That's when the fun begins with an open bar, appetizers, games of chance, groovy 80s music and at 9 p.m., live music from *That 80s Band*.

That 80s Party is being hosted by Rocky River Howard Hanna to raise funds to benefit the Children's Free Care Fund which helps to assure that children are never denied the best medical care available - - - whether helping children without health care pay for treatment or helping fund cutting-edge care that insurance may not cover.

"Our agents and staff are involved in many community activities throughout the year, but this is our annual signature event," said Sue Hustek, manager of Rocky River Howard Hanna. "We are honored to have the chance to pull together with our community and raise funds to help provide care for children."

Now in its 29th year, Howard Hanna began its campaign for children in 1988 with each Howard Hanna office having a Choo Choo Chow Chow luncheon during the holidays. The agents and managers made the food and invited clients, friends, family and the community to attend. The luncheon rotated from office to office like a choo choo train making stops. As the company grew, the Chow Chows grew and over time, the events have taken on different themes.

Thanks to the support of the community and to local businesses that help to sponsor events and/or donate

auction items, Howard Hanna has raised and donated more than \$12 million to children's hospitals and related programs/activities in the markets the company serves. In 2015, checks were presented to hospitals totaling \$1,033,578.

Locally, funds have been donated to Akron Children's Hospital, Cleveland Clinic Children's Hospital, MetroHealth, and University Hospitals Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital.

That 80s Party at Vosh, 1414 Riverside Drive in Lakewood, holds many surprises in store and promises to be a happening you won't want to miss. If you haven't heard *That 80s Band*, you're in for a real treat. It captures the moments and looks of the 80's so well, you will swear you went through a time machine. The band uses multiple singers to encompass the many musical styles of the time. Authentic outfits and sounds further enhance the experience. *That 80s Band* covers such artists as *The Eurhythmics*, *Wang Chung*, *Tears for Fears*, *Bon Jovi*, *Michael Jackson*, *Prince*, and *Def Leppard*; and that's just a taste. Make no mistake - this is the ultimate party band! Bring your *BIG HAIR*, *SKINNY TIES*, and *SHORT SKIRTS WITH LEG WARMERS* and get ready to rock in premier 80s style with... *THAT 80s BAND*.

"This is going to be an awesome event," said Hustek. "What a fun way to spend a Friday evening with a group of friends dancing down Memory Lane and all the while raising money to help children."

Tickets are limited so make your reservation now by stopping in at Rocky River Howard Hanna, 19204 Detroit

(across from Heinen's) or by contacting event chairperson, Sheila Barry, at sheilaberry@howardhanna.com or 440-333-6500. Admission is \$50 per person and checks should be made payable to The Children's Free Care Fund. Community members and businesses can also help support this worthwhile cause by serving as an event sponsor or donating a raffle item. Please contact Sheila Barry for more information. The Howard Hanna Children's Free Care Fund is a registered 501(c)(3) charitable organization and donations are tax deductible as allowed by law.

Friday, October 21 starting at 6 p.m. Be there or be square! Remember, this is for the children.

Lakewood AARP Tax Assistance Program Seeking Volunteers For 2017 Tax Season

by D.M. Pace

The Lakewood chapter of the AARP Foundation Tax Aide program is seeking volunteers to help people with their income taxes and tax preparation beginning in January 2017.

The need for volunteers is great this year as the program grows to meet the increasing needs of this valued and valuable neighborhood initiative.

To become a volunteer or learn more, visit this website: <http://taxaide.webs.com/>.

The Tax-Aide program provides personal income tax assistance and tax form preparation to low- and moderate-income tax payers, with special attention to individuals 60 and over. During the past 2016 tax season, from January through April, the local chapter of the AARP Tax Aide program, districts 10 and 11, helped over 5,000 people with their tax returns and related counsel.

Districts 10 locations include:

Gunning Golden Center; West Park Library; South Brooklyn Branch Library; Rockport Branch Library; Lakewood Senior Center; Carnegie West Library; Brooklyn Senior Center. There are part-time sites that include: Jefferson Branch Library (Tremont); Brooklyn Heights Community Center; St. Augustine Towers (near Gordon Square); and Barton Center (Lakewood).

Districts 11 locations include: Dwyer Memorial Senior Center (Bay Village); Bay Village Library; Fairview Park Senior Life Center; Fairview Park Branch Library; North Olmsted Senior Center; North Olmsted Branch Library; Columbia Mobile Home Park; and the Westlake Community Service Center.

To learn more about the program, copy and paste the link below: <http://taxaide.webs.com/>

For more information, contact: DHPace@Yahoo.com.

State Can, Should Do More To Combat Statewide Opioid Emergency

continued from page 3

that lawmakers can act on now and in the future to have a real and positive impact on communities struggling with opioid abuse and overdoses."

The drug addiction and abuse epidemic also recently reached new and terrifying heights in southwest Ohio, where heroin – possibly spiked with carfentanyl, a synthetic opiate painkiller used to care for large wildlife animals such as elephants – was responsible for 174 overdoses in one week, some 78 of which hit the community in a span of only 48 hours.

"As opioid overdoses and deaths continue to skyrocket all across the state, local communities are struggling

to meet the demands of what has quickly turned into a state of emergency," said Johnson. "In light of this grim reality, state leaders and elected officials must put politics aside and use every tool immediately at our disposal to confront this public health emergency head-on, in a unified way. And the first step in doing that is to call the opioid epidemic what it is: a statewide emergency."

Introduced this spring, SB 319 received widespread praise from numerous medical and provider organizations, including the Ohio State Medical Association, the Ohio Alliance of Recovery Providers and the Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities.

Upgraded Halloween

by Bonnie Fencl

The new trend growing here in Lakewood is dressing up to hand out treats to the kids. I have noticed that as the family is going out for Halloween to trick-or-treat, parents and kids get dressed up.

Make sure this season you don't miss the scarecrow displays on Madison Ave. Walking about the businesses will give you the best views.

Some of the new things Carabel Beauty Salon & Store has found for Halloween are hair bows in black and orange

with witches, pumpkins, and spiders; skeletons for earrings, some glow in the dark coordinate with barrets fashioned in bony hands some in grey, black, and orange and others in colors that glow in the dark.

Parties or candy handing out nights are good times to dress up in a way that you are not too scary for the little kids, and people still know who you are, but you have that extra holiday touch.

By the way, stop by and see our scarecrow display. Our demented clown will be here, will you?

Forum

Democracy In Action At Lakewood Dems Meeting

by Chitra Walker

“NO ENDORSEMENT”!! Exactly one half of the unusually large crowd at the Thursday, September 29th, 2016 meeting of the Lakewood Democratic Club breathed a sigh of relief; the other half was mostly silent, but most likely grimaced in frustration! “No endorsement” was the result of the vote taken at this meeting of the Club on Issue 64, the referendum on the ballot in November to either “save Lakewood hospital”, or move forward into the 21st century with a state-of-the-art Family Health Care Center based on the healthcare needs of the demographics of Lakewood and its immediate surrounding area! Yes, each side had exactly half the votes cast For and Against and a number of members had also cast votes to Abstain. An incredible phenomenon that many in the room who had expected the Club to endorse the view of the “Savers” (an epithet by which they have come to be known over this rancorous and divisive year in Lakewood) did not think would happen.

From another perspective, however, this was truly democracy in action! The members of the Club are divided on the issue, and have worked hard on each side to win the argument. The citizens of Lakewood had already spoken loudly and clearly in the November 2015 election, when they re-elected Mayor Summers (who was

endorsed by the club and the county party) instead of electing State Senator Mike Skindell (who ran his campaign solely on the Save Lakewood Hospital issue). The rejected and dejected Savers were not, and have not been, ready to give in. They have done all they could to keep the issue alive, going as far as suing Lakewood City Council and the Mayor (costing the city’s residents thousands of dollars in precious tax money), and have now petitioned to have a referendum on the ballot in November to “save” their now closed hospital (continuing to propagate the myth that the hospital could be/would be reopened)! I do not need to go into the arguments for moving forward. We already have!

However, in the context of the vote at the Lakewood Democratic Club, one of the strategies of the Savers was to get an endorsement for their position on Issue 64 from the Club. The Club, which has seen rancorous “takeovers” in the past, when some members left in disgust or frustration because of infighting and politics, has, at least in the last five years, been stable, and has gained the reputation, under its current strong leadership, of being a vibrant and trusted voice that is heard in the City and in the County when it comes to elections. So, an endorsement from the Club is something that is valued. The traditional mailing sent out by

the Club listing all endorsed candidates and positions on issues prior to an election is something most Democrats in Lakewood find very useful, regardless of whether they have been following the news, in fact especially when they have not been following the news! Such a mailing is indispensable when it comes to candidates for the courts, or on issues that the electorate may not have as much information as they need (although in this case, it is arguable that we have beaten the issue to death in the press and elsewhere!). So the endorsement of a well-established and recognized Democratic Club was part of the Savers’ strategy to convince Lakewood citizens to vote against Issue 64. So they began to stock the Club with their members, including some registered Republicans (!), as early as February or March of this year so that the minimum requirement to be a voting member (attendance at 3 meetings of the Club in the previous 12 months) could be satisfied – after all membership costs only \$20 and seniors get a 50% discount! With no offense to the many seniors who have now joined the Club, the recruitment of new members could not have been a very expensive proposition for the organizers of the Saver strategy!

The Lakewood Democratic Club Board decided to have the endorsement meeting in August in order to have time

to prepare, and then mail, the required endorsement postcard (as well as to place the announcement in the press) in plenty of time before early vote began in October. Since an endorsement vote at the September 29th meeting would have created an extremely tight timeline, the Board made a very sensible decision to have the endorsement meeting in August, especially since at the time of the decision, early vote was supposed to start during the very first week of October, before the courts eliminated “Golden Week”. The Club announced the endorsement meeting the requisite two weeks in advance. However at the August meeting, it became very apparent that the Savers did not want the endorsement vote to take place that month, presumably because some of their members did not have the requisite three meetings in before that meeting and, consequently, those individuals could not vote. Therefore, in an attempt to move the meeting to September, they claimed that some individuals did not receive adequate notification of the meeting. So a motion was made late in the meeting, after many people had already placed their ballots in the ballot box and left the meeting, to move the endorsement vote to September. The meeting became raucous, unruly and rancorous. People talked and shouted over the President’s pleas for decorum and civility; there were loud boos and childish screeches when matters didn’t go a particular way; and dissension over how the vote was conducted. In the end, the motion to move the endorsement vote to September was seconded and passed with the majority of the votes of those still in attendance.

True to the Club’s avowed purpose of being democratic and principled, the President and Executive Committee were determined to conduct the next vote (as they had the previous one) as judiciously and transparently as they could. Member lists were reviewed again scrupulously; all members sent a written notice of the vote as well as asking their permission to opt out/in to the use of their personal contact information in future mailings by the Club. Member lists were also examined to assure that the required number of meetings had been attended to cast a vote. All the arrangements were made to conduct a civil and rancor-free meeting including a request to members and guests for courtesy, decorum and to respect the policies of the club. A special Parliamentarian from the Cuyahoga Democratic Party was invited to serve as an ombudsman, and to avoid any unpleasant conflicts, the Lakewood Police were asked by the Club to be present!

The meeting on Thursday, September 29th was, as expected, very well attended. The vote was conducted simply and quietly, with the Parliamentarian explaining the rules. The votes were counted by members from each side, with two members from each side as observers. When the vote was completed, the Parliamentarian/ombudsman accompanied by a police officer was asked to go back into the room with the counters to verify/recount the votes. He

Democratic Club Leadership Does Not Deliver Democracy

by Leslie Boyer Bass

In my 42 years as an active voter, I have been at odds with our nation’s two party system. So I have always voted my conscience, using a Republican ballot when I last voted. This election year, I joined the Lakewood Democratic Club at their July meeting. I signed the form, paid the fee, and took my seat. I expected that there would be a review process for new members.

In July, they had their annual dinner, so no meeting. But I thought it gave plenty of time to review my status, and let me know where I stood. Something along the line of: “Welcome to the Club. Just one thing. We have an issue. Fix it or be rejected...” You get the idea. That did not happen. No word of welcome or warning was received by me.

At the August meeting, I saw my name on the roster. When I signed in and picked up my name tag, I had reason to believe that I was a member.

At that meeting, I witnessed a brouhaha surrounding the move by the Club leaders to force an early vote in August on Democratic Endorsements that are usually scheduled for September. The main issue was whether the email used to announce the change was fair notice because it did not reach all the voting members. Among the topics in the ensuing debate was whether the time and postage for snail mail was worth it if email was not used. In the end, the Endorsement vote was tabled until September.

After that vigorous exchange, I was looking forward to the next meeting.

Though I could not vote until my fourth meeting, I was ready to see the Democratic Club in action as it chose the issues and candidates it would endorse for 2016.

I share all of this to explain my surprise when I received an overnight-priority Fed Ex delivery on the day of the September 29th meeting. It contained a letter from the Democratic Club dated the 28th. In brief, it stated that an unnamed person challenged my membership. An unnamed third party went to the Board of Elections where they found an issue with my voting record. It was decided that I do not support Democratic ideals. I was banished from all Dem Club meetings and functions. It was clear that I was prohibited from attending the meeting that night. My fee was refunded. But I was advised that I was allowed to reapply in 2018. If I pulled a Democratic ballot, that is. There was an illegible signature that I later learned belonged to Karoline Isenhardt, the Dem Club President. No other names were given.

I later discovered that there were at least 8 of us who were axed from Dem Club membership for varied excuses. One person has been a member in good standing for 18 months and was just now being told there was an issue. Whatever the reason, the effect was the same. We were all summarily dismissed, purged, from the Club with no opportunity to respond. It soon became clear that we had something in common: we are supporters of the Save Lakewood Hospital group.

You see, the Lakewood Hospital Issue 64 will be on the November ballot. It was

one of the items up for endorsement at the Dem Club. Now it is seems obvious that Club leaders have been yanking things around to suit their own agenda. There was nothing Democratic about those letters. In fact, I have the impression that the one who authorized those Fed Ex deliveries has more direct influence on the direction of the Club than the members. It was an autocratic action that bypassed the membership who I believe would have challenged these dismissals, or at least would have required an opportunity to comply.

After some intervention by Senator Skindell and Rep. Antonio, we were allowed into the building. We were not allowed to sign in as a member, only a guest. I will return the refund check. I will expect my attendance to continue to be counted as I did not do anything to deserve this interruption in my membership. I do not plan to quit the Lakewood Democratic Club. I do not need to be popular but I will be given respect as a voter and a senior citizen.

Though corporations will brag, the American Way is not Big Business. People have been making money for centuries. The Revolutionary thing that caught the attention of the world was how citizens were enabled to decide their future. But we have to demand the truth. And we have to pay attention or we won’t know the difference.

The Lakewood Democratic Club can have a great legacy only if we replace the current leadership. I will be voting at the Democratic Club in November.

Forum

Protect Healthcare And Progress By Voting FOR Issue 64

by John Litten

I have committed myself to public service. I work in charity as my living, doing everything I can to meet the needs of the underprivileged, ensuring people can keep their lights on, keep their family fed, keep clothes on their backs and have access to services of all kinds. This was my inspiration for running and serving on City Council, and my guiding principle during my service as a Lakewood Hospital Trustee.

In 2009 I found myself someplace I never thought I would be: the third floor of Lakewood Hospital. My father had had a heart attack at our Lakewood YMCA, and thanks to the incredible work of Lakewood paramedics, he was stabilized and taken directly to the hospital. A day or so later, my father-in-law had a stroke, and was also hospitalized. My wife, Carrie, and I spent our days walking from one end of the third floor to another, visiting our dads. In the days that followed, as both recovered, I realized the importance of access to high quality healthcare in our community.

This led me on a path to getting involved in community affairs as best I could, and when an opening on the Lakewood Hospital Association Board of Trustees opened up, I applied, unsure if my non-profit background was enough to qualify me. I was appointed in 2011, and served until the end of last year.

What I found surprised me. The

great people and place that had cared for our fathers were facing very difficult circumstances and decisions. It isn't unlike the families and individuals I see through my non-profit work: people making hard choices between food and keeping the lights on. Here, our hospital was faced long term challenges in overcoming budget deficits while maintaining a 108-year old facility and keeping pace with the competitive, technologically-driven, rapidly-evolving face of healthcare.

It was with these challenges that the Lakewood Hospital Association grappled. Trustees embarked upon several years of research, analysis, and soul-searching to determine a path to financial stability that would enable continued delivery of health care to Lakewood for years to come. We looked at the full spectrum of options—everything from keeping an inpatient hospital to ceasing health care services entirely and converting all funds to a public health foundation. It became clear that the status quo was not an option over the long haul, particularly beyond the remaining lease term. We grew to understand that to keep healthcare in our town for the next 50 years, we needed a partner health system who would bring financial strength and a model of healthcare delivery with a strong, reliable future. The best option became the plan to transform Lakewood Hospital to a state-of-the-art outpatient medical center that would keep dozens of health care services at the same

convenient downtown location, continue emergency care uninterrupted 24/7/365, and provide \$32 million to a community health foundation. City council negotiated improvements to that plan in 2015 and unanimously approved it last December.

None of us wanted to see the hospital go, but all of us wanted to keep healthcare services for Lakewood patients over the long term. Without action, the hospital would have closed on its own, leaving patients with no emergency care and no health care services of any kind. That would have been irresponsible. Instead, we made a difficult choice that delivers a lot of benefits to Lakewood patients and taxpayers—without any cost to residents.

This proactive approach has set us on a path forward, and anything less than a FOR vote on Issue 64 will delay our progress and add costly legal bills to be paid by taxpayers. An “against” vote WILL NOT reopen the old hospital, nor reopen the bidding process. It just means we could lose out on a new, modern healthcare center and a huge investment in Lakewood.

Accessibility is important for the poor and underserved. Accessibility will stay strong under this plan because we'll keep the vast majority (94 percent) of health care services used before

the transition at a convenient location. In addition, **it protects health care for Seniors** with extensive specialty programs and doctors' offices, and funds a new health foundation that could help provide transportation to see friends and relatives at nearby hospitals.

I am eager to start more of these conversations about improvements and possibilities TOGETHER, for the sake of moving forward. Let's discuss as a community what could be and will be making health care better, rather than what was, or won't be. We have a bright and healthy future ahead of us.

And here's the test of health care quality, for me, personally: with our new state-of-the-art medical center and our uninterrupted 24/7/365 emergency care, I would feel very comfortable if the same situation happened with both of my fathers, and I trust our highly-skilled paramedics to get our loved ones to the most suitable place for their needs. They are a big part of the reason I am so confident in recommending a FOR vote on Issue 64 to my Lakewood neighbors. It's the best way to secure with uninterrupted emergency care and provide high quality care services at a convenient, accessible location primed for Lakewood's next 100 years—at no cost to taxpayers.

County Dem Party Endorses FOR Issue 64 In Landslide Vote

by Jim Kenny

A major endorsement was delivered recently in support of the FOR Issue 64 position when the Lakewood Executive Committee of the Cuyahoga County Democratic Party backed the issue in a landslide vote. A 60 percent majority was needed for endorsement, and the FOR Issue 64 position actually received a majority of greater than 88 percent. The vote means that the Democratic Party officially recommends that Lakewood voters vote FOR Issue 64 on this November's ballot.

Councilman Tom Bullock said it was an honor to receive the endorsement with near-unanimous support from an organization that has long-championed social justice, the needs of senior citizens, and expanded healthcare access for working families and the uninsured.

“The Democratic Party has fought for decades to improve healthcare access for people of all income levels, and it's a fitting honor to receive their endorsement,” said Bullock. “Their vote recognizes that the best way to help Lakewood patients is to continue dozens of high-quality healthcare services at the same convenient downtown location for decades to come, with uninterrupted emergency care 24/7/365, at no cost to taxpayers by voting FOR Issue 64.”

Background on Issue 64:

Last year, city government voted unanimously for an agreement to build and operate a brand new, state-of-the-art medical center in Lakewood at no cost to taxpayers. This agreement ensures that Lakewood will have high-quality healthcare for many years to come.

On November 8, Lakewood

will have the chance to affirm this agreement by voting FOR Issue 64. This agreement is clearly the best option for Lakewood's future:

* The now-closed Lakewood Hospital was losing significant funds—more than \$1 million each month, with at least \$90 million in maintenance and renovation to make it competitive with today's hospitals.

* Without the agreement, the City would have eventually been responsible for hospital losses, requiring huge tax increases, or the hospital would have simply closed, with no healthcare options in sight.

Voting FOR Issue 64 will protect all of the benefits that Lakewood receives:

* The agreement guarantees that the Cleveland Clinic will pay for and build a new, modern medical center with uninterrupted emergency care available 24/7/365. There is no cost to taxpayers.

* The healthcare experience for Lakewood patients likely won't change. Lakewood will still have:

- Primary care and specialty outpatient programs, like geriatrics, cardiac care, and diabetes care.

- Nearly all of the same medical services (94 percent) needed by patients at the old hospital will continue to be available at the same convenient downtown location.

* The Clinic will pay Lakewood almost \$19.6 million for transition costs and to help Lakewood redevelop the old site, and \$32.4 million is being put into a Lakewood foundation to improve the community's health.

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Forum

Sorting Out Issue 64:

Are Emergency Services Guaranteed Or Not?

by Betsy Voinovich

At this point you've seen it in many places, on the city's website, in the articles Councilpersons Bullock, Anderson and Marx have written for the Observer, in the new Lakewood Voters for Progress (the anti-hospital group) commercial called "Lakewood Emergency Services GUARANTEED!" which includes an introduction that states: "Mayor Summers warns Lakewood residents not to fall for scare tactics. The agreement requires the Cleveland Clinic to continue emergency care **UNINTERRUPTED 24/7/365**, and emergency services are **GUARANTEED.**"

Well, Citizens For A Strong Lakewood and the Save Lakewood Hospital groups say that emergency services are not guaranteed.

Which is it?

So I looked it up. You can too. Go to one.lakewood.com under Health Care in Lakewood and read the Master Agreement yourself.

You need to look at section 2.3: "Post-Construction Obligation of the Clinic to Operate FHC" and section 2.4: "Emergency Services at the FHC."

Under 2.3, go six lines down and read: "*The Clinic contemplates that the services available at the FHC (Family Health Center) upon the commencement of FHC operations will initially consist of the services described on Exhibit C.*"

Exhibit C (which is attached to the agreement) lists initial services offered. The first one is "Emergency Department (24/7/365)."

However... read one line further:

"Due to the uncertainty regarding and the potentially rapidly changing nature of the approach to delivering health care services, the parties acknowledge that it will be necessary for the Clinic to continually re-evaluate the services provided at the FHC."

Section 2.3 ends with: "*...the Clinic may modify the services listed on Exhibit C as necessary to address the results of such evaluation, subject to Section 2.4.*"

So the Clinic will continually re-evaluate the services provided, and may modify those services.

Then section 2.4: Emergency Services:

"The parties recognize and agree that there is a present need for an emergency department in Lakewood, available on a 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year basis. The Clinic will address this need by opening the FHC with an emergency department that operates (a) on a 24/7/365 basis that has capabilities to treat emergency medical conditions, which are those conditions that rise to a level that manifest themselves by acute symptoms of sufficient severity such that immediate medical attention is necessary, and (b) at a level of service generally consistent with (or greater than) the level of service that is being offered in the Hospital's emergency department as of the Effective Date."

By that "Effective Date" the level of service at Lakewood Hospital's Emergency Department had been severely diminished, in 2015 by the Clinic getting rid of the cath lab. A terrible blow was already dealt in 2010 when the Clinic convinced City Council that it would be a good idea to downgrade our Level 2 Trauma Care Center and move that to Fairview. In exchange, the Clinic offered something called "Vision for Tomorrow" which never came to be. Trauma centers make money, so how our City Council and Mayor (Fitzgerald) in 2010 thought that it was a good idea to lose that cash cow and also deprive citizens of the safety and peace of mind that comes from having a full service trauma center is hard to understand.

As for "level of service" right now, at our Emergency Services Center, services offered are NOT consistent with the service offered as of the Effective Date of the agreement, because at that time, late December 2015, the Hospital was still operational. If you needed to be admitted for surgery, and stay overnight or longer, that could still happen. Then they closed the hospital.

Now we have "Emergency Services," an unspecific term that has no legal definition. We do know that if you need surgery quickly, you should not go to Lakewood because you will wait there for a transfer. However, with the loss of Lakewood's legitimate Emergency Room attached to a hospital, Fairview's has become overcrowded. The latest testimonial concerns a woman who broke her hip and waited more than 24 hours for treatment. When Avon's new hospital, with its full service Trauma department opens, with all of Lakewood's bed licenses and equipment, we can go out there. Another testimonial, closer to home, I took a friend to Lakewood's Emergency Services Center with a high fever, which is dangerous because he is undergoing chemotherapy and has a compromised immune system. He was seen very quickly and the doctor there spoke to us harshly, and said with the severity of my friend's condition, he should not be moved, and that we should never have brought him to Lakewood, and ordered a transfer to University Hospital downtown. I didn't know that. I'm not a doctor. My friend had a very high fever. I brought him to the closest place that said "Emergency."

But still, there is *something* there. We did see a doctor. Is whatever this service is, guaranteed?

Read the next paragraph:

"The need for emergency services may change with time and, given current industry circumstances, it is difficult to predict such change. The ongoing evaluation of emergency services will be done consistently with Section 2.3 above."

Which says that "the Clinic will continually re-evaluate the services provided, and may modify those ser-

vices."

The last sentence reads: "*For so long as the Clinic owns and operates the FHC, the Clinic agrees to provide emergency services on a 24/7/365 basis in Lakewood.*"

This is no guarantee. This isn't like the agreement in which the Clinic agreed to run our hospital in good working order until 2026. This says they will do what they want to do for as long as they want to do it, changing or eliminating services if they feel that it fits with "time and industry circumstances."

So why are we being told this is "guaranteed"? There is no safety here. We do not own this and cannot control it in any way. It is certainly not a state-of-the-art, full service "Emergency Department."

"If We Vote Against Issue 64, We Will Have Nothing"

Then there's voting Against Issue 64, and the threat that if we overturn the Master Agreement, "We will be left with nothing."

The truth is if the agreement is overturned, Cleveland Clinic is still on the stick for the lease that they signed in 1996 to "operate a full-service hospital" until 2026. And to return that hospital to the city in good condition, says the contract. They can't legally "go away" and "leave us with nothing." Right now they owe us a hospital or a lot of money or both.

Right now, the FHC and Emergency Services belong to the Cleveland Clinic, not us. It is not a gift to us. There is no guarantee or straightforward definition of what those emergency services are. There are 13 health clinics near us on the west side, not hospitals, "health clinics" like this one is supposed to be. The other cities that have them aren't being asked

Be Part Of The Lakewood Story: Vote Against 64

by Matt Kuhns

The best thing about Lakewood is that we find a better way, again and again.

Mom-and-pop businesses are still fighting in Lakewood. Even as a few more cookie-cutter restaurants and discount stores have pushed in, I've watched not one but two big coffee chains open across from the Root Café, and finally give up.

A truly local newspaper is bucking the trend in Lakewood, amid some of the toughest years ever for local journalism. Even as a changing market and absentee owners cut away at Cleveland's paper, the Lakewood Observer gets better and better. It's still a labor of love, but after a decade it's going well enough to inspire spin-offs and imitators.

In a county of big, regional consortiums, Lakewood's library system goes it alone and thrives. Even as other public libraries cut back hours, Lakewood's keeps its doors open into the evening and on weekends.

Somehow, our community finds a way to do better than conforming to

to be grateful that there is a health clinic near them, and they certainly weren't asked to trade their hospital for one.

If this Agreement is overturned, a better agreement will have to be arrived at.

P.S. Read section 9.4, "Mutual Waiver" to see what else this agreement is about. Where the City "*hereby agrees to not bring suit against the Hospital Parties for causes of action that arise out of or relate to the Original Lease, the Definitive Agreement, the operation and management of the Hospital prior to the Effective Date, or the Transition, including closing of the Hospital, the cessation of services or programs at the Hospital, and the potential demolition, abatement and/or redevelopment of the Hospital building.*"

That's a mouthful. Every day we hear more about questionable behavior regarding the management of our hospital by the Cleveland Clinic and the Lakewood Hospital Association. Especially that move in 2010 when they removed our Trauma Center. (At the same time they removed our Labor and Delivery department—Why would families in Lakewood need that?)

This agreement will let them off the hook for anything that happened in the past.

While you're at it, you should probably read the section about how Lakewood is not allowed to use our hospital building for a hospital ever again. The "non compete" clause. Though Cleveland Clinic is not offering us anything like a hospital, this agreement guarantees that we will never have a hospital again in Lakewood.

You can look up that section on your own.

the trend. If there's anything special behind this, it's probably just people who believe in our city and in fighting for it, always.

Lakewood's people refused to give up on St. James, even when it had been closed and "a done deal" for years. They kept trying anyway, and proved that it wasn't too late to save St. James after all. Likewise, when city officials made the decision to raze homes for a top-down redevelopment plan, ordinary Lakewood citizens chose to fight a referendum campaign that had no chance. They didn't have money, they didn't have influence, the decision was made, etc.

Yet somehow people with their own ideas about how to do things, standing up for what's theirs, prevailed.

This fall we have another chance to continue our Lakewood story, and every voter can take part. Most of us may never found a newspaper, or open the next Melt. But we can vote against a needlessly closed hospital, and against a retreating, declining Lakewood that settles for less.

Please vote against Issue 64.

Forum

Repeal The Steal - Vote AGAINST 64

by PJ Bennett

February 5, 2016: You receive notice that you must vacate your home; no one else is allowed to occupy the dwelling that used to be your home.

November 9, 2016: You receive notice that you must bulldoze your home; you are responsible for all costs. **VOTE AGAINST 64.**

In December 2015, when Mayor Michael P. Summers and City Council voted for a Master Agreement that shuttered Lakewood Hospital, they placed the City of Lakewood - your home - into this exact position.

In August 2007, Fred M. DeGrandis (then President and CEO of Cleveland Clinic Regional Hospitals) wrote that by 1985, Lakewood Hospital was the last city-owned hospital in the state of Ohio. Therefore, if you live in the city of Lakewood, you are 'part-owner' of Lakewood Hospital.

But, a Non-Compete Clause inserted into the Master Agreement, prevents any other hospital system from occupying that space - AND, it is the responsibility of the City of Lakewood (your responsibility) to pay for it to be bulldozed.

Now, isn't it curious in a community of over 50,000 residents and the highest population density of any city in Ohio, that a Mayor, along with other officials, would agree to such action? And, implement it eleven years before any need to do so?

REPEAL THIS DEAL - VOTE AGAINST 64.

In city council meetings, it was repeatedly said, that healthcare is changing; that we don't need a hospital; that with proper nutrition and exercise, we will be the healthiest city in America.

However, organic produce, grass-fed beef, no antibiotic/no hormone/free-range chicken, gluten-free and non-gmo products are pricey. Not everyone's budget can afford such healthy food.

As for exercise, a multitude of ailments, such as muscular/neurological disorders, orthopedic impairments, vision and balance challenges, etc. prevent many from jogging, cycling or working out in a fitness center.

If Lakewood doesn't need a hospital, then why did Cleveland Clinic build a hospital in Avon?

Why not just educate those Lorain County folks about the value of eating and exercising properly?

Oh. Wait a minute. I know why. Lakewood is diversified both financially and ethnically.

Lakewood has a large elderly population, whose only income is from Social Security; and, there are a number of folks, who are dependent upon financial aid.

In other words, there is less profit to be made in providing healthcare to folks, who have limited incomes.

In 1996, Cleveland Clinic signed a 30-year lease with Lakewood Hospital. But, with 10+ years remaining on its contract, CC wanted out. Through subpoenas and depositions in the taxpayers lawsuit, it's been learned that a plan, developed at least as early as 2010, was in place to undermine the services of Lakewood Hospital and to vacate the dwelling in 2016, rather than 2026.

Rather than enforcing the lease and demanding that Cleveland Clinic fulfill its contractual agreement, the city officials of Lakewood stepped aside and allowed Lakewood's largest employer, Lakewood Hospital, to go dark.

REPEAL THIS DEAL - VOTE AGAINST 64

Half-way through a 20-year lease with the Golden Arches, Cleveland Clinic tried to oust the fast-food giant from its food court. Serving Big Macs, fries and shakes in a hospital known for cardiac care conveyed an inappropriate image.

But, pressure from CC did not work. McDonald's held to the terms of its lease and did not leave until its contract expired.

Now, wouldn't you think, that if Cleveland Clinic had to abide by a lease with McDonald's, that in turn, it should be bound by its contract with Lakewood Hospital? Why didn't city officials enforce the legally binding agreement?

Why trade a hospital that for years had a birthing center, performed cerebrovascular and neuroendovascular interventions, provided level II trauma service, and a number of other services... for a family health care center?

The fair-market value of hospital assets based on Lakewood Hospital Association data was \$120 million. The no-bid deal's cost to our community and future is \$80 million. What remains is \$40 million, the value of property and cash in the deal for Lakewood. We are being robbed.

This is not a good deal for you and me.

REPEAL THE STEAL - VOTE AGAINST 64.

Democratic Lawmakers Recognize Domestic Violence Awareness Month

continued from page 3

that lawmakers can act on now and in the future to have a real and positive impact on communities struggling with opioid abuse and overdoses."

The drug addiction and abuse epidemic also recently reached new and terrifying heights in southwest Ohio, where heroin - possibly spiked with carfentanyl, a synthetic opiate painkiller used to care for large wildlife animals such as elephants - was responsible for 174 overdoses in one week, some 78 of which hit the community in a span of only 48 hours.

"As opioid overdoses and deaths continue to skyrocket all across the state, local communities are struggling

to meet the demands of what has quickly turned into a state of emergency," said Johnson. "In light of this grim reality, state leaders and elected officials must put politics aside and use every tool immediately at our disposal to confront this public health emergency head-on, in a unified way. And the first step in doing that is to call the opioid epidemic what it is: a statewide emergency."

Introduced this spring, SB 319 received widespread praise from numerous medical and provider organizations, including the Ohio State Medical Association, the Ohio Alliance of Recovery Providers and the Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities.

Democracy In Action At Lakewood Dems Meeting

continued from page 15

returned and announced the result: NO ENDORSEMENT! To have the Club's endorsement the winning side had to get 50% + 1 vote! And, when adding in the votes to abstain - each side had garnered exactly half of the remaining votes!

Democracy at work, indeed! Does this end the discussion? No, of course not! We do have the referendum in November, and the endorsement of the Club, while very valuable, does not guarantee anything. But it would be fair and right to end further

discussions and rancor over this issue in this, our beloved City! It was sad to see some of the stony and angry faces after the vote; and to physically feel the tension and dislike that some members expressed at the August meeting. This is not the Lakewood we all chose to live in because it is vibrant and growing. No matter what the result of November's election, we need to move forward, looking towards the future, looking towards a strong, united Lakewood where our families young and old can thrive in a healthy and civil environment.

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Feet are soaked in an oil-enriched bath to soften, nails are trimmed and shaped to your desired contour and feet are exfoliated with a scrub. Next, your feet are nourished with a lotion of essential pumpkin, cinnamon and nutmeg oils with a soothing foot massage and your toes are polished to perfection.

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Lakewood Living

Home Selling Tips

by Chris Bergin

The Four D's of Home Selling

Keeping your home in show-ready condition can be challenging, especially if you have a houseful of kids and pets. What to do? Follow the Four D's.

Declutter: Most listing agents would agree that clutter confuses buyers. They can't see the home's "bones" for all the furniture, toys, and other things. You have to pack up to move, so start dividing your things

into three categories - keep, donate, and throw away. For things you want to keep, get a storage unit for out-of-season clothes and holiday dishes that you won't need for a while.

Depersonalize: While you're decluttering, store personal items such as photos, albums, figurines and collectibles. Accidents happen, so pack up and store as many breakable items as you can.

Detail: Just as you detail your car

to help it hold its beauty and value, you should detail your home with the most vigorous cleaning it's ever had. When you know your home is being shown or to get it ready for an Open House, get your helpers to grab a basket and pick up anything that doesn't belong out, like dirty clothes, wet towels, and tablets and smartphones.

Decamp: It's harder for buyers to imagine themselves in your home if you're still there, so take the kids and

the dog to the park while your home is being shown. Buyers need to feel free to speak their minds and weigh possibilities.

Get everyone on board to keep things clean and neat, and your showings are much more likely to result in your home being sold.

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

How To Be Top Dog At The Spooky Pooch Parade

by Matt Bixenstine

Like a talented musician amidst a world-class orchestra, it's not easy to stand out from the crowd at the Spooky Pooch Parade.

For one autumn afternoon each year, Kauffman Park transforms from a picturesque downtown greenspace to an expansive sea of costumed canines. Beagles, bloodhounds and bulldogs become dinosaurs, hot dogs and Darth Vaders. The entertainment value is priceless, and the joy observed on the faces of children and other parade participants (four-legged and otherwise) is even better.

But what about if you're in it to win it? Just how can you ensure your canine remains conspicuous despite the masses of mutts? There are, after all, various "Best of..." awards to be claimed when the 9th Annual Spooky Pooch Parade - sponsored by Discount Drug Mart and presented by LakewoodAlive - takes place from 12:30 to 4 p.m. on

Saturday, October 15.

Here are five tips for helping your top dog to have his day during the upcoming Spooky Pooch Parade:

1. Register Your Pooch!

You miss every shot you don't take. Register your furry friend to march in the 9th Annual Spooky Pooch Parade now by visiting SpookyPoochParade.com.

2. Know the Award Categories

While it's easy to immediately get enthused about a clever costume idea, like dressing your prized Pekingese as a lion, it's worthwhile to take a step back and first examine the award criteria. This will enable you to target specific categories with your canine costume. Prizes (limited to one per canine) will be awarded for first, second and third place in five categories. The award categories are as follows:

- Best Pooch & Child
- Best Pooch & Adult
- Best Pooch & Group
- Spookiest Pooch

Best in Show

3. Be a Package Deal

As the aforementioned award criteria suggest, you bolster your chances of claiming victory by collaborating with your pooch on a shared costume theme. Three of the five award categories require a cooperative effort, and you certainly aren't excluded from the final two criteria when you play the Robin to your pooch's Batman. Besides, dressing up is ageless and fun!

4. Play to Your Dog's Strengths... or Weaknesses

There are two ways you can capitalize on your canine's unique appearance and personality with your Spooky Pooch Parade costume. First, you can leverage your pooch's innate characteristics to select the perfect costume, such as dressing your basset hound as a rabbit or your Shih Tzu as an Ewok. Conversely, though, it's often even more effective to take your dog out of its comfort zone and pay homage to Opposite Day. Consider, for instance, dressing your Doberman as a dainty daisy or your Chihuahua as a

ferocious monster.

5. Strive for Humor

Even the most discerning judges tend to have a funny bone. When in doubt, aim to be humorous with your costume. Dressing your pooch as a rapper named "Hound Doggy Dog" is sure to garner some chuckles, as will achieving a costume that's timely based upon current events (presidential candidates, anyone?). A little creativity goes a long way. And as Charlie Chaplin once said, "A day without laughter is a day wasted."

Ultimately, whether you spend five weeks or five minutes on your dog's costume, the Spooky Pooch Parade is all about enjoying a fun afternoon while showcasing Lakewood's vibrancy. Win, lose or draw, everyone goes home as happy as a dog with a bone.

The Spooky Pooch Parade is generously supported by the following sponsors: Discount Drug Mart (title sponsor), City of Lakewood, First Federal Lakewood, Inn The Doghouse, Lakewood Animal Hospital, Pet's General Store and Renewal by Andersen Window Replacement.

The Big O's Fault: Reviews Of Recent Releases By Local Bands, Pt. 34

continued from page 12

this record is that it lacks something that many previous Quality Time releases have had: the ultra-polished production quality of Bad Racket. This is given the appropriate layer of fuzz it deserves by recorder/mixer Paul MacCarone. Good stuff. Also, it plays at 45 RPM and is a Wax Mage product, so if you like your records to look really pretty while they spin fast, you may be interested. 4.75/5

(qualitytimerecords.bandcamp.com)

Various Artists - Short Shorts II - Phoenician MicroSystems - 12 songs - 7"

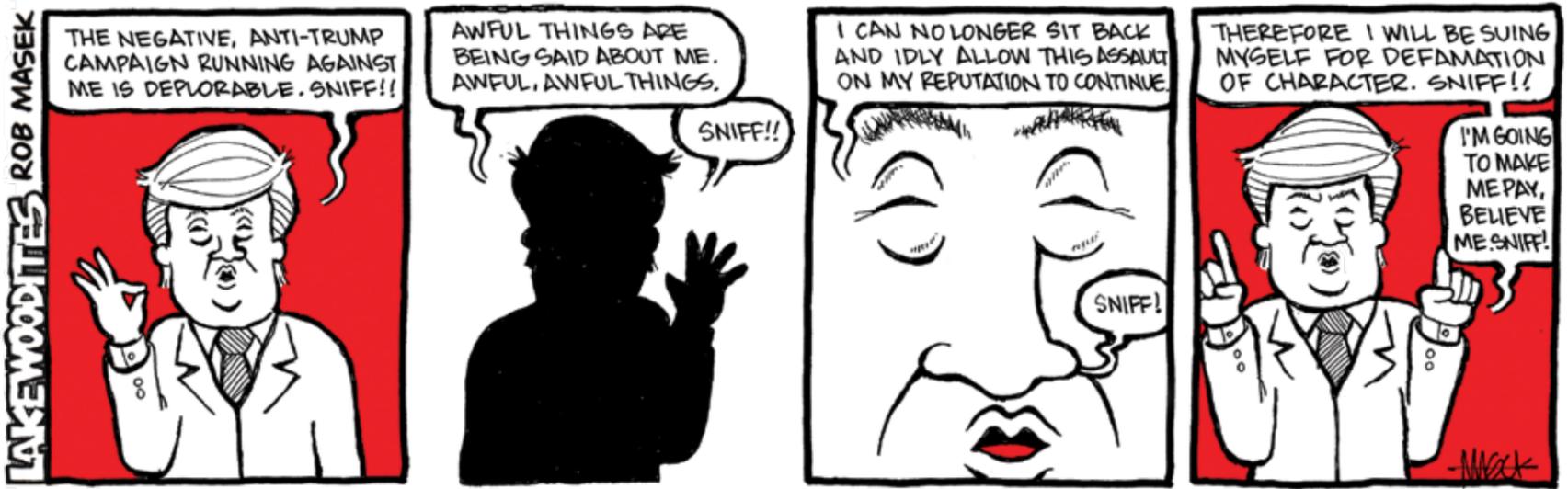
Finally, here's the long-awaited (at least by me) second volume of Short Shorts. For those unfamiliar with the concept, there's 12 Ohio bands doing short songs. And much like last time, there's a good variety of stuff on here. Something for everybody, some might say. You've got your local favorites like Obnox (who starts off the compilation with the unfortunately relevant "Protest To Riot") and The Nico Missile (who give us a studio version of their cover of the Kneecappers' classic punk ripper "Urban Kill"), some farther-away talent like Hookers Made Out Of Cocaine (whose track "Spacey" defies anything I can think to say about

it; you can decide whether that's positive or negative) and The Socials (who do a great manic punker, "Judy Killed Some Else"), some locals who aren't as prolific but that you've probably heard of, like Deche and Bwak Dwagon, and some who I don't believe have ever had any music released before this very comp, like weird acoustic punks Crisis Actor and the old-school hip hop of Clockwork Rapparatius. And if you're keeping score, you'll notice that I just named only 8 out of 12 bands, so there's 4 more here for you to discover yourself! My only complaint is that I would've liked a brand new MeAnderthal tune, but "Dangling From The Penthouse" is a pretty gosh darn good song anyways, so that's not much of a complaint. Oops, I just gave away another. Now there's only three for you to discover. 4.375/5

(pick it up at an area record store, go see one of the bands featured on it, or email phoenicianmicrosystems@gmail.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.

The Back Page



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