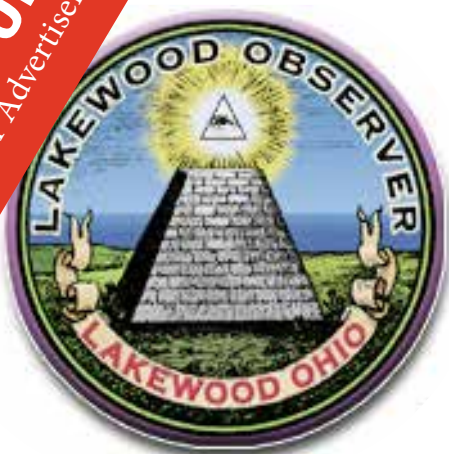


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THE LAKEWOOD OBSERVER

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Volume 13, Issue 1, January 10, 2017

Back To School In LHS' New Academic Wing

by Leah Fedor

Environment is everything. New placement is often seen as an advancement. Lakewood High School's new academic wing is an advancement within itself, replacing modular units from across the street. The move has risen nostalgia rates among students and staff simply for the end of an era. A project lasting ten years or so resulting in student's humor and dread. What will we complain about now? Six minutes of fresh air and psychological freedom? That was amazing.

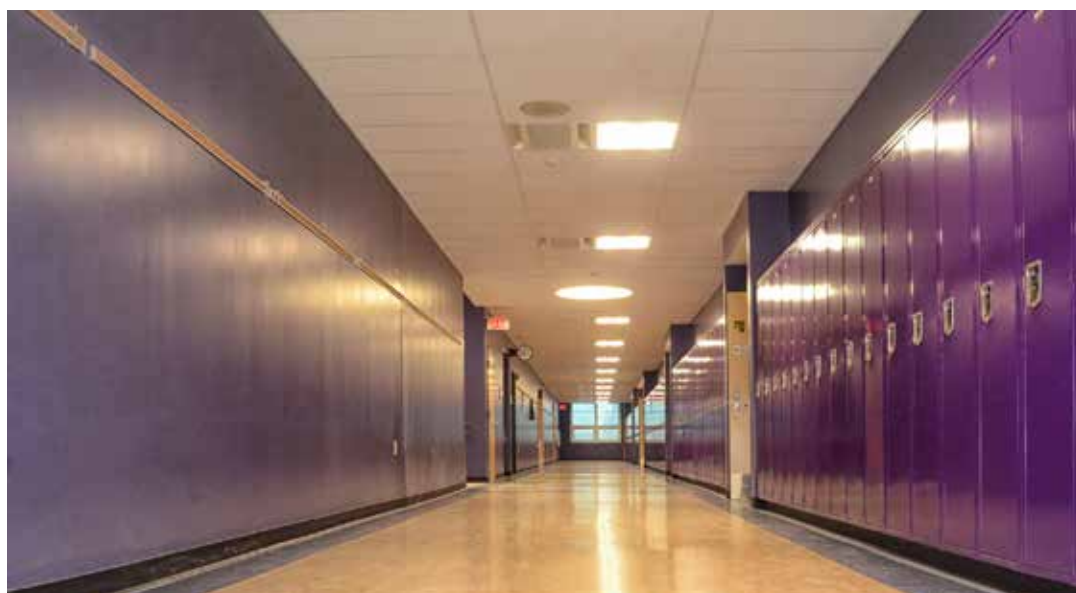
Now that we're all under one roof, the concept of 1800 students makes a lot more sense. Traffic is now mostly concentrated through the back stairwell which was once the quiet back streets of LHS. The new hallways are three stories of dark violet equipped with new age water bottle stations meant to save the earth from overwhelming plastic waste. The

three floors are connected by a skywalk staircase which will be taken by many even if it means more walking simply for the enjoyment of a three-sided window room. The classrooms are large and bright, differing from our classrooms' past interiors, which had more of a "living room" type feeling.

The first day back everything was particularly bare and the word 'prison' was heard several times throughout the day to describe the new space, but each room is beginning to gain some color.

We are adjusting quite nicely, and some of us can't help but imagine that one day in the future our new building will grow in age and fill with memories and mystery to be felt and explored by future generations. Similar to the mystery we were all so attracted to in the now demolished old building of LHS.

Leah Fedor is an LHS senior.



A first look into the brand New Academic Wing at LHS. For more images and an invite to see this amazing wing for yourself, turn to page 8. See you at the open house January 24, 6-8pm!

Dr. Madak Left Lasting Lakewood Legacy

by Christine Gordillo

The world recently lost a fine man and one of Lakewood City Schools' most impactful superintendents in Dr. P. Joseph Madak. The District's financial stability and state-

of-the-art school buildings can be traced directly to the exceptional leadership of Dr. Madak.

Dr. Madak served as the Superintendent of Lakewood City Schools from 1995 – 2004 and 2009-2011. During his tenure in Lakewood, Dr. Madak won the Ohio PTA's State Superintendent of the Year award, the Buckeye Association of School Administrator's Exemplary Leadership Award and was also named a Fulbright Scholar.

Chas Geiger was a member of the Board of Education when Dr. Madak was hired. He recalls that when Dr.



Photo by Jim O'Bryan

Dr. Joseph Madak

Madak, a relative outsider, came to Lakewood in 1995, it was shortly after the commu-
continued on page 2

Boodah Bash Alumni Night At Winterhurst Ice Rink



Photo by Ally Pavey, LHS Class of '18

by Rachel Pavey

Last Saturday night, January 7th, was the 2nd annual "Boodah Bash Alumni Night" which included the 1st annual LHS Ranger Hockey Alumni game. This event started as a memorial to Thomas "Boodah" Stark who passed away last January. Tommy was an alumni, a lifelong hockey enthusiast and the voice of the Ranger Hockey team until being diagnosed with cancer. There were 25-30 Alumni at last night's event including Ranger Hockey players from the years 1970-2016. Following the Alumni game, our Lakewood Ranger Hockey team battled with Mayfield for a shut out win (2-0) giving the Rangers a 6-1 record (2nd place) in their division for this year so far.

Rising Star Coffee Pops Up At Bottlehouse Brewery

by Michele Kilroy

Six-year-old, Cleveland-based Rising Star Coffee Roasters launched a coffee bar inside Bottlehouse Brewery's Madison Avenue location on December 19th. It is the coffee company's fourth retail location with all three previous cafes located in Cleveland.

Rising Star continually received requests to open a café in Lakewood and had been eyeing Madison Avenue's growing food and drink scene. There is a pre-existing partnership between the businesses since



Rising Star Coffee is now available on Madison Avenue!

Bottlehouse sourced coffee from Rising Star for its aptly named Rising Star Stout. Since
continued on page 3

Lakewood Observer

Dr. Madak Left Lasting Lakewood Legacy

continued from page 1

nity passed an operating levy ending a streak of failed attempts.

“Within a short time, Dr. Madak was able to bring faculty and community together, stabilize the financial health of the district, build a strong management team, and in time present a vision of educational excellence for Lakewood’s families and residents,” Geiger said. “That vision included the launch of a district-wide rebuilding and renovation of Lakewood’s school buildings that would complement and enhance the teaching and learning of our faculty and

students. As Board of Education members, we all learned from him. He was clearly the right leader at the right time for Lakewood.”

Paula Reed, who served on numerous levy, bond and other school committees echoes Geiger’s thoughts: “Joe Madak was hired as superintendent at a low point in the school district’s history... Many people had lost faith in the direction of the district. Dr. Madak came in with a plan to re-establish trust and confidence, soliciting community input and engaging citizen participation in the process... The direction he set for the district solidified the quality of

Lakewood schools, which contributed dramatically to the desirability of living in Lakewood.”

It was Dr. Madak who put the plan in motion for the now nearly complete Facilities Master Plan by bringing together a group of dedicated volunteers made up of parents, teachers, community members and administrators to form the Lakewood Schools – Designing the Next 50 Years Committee.

“I was taken by Joe’s clear vision and the process he laid out to get everyone involved,” said Tom Einhouse, chairman of the 50 Years Committee and current Board of Education member.

“I was so impressed with the way that 50 or more community members worked together in a cooperative manner, which led to citywide consensus on what ended up to be a \$270 million rebuilding of the entire school facilities. Dr. Madak made that happen.”

“Dr. Madak was a true visionary and brilliant administrator who cared deeply for and about Lakewood, its students and its families,” said Lakewood Schools parent Jay Foran, who served on the 50 Years Committee and many levy and bond issue committees through the years. “He helped put Lakewood Schools on both a ‘teaching & learning’ and ‘financial’ path that

has led to the wonderful school district we know today.”

Staff members remember a man who was deeply committed to the District, its staff and its students and would often stop by a classroom to offer a word of encouragement. One former staff member recalled on social media that she didn’t think he even knew who she was until he walked up to her and greeted her by name.

Prior to serving as Lakewood’s fifteenth Superintendent, Dr. Madak also served as Superintendent of Schools in Clear Fork Local, Olmsted Falls City and Kettering City. Due to his excellent leadership and strategic skills, he also was selected to serve as Interim Superintendent in Mansfield City, Revere Local and Brecksville-Broadview Heights. In each case, his leadership in the districts led to higher test scores and academic achievement and improved financial footing during his tenure. While leading these districts, Madak spearheaded 10 successful operating levies and passed an additional levy with Lakewood in 2010.


Even in retirement, Dr. Madak continued to remain ever the educator, serving as an online instructor for college courses.

Said Geiger: “He was a remarkable man, an educator’s educator. His legacy will prevail for generations to come.”

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Celebrating Over 10 Years of Community Discussion at: www.lakewoodobserver.com

From The Statehouse

Antonio: Vetoes Of Two Bills Necessary

by Nickie Antonio

The phrase “lame-duck” describes the period of time after an election but before the end of the General Assembly – November and December of an election year. During this time, there is a rush to pass pending legislation before the end of the year

This year, amongst the dozens of bills rushed through, the legislature passed two such bills – Senate Bill 329 and House Bill 554 – that I did not vote in favor of, and as a result of much public pressure, the Governor vetoed just after Christmas.

House Bill 554 would have changed our state’s energy efficiency standards to unenforceable “goals” through 2019. Without standards, little investment or progress can be made toward the full development and use of renewable or cleaner sources of energy. Instead of moving Ohio forward, this bill would have left us all in the dark ages with high energy prices, a dirty environment, and no high-tech advanced manufacturing jobs. To grow our economy and provide more people with good jobs and affordable energy, we should pass laws that look to the future. Other Democrat lawmakers and I, business groups, environmental groups, and countless others called on our Governor to veto this misguided bill, and I am glad that he did.

Senate Bill 329 would have allowed lawmakers to single-handedly

not renew entire state departments. Imagine a winter in Cleveland without ODOT salt trucks for state roads because lawmakers decided not to renew the Department of Transportation, or used the department as a bargaining chip – seems like a bad

idea, right? Something that happens in Washington, DC, not Columbus, Ohio. Not only was SB 329 a bad bill, but it was a waste of taxpayer dollars. State departments are already reviewed every two years with the state’s budgeting process, which is a collaborative

effort between branches of government and includes many public hearings. The veto of this bill was necessary, and I will continue to work to create a government that better serves us all, I will not work to make government dysfunctional.

Rising Star Coffee Pops Up At Bottlehouse Brewery

continued from page 1

Bottlehouse’s tasting room and mead hall routinely opened at 4pm each day, it left an entire morning and afternoon available. Conversations naturally led to the trial coffee bar concept in the space with hopes of making a more permanent location in the area.

The coffee bar opens at 6am Mondays through Saturdays and at 8am on Sundays. It features single origin coffees that Rising Star is known for, brewed by either aeropress or pour-over method. Rising Star Coffee buys beans from Central America, South America, Africa and Indonesia and roasts them nearby in the Clark-Fulton neighborhood. Bags of coffee beans are available for sale for those looking to brew at home. Bagels and bakery items from fire food and drink are also available just as they are in Rising Star’s other cafes.

One of the biggest benefits at this location is the big amount of space which is three to four times larger than the coffee company’s other locations. The



A new partnership between Bottlehouse Brewery and Rising Star Coffee temporarily makes use of the Bottlehouse space during daytime hours.

Bottlehouse space offers many seating options which include communal tables. Rising Star envisions this as a great place for family and friends to gather, meetings to be held or individuals to camp out with their laptops and coffee.

Rising Star Coffee Roasters is hosting a free open house at 13368 Madison Avenue on Saturday, January 21st from

9 a.m. to noon. They will be sampling multiple origin coffees, demonstrating bean roasting on a portable roaster and comparing the aeropress versus pour over methods for visitors. Chocolate milk will be on hand for any younger guests. All are welcome to attend and people are encouraged to stop in prior to the event.

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Lakewood Public Library

Calendar Of Events

compiled by Elaine Rosenberger

Wednesday, January 11

Lakewood Historical Society

Extra! Extra! A History of Cleveland’s Front Pages

From 1818 to the present, Cleveland has never been without a daily newspaper. John Vacha, an associate editor of the “Encyclopedia of Cleveland History,” will review the history of journalism in the Forest City. Come and hear all about it!

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

Thursday, January 12

Author Event - “Leadership for Adolescents”

by Carolyn M. Anderson, PhD

Dr. Carolyn M. Anderson offers a step-by-step guide to help teenagers understand the role of a leader and to teach the skills needed for a leadership position. Crucial to leadership is the art of communication, which is a learned behavior. Anderson discusses the I-in-leader theme developing a basic understanding of self and of leadership skills. Books will be available for sale and signing at the event.

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

Saturday, January 14

Film - “Seven Days in May” (1964)

The U.S. President (Fredric March) has just negotiated a disarmament treaty with the Soviet Union, much to the dismay of his top generals. They want to remove him from office without benefit of the electoral process. Colonel Jiggs Casey (Kirk Douglas) becomes suspicious and tries to get answers from his former boss, General Scott (Burt Lancaster). Terry Meehan continues his series on political movies, introducing each film with original documentaries, followed by audience reaction and a lively discussion.

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

Sunday, January 15

Performance - Something Dada

Something Dada has been entertaining audiences with their unique brand of fast-paced improvised comedy for over twenty years. All shows are based entirely on audience suggestions and made up right before your eyes. The content is constantly changing to reflect history, popular culture or whatever random ideas the audience supplies. No two shows are ever the same, and you never know what you might see.

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

Tuesday, January 17

Talk - Alternative Careers in STEM

Often people think of a ‘scientist’ as someone with a PhD who works in a lab, mixing up chemicals and using a microscope. There are actually a lot of ways to have a career in science. Mary Rouse recaps her educational and professional experiences in science education and public health. Topics included are career planning, job searches and career opportunities in museums.

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

Tuesday January 17

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 “All the Light We Cannot See” by Anthony Doerr.

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

Thursday January 19

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 “The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime” by Mark Haddon.

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

Saturday, January 21

Film - “The Age of Innocence” (1993)

Michelle Pfeiffer and Daniel Day-Lewis are members of New York’s upper crust society of 1880. Pfeiffer has come back to the United States after leaving her nobleman husband. In an environment where a repeated whisper can forever destroy the reputations of those who defy convention, Pfeiffer and Day-Lewis nevertheless play with fire. Barbara Steffek-Hill presents a series of classic and contemporary films from her personal favorites.

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

Sunday, January 22

Film - “The Bad Kids”

At a remote Mojave Desert high school, extraordinary educators believe that, more than academics, it is love, empathy and life skills that give at-risk students command of their own futures. Education combats the crippling effects of poverty. This film was shown at last year’s Cleveland International Film Festival. After the film, Lakewood City Academy staff members, including Renee Kolecki, Drop-Out Prevention, will be on hand to discuss how Lakewood City Academy shares approaches to educating students in our community who have similar needs.

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

Tuesday, January 24

Talk - Women in STEM and NASA

Presented by Sheila Bailey

NASA has an interest in encouraging everyone to pursue a STEM education, especially women and minorities. This presentation focuses on a number of women at NASA, their jobs and their backgrounds. Sheila Bailey, who has a PhD in condensed matter physics from the University of Manchester in England, will share her personal story, one that says you

don’t have to give up having a family to have a career. She will also discuss careers in science and engineering.

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

Wednesday, January 25

Talk - Lakewood Historical Society

The Art and Architecture of Lakewood Public Library

The Library buildings themselves are works of art. Library Director Mr. Crawford will discuss the buildings’ architects and artists including Edward R. Tilton, who designed the original Carnegie library; Abram Garfield, who renovated the Madison Branch; Reed Thomason’s mural of literary characters; David Deming’s Lake and Wood; the Richard Haas murals; and Transversion by Peter Diepenbrock.

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

Children & Youth Events

compiled by Eric Knapp

Saturday, January 14

Tail Waggin’ Tutors

For school-age children

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

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

Sunday, January 15

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 Room.

Monday, January 16

Share the Dream: A Celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

For school-age children

Celebrate the life and legacy of MLK through stories, songs, and craft. No registration required.

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. in the Main Library First Floor Multipurpose Room.

Mondays, January 16 through February 20

Otaku Cafe

For students in sixth through twelfth grade

Come learn about anime, manga, costumes, crafts, and conventions. Registration required.

4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. in the Main Library First Floor Multipurpose Room.



Members of the Girls Who Code Club at LPL.

For Students In Sixth Through Twelfth Grade

Girls Who Code Club

by Julie Strunk

Mondays, February 6 through April 10 from 6 to 8 p.m.

Main Library Learning Lab

Explore coding in a fun and friendly environment by joining this free club for girls in sixth through twelfth grade. As a central part of your Clubs experience, you’ll work with your Club on a Computer Science Impact Project, where you’ll use computer science to solve a problem relevant to your Club and community. Through this project, you’ll also learn the Core4 computer science concepts that form the basis for all computer programming languages while also building your teamwork and leadership skills. Build a mobile app, a website, or program a robot. Activities are designed for students with a wide range of computer science experience. Learn more at <https://girlswhocode.com/clubs/>

Register online at www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.org/youth or call (216) 226-8275, ext. 140.

Lakewood Public Library

The Art And Architecture Of Lakewood Public Library

by Amy Kloss

The Lakewood Public Library is a popular place for residents to visit, whether they browse for books and magazines, check out the awesome collection of DVD's and CD's, take the kids to story hour or attend one of the many free movies, lectures or musical performances. What's in the library is so enchanting, many people forget the buildings themselves are architecturally significant, with impressive works of art within their walls.

On Wednesday, January 25 at 7 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium, Library Director James Crawford will bring to life the art and architecture of the Library in a discussion covering both the Main Library and the Madison Branch.

The Main Library opened in 1916 with 10,000 volumes in 11,000 square feet. It was a Carnegie library, one of 2,500 built between 1883 and 1929, designed by New York architect Edward Tilton. This Greek revival building made of Indiana limestone was renovated and enlarged several times over the years as the population

of Lakewood expanded. The structure that now stands at Detroit and Arthur Avenues is the latest expansion, completed in 2008. This 93,000 square foot building was designed by American architect Robert A.M. Stern. At the time of its opening, the *Cleveland Plain Dealer* called the Lakewood Library "a neoclassical palace devoted to reading in general, and books in particular."

More than books await patrons entering the Main Library. Outside the building on Detroit Avenue stands a 3,000 pound sculpture of textured bronze and stainless steel, "Transversion" by Peter Diepenbrock. Completed in 2011, this distinctive public art work even inspired a book of poetry, photographs and math problems. Inside the Library, visitors are greeted at the entrance to Children's and Youth Services by David Deming's whimsical "Lake" and "Wood" sculptures and delighted by the 1978 Reed Thoma-son murals depicting characters from classic literature. Murals also grace the Grand Reading Room, where the work of Richard Haas illustrates the history of Lakewood.

The Madison Branch opened in 1921 to serve residents in the south-east section of Lakewood, including recent immigrants working in the National Carbon Company factory. In 1929, Lakewood debuted its permanent branch library in Madison Park, a building designed by Walker & Weeks, Architects on land donated by the city. In 1956, the Madison Branch was remodeled and expanded to include an auditorium.

Join Library Director James Crawford in the Main Library Auditorium on January 25 to discover more about the art and architecture of one of Lake-wood's treasured institutions.



"Transversion" by Peter Diepenbrock is one of the most iconic pieces of art at the Main Branch to be discussed during the January 25th event.

Share The Dream: A Celebration Of Martin Luther King, Jr.

by Marge Foley

For some children, being off from school on January 16, 2017, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, means sleeping late, playing video games, and watching television. The Lakewood Public Library is offering a meaningful alternative. Your child can still catch some extra shut-eye, however from 2 to 3 p.m. they can take part in a program that will celebrate the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. through stories, songs, and a craft.

As part of the MLK Day of Service, participants will create cards

which will be distributed to local nursing home residents. This artistic endeavor will brighten the day of a senior citizen and provide your child with a chance to serve others. The cards will be delivered to a local nursing home by a library staff member at a later date. Each child will also be given the opportunity to make a take-home booklet about the life of Dr. King. There is no need to register in advance. All school-age children are invited to participate in this program which will take place in the Main Library Multipurpose Room.

Upcycling: From Rags To Riches



by Kate Brennan-MacGregor

This eco-friendly program at Lakewood Public Library gave children in grades 3-8 the opportunity to learn basic sewing machine skills. Old clothing was re-purposed into tote bags, hats, scarves and aprons by these energetic students.

MTA: Leadership For Adolescents Author Dr. Carolyn Anderson

by Lisa Calfee

Lakewood Public Library welcomes Dr. Carolyn M. Anderson, the author of "Leadership for Adolescents," on Thursday, January 12, 2017 at 7 p.m. for a discussion about the guide that helps teenagers develop the qualities of a leader in school and work. This Meet the Author program will be held in the Main Library Basement Auditorium.

Dr. Carolyn M. Anderson has devoted much of her professional life to the study of Communication. After a long career as a professor at Akron University, Dr. Anderson is now doing extensive research and writing in the

field along with consulting through her company, CMA Communication Consultants.

In her latest book, "Leadership for Adolescents," Dr. Anderson focuses her expertise on the needs of teenagers. The book offers a seven-step guide to help teenagers understand the role of a leader and to teach them the skills they need for a leadership position. She breaks down the key characteristics of leaders and how to develop the qualities that will make a person stand out in both the classroom and the workplace. Books will be available for sale and signing at the event.

Family Music And More Presents The Mad Mountain Juggler

by Jeffrey Siebert

You don't need to run away to the circus to see a crazy great juggler. Come on down to the Lakewood Public Library for our Family Music and More program where we'll be presenting the Mad Mountain Juggler. John Flower is the zaniest showman around, and will put on a rousing interactive walk-around juggling show. Bring the whole family for a wild and wacky time.

This program for children and their families will take place on Saturday, January 21, 2017 at 7 p.m. All programs are free and open to the public. Generously funded by the Friends of the Lakewood Public Library, this event will be held in the Main Library first floor Multi-purpose Room, which is located in



John Flower is the Mad Mountain Juggler.

Children's and Youth Services. Have questions, call 216-226-8275x140 or visit our website at www.lakewood-publiclibrary.org. We hope to see you there!

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Schools

Lakewood High School Duo Nominated For Presidential Scholar Program

by Christine Gordillo

Lakewood High seniors Ian Bell and Rachel Daso have been selected by the Ohio Department of Education as two of 20 Ohio high school students to be nominated for the U.S. Presidential Scholars Program. This is the third straight year LHS has had a student nominated for the honor.

The U.S. Presidential Scholars Program is one of the nation's highest honors for high school students. It was established in 1964 by executive order by the President to recognize and honor some of our nation's most distinguished graduating seniors. Each year, up to 161 students are named as Presidential Scholars.

Ian and Rachel, both National Merit Semifinalists, were selected based on their service to their school and community, leadership skills, character and academic achievements and their score on the nominee's essay. The duo are at the top of their class and hold impressive GPAs based on a rig-



U.S. Presidential Scholar nominees Rachel Daso and Ian Bell.

orous courseload of AP and advanced classes.

Ian has a GPA of 4.53. He is involved heavily in the LHS music pro-

gram and participates in the Cleveland Youth Wind Symphony as lead clarinet. He is co-captain of the Academic Challenge team that has gone to the

national championship tournament for four years straight, serves as co-president of the Model UN Club, is a student liaison for the Lakewood Rangers Education Foundation and a youth ambassador for ASIA Inc., a nonprofit group that helps support the District's refugee population.

Rachel carries a 4.55 GPA and is co-president with Ian of the Model UN Club and president of the National Honor Society. She is also involved extensively in the music program as well as the Contemporary Youth Orchestra based at Cleveland State. She has performed in numerous Barnstormers Drama Club productions and is a member of Watters Science Seminar. Outside of school, she teaches private trumpet lessons and serves at her church.

"Ian and Rachel our two of our best and brightest at Lakewood High and I am proud to have them represent us for this prestigious honor," said Principal Keith Ahearn.

Lincoln Teacher In The District Staff Spotlight

by Christine Gordillo

It's not enough for Pam Thompson to teach her students the math, science, reading and social studies they need. She wants to nurture and grow the whole child, inside and outside the classroom, and that's why Pam, 5th grade teacher at Lincoln Elementary School, has been selected as The Lakewood City Schools' January Staff Spotlight honoree.

Thompson, who has been teaching in the District for 10 years with the last three at Lincoln, lights up when talking about why she loves teaching. She says the best part is "when you see the light bulb turn on and you realize, ah, they get it!"

As a college student, she didn't start out with teaching as her career goal, but an experience helping troubled boys at a "boys ranch" as part of her sociology studies turned the light bulb on for her when she saw the difference she could make. Ever since, she's been finding ways to help students

learn and grow beyond the classroom.

During her 7-year stint at Garfield Middle School, she began the Margaret Warner Ladies Luncheon Club, which among its activities included its members helping senior citizens every month with shopping at Giant Eagle. She has started a similar group with a group of 12 Lincoln students.

"The girls feel so proud to help and it gives them an opportunity to build relationships outside of school and an avenue to get to know other girls than just their friends, Thompson said.

In addition to the Margaret Warner club (named for a grant received from the Lakewood Rangers Education Foundation's Margaret Warner Educational Grant Fund), Thompson assists with the Morning News Crew and coaches the Math Competition Club.

The Math Club competes each winter in the Greater Cleveland Consortium of Teachers of Math competition.

If that is not enough, she is working on her master's to receive TESOL certification (Teachers of Speakers of Other Languages) because she saw a need in the District and she would like a better understanding of the immigrant/refugee students that are part of her classroom.

Her nominator's submission sums up what kind of teacher Thompson is: "Pam creates a classroom environment where learning, hard work, and respect are held in high regard for all of her students. Pam challenges her students to be their best and sees mistakes as part of the learning process and an opportunity to teach her students how to use mistakes as a learning connection for future endeavors."



Lincoln Elementary teacher, Pam Thompson.

The Lakewood Music Boosters Thank YOU!!

by Tiffany Fox

A special thank you to the following businesses:

The Lakewood Music Boosters would like to thank all of our members, donors and volunteers for making 2016 a successful year!

Anchor Landscaping, Beck Center of the Arts, Brown Aveda Institute, Bruce's Automotive and Fleet, Campbell's Sweets Factory, Cathy Livingston, Chipotle, Cleveland Browns, Cleveland Monsters, Caroline Urban, Dewey's, Garfield Music Students, Home Depot, Ice Cream Joy, Toni Kulma, Lakewood Pasta Co. Lake County Captains Baseball, Brian Logan, Mahall's Bowling Alley, Merry Edwards Winery, MOCA: Cleveland Museum of Contemporary Art, Only in Cleveland, Pat Catan's, Painting and Portraits by Patrice, Revelations Salon and Spa, Sacred Hour, Salt Restaurant, Staples, Spin Cycle, Tomorrows A



Hair Salon Inc., Value World, and Westside Skate.

And here's wishing everyone a happy and healthy 2017!!

Tiffany Fox is the Corresponding Secretary on the Executive Board for The Lakewood Music Boosters

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Schools

Remarks From New Board of Education President Betsy Shaughnessy

At the January 3, 2017 Board of Education meeting, incoming President Betsy Shaughnessy offered remarks on the year ahead:

We have a great deal to look forward to in 2017. We will fulfill our promise to students, staff and community to provide environments for teaching and learning that foster the creativity and innovative thinking necessary to prepare students for a world of work and civic participation vastly different than that they prepare for today. Perhaps even more importantly, we will prepare them to be discerning thinkers and evaluators of information and data - able to withstand and process a barrage of facts as well as opinions, fake news and sound bites. We will be able to offer our students the opportunity to explore the arts and be joyful and to feel safe and to develop into young adults ready for the world.

The successful reorganizing and rebuilding of our schools was founded in a strategic plan which itself took sev-

eral years to develop. This planning process was initiated by Superintendent Joseph Madak who recognized the need to not only provide safe and sound buildings, but more importantly, the need to create environments in which teaching and learning would flourish. This strategic plan of course reflected the structure and specifications of the new or renovated buildings but most importantly these structures were designed based on what had been an intensive discussion of the educational needs of students and teachers in the future. Our plan survived the great recession, political change and delay because of this community's unwavering support and because of Superintendent Patterson's commitment to completion of the project and his vigilance in assessing our earliest opportunity to secure state funding.

I mention this history because we have an ambitious set of district goals for 2017 and for the years ahead and our past success bodes well for our

ability to achieve these goals. We have been able to translate a remarkably ambitious vision into reality because of the investment and contributions of the Lakewood community, teachers, parents, students, administrators, our invaluable school staff and our local government. We are at our best when we listen to each other, collaborate, and are honest about our fears and hopes. We are at our best when we question without accusation and listen to hear others, not to hone our own arguments. I am hopeful that we will harness the same energy and spirit of co-operation that we generated to rebuild our schools to create the rigorous and exciting atmosphere that our students deserve and require. I am hopeful that our communication with each other will continue to improve – Board members, parents, teachers, administrators all coming together to apply the same innovative and creative thinking that made the 50-year plan a reality.

This Board is committed to the well being of our students and staff, to open and productive communication with parents, staff and students and to exercising fiscal responsibility. While there may be a natural tension resulting from change we have every reason to believe that we can be successful if



Incoming President Betsy Shaughnessy

we manage that change in a constructive and transparent way. We are very pleased that we will not be returning to the community for a levy in 2017 with the caveat that we need to be vigilant in our attention to budgetary actions as well as legislative mandates at the state and federal levels.

I look forward to working with my very capable board colleagues and an administrative staff that makes the needs of our children their top priority each and every day. I am grateful for the privilege of serving a community I love. Thank you all.

Outgoing Board President Einhouse Reflects

At the January 3, 2017 Board of Education meeting, outgoing President Tom Einhouse offered a reflection of his time leading the Board in 2016:

Fellow School Board members, Superintendent Patterson, Treasurer Zeman, administrators, educators, District staff, students, parents and Lakewood citizens, it has been my pleasure serving on your behalf as the school board president during the past year.

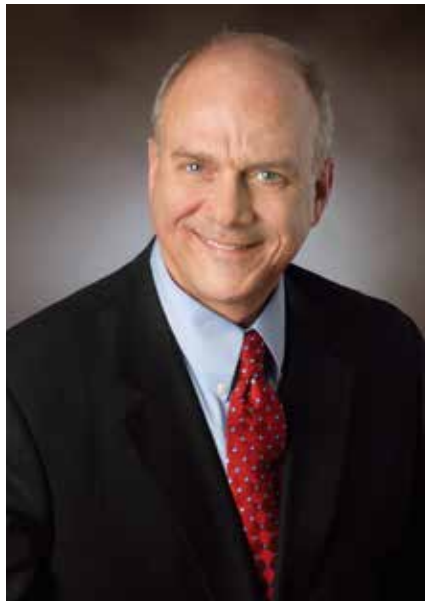
I want to reiterate my appreciation for the way this Board functions. While we each possess unique skills we operate as equals, which is clearly demonstrated by the rotation we each take as Board president.

2016 was a very good year for our district.

On the academic front, we are making significant strides in the following ways:

- The implementation of Ohio's Learning Standards through consistent classroom instruction;
- Through all grade levels we are achieving very good results in Positive Behavior Supports;
- I can attest from the many award ceremonies I attended this year that our students and staff continue to be recognized for their excellent achievements;
- We continue to make progress with integrating technology within our curriculum including a successful computing model for grades 6 through 9;
- And this year we expanded career-tech and music opportunities at the middle school level.

Financially we are in very sound condition:




Outgoing President Tom Einhouse

- We have no immediate need for additional operating funds;
- The members of our Financial Advisory Committee continue to be a valued resource, helping to communicate our financial outlook and providing a sounding board for decisions as we proceed;
- This year we extended our partnership with First Federal of Lakewood through a sponsorship of \$692,000 for the construction of an elevated indoor track for student and community use.

This has been a banner year for operations. We successfully moved out of 3 elementary transition sites into new buildings. Over this winter break we moved out of high school modular units into the new academic wing.

We can rest assured that we are looking out for the future of the significant investments that our community

continued on page 15




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Schools

A Sneak Peek At New LHS Academic Wing



Do not miss LHS Open House January 24th, 6-8pm. The community has spent over a decade in planning, voting and paying for our massive commitment to the education of our students. Check it out, I believe you will love what you see.



photo by Clare Ciolli (LHS Student)

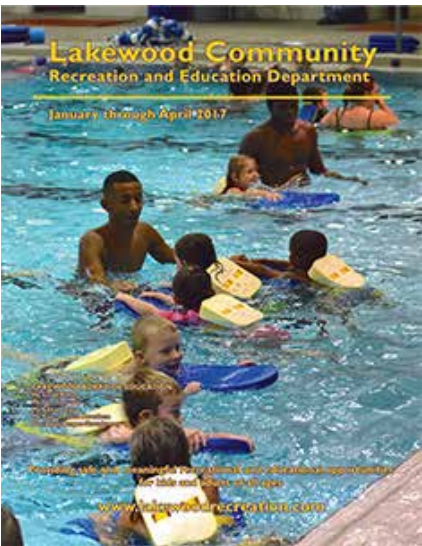
Students back in their comfort zone.

The Lakewood Recreation Winter/Spring 2017 Booklet Is Out!

by Mitchell Robida

The Lakewood City Schools Community Recreation Department’s Winter/Spring 2017 booklet is out! Whether you are looking to hone a skill or start a new hobby, we have a class that will fit your interests. In addition to all of the great programs, the booklet also contains the winter/spring Learn-to-Swim schedules, summer camps and our summer youth and adult athletic leagues.

We have mailed out our latest booklet to each Lakewood resident. We hope you have received it and have had a chance to look it over. If you haven’t, the latest Community Recreation and Education booklet it is available at the Recreation Department, City Hall, and both Lakewood Public Libraries. If you prefer to look at the booklet in the comfort of your own home please go to www.lakewoodrecreation.com or call (216) 529-4081 for more information.



All Lakewood residents should have recently received the 2017 Winter/Spring Booklet in the mail.

Adult Summer Softball Registrations

by Rick Wallenhorst

Team registrations for our Adult Spring/Summer Softball leagues are open beginning on February 1st. From COED and men’s Sunday double header leagues to various weekday leagues, there are many opportunities to play. Players of all skill levels are welcome. New this season is a Women’s Classic 45+ Monday League.

This is a fun and social league consisting of a regular season followed by playoffs.

Get your friends together and register. Check our website at <http://www.lakewoodrecreation.com> for information on all of our leagues and registration costs.

You can register your team online at <http://www.lakewoodrecreation.com>, over the phone at 216-529-4082, or in person at 1456 Warren Road.

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Lakewood Is Art

Music And Visual Arts Collide At Beck Center

by Pat Miller

Beck Center for the Arts and Oberlin College are pleased to present “Playing the Changes: The Life and Legacy of Milt Hinton” exhibition in the Jean Bulicek Galleria, January 13 – February 18, 2017. The exhibition is timely, as February is Black History Month, and is free and open to the public.

Two special events will be held in conjunction with the exhibition. A Documentary Screening and Gallery Reception will be held January 13, 6 p.m. The screening of “Keeping Time: The Life, Music, and Photographs of Milt Hinton” will be followed by a Q&A with NYC Documentarians David Berger and Holly Maxson. There is no cost to attend, but reservations are required by contacting beckcenter.org or Customer Service at 216.521.2540 x10. The gallery reception will feature small bites provided by SALT restaurant. There is no cost to

attend, and a cash bar will be available. A Curator Showcase will take place February 4, 4 p.m., with a presentation by Oberlin Curator, Jeremy Smith, and a music performance by Oberlin Professor, Peter Dominguez, playing Milt Hinton’s famous bass. This event is free and no registration is required.

“Playing the Changes” is a traveling exhibition developed by Oberlin College and the Milton J. Hinton Photographic Collection. It combines original photographs by Hinton with insightful materials drawn from the Milton J. and Mona C. Hinton Collection in the Oberlin Conservatory Library’s special collections. This exhibition provides an unrivaled perspective on the life and legacy of one of the most accomplished bass players of the twentieth century. Hinton worked with performers across the spectrum of styles, including Cab Calloway,

Louis Armstrong, Bing Crosby, Barbra Streisand, and Paul McCartney.

The selected artwork has been curated by Oberlin Conservatory Special Collections Librarian and Curator Jeremy Smith. “I couldn’t be happier to see this exhibit come to such a respected organization as the Beck Center. Milt always sought to pass along his vast insights to all who were interested in learning, and I’m confident he would be thrilled to see his life and legacy made available to the residents of Lakewood and the surrounding communities,” said Smith. This also marks a first time collaboration between Beck Center’s Music Education Department, led by Associate Director Matt Charboneau, and Beck Center’s Visual Arts Education Department, led by Associate Director Darrelle Centuori. “We are thrilled to enter this collaboration, and excited to have the first traveling exhibition of Hinton’s



Courtesy of the Milton J. Hinton Photographic Collection.

photographs and materials on display at Beck Center,” remarked Centuori.

More information is available at beckcenter.org. For gallery hours, call Customer Service at 216.521.2540 x10. Beck Center is located at 17801 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood. Free onsite parking is available.

Have You Been Robbed?

Reviews Of Recent Releases By Local Bands, Pt. 40

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.

Air Sicily - Sexy Eurobeat Vol. 1 - Tall Tee Tapes - 4 songs - Cassette, download

Here’s the debut release from Cleveland’s hottest new act. I put four songs as there’s four actual musical songs and what I’m calling the “intro,” which I don’t think counted as its own song, but I’m sure I will get angry letters telling me I’m wrong. It starts off with Jack (the lead singer) rambling about...something. I can’t really tell ‘cause of the mega-hip echoes going on, but I know I caught mention of my favorite nonexistent bowling alley, “Mahall’s 25 Lanes” in there. Definitely love it. The songs themselves are all pretty good noisy punk stuff. It’s no wave though, because there’s lots of feedback and woodwind instrument pieces involved. I think that’s what no wave is about. The fourth (last) track is okay, but grabs me the least, so you should probably just listen to the first three. I can’t tell what any of the lyrics are,

but knowing the members of the band, I’m sure they are very deep and meaningful indeed. I’ve gotten very disparate reactions from people who have heard this tape. Some said “it would be fun to dance to,” others said “it sucks, but I think it’s supposed to suck.” Personally, it gave me a headache. 4/5

(airsicilycoolband.bandcamp.com to download, I guess find a member of the band if you want a tape)

Ma Holos - Fast Money - Quality Time Records - 4 songs - 7”, download

A friend of mine (his name’s Eric) saw Ma Holos for the first time a month or so ago, and when I asked him what he thought, he said, “the lead guitarist shreds.” I don’t have any transition away from this, I just thought it would be a pleasant way to start off. This is Ma Holos’ first vinyl release, as well as their first with Joey Nix, who proves that, in addition to being a good songwriter, guitarist, singer, and really nice guy, he’s also a competent drummer. He and bassist Pat Richey (not to be confused with Drew Ritchey of Cheap Clone, Bob Richey of the Pink Holes, or Richard Patrick of The AkT) do

quite a nice job holding down the rhythm section. The first track, “Dogbite,” is a pretty straightforward garage rocker for the most part. Kinda reminded me of Cococoma a bit, but maybe that’s just because Cococoma’s been on my mind lately. “Fast Money” is another decent one, though maybe my least favorite on the record. Side B has “Dirty Bird” and what’s my pick for the hit of the record, “Kiki’s Leash.” Both feature Robert Joyce’s fascinating (oh wait, different band), attitudinal vocal style and Marty Brass’s shredding (indeed) guitar leads. I will say that on this record, the guitars are less distorted in general and Marty’s leads are less snarled fuzz and more clean and melodic. It’s an interesting change. I kinda like it. Oh, right, back to “Kiki’s Leash” for a minute. It does a wonderful job combining Ma Holos’ style with very catchy pop tuneage. Definitely the big winner here. I know I always have terrible things to say about Bad Racket, but I think the way they record there actually fits well with Ma Holos, for whatever reason. Although, I do think the vocals could be a little more...audible, I guess. Or maybe put in a



Cover art from this issue’s music review.

lyric sheet or something. Or maybe Robert likes it this way. Who can say? 4/5

(this doesn’t currently seem to be available at qualitytimerecords.bandcamp.com (the label guy is on tour), but I’m sure it will be very soon)

The Roobydocks/Bulsch - Fall 2016 Tour Split Tape - self-released - 4 songs (2 each band) - Cassette

I’m happy that both The Roobydocks and Bulsch had a productive 2016. This was the third release for the Roobys, and their first show was in October. That’s pretty good. Meanwhile, Bulsch released and (I think) sold out two tapes, both of which were repressed (I think) and then

continued on page 11

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Lakewood Cares

Tickets for Fundraising Event At The Bottlehouse Brewery Lakewood On Sale Now

LakewoodAlive To Host Loving Lakewood: Lumberjack Bash On February 25

by Matt Bixenstine

Calling all lumberjacks and jills: Get ready to channel your flannel and dance your axe off!

LakewoodAlive announces it will host “Loving Lakewood: Lumberjack Bash” presented by Geiger’s on Saturday, Feb. 25, from 7:30 to 11 p.m. at The Bottlehouse Brewery Lakewood (13368 Madison Avenue). Guests are cordially invited to grow their best beard, don their finest Lumberjack attire and attend LakewoodAlive’s annual winter fundraiser for a log-splitting good time. Once you go lumberjack, you might never go back.

Tickets for the Lumberjack Bash are on sale now and can be secured at LakewoodAlive.org. Proceeds will support LakewoodAlive’s programming as we strive to foster and sustain vibrant neighborhoods in Lakewood. Much like lumberjacks, we at LakewoodAlive are renowned for our work ethic and not afraid to roll up our sleeves and get the job done.

The Lumberjack Bash will feature lumberjack-themed food, drinks, décor and entertainment. Attendees will be chopping at the bit to consume pancakes and bacon-wrapped sausage

links, sample a Blue Ox cocktail, enjoy live music and partake in games and activities fit for a true Lumberjack. One such activity – the Epic Beard Contest presented by Men’s Cuts – will afford contestants the opportunity to compete for the distinctions of having the best, longest and most unique beards.

A \$75 VIP ticket includes all General Admission ticket offerings plus early entrance at 6:30 p.m., complimentary valet parking, access to a special VIP menu, two specialty drink tickets and additional live music and activities.

A \$40 General Admission ticket gains you entrance to The Bottlehouse Brewery Lakewood at 7:30 p.m., where you’ll receive brunch-style heavy hors d’oeuvres, one specialty drink ticket and access to all the lumberjack-themed fun. General Admission ticketholders will also receive complimentary



mentary valet parking.

No matter which ticket option you choose, you’ll be so plaid you came. Attending lumberjacks and jills are urged to wear casual, outdoorsy attire: Jeans, plaid flannel, suspenders, winter hats and boots. Beards (fake or otherwise), hearty appetites and shouts of “Timber!” are strongly-encouraged.

More details regarding the Lumberjack Bash will be unveiled in the coming weeks. For ongoing updates,

please visit LakewoodAlive.org and be sure to act fast to secure your tickets.

Loving Lakewood: Lumberjack Bash is generously supported by the following sponsors: Geiger’s (Title Sponsor) Cleveland Property Management Group (Platinum Sponsor), Cleveland Home Title, M.V.P. Valet Parking (Gold Sponsors), Men’s Cuts (Presenting Sponsor for the Epic Beard Contest), Lion & Blue and Relief Properties (Silver Sponsors).

Lakewood Area Collaborative Job Club Meeting

by Kathy Augustine

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

The next Job Club meeting will be held on Tuesday January 24th, from 6-8 p.m. at the Lakewood United Methodist Church. Our guest speaker will be Claudia Motiu, Director of Employer Relations at Cuyahoga Community College Career Center. The topic will be Job Hunting via the Internet.

One of our regular Job Club mem-

bers says, “No one should tackle a job search alone. The Lakewood Job Club will motivate you and teach you how to find work that is fulfilling and rewarding. Job Club has excellent speakers and resources that will offer encouragement and hope.”

The Lakewood Job Seekers Committee plans and evaluates the monthly

Job Club. We are recruiting new committee members at this time. We usually meet the first Tuesday of the month, at 9 am at Lakewood Division of Youth, at 12900 Madison Ave.

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

Scholarship For Women

by Kathleen McAndrew

College Club West is a non-profit group of women college graduates living in the Greater Cleveland area.

This club is again pleased to offer a minimum of \$2,000. scholarships for the 2017-2018 academic years.

Information regarding these scholarships along with eligibility and application requirements can be found on our website www.collegeclubwest.org

The deadline for all applications is March 15, 2017.

Kathy McAndrew is President of College Club West.

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“In Your Face” Women’s Rights Apparel Line

In Time For Women’s March On Washington

by Lynn Lilly

While sitting with friends enjoy- ing dinner at Toast in Gordon Square, Nancy Osgood got a big idea that would promote women’s rights and women’s safety in an “in your face” way.

“President-elect Trump’s hot mic comments during the election were shocking to me and so many other people,” said Osgood. “My concern is that those comments and other behav- ior have normalized disrespect and aggression toward women.”

Osgood took inspiration from Trump’s iconic Make American Great Again hat. Her message – Make My P**** Safe Again™ - is emblazoned in hot pink lettering on the same five- panel hat Donald Trump wore and that his supporters sold during the cam- paign. “Love him or hate him, he’s a brilliant marketer and mobilizer, so I am borrowing a page from his playbook with ‘A Hat of Our Own,’” she said.

The message is strong, but Osgood feels it is important for women to take back the term, and to use language that makes people stop, think and take daily action to support the rights and dignity of women.

“My great grandmother was killed in the Holocaust and my grandmother and mother were subjected to incredible indignities and violence in order to sur- vive,” said Osgood. “While I wouldn’t consider myself an activist, I cannot sit silently in the face of what feels like real danger for women right now.”

The hat --and the movement-- shout out, as the website says, against sexual assault, domestic violence, rape, misogyny, bullying, discrimination, oppression, exploitation, victim blam- ing and growing restrictions on women’s reproductive health. Osgood hopes the hat will deliver a strong message that women are not willing to accept that.

“I’ve been wearing the hat around town, because I want to promote the message and prompt conversation,” said Osgood. She’s pleased that people have asked her about it, shared their opin- ions, engaged in productive dialogue and, in some cases, asked to purchase the hat. A man purchased two, one for his daughter and the other for his wife, as Christmas gifts, when Osgood showed him a photo of the hat while the two were talking in Lakewood Park.

The hat is available at www.make-mypussysafeagain.com. Osgood will donate \$1 for each hat sold to Planned Parenthood.

When asked if there would be other apparel items, Osgood says she is focus- ing on the hat up until the January 21 Women’s March, but plans to introduce other items shortly after that.

Reviews Of Recent Releases

By Local Bands, Pt. 40

continued from page 9

sold out again (I think). And then they did this (I think). Don’t quote me on that. The Roobydocks’ two songs here, “Who Robby?” and “Frosted Flakes” (I had to look that up on Discogs because there’s no tracklist with this tape) are both good punk kickers in their signature style. Good tight drumming and clean guitar topped with John Slit’s rage against the world. My preferred track of theirs was probably “Frosted Flakes,” in which they claim that “We’d rather sit at home and watch TV” than play a show for five people. Hey, speaking of playing for five people, I saw the other band on this tape, Bulsch (members of The Roobydocks) last week and they were pretty good! On “3 Genes,” they’re as enthusiastic as ever. Uptempo, bouncy punk. I thought they were saying “3D” until I looked it up. On the other song, though, “Cundaloo- vian,” they go for a sound unlike we’ve ever heard from them before. I almost thought it was a cover at first, it’s that dif-

ferent (just you watch, they’re gonna write in and tell me that it is a cover, and then I’ll really look foolish!). Man, a Bulsch cover album would be awesome. Them translat- ing all the songs to their strange Bulschian tongue and all that? There’s your mil- lion dollar idea. You’re welcome. Still a good song, though it’s unlike their other stuff. Cool that they’re expanding their sonic territories or whatever. I can’t place exactly what it reminds me of, but listen to it and you’ll hear what I mean. Excellent cover art on this one. You should pick up a copy just for that.

(go see one of the bands here (or buy direct from a member of the bands on Discogs)- the Roobydocks tracks are also available digitally at theroobydocks.bandcamp.com)

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



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Business News

Lakewood Chamber January Luncheon: “Region On The Rise”

by Valerie Mechenbier

Join the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce for the first event in the 2017 Speaker Series. Ms. Deb Janik, VP of Real Estate & Business Development for the Greater Cleveland Partnership, presents “Region on the Rise”: a discussion about the impact that important events such as the NBA playoffs, the Cleveland Cavaliers NBA World Championship, the Republican National Convention, the Cleveland Indians’ playoff run, and the MLB World Series have had on the region, and the increased visibility and economic development forecasted for the

Cleveland region in the years to come.

The luncheon will be held at Brennan’s Catering & Banquet Center, 13000 Triskett Road in Cleveland on Friday, January 20th. Cost: \$20 for members, \$25 for non-members. Registration & networking begin at 11:30 a.m., and the luncheon & program begin at 12noon. Register for this event online at www.lakewoodchamber.org.

The Lakewood Chamber of Commerce 2017 Speaker Series is made possible with the generous support of COSE Council of Smaller Enterprises, Cox Business, Cleveland Clinic Lakewood, and First Federal Lakewood.



The full schedule of the quarterly 2017 Speaker Series is above.

Meditation And Everyday Life

by Barbara Cromer

The Cleveland Shambhala Meditation Center moved to its current location at 17903 Madison Avenue in Lakewood five years ago. Part of a global network of over 200 centers, its vision is to establish an enlightened society, a culture in which life’s challenges are met with kindness, generosity and courage. Underlying the Shambhala vision is that each human being has a core nature that is basically good and worthy of a spot on this earth. This basic goodness is always with us; we just need to cultivate its natural intelligence and compassion. We do that, according to Shambhala tradition, through the practice of meditation.



The Cleveland Shambhala Meditation Center on Madison Avenue.

Thus, the practice of meditation is central in the Shambhala tradition. The instruction that we offer to new practitioners is called shamatha (“peaceful abiding”) and consists mainly of following our breathing in a seated, relaxed, dignified posture. In meditation practice, we cultivate spaciousness and peace in our lives. Beneath the mind’s emotional static, we begin to discover a vast reservoir of calmness, clarity and strength. As a result we can be more skillful and discerning as we go about our daily lives. At the same time, we can open our hearts and live more compassionately.

Cleveland Shambhala offers group sitting and walking meditation practice as well as educational/training programs that emphasize the Shambhala principles and incorporating meditation practice into everyday life. Anyone, regardless of spiritual or religious orientation, is invited to visit and can benefit from meditation practice and study.

Hours of Operation – Open and Free to the Public

Tuesday evening: 7–9 p.m.
Sunday morning: 10 a.m.–12 p.m.

For more information about The Cleveland Shambhala Meditation Center visit us at cleveland.shambhala.org or contact us via email at clevelandshambhala@gmail.com or by phone at 216-236-5090.

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Forum

Bad Government 12:

President O’Leary Delays Charity Care For Political Purposes

by Brian Essi

The facts set forth in Bad Government 11 (<http://lakewood-observer.com/read/2016/12/20/bad-government-11-new-foundation-is-objectively-worse-in-every>) were delivered to City Council during the public comment portion of the Council Meeting on December 19, 2016.

In response to those facts, Council President Sam O’Leary doubled down on his previous claim saying, “I absolutely 100% stand by my comment that it [the Master Agreement] is in every measurable way objectively better.” Again, the facts show that City Council negotiated backwards from the original Letter of Intent (LOI) and ended up with about \$7 million less money for the new charitable foundation under the final agreement (based upon the present value of the delayed funding).

To defend his claim, Mr. O’Leary said on December 19, 2016: “We were able to get an amount certain for the community health foundation whereas previously it was amounts that would be left after a wind down uncertain.” However, the original LOI guaranteed \$24.4 million and provided: “The amount of such payment is fixed and will not vary due to the value of assets remaining following the Hospital’s cessation of operations.” So, O’Leary’s latest claim is untrue.

O’Leary further stated on December 19, 2016 that: “The city and the other parties to the agreement might have moved more swiftly this year [to form the new foundation] were it not for the fact that there was a ballot referendum [Issue 64] challenging the legitimacy of the action at large. So, certainly I think that had we acted this year to say spend \$12 million we would have come under significant public

scrutiny for spending money that was then subjected to a referendum without having actually allowed for a second blessing by the voters of this transaction.” Of course, they could not have spent \$12 million in 2015, because the new foundation will not even have \$12 million until sometime in 2022 due to delayed funding.

In addition, City Council, led by Mr. O’Leary, promoted all the following actions and positions while the “legitimacy” of the Master Agreement was being challenged:

- (1) Closure of the hospital.
- (2) Termination of nearly 1,200 hospital employees.
- (3) Transfer of all medical equipment and bed licenses to the Cleveland

Clinic.

- (4) Cancellation of all Medicare, Medicaid and private insurance contracts.
- (5) Transfer of millions of dollars of cash and title to real estate.
- (6) Commencement of demolition of two buildings.
- (7) A “legal” opinion of Law Director Kevin Butler that the outcome of Issue 64 did not affect the “legitimacy” of the Master Agreement.

So, O’Leary advanced all those things, but now claims he refrained from appointing task force members to discuss a health foundation because he and other public officials would be “under significant public scrutiny” if they had not delayed this less sig-

nificant action until after the vote on Issue 64.

The complete list of the 17 task force members was made public on January 3, 2017 and included City Hall insiders and people associated with the Clinic.

So, it appears that the delay in making the task force appointments public was to avoid significant public scrutiny while Issue 64 was pending.

Under O’Leary’s leadership, the parts of the Master Agreement detrimental to the health of citizens were immediately implemented, but the part that was supposed to advance the health of citizens was purposely delayed for political purposes.

That’s bad government leadership.

Beauty And Truth:

The 2016 You Might Have Forgotten About

by Antonio DeJesus

A week ago we embraced a new calendar year, and the world is grabbing their life preservers, and jumping from the last one. But before we climb aboard, “Freedom! 17,” let’s sift through the rubble of 2016 and delve into the greatest of what last year had to offer.

Last week, PBS published an online article entitled, “13 Undeniably Good Things That Happened in 2016,” all of which detail the best and brightest of events to deter us from viewing the past year as entirely dreadful. Among these things? The eradication of measles in the Americas after twenty years of vaccination attempts, teen pregnancy rates reach an all-time low and high school graduation rates increase, not to mention 121 medals the United States brought home, 46 of them being gold. They went on to list things such as the Chicago Cubs winning the World Series, but being a Cleveland native I brushed this informa-

tion off with no regrets.

Another plus, we have made it, ladies and gentlemen. Amidst the chaos and our phones exploding and the Zika Virus, you and I have found a way to live on. Jabri Johnson, a Junior at Bowling Green University says, “It [was] a struggle [2016], but there have been very good things that have happened in our lives.” Says Johnson, “I know I’ve made a lot of growth this year that I’m very proud of.” If anything, we can look to 2017 as way to move forward,

seeing our gift in the problem.

Looking back at 2016, the best thing to happen is you. Your personal growth and personal experience. As General Organas amidst an entire Empire of pessimism, lead your Rebellion. Remember Carrie Fisher and remember Leia Organa: changed by loss but not destroyed. Happy New Year to you, and “May we all be able to get up every day and, in spite of loss and fear, put on our boots and vest and plan to destroy the empire.”

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Lakewood Living

Winterhurst Ice Skating Rink

by Norine Prim

In this photograph, workers uncover the refrigeration pipes beneath Winterhurst ice rink before the skating season begins. Winterhurst, the largest outdoor refrigerated ice rink in the country for its time, was built in 1931 by the City Ice and Fuel Company. It was converted to an indoor rink in 1975. Winterhurst is located at 14740 Lakewood Heights Boulevard.

Photo courtesy of Cleveland State University Archives.

Norine Prim is the First Vice President of the Lakewood Historical Society.



Ursuline Professor And Lakewood Resident Appointed To Ohio’s Injury Prevention Partnership

by Ann McGuire

2016 was a banner year for public health researcher Dr. Mary Beth Zeni, RN, ScD, associate professor at Ursuline College in Pepper Pike.

In early December, she was appointed to the Ohio Department of Health’s Ohio Injury Prevention Partnership, where she will work with a committee to tackle one of the biggest problems facing the state by working with the partnership’s Prescription Drug Abuse Action Group.

This past February she won the Dean’s Award of Excellence at Ursuline’s Breen School of Nursing. In April she won the Virginia Oslavsky Award from the local chapter of the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing. In November she gave a presentation at the American Public Health Association’s national conference in Denver. Also in November, for the tenth consecutive year, she had a research abstract



Dr. Mary Beth Zeni in her Ursuline College Office.

accepted, through blind peer review, to present her findings at an international research conference at Trinity College Dublin. Next September, she’ll present a national maternal-child health conference in Nashville.

“It’s very gratifying to be able to address public health issues through research and to share the findings at national and international conferences,” Zeni said. “I’m honored to be a future committee member and look forward to contributing with colleagues in public health.”

In addition to her teaching and advising responsibilities at Ursuline College, Zeni is conducting population-based research into disparities in access to healthcare, especially care for people with addiction. She is starting to look at the effects that addiction and poor access to care have on families of addicts.

Zeni is focusing specifically on the heroin epidemic in Ohio and the United States by initially analyzing the 2015 database, The National Sur-

vey on Drug Use and Health, which is sponsored by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, an agency in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

“The heroin addiction cuts across age, race and income categories and through a population-based data set, we can examine issues both nationally and within the state of Ohio,” she said.

Zeni, whose curriculum vitae is more than 20 pages long, has authored 20 publications in both national and international journals. In 2010 she came to Northeast Ohio from Florida State University in Tallahassee to work at both Cleveland Clinic and Ursuline College, before joining Ursuline full time.

“This has been my favorite academic appointment,” Zeni said. “Ursuline has a commitment to their students and the focus on teaching. We also have really sharp students. Our graduate students in nursing, especially in the Doctor of Nursing Practice program, are top level.”

Dr. Patricia Sharpnack, dean of Ursuline’s Breen School of Nursing, is glad to have Zeni on faculty. “Dr. Zeni brings to Ursuline a wealth of professional experience and perspective on public health, which is such an important context for teaching and advising graduate-level nurses. She is well respected in her field, with a strong record of publishing peer-reviewed, evidence-based research findings. Yet over many years of successful research, she has never lost sight of or compassion for the people behind the statistics she analyzes. Dr. Zeni truly cares about people and their access to care. She fits right in at Ursuline College.”

Zeni completed a research doctorate in public health in 1993 at the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health where her doctoral dissertation was titled, “An Intervention Evaluation Study of Project Caring: Care Coordination for Chronically-Ill Children from Low-Income Families.”

The Ohio Injury Prevention Partnership has its next quarterly meeting in February. With grant support from the Federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the partnership is coordinated by the Ohio Department of Health’s Violence and Injury Prevention Program. Members of the partnership advise the department of health in identifying state-level priorities and developing strategic plans related to priority injury topics. Further information is available at healthy.ohio.gov/vipp/oipp/oipp.aspx.

Ann McGuire is director of marketing and communication at Ursuline College.

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Lakewood Living

#Change2017 Investment And Retirement

by Jonathan Clark

Happy 2017! This past year may be one the most memorable in recent generations. “Change” might be the key word heading into 2017. “Change” will apply to: The Presidency, one party controls both the Executive/Legislative branches of government, Interest Rates, countless regulations across the board, and the Affordable Care Act, to name but a few.

Financially speaking, it would be wise to revisit allocations in your investment and retirement plans. Last year, I wrote, “Bond Outlook in 2016” and that article would still apply in 2017. Bonds are a necessary component to a balanced portfolio however, yields are relatively low and values could decrease, if and when the Fed raises interest rates. Bottom line: it is hard to get excited about bonds.

The S&P 500 closed at 2204 on 11/29/16, slightly up after 12 months. This is after being flat or down for much of 2016. Typically, “Change” would be a headwind for stocks, but this may not be the case this time. It will be important to make sure your allocations are positioned to YOUR risk tolerance and goals. Too often we visit with seminar attendees and their Stock/Bond allocation hasn’t been rebalanced in years or they have been sitting in cash, paralyzed from the 2008 crash.

Let’s discuss some of the considerations, opportunities and risks that might assist your decision making.

Before diving into some challenges facing bonds, it is important to remember bonds are an important part of your portfolio. During last year’s article, we discussed how rising rates can affect the value of your bonds and bond funds. Quickly, let’s review:

“Let’s say you owned a bond that was paying you 3% and you wanted to sell it. Consider new rates were up and someone could buy a new bond paying 5%. If you paid \$100 for your bond, why would someone pay you \$100 for 3% when they could buy a bond paying

5%? Likely, you would have to sell it for something below the \$100 you paid. This dynamic will be in play as rates rise.”

The next 3 to 5 years could be a grind for the conservative investor. There are not many great low-risk assets that are paying a decent dividend, coupon, or interest payment. Moving forward you and your advisor will need to work together to create a plan for the conservative part of your portfolio. The conservative portion of your portfolio will make up roughly between 20 to 100 percent of your accounts depending on your tolerance and situation. The most common holdings for the average investor will likely be individual bonds, bond ETFs, and bond mutual funds. It might be prudent to investigate other opportunities in Market Linked CDs, Fixed Annuities, and Fixed Indexed Annuities. *The terms on these can vary greatly; it is critical to have a trusted advisor or agent.*

Ohio is referred to as a 10/10 state, meaning the term on the annuities cannot be any longer than 10 years. Annuities are issued by an Insurance Company. Bonds, even as they fluctuate in value, have a purpose inside your portfolio. Their purpose in the short-term and foreseeable future will be for (1) some income and (2) to balance the risk of stocks/equities in your portfolio.

Around the beginning of 2009 the S&P 500 was near 825 and as I write this, is now around 2204. This is an increase of over 1350 points without a meaningful correction or decrease. It went down to 1920 during 2015, but this was a relatively insignificant event. Recent news headlines have talked about the Trump effect on business and stocks. Forecasts predict regulation rollbacks, infrastructure spending, modest rate increases, repeal or massive changes to the Affordable Care Act, and personal and business tax cuts. These are seen by some as positive stimuli for stocks.

Some of the negatives: we are now roughly 90 months into our current expansionary cycle; rates could rise

faster than expected, and “Change” could be better for some industries and asset classes than others. With the right risk tolerance and the willingness to ride out a downturn, well-managed equities can create an opportunity for growth. It is my opinion that there needs to be at least a ten-year commitment to equity holdings in our current market. If you cannot handle seeing a 20-30% drop in your holdings, entering the stock market could be a serious mistake. There are techniques to entering the market such as dollar cost averaging to cushion buying at the height of the market. Again, your advisor should be working with you to create the correct equity strategy for your tolerance and financial situation.

2017 is looking like the year of “Change.” It will create opportunities for some holdings and challenges for others, it is important to enter the market with a long-term approach. Your advisor should be in contact with you on a regular basis to rebalance your portfolio. Try to be vigilant for advisors pushing just annuities or stocks. Stocks, bonds, fixed annuities, fixed indexed annuities, market linked CDs, and other assets all have their place. There are pros and cons to any financial decision. It is important to have a strategy that will help you avoid buying and selling at the worst time. Cheers to a great 2017!

Jonathan M. Clark Investment Advisor Representative, www.clarkwealthadvisor.com Investment Advisory Services offered through Brookstone Capital Management LLC, an SEC Registered Investment Advisor. Index or fixed annuities are not designed for short term investments and may be subject to caps, restrictions, fees and surrender charges as described in the annuity contract. Guarantees are backed by the financial strength and claims paying ability of the issuer. No portion of the content should be construed as an offer or solicitation for purchase or sale of any security.

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Outgoing Board President Einhouse Reflects

continued from page 7

has made with implementation of a long range facilities plan to maintain all of the Lakewood City School District buildings.

It has been a great pleasure for everyone in Lakewood to be near the very end of the \$270,000,000 capital project. This effort has brought us seven new elementary schools, two new middle schools and a completely rebuilt high school. We began with community visioning sessions in 2001, then three phases of construction each requiring a bond issue and multiple transitions to manage. After 15 years, we are finally moving into the academic wing of the high school and bidding the beloved mods farewell!

The City of Lakewood is enjoying a well-deserved surge in popularity. 20- to 35-year-olds are moving here in unprecedented numbers not seen since the 1960s, not to find a starter home, but to be in a place where they can raise a family in a community that is engaged, thoughtful and caring. There is no doubt that the collaboration and good work of the employees of the Lakewood City School District, the terrific students, and the supportive families, community members, and our partners at City Hall have everything to do with that success.

It has been a tremendous pleasure working with Superintendent Patterson and all members of the staff. You are a phenomenal group of people.

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