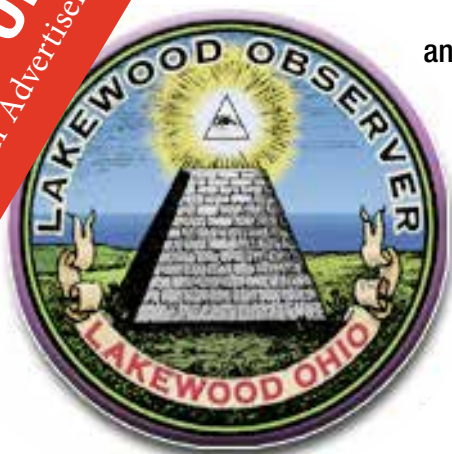


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THE LAKEWOOD OBSERVER

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Volume 13, Issue 2, January 24, 2017

Women, And Men, Of Lakewood Represented At Local And National Women's Marches

by Margaret Brinich

A warm sunny day in January brought thousands of marchers to downtown Cleveland, where a strong Lakewood contingent made their way through the city streets holding signs with cheeky sayings and making serious pleas for help, all in the name of equal rights for all. As a city that has a reputation for being on the forefront of the

equality movement, it was not surprising to see so many friends and neighbors from Lakewood in the crowd. Women, and men, from Lakewood also made the trip down to Washington, D.C. on organized buses to take part in the flagship march on our nation's capital. *Many participants shared their experiences with the LO and their photos can be found inside on page 13.*



With an estimated 15,000 marchers in downtown Cleveland and millions worldwide, Lakewoodites attended various Women's Marches in a strong showing of support of women's equality.

Epic Beard Contest To Highlight LakewoodAlive's Lumberjack Bash

by Matt Bixenstine

This contest might sound strange at first, but chances are it will grow on you. LakewoodAlive has unveiled details regarding the Epic Beard Contest, which will serve as a centerpiece of Loving Lakewood: Lumberjack Bash presented by Geiger's.

Lumberjacks and jills are cordially invited to attend the Lumberjack Bash – a fundraiser for LakewoodAlive – on Saturday, February 25, from 7:30 to 11 p.m. at The Bottlehouse Brewery Lakewood (to secure tickets, visit LakewoodAlive.org). Upon arrival, however, guests may find themselves in a hairy situation.

The Epic Beard Contest presented by Men's Cuts invites Lumberjack Bash attendees to compete for the opportunity to claim an honor in four bearded categories: 1. Most Unique Beard, 2. Sexiest Beard, 3. Longest Beard and 4. Best In Show.

Any Lumberjack Bash attendee is eligible to participate in the Epic Beard Contest, and participation is free-of-charge. Contest registration is still open.

continued on page 5

District Artists Shine In Scholastic Art And Writing Contest

by Christine Gordillo

Artwork created by students from Lakewood High School, West Shore Career-Tech's Media Art & Design program and Harding Middle School earned more than 40 honors, including 11 highest honors, in the annual Scholastic Art & Writing Awards regional competition. In total, Lakewood and West Tech students earned 45 recognitions.

Winners of a Gold Key, the highest honor given, are Kaylee Banhidy, Garrett Bodnar,

Micah Inak, Faiza Manaa, Sara McMillen, Elyza Mihalski, Balint Muller (double winner), Ava Olic, Maya O'Reilly and Maya Sutliff. Gold Key winners move on to be judged at the national level of the 93-year-old competition. Only one other high school in the region had more Gold Keys awarded.

Lakewood and West Shore students were also heavily represented at the Silver Key and Honorable Mention levels. Thirteen students won 15 Silver Keys, including two by Jessica Paul and Jueun Lee. Nineteen students earned Honorable Mention designations for their art or writing, including two mentions for Dale Bruere, Lauren Lowell and Ava Olic.

The Cleveland Institute of Art hosts the regional competition that recognizes creative achievement in area 7-12 grade students. The young artists compete for cash prizes, medals, and scholarship awards. A panel of local professional artists, art educators, writers, and writing educators jury the exhibit and select the awarded pieces from nearly 3,000 entries. Students who receive Portfolio Awards and Gold Key Awards continue to the national competition held in the spring in New York City.



Maya Sutliff's drawing of a young girl's self haircut won a Gold Key in the Drawing & Illustration category.

This year's Regional winners in the art categories will be on display in the Art Gallery at the Cleveland Institute of Art beginning this month. Winners will be recognized at an award ceremony on Jan. 14 at the Cleveland Institute of Art. Congratulations to all the winners and teachers Amy Garritano, Dayna Hansen, Sonja Kreps, Anne McQuay, Arline Olear, Autumn Sabin and Amy Sedlak.

Gold Key Winners: (approximately 7-10% of regional entries)

Kaylee Banhidy – Photography

Garrett Bodnar – Printmaking

continued on page 6

Lakewood Hospital Demo



Photo by Brian Fox

Demolition work continues on Lakewood Hospital on Detroit Road.

Lakewood Observer

From The Deck

Title	Poster	Posts	Views	Date
My Deal For City Hall	Jim O'Bryan	19	1703	Thu Jan 19
Frivolous Lawsuit SLAPPED Down by Judge		41	3535	Mon Jan 23
Lakewoodites In The Women's March		15	492	Mon Jan 23
Twilight's Last Gleaming	Michael Deneen	10	802	Mon Jan 23
Lakewood: Trash	jackie f taylor	103	8630	Mon Jan 23
Tim Liston's development post	Thomas J. George	9	549	Mon Jan 23
Clouds got in the way...	Jim O'Bryan	376	58414	Sun Jan 22
Lakewoodites So Healthy	Brian Essi	10	543	Wed Jan 18
Beware of Cleveland Clinic's Lakewood Urgent Care costs	Lori Allen	1	231	Wed Jan 18
Gentrification? Good? Bad?		27	1217	Tue Jan 17

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LO Calendar

Tuesday, January 24, 2017

Lakewood Area Collaborative Job Club Meeting 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

The Lakewood Area Collaborative Job Club meeting will be held on Tuesday January 24th, from 6-8 p.m. at the Lakewood United Methodist Church, at 15700 Detroit Ave. Our guest speaker will be Claudia Motiu from Cuyahoga Community College Career Center. The topic will be Job Hunting via the Internet.
For more information, contact Becky Carlton at Rebeccacarlton12@gmail.com or 216-221-1723.

Location:
Lakewood United Methodist Church
15700 Detroit Ave
Lakewood 44107

Lakewood family to appear on HGTV's House Hunters International 10:30 PM - 11:00 PM

From the shores of Lake Erie to the land of windmills and wooden shoes, a Northeast Ohio couple will soon have their transatlantic journey featured on the hit television series, *House Hunters International*. Moving from Lakewood, Ohio to Groningen, Netherlands, Oliver and Jaclyn Palmer are leaving their beautiful Lakewood home for a taste of the Dutch life. Oliver is an Engineer with Rovisys Building Technologies (Aurora and Europe) and Jaclyn is a music therapist. The Palmers have made the temporary transfer, along with their two-year-old daughter, Roma, for a several-year project Oliver is managing. The Palmer's episode will air on HGTV Tuesday, January 24 at 10:30pm EST and again, three hours later at 1:30am EST on HGTV. Visit <http://www.hgtv.com/shows/house-hunters-international/episodes/rough-waters-in-groningen>

Saturday, January 28, 2017

Super Saturday @ Beck 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM

Join in on the fun, creativity and excitement at Beck Center as you and your young aspiring artists explore music, dance, theater, and the visual arts at this FREE, interactive art experiences for children ages 1 to 8 years, with siblings and friends up to age 10 taking part. Focus for this Super Saturday is the Alp Horn and Brass Instruments! The program begins with a "Hear & Touch the Music" concert at 9:30 a.m. in the Mackey Theater, that features a different orchestral instrument along with an interactive demonstration. Afterward, everyone is invited to take part in visual arts and music experiences in the main lobby area. Tickets are required, but free at BeckCenter.org



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Your Independent Source for Lakewood News & Opinion

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As a product of citizen journalism, The Lakewood Observer is looking for people, ages 3-100, to get involved in the paper and the city. We are looking for volunteer writers, photographers, designers, and illustrators to help with the production of the paper. It does not matter if you are a professional or amateur, our editorial staff will be glad to help you through the process. Register to our website Member Center where you can submit stories, press releases, letters to the editor, photos. No need to register to post online calendar or classified ads.

Upcoming Submission Deadline

Publish Date

February 1, 2017

February 8, 2017

February 18, 2017

February 25, 2017

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City

Renewable Energy Power-Up For Northeast Ohio

by Matt Kuhns

You're purchasing a lot more renewable energy this year, most likely thanks to the Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council (NOPEC).

Beginning this month, NOPEC member cities including Lakewood are changing their default electricity supplier, from FirstEnergy to NextEra. It's a nearly invisible transition for the individual household; bills still arrive from The Illuminating Company, rates aren't increasing, and there is no action to complete. Unless you opt out of it, your electric bill payments automatically go toward 50% renewable power, now.

This places NOPEC and its membership well ahead of Ohio's current goal—which recently went back into force after a two-year “freeze”—of 12.5% electricity from renewable sources by 2027. The partnership with NextEra effectively leapfrogs that goal in replacing FirstEnergy, which supplied renewable content of only a few percent.

The fact that electric power and electric bills continue to arrive from The Illuminating Company, which is a part of FirstEnergy, demonstrates a little of the hidden complexity in modern deregulated utility services. Between electricity's arrival at your home, and the companies which generate it, a host of buyers, sellers, aggregators and regulators are all at work.

NOPEC is an aggregator. Combining the purchasing power of more than 200 cities and towns in 13 Northeast Ohio counties, it works to negotiate better electricity and natural gas rates. Mayors organized NOPEC in 1999 to take advantage of market deregulation, and Lakewood was a founding member. Since then the not-for-profit organization, managed by volunteer directors, has grown into the largest utility aggregator in the United States. NOPEC negotiates on behalf of every household and small business customer in

member communities, unless a customer actively opts out.

Its new agreement with NextEra follows the breakdown of a nine-year contract with FirstEnergy, which NOPEC negotiated in 2010. When industry rumor suggested FirstEnergy might declare bankruptcy, if unsuccessful in a campaign to raise and re-regulate electricity rates, NOPEC pressed for guarantees of supply security. After disagreements between the two briefly went to court, FirstEnergy announced in October that it would terminate its contract with NOPEC in January 2017.

Over the next several weeks, letters advised NOPEC customers that electricity service would continue uninterrupted, one way or another; at one point Lakewood officials suggested that a temporary extension with FirstEnergy was on the way.

Instead, NOPEC completed “a very abbreviated RFQ (Request for Qualifications) process,” in the words of its Executive Director Chuck Keiper. On November 7, it announced the result: a three-year agreement with NextEra, beginning in time for a seamless transition this month.

Somewhat like FirstEnergy, NextEra operates a handful of local subsidiary companies, although its total footprint is considerably larger. NextEra's empire sprawls through more than half of the 50 states as well as four Canadian provinces, with combined generating capacity almost three times FirstEnergy's. It's also more invested in renewables than FirstEnergy, and less reliant on fossil fuels.

Under its agreement with NOPEC, NextEra will round up the renewable content of our electricity to an even 50% using Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs). Essentially, this means NextEra will purchase extra renewable power for the region from other suppliers; because electricity from all sources is identical once it enters the vast grid, the REC system assigns suppliers one

certificate for each Megawatt-hour of renewable power they produce. Keeping track of RECs allows “downstream” users the choice of buying some of their electricity supply from a specifically renewable source.

The contract with NextEra lasts for three years, during which time NOPEC intends to carry out a slower, “very robust RFQ” for future options, according to Keiper. Whatever its result, however, its current partnership includes a further small but lasting push toward sustainable, clean power. Currently, NextEra's renewable generating capacity consists largely of nuclear energy. But the agreement with NOPEC requires \$10,000,000 of the eventual proceeds to fund construction of new capacity from entirely green sources such as solar and wind. By itself, this could purchase approximately three or four utility-scale wind turbines, though it will ultimately contribute to a much larger total “Green Era” construction fund at NextEra.

In the bigger picture, even 50% renewable electricity is admittedly modest progress toward the zero-carbon economy which scientists, business leaders, governments and environmental groups have called for achieving within a few decades' time at most. The overall fuel mix “powering”

Lakewood and other NOPEC communities still includes buildings mostly heated with natural gas, and vehicles mostly running on petroleum.

Nonetheless, NOPEC's agreement with NextEra suggests how much is already within easy reach, given that it will deliver a significantly cleaner and more sustainable energy mix without customers spending a single extra penny.

For the first half of 2017 NOPEC customers will pay fixed rates, comparable to those from the former FirstEnergy supply contract. In The Illuminating Company service area, residential customers' rate is 4.907¢ per kWh and business customers' is 4.978¢. After June, NOPEC customers can sign up to continue the fixed-rate service for a longer term, but the default option will be a variable rate about five percent less than comparable, individual rates from the local utility provider (FirstEnergy). Along with a recent report from the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, concluding that such higher costs as renewable energy does involve are more than repaid by related savings, NOPEC's deal with NextEra suggests less and less economic incentive for fossil fuel use, even if political agendas are another matter.

continued on page 12

Complex Bridge Rehab Project Moves Forward

by Nickie Antonio

Last month State Rep. Nickie Antonio (D-Lakewood) announced the release of \$345,287 in state funding to complete construction contract plans for the rehabilitation of the State Route 176 southbound bridge over Interstate Route 71 southbound in Cuyahoga County. The Controlling Board, a panel tasked with oversight of state spending, approved the funding at today's meeting.

“I am pleased the state recognizes the importance of investing in Northeast Ohio's roads and bridges,” said Antonio. “Modern, reliable roadways are vital to ensuring people can get to and from work, children can ride to school safely,

and goods and services can be delivered on time. I look forward to the completion of this long awaited bridge project.”

The Controlling Board originally approved \$400,000 in August 2015 for a preliminary engineering study, environmental documentation and completion of construction contract plans. The latest round of funding comes after preliminary engineering studies encountered a more complex structure and traffic maintenance issues than anticipated.

Construction costs for the SR 176 bridge rehabilitation project are estimated at \$4 million. The construction contract will likely be awarded in January 2020.



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Lakewood Public Library

Calendar Of Events

Children & Youth Events

compiled by Elaine Rosenberger

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

Thursday, January 26
Author Event - “The Cubicle Chronicles”
by Lynn Brookdale
Bethany Bowers is like most recent college grads: idealistic, underemployed, and broke. After leaving her dead-end telemarketing job, she happily accepts a position at a prestigious Pittsburgh recruiting firm. She soon discovers, however, that it’s a corporate world and she’s just living in it. Books will be available for sale and signing at the event.
7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

Saturday, January 28
Performance - Chinese New Year Dancers
Yin Tang Dance brings the historical songs and legends of Chinese New Year to the Library. Classical Chinese dances are styled after ancient forms of dances that emulate the movements of goddesses. The focus is not only technique but Chinese cultural, historical, and geographical education. Students perform dance styles from different regions of China.
2:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

Sunday, January 29
Concert - Kristine Jackson
From her gritty, smoky vocals to her soul-moving songwriting and unique guitar style, Kristine Jackson’s music is raw. Known by her fans as KJ, Jackson has made a name for herself as a vocalist, multi-instrumentalist, and songwriter. In “Candy Store,” KJ dealt with two life changing events: losing her cousin to Hodgkin’s lymphoma and going public about her sexual abuse as a child. Since then, she’s helped raise over \$50,000 to fight Hodgkin’s lymphoma.
2:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

Tuesday, January 31
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

Wednesday, February 1
Literature Series - “A Fort of Nine Towers: An Afghan Family Story”
Qais Akabar Omar writes a riveting memoir of his family’s experiences in Afghanistan. Kabul was a garden where 7-year-old Qais flew kites from the roof of his grandfather’s house. Then came the hollow sounds of rocket fire as the Mujahedin took over Afghanistan, and the country erupted in civil war. The Afghan culture told through the folktales and poetic voice of Omar will be the primary focus of this free, four week course, presented by Barbara Parr. Please Register in advance at www.lifelonglearningcleveland.org, or by calling the Library at (216) 226-8275.
7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room

Saturday, February 4
Film - “Billy Budd” (1962)
Peter Ustinov captains the sailing ship H.M.S. Avenger when the Napoleonic Wars are in full swing. There have been two recent mutinies on British naval vessels, so Ustinov relies upon cruel master-at-arms Robert Ryan to maintain discipline and order. 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, February 5
Concert - TriHearn
Siblings Caitlin, Brendan and Conor Hearn started playing as a trio in 2002. TriHearn’s sound is a mix of Irish, Scottish and American folk music. That’s why they fit in so well with a tall, foamy pint. Their blend of guitar, fiddle, cello and three part harmonies will lift your spirits and make you say, “slainte.”
2:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

Tuesday, February 7
Film - “Salam Neighbor” (2015)
In an effort to better understand refugee life, filmmakers Zach Ingrasci and Chris Temple spent one month living alongside displaced families in the Za’atari refugee camp. As the first filmmakers ever allowed by the United Nations to be given a tent and registered inside a refugee camp, Zach and Chris were able to get a never before seen look into the world’s most pressing crisis. “Salam Neighbor” is an award-winning feature documentary and campaign to connect the world to refugees. Their goal is to tell the stories of refugees with the dignity they deserve and the depth the world needs. This film is presented by The Refugee Response, an organization that empowers refugees in Northeast Ohio to become self-sufficient and contributing member of their new communities.
7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

compiled by Eric Knapp

Fridays, January 13 through February 17
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.

Sunday, January 29
Lakewood Lego® League
For youth in kindergarten through fifth grade (caregivers welcome)
Use LPL’s collection of Lego® Bricks and your own imagination to create fabulous new structures and designs each month. No registration, but numbered tickets will be given out first-come, first-served.
6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. in the Main Library Activity Room.

Mondays, February 6 through February 27
Paint a Masterpiece
For students in eighth through twelfth grade
Aspiring teen artists will attempt to replicate a famous masterpiece during this four session program. All materials provided. Registration required.
7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. in the Main Library Activity Room.

PUBLIC NOTICE – OH5223
- Gold Coast Lakewood

AT&T Mobility, LLC is proposing to collocate antennas on an existing 187-foot building at 12900 Lake Ave, Lakewood, Cuyahoga County, OH. Public comments regarding the potential effects from this site on historic properties may be submitted within 30-days from the date of this publication to: Britta Tonn – CBRE, 4 West Red Oak Lane, White Plains, New York 10604, Britta.Tonn@CBRE.com, or (802) 522-8259.

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Schools

LHS, Designer Warren Earn Award For Set Design

by Christine Gordillo

Congratulations to Lakewood City Schools parent and Erie Design co-owner Shawn Warren and the Lakewood High School Barnstormers Club for winning the prestigious Northeast Ohio Performing Arts List for Musical Scene Design for last May's Barnstormers production of Stephen Sondheim's "Into the Woods." The NEOhioPAL award winners are nominated and voted on by the public and were created to bring recognition to the region's non-professionals working in theater.

In other Barnstormers' news, the

drama club recently won a grant from the Lakewood Art Festival Board for \$750 to go toward costumes for this spring's musical, "Little Women." Director of costumes for the club, Autumn Sabin, applied for and won the grant.

The next Barnstormers' event will be its annual Winter One Act Plays production, with shows directed, written and acted by the students. Those shows will run February 1-4 in the Lakewood High Art Atrium at 7:30 each night. There will also be a 4 p.m. performance on Friday, February 3. Tickets are \$5 at the door.



One section of the award winning set design of the Barnstormer's production.



Rapunzel's tower.

Kindergarten Parent Info Night, Registration Coming Up

by Christine Gordillo

Kindergarten registration for Lakewood City Schools will take place at the Lakewood Board of Education at 1470 Warren Road beginning Friday, Feb. 10, 2017. Students must be 5 years old on or before Sept. 30, 2017 in order to be age eligible to enter kindergarten. There will be a Parent Information Night on Thursday, Feb. 9 at 6:30 pm at Grant Elementary School for

interested parents to find out more about the program.

Registration packets are available at the Board of Education or online at www.lakewoodcityschools.org. Registration will be by appointment only.

After collecting all required documents and completing all registration forms, you may schedule an appointment to register your child. To schedule an appointment,

please contact the registration secretary by phone at 216-529-4279 or by e-mail at kyna.eldred@lakewoodcityschools.org

Please Note: The Residency and Custody Affidavit included in the packet must be signed in the presence of a Notary Public.

The following documents must be presented at registration:

(1) **Child's birth certificate, original or certified copy; Passport or Visa**

(2) **Child's immunization record, doctor's name and phone number**

(3) **Driver's license or State ID of the residential parent/legal guardian registering the student**

(4) **Proofs of Residency - provide 2 In the form of:**

- **Utility Bills (gas, electric, water)**
- **Pay stub**
- **Valid signed lease**
- **Business mail**
- **Section 8 documentation**
- **Voter registration card**
- **Municipal Income Tax Return (RITA)**

- **Valid driver's license with current address**

OR: The Owner Affidavit form, which must be completed by the landlord, owner, or manager and signed in the presence of a NOTARY PUBLIC when no other proofs of residency can be provided.

- **Custody documents (If Applicable) only legal residents who are the parent or legal guardian of the child may complete the registration process. Applicable court documents must be a certified copy and contain any and all exhibits or attachments referenced to show custody.**

- **Copy of a signed Current IEP and ETR (if Applicable)**

Children attending the Lakewood City School's pre-kindergarten program are enrolled in the District and do not need to re-register. Kindergarten information will be given to these families.

District Artists Shine In Scholastic Art And Writing Contest

continued from page 1

Micha Inak – Design
Faiza Manaa – Drawing & Illustration
Sara McMillen – Digital Art
Elyza Mihalski – Drawing & Illustration
Balint Muller – Photography (2 awards)
Ava Olic – Drawing & Illustration
Maya O'Reilly – Ceramics & Glass
Maya Sutliff – Drawing & Illustration



Maya O'Reilly's vase was a Gold Key winner in the Ceramics & Glass category.



Kaylee Banhidy won three recognitions for her photography. This image earned her a Gold Key.

Silver Key Winners: (approximately 10-15% of regional entries)
Kaylee Banhidy – Photography
Haleigh Barrett – Photography
Morgaine Brennan – Digital Art
Victoria Donegan – Ceramics & Glass
Mira Getrost (Harding) – Short Story
Jueun Lee – Digital Art; Film & Animation
Lauren Lowell – Digital Art

Jennifer Meyer – Printmaking
Isabel Ostrowski – Poetry
Jessica Paul – Painting; Drawing & Illustration
Emily Pearlman – Printmaking
Holly Pursel – Photography
Juia Wozniakowski – Photography
Honorable Mentions: (approximately 15-20% of regional entries)
Kaylee Banhidy – Photography
Garrett Bodnar – Printmaking

continued on page 8

Schools

Ranger Sports Roundup

by Mike Deneen
RANGER HOCKEY CONTINUES AMAZING TURNAROUND

The LHS hockey team has been one of the most improved teams in the state this season. Second-year head coach Mark Ferfolia, who has 35 years experience in local high school hockey, has led an impressive turnaround in the program. Last year they struggled to a 2-25 record. This year they are 11-11, with a very strong 7-1 record in their division.

Last season the team was very shorthanded on players. In fact, they were almost unable to field a team. However, a late infusion of players allowed the team to play...although not at a very high level. The roster had a lot of inexperienced players, and did not include an experienced goalie. Defenseman Jonah Treible bravely stepped into the goalie position, one of the most difficult in all of sports.

An infusion of experienced players during this offseason has sparked the turnaround. Twin brothers Rob and Will Holden are among the new freshmen on the team. Will, a forward, is one of the leading scorers on the team. Rob has taken over in goal, allowing Treible to return to his natural position of defensemen. These changes has tightened up the team's defense, which struggled mightily last year. Tracy Holden, the twins' mother, has enjoyed seeing her kids contribute so well. They have been playing since they were seven years old. "It's in



Ranger boys' hoops coach Alex Cammock has been drawing up winning plays during the team's hot streak.

their blood," she says with a smile.

The team is well positioned for the future, as leading scorers include juniors Mac McFarlin and Patrick Gilman. They have two more home games remaining on the schedule. They host Nordonia on Saturday 28, and Brooklyn on February 4th. Home games are played at Serpentine Arena at Winterhurst, and start at 7pm. The Brooklyn game will be Senior Night, where this year's seniors will be honored for their contributions to the program.

BOYS HOOPS WINS THREE STRAIGHT THRILLERS

A difficult early schedule caused

the Ranger boys hoops team to get off to a slow start, but they found their groove by mid-January. The team won three consecutive conference games, two of which were on the road. Each game came down to the final minute. The streak began at Midview, where the Rangers beat the Middies 63-62 on a buzzer beater. Chris Golden led the team with 12 points in the win.

Lakewood returned home to face North Ridgeville, and came away with a thrilling double overtime win. Junior Raekwon Whitfield made the biggest play of the game, stealing an inbound pass and scoring to tie the first overtime

in the closing seconds. Junior Jacob Sala led Lakewood with 23 points, six of which were in the first OT period. Senior Chris Golden scored 11 for Lakewood, and Liam Doup also hit double digits with 10 points. Senior Blake Setta had nine points, seven of which came in the first

The Rangers returned to the road to defeat 62-61. Junior Jabrell Boyd provided the heroics for this game, scoring the winning basket with six seconds left. Boyd led all Ranger scorers with 12 points in the game. The three game winning streak lifts the Rangers record to 5-7 on the season. They have two home games this weekend, facing Olmsted Falls on Friday and Bay on Saturday. Both games are at Harding Middle School, and both are scheduled to begin at 7:15 p.m.

GIRLS HOOPS HOSTING FUNDRAISER/SEASON UPDATE

There will be a fundraiser for the LHS girls basketball team on Saturday, January 28th from 7 to 9pm at Around the Corner. Admission is only \$20, which includes pizza, wings, veggies, and beer. To get tickets, contact any LHS player or coach; or you can show up and pay at the door.

The team is having a very good season, reaching a 10-4 record after a home win against Rocky River. After building a double-digit second half lead, Lakewood held off a furious second half rally to win the game 46-44. Ryann Greenfield scored 20 points to lead the Rangers; center Olivia Nagy had 14 points and five blocked shots. The Rangers host Avon Lake and North Olmsted on February 1 and 4, respectively at Harding Middle School.

Mike Deneen has extensive experience covering sports and community stories for the Lakewood Observer. Mike has been a Senior Industry Analyst for the Freedomia Group in Cleveland, Ohio, since 1998. He has appeared on CNBC's Closing Bell, NPR's MarketPlace and has been quoted multiple times in The Wall Street Journal. He has made multiple guest appearances on ESPN Cleveland radio. Mike also writes for Inside Northwestern, a website that covers Northwestern Wildcat Athletics. You can reach him on Twitter at @MikeDeneen1,

Rangers Hold Off River for Girls Hoops Win

by Mike Deneen

The Lakewood girls basketball team held off a furious second half rally to defeat Rocky River 46-44 on Monday at Harding Middle School. Ranger guard Ryann Greenfield scored 20 points to lead the Rangers; center Olivia Nagy had 14 points and five blocked shots; River senior Mary Bebie led all scorers with 21 points in the game.

Greenfield, one of the leading scorers in the Southwestern Conference, was uncharacteristically scoreless in Saturday's blowout win over Midview. She more than made up for it in this game, scoring numerous key baskets from both the floor and the free throw line. She scored seven points in the first period, helping to build a 15-9 Lakewood lead at and of the quarter. She then hit a three pointer to open the second quarter, and Lakewood went on to build a seemingly comfortable 27-12 halftime lead.

The Rangers continued to control the game in the opening minutes of the second half. Nagy hit a pair of back-to-back baskets to give Lakewood a 34-19 lead with 5:18 left in the third quarter. That's when the Pirates came out firing. Rocky River went on a 10-0 run over the next five minutes, cutting the lead to 34-29. A basket by Ranger guard Isabel Cintron in the closing seconds gave

Lakewood a 36-29 lead going into the fourth quarter.

River stayed hot in the final period, hitting a pair of three point baskets early. Bebie made a three with 5:40 left that cut the lead to 36-35, firing up the Pirate fans that traveled over the river. Nagy responded with a basket that made it 38-35 with 4:29 left in the game. From there on out, it became a contest of free throws. Whenever River got within a point, Lakewood would respond by making foul shots. Greenfield hit a pair of clutch free throws with 24 seconds remaining to build a 45-41 lead. Bebie sank another three pointer with ten seconds left, making the game 46-44. The Pirates had 7.8 seconds for their final possession, and managed to move the ball under the basket for a potential game-tying layup. However, 6' 3" Olivia Nagy



Ranger senior Emma Ribar on Pirate guard Mary Bebie.

swatted away the shot as the clock hit zeroes. The Rangers escaped with the win, and the Lakewood crowd collectively exhaled.

The victory moves Lakewood to 10-4 on the season; Rocky River fell to 4-9. The Rangers travel to North Ridgeville for their next game, then return home to face Amherst on January 21. The varsity game is scheduled for 1:45 at Harding Middle School.



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Lakewood Is Art



The “Melino House” on Edgewater was the Grand Prize Winner. The classic home received an overwhelming number of votes. They won a \$50 gift certificate

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for dinner from Woodstock on Madison, which was recently awarded best BBQ in Cleveland! “Overlook Park” also took the win for “Best Neighborhood” in no small part due to the votes the Melino’s received and the classy invite to “Night of Luminaria” for all. Other winners clockwise from top left include, “Best Neighbors,” “Best Double,” “Best Business” - Googie Style, “Best Tree” - Beer Engine, and “Best Use of Single Strand of Lights.” See them all online at the Lakewood Observer and our FB Page on Friday!

2016 Lighting Winners

District Artists Shine In Scholastic Art And Writing Contest

continued from page 6

Dale Bruere – Drawing & Illustration; Comic Art
Isabel Cintron – Ceramics & Glass
Clare Ciolli – Photography
Greyley Cook – Photography
Isabella Dombrowski – Mixed

Media
Veronica Lee - Drawing & Illustration
Lauren Lowell – Digital Art; Film & Animation
Sara McMillen – Printmaking
Ava Olic - Drawing & Illustration;

Printmaking
Jessica Paul - Drawing & Illustration
Jamuna Poudel – Photography
Paul Query – Photography
Elizabeth Scott – Photography
Julia Wozniakowski - Photography

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Lakewood Is Art

I've Dreamt Too Superly:

Reviews Of Recent Releases By Local Bands, Pt. 41

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.

Comrade Question - Pepe Polo - Superdreamer Records - 10 songs - LP, download

Based on the name of the artist (decent enough), the name of the record (not great), and the cover (frankly, just bad), I really had no idea what to expect. Maybe some kind of indie psych thing? But no, this is not that. For the most part, the songs on here are very poppy indie rock. The first three songs on Side A--those being the actually very catchy pseudo-psurf of "Bastard," the garage pop of "Song About A Woman," and the garage-but-recorded-like-any-indie-band of "Old"--I enjoyed, but the record kinda lost it for me after that. As for what's on Side B, I like "The Way That You Are," which is an uptempo number, "Wine" sounds like it could be in a commercial for some restaurant (I don't know what restaurant I'm thinking of, I don't watch much TV anymore and so I see less commercials, but I know it's reminding me of something), "Ah Ah Ah" was probably only disappointing to me because it isn't as good as Heavenly Queen's "Uh Uh Uh," but to be fair, few songs are, and the closing track "Stop Dying So Much," which had a garage stomp beat but was again just too indie for me. I think maybe this record's biggest issue is the production, because I liked it more the second listen through when I was focusing more on the songs. Maybe if I kept listening to it again and

by Buzz Kompier

again, it would grow on me more, but to be honest, I didn't particularly feel like listening to it again. It is what it is, or is it. Is it? It is? 3.2/5

(superdreamerrecords.com for the record, comradequestion.band-camp.com to download)

Nervosas - Utility - Superdreamer Records - 3 songs - 7"

I thought about saying that Nervosas are a band that I respect for what they are and like certain songs of, but have never really grabbed me altogether, but then I considered that I actually haven't processed enough of their work to say that and so decided to not say it. But then I said it here anyways. "Utility" is either post-punk or very reverb-heavy punk; I'm never quite sure where to make that distinction. It's pretty much what you'd expect from the group if you've been following them so far. Jeffrey "The Jeff" Kleinman seems to have done some work on eradicating the faux-British (or maybe Robert Pollard) accent he was doing, which I appreciate. The song as a whole doesn't really grab me, but bigger fans than I will probably dig it. Side B has two covers, which is never a wise choice when the covers you're doing are better than your originals. "Teenage Depression," originally by Goners, is a good punk rocker with dual lead vocals. "Kasota," originally by Frozen Teens, is very power pop. I quite like both the songs on this side. It's a shame that they're not by Nervosas so I could say how good Nervosas are. Actually, they're a very capable band, musicianship-wise, but their

songs, about 40 to 45 percent of the time, just don't do anything for me. I feel like I should be extra nice here to make up for that one time I was at Ace Of Cups and accidentally ignored The Jeff talking to me because I was in my own little world (I was excited to see Thomas Jefferson Slave Apartments), but I don't think he took it personally. Sorry, The Jeff. I guess this record is it for Nervosas, now that Mickey is in Cleveland, Jeff is busy with 20XX, and Nick, I assume, is still doing sound at AoC. I don't know how to end it without saying something that will come off as sarcastic even though I wouldn't mean it to be, so I guess this is it. 3.3/5

(superdreamerrecords.com)

Psychic Wheels - Peripheral Drift - Superdreamer Records - 12 songs - LP, download

Psychic Wheels would, I guess, be the Columbus equivalent of Cleveland's Ma Holos, while not sounding particularly like Ma Holos. Actually, I take that back; they have their moments. Certain bits of this LP reminded me of Great Plains (except without the genius of Ron House...or the amazing drumming of Dave Green...or...okay, so like Great Plains if they weren't great. Like normal Plains, maybe.). Other bits were reminiscent of the fuzz/pop sound of some of the more commercial moments on Nuggets. Songs like "Please, Don't" and "Spinning Records" reminded me of New York's Space Wolves, just to complicate this matter. My favorite tunes here were the Side A closer "(I Need A) Dream,"

"Always (I Love You)" (now that you're seeing all these parentheses, do you understand the Space Wolves thing?), "Your Anatomy," which is certainly a strange euphemism, and the closing track "Crying Girls." The song "Superdreamer" was either such a good song that someone decided to name a label after it, the band liked the label so much that they decided to do a song about it, two completely separate factions invented the phrase almost simultaneously, or there's a person responsible for both the band and the label. I know that last one is completely ridiculous and impossible; I'm just spitballing here. Anyway (wait, that's a different Columbus label! Now I've confused myself.). Anyway anyway. Overall, however, this record just doesn't grab me. There's some cool songs scattered here and there, but as a whole full-length, it doesn't quite keep its momentum. I guess that's the best way of putting it. Decent enough, though. And there's some weird noises in the runout groove. Don't know if that was intentional, but still cool. 3.6/5

(superdreamerrecords.com or download it at psychicwheels.band-camp.com)

Psychic Wheels - Deny It - Superdreamer Records - 2 songs - 7"

I heard something about this being the last Psychic Wheels release, which, if true, is a shame, as they had some good stuff. However, this is a darn good swan song. Side A, "Deny It," is a good slow burn fuzzy indie rock tune. The organ playing is cool on this one, and it complements the dual lead vocals nicely. I like that the "guitar solo" parts are more cacophonies of distortion than any kind of melodic lead. It's sorta like how on that Ricky Hamilton solo tape, every guitar lead is just a single note of feedback, except more extreme. The real winner here, however, is the flip side, "Outside Yr Door." Speaking of our boy Ricky, this track was initially available on the Quality Time Records compilation tape (I kinda think of Superdreamer as the Columbus sibling of Quality Time for whatever reason. Sheer quantity of releases, perhaps. Ricky's winning that battle, though.). It's a very catchy uptempo poppy rocker. Good vocal performance and even a real guitar solo, too! I might've put it as Side A if I were the band, but either way it works as a nice counterpoint to the slower groove of "Deny It." Hey, if this is the last we hear of Psychic Wheels, at least it's on a high note. 4/5

(superdreamerrecords.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.

Rocky River Chamber Music Society Presents

"Factory Seconds Brass Trio" In Two Concerts

by Carol Jacobs

After presenting the Brazilian Guitar Quartet in October and Les Délices in November, Rocky River Chamber Music Society returns in February with not one, but two concerts! Both will feature The Cleveland Orchestra's second chair brass players—an ensemble with the playful title, "Factory Seconds Brass Trio." Both concerts will take place in the outstanding acoustical environment of the sanctuary at West Shore Unitarian Universalist Church, 20401 Hilliard Boulevard in Rocky River.

The Society's first concert in 2017 will be its biennial children's concert to be held on Saturday morning, February 18 at 11:00 a.m. This interactive children's concert with Factory Seconds Brass Trio will highlight French composer Francis Poulenc's "Sonata for Horn, Trumpet, and Trombone," and will also include storytelling, audience participation, and artwork--perhaps by members of the audience! This concert is appropriate for both the young (3+)

and the young at heart. The concert will last approximately 45 minutes.

The following Monday, February 20 at 7:30 p.m., Factory Seconds Brass Trio will perform an adult concert featuring works by Bach, Hindemith, and Nelhybel. The program will also include the world premiere of a work for brass by contemporary classical music composer David Loeb. At both concerts the musicians of Factory Seconds Brass Trio will be Jack Sutte, trumpet; Jesse McCormick, horn; and Richard Stout, trombone.

In addition to holding the second chair positions in their respective brass sections of The Cleveland Orchestra, all three musicians are on the faculty of Baldwin Wallace Conservatory of Music. Founded in 2012, Factory Seconds Brass Trio has performed locally, regionally and nationally in a variety of settings. Their depth of experience and broad repertoire ranging from Early Music to 20th and 21st century music brings a distinctive voice into brass chamber music. Their plans for 2017 include recording



Factory Seconds Brass Trio (Jesse McCormick, Richard Stout, and Jack Sutte)

and transcription projects.

As is true of all concerts presented by the Rocky River Chamber Music Society, there is no admission charge and all are welcome. For further information, please visit our website at www.rrcms.org, follow us on Facebook and Twitter, or call 440-333-4296.

Program, Children's Concert, February 18

Francis Poulenc, "Sonata for Horn, Trumpet, and Trombone" (1945)

Also includes storytelling, art-
continued on page 12

Lakewood Cares

Our First Stand To Save Health Care

by Tristan Rader

Sunday, more than 400 people came to the SEIU 1199 headquarters on E. 30th St. to rally and protest together-to stand up and demand that healthcare should be a right! The first round of applause went to the first speaker Steve Holecko of the Cuyahoga County Progressive Caucus (CCPC), “We will not be satisfied when healthcare is merely protected; we want universal care!” Dave Pavlick of the Single Payer Action Network (SPAN) and Representative, D-District 13, Nickie Antonio also delivered remarks about moving towards a Medicare for all or single payer model and fighting back against Medicare voucher programs.

The Northshore AFL-CIO teamed up with CCPC to sponsor the event which was called for by three of the top democrats in the country: Senator Bernie Sanders, Senator Chuck Schumer and Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi. Columbus and Akron also had similar events and many more were happening all over the country. At the meeting, we collected over 100 hand-written narratives regarding the importance of our healthcare that will be sent to Rob Portman this week.

The response to Trump here and over the last two months has been powerful. As Harriet Applegate of the Northshore AFL-CIO put it: “This is



Rep. Nickie Antonio speaks to crowd of 400.

what the Tea Party did to Obama in 2009... and we are off to a much better start!”

Councilman Dan O’Malley and I also had a chance to speak. I would say Lakewood was very well-represented at the rally. The “ask” we made was that

people take the time to call their representatives. Attend actions. Respond to requests to call and write to officials. The Indivisible Guide was discussed... if you have not seen this blueprint to taking back our country... please visit IndivisibleGuide.com and download it

today! There is much work to be done and it is ours to do!

If you are interested in getting involved and getting updates about what’s happening sign up at cuyccpc.org/member

Also, visit SPAN Ohio’s website for more information about the push for single payer healthcare. spanohio.org

Tristan Rader worked in the non-profit sector including starting the Greater Cleveland Food Bank and founding a non-profit in Africa. In 2015 he finished his MPA at Levin College of Urban Affairs, Cleveland State and continued his studies at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government - Executive Education program. He then joined Sen. Sanders staff and worked on his presidential bid. After returning home he managed a Congressional campaign and became one of the founding directors of Cuyahoga County Progressive Caucus where he currently serves as Operations Director. He also works for MoveOn.org as a Campaign Organizer.

Passion For Change Seeks Communications Professionals For Pilot Program And Pro Bono Projects

National prototype project invites professionals in marketing and communications and mental health/addiction organizations to help break the stigma of mental illness.

by Marilyn Mongeon Quill

Both U.S. and British statistics show that one in four of us experiences a mental illness in a given year. And if you aren’t affected directly, mental illness will have an impact on your life through a family member, friend, neighbor, colleague, or through a chance encounter in the grocery store or on the street.

Passion for Change, a Cleveland-area not-for-profit created to break the stigma of mental illness, is recruiting professionals in marketing and communications to participate in its core program, Communicators for Mental HealthSM. The program, designed as a national prototype, has been launched as a Greater Cleveland Pilot Project. The project is designed to train marketing and communications professionals through an online certificate course, “Understanding Mental Illness, Addiction, Stigma & Advocacy,” and then

match them with underfunded local mental health/addiction organizations for a pro bono project. Together, they will help effect change through a shared passion.

“This is an exceptional opportunity for both marketing and communications professionals and mental health and addiction organizations,” said President & CEO Marilyn Mongeon Quill. “The pilot project is groundbreaking, with benefits all around. Marketing and communications professionals can enhance their resumes through education and a pro bono project in a specialized area and, as trained advocates, they will be better equipped to support family, friends, and colleagues dealing with a mental illness. Additionally, mental health and addiction organizations will have access to marketing and communications professionals who actually ‘get’ mental illness and stigma and are pre-

pared to assist in a pro bono capacity.”

Passion for Change has been developing Communicators for Mental Health in partnership with Greater Cleveland mental health and addiction organizations. Its earlier Phase I included representatives from Center for Families & Children, MHS (now Frontline Service), May Dugan Center, NAMI Greater Cleveland, Recovery Resources, Spectrum of Supportive Services, and Suicide Prevention Education Alliance (now LifeAct).

Volunteers in a variety of fields—including public relations, marketing, social and electronic media, advertising, website development and graphics and fine arts—will find personal satisfaction in giving back to the community. “It’s also an opportunity for them to put Greater Cleveland on the map in developing a national prototype,” said Mongeon Quill.

Passion for Change’s mission is to be a catalyst in breaking the stigma of mental illness by shedding light, challenging misperception, and driving change through research, advocacy, and education.

For more information or to apply for the Communicators for Mental HealthSM Greater Cleveland Pilot Project, contact Marilyn Mongeon Quill at 216.496.3295 or info@passionforchange.org. Website: www.passionforchange.org.





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Lakewood Cares

Our Friend Dennis Petkac Has So Much To Live For!

by Tony Nanni

Our friend Dennis is a longtime Lakewood resident and owner of Elements Hair Studio on Madison Ave. He's also dad, a husband, and a pretty damn good musician. Most of all Dennis is a kind, sweet, jovial, creative and generous dear friend to many who are lucky to know him and call him friend. He's also THE best damn story-teller you'd ever want holding court at your party.

2016 was somewhat of an unpleasant year for many and it hit Dennis, his wife Karen and son Olliver especially hard. Beginning some years ago, Dennis and his family have had to overcome several misfortunes which in recent years included some serious family health issues, an abrupt lease termination to his business Elements Hair Studio and a fire to a building under renovation which was to be the new Lakewood home to Elements Hair Studio. Through all these and other hardships, I and many who know Dennis have watched him take it all on and get right back up with few complaints. More striking than each episode of adversity has been seeing Dennis face it all down with few complaints and a casual, confident attitude of just knowing that somehow things are going to be even better. We could all learn something from this.

More recently Dennis, with his family at his side, has been very bravely facing down a tough and unfair fight with cancer. Tough as he is, the illness has left Dennis unable to work for nearly a year at the Lakewood business he's proudly owned and cultivated for more than 20 years. Watching in heartbreak, none of us who care about Dennis and his family can just wish away a cruel and horrible illness like cancer. Adding insult to injury is the cruel reality of the medical bills and all the other incidental family expenses which are quickly mounting in the wake of caring for Dennis.



Dennis Petkac, his wife Karen and son Olliver.

From personal experience many of us already know what a financial burden this disease can quickly become. This is why Jenn & Mike Pae and I have teamed up to host a fundraiser benefit concert on January 29th at Mahall's 20 Lanes. This event is all ages, family friendly and open to the public. It will run from noon to 11 p.m. Admission is a \$10 suggested donation per person. The concert performances will feature 15 local bands donating their talents this afternoon and into the evening. This unique and varied talent line-up will include live performances for all tastes by the following bands and artists:

- Aaron Civil War and the Brave Girls
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- Bipolar Bears
- Cats on Holiday
- City of Invention
- Groewood
- Hammered
- Jim Volk

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Revolution Brass Band

Trepanning Trio

Something for just about everyone, whether you want to just listen to good live music, get up on your feet and dance, or bang your heads! We just need you and your music-loving friends and family to show up and make it an event to remember! And do not forget about all the other great stuff about our dear Mahall's 20 Lanes: tasty food, drinks, bowling, etc.

Adding to the entertainment, we will be holding raffles and auctions of generous donations from several local businesses as well as unique works created by local artists which are valued in the thousands of dollars. At press time event sponsor donors included:

Achieve Fitness Studio, Aladdin's, Borderline Cafe, Campbell's Sweet Factory, Cerny Shoes, Contantino's, Daystar Boutique, Deagan's,

Derek Hess Gallery, Forbici Salon, George Shuba Photography, Gray Dog Diner, Gina DeSantis Ceramics, Greek Village Grill, Joe Kleon Concert Pics, Joe's Deli, Kimberly Monaco Designs, Lucky's Cafe, Namaste India Garden, Paisley Monkey, Party Light Basket, Pet's General, Rebecca Haviland, Roman Fountain, Root Cafe, Spin Bike Shop, Susan Kelley, Sweet Designs, Taco Tonto's, The Bottle House, Urban Bulk Foods, Vance Music Studios, and Yuzu.

So mark your calendars, load up your friends and family, stop at the ATM and show up for the party! In the meantime, please check out the Facebook pages and websites of our generous sponsors and give them your business and when you do please thank them for supporting the "So Much To Live For" benefit.

If you are a business owner and would also like to sponsor and support this cause, please contact Anthony Nanni, Jenn Karaffa Pae or Michael Pae via Facebook Messenger.

ALL performance, raffle and auction proceeds from this event will go to directly to benefit Dennis' family!

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Business News

STNA Your Way: Creating Your Healthcare Future

by Joni M. Nowak RN/CCRN

What if you were offered a career choice that would permit you to begin working in the healthcare field in just two weeks? A jumpstart to a career that costs just \$600 which will be mandatorily, 100% reimbursed, by the first Facility that hires you; it's a State law. STNA (State Tested Nursing Assistant) is that Program and there is one right here in Lakewood, OH!

Obtaining an STNA license is dependent on the successful completion of an Ohio Department of Health- approved Program and subsequent passing of the State Competency Exam. Once the program is completed an STNA Registry

card will be issued and the student is on their way to enjoying a bright and shiny new career in the healthcare field. The Lakewood Learning Center offers the STNA Your Way Program monthly; running day & evening classes.

The STNA Your Way Program Coordinator is Joni Nowak RN/CCRN, a critical care nurse, in the State of Ohio 38 years. Joni has spent most of her career in Trauma but has worked in many Long Term Care (LTAC) Facilities along the way, affording her a first-hand look at the job of the STNA. Driven to train the highest quality STNA in the job market today, she applied for her Program

Coordinator (PC) status and opened 'STNA Your Way' one of the most complete, convenient and affordable Programs in the area.

The medical community as a whole, remains grappling with a shortage of Primary Care Physicians, Nurses & STNA's. The shortage is being further strained by a disproportionately aging population. Healthcare practitioners, including the STNA, are now mandated to meet certain core competencies to obtain jobs in the healthcare field. The Lakewood Learning Center opened its doors in 2012 as an American Heart Association Training Center. In March of 2015 we broadened our course curriculum to include the State Tested Nursing Assistant Program. To date we have trained over 75 STNA's with a 'pass' rate of 87% on the written portion of the State Exam and a 96% on the skills portion of the State Exam... one of the highest cumulative 'pass' rates in the State of Ohio!

The Lakewood Learning Center has assisted in placing 100% of those, who want to be working, in healthcare jobs. These graduates are working in area Nursing Homes and Hospitals getting paid far above minimum wage, enjoying full-time hours/full-time benefits on a career path they can be proud of. STNA jobs are in high demand. As Home Care



Agencies continue to grow in popularity, due to the high cost of caring for the elderly, the demand for well-trained STNA's is ever-increasing. As the nursing shortage reaches a critical level, the demand for RN's and STNA's to assist them, will continue to skyrocket. To that end, the Lakewood Learning Center is cultivating a quality Program; STNA your Way, to meet those needs.

'STNA Your Way' is the most affordable Program around where timely State Competency Testing and job placement are guaranteed through the Program. So, if you know someone with an aptitude for caring, please send them our way! A big heart and an empathetic personality coupled with a two week accelerated course in providing care for the elderly are the only criteria necessary for a quality STNA job anywhere in the region.

Please visit us @ www.lakewood-learningcenter.com.

13002 Madison Avenue
Joni M. Nowak RN/CCRN: Program Coordinator: STNA Your Way

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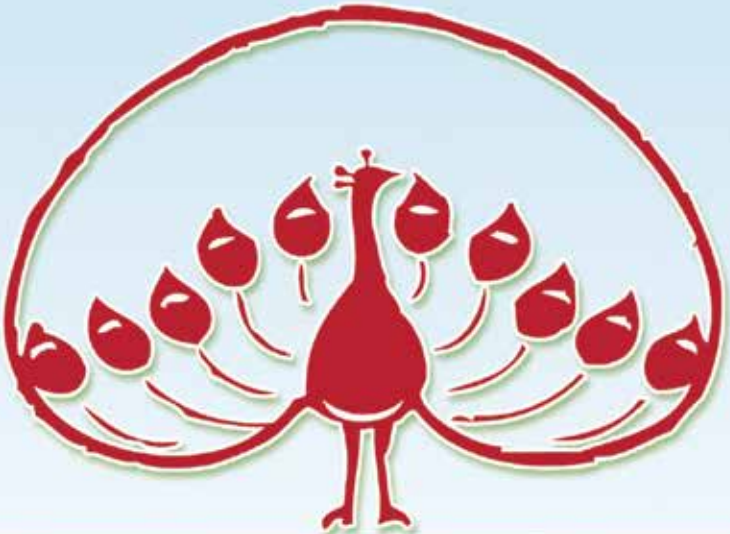
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Renewable Energy Power-Up For Northeast Ohio

continued from page 3

Meanwhile, for any budget, there are options for further reducing your dependence on limited and polluting fuel resources. Although NOPEC is Lakewood residents' default supplier, anyone who buys electricity can go shopping independently. The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio offers a listing of eligible suppliers at energy-choice.ohio.gov including a handful of companies with 100% renewable products. Depending on income and electricity consumption, these can be

surprisingly affordable.

For leaner budgets, it's worth remembering that cutting back on energy use always means cutting back on energy costs, and using less of NOPEC's 50% nonrenewable energy can also save money. The not-for-profit NOPEC is happy to help, too. As part of its mission to reduce communities' utility bills, it promotes energy efficiency steps which any household can benefit from. For a simple, graphic how-to visit www.nopecinfo.org/tip-house/energy-saving-tips.

Rocky River Chamber Music Society Presents "Factory Seconds Brass Trio" In Two Concerts

continued from page 9

work, and other audience participation activities

Program, Adult Concert, February 20

Jacques Arcadelt, "Chansons" (1554)

J. S. Bach, "Sinfonias" (1723)

Paul Hindemith, Fugues from

"Ludus Tonalis" (1942)

INTERMISSION

Norman Sherman, "National Anthem of the Moon" (2015)

Robert Marek, "Trio for Brass" (1959)

David Loeb, "Madrigaletti" (2016, world premiere)

Vaclav Nelhybel, "Trio for Brass" (1965)

Carol Jacobs is a retired librarian (Lakewood Public Library), archivist (The Cleveland Orchestra), and curator (Cowan Pottery Museum at Rocky River Public Library) who currently serves on the board of the Rocky River Chamber Music Society.

Forum

Women, And Men, Of Lakewood Represented At Local And National Women’s Marches



Liz Sent (left) and Maya Sutliff (right) at the march in Cleveland.



With the Capitol Building in the background, marchers of all ages, genders, races, and ethnicities joined together to march for women’s rights.



Even some of Lakewood’s littlest feminists showed up to show their support for women’s rights down on Public Square here in Cleveland.



Above: A Lakewood contingent in D.C. Below: A sea of signage and pink hats.



These pink knitted hats were the hallmark of the marches this weekend.



From left: Jill Milenski, Charlotte Milenski (age 13), Alaina Keirn-Swanson (age 13), & Heather Keirn-Swanson march in D.C.



Whole families came out to support women’s rights - three generations of marchers in the picture above. The unseasonably warm weather kept even the youngest marchers moving!

Twilight’s Last Gleaming

by Mike Deneen

As I write this, we are less than 21 hours until the Trump Regime takes over in Washington. As I posted on November 9, I fear that there will be dark and troubled times.

In recent weeks it has occurred to me that Lakewood is a preview of Trump’s Administration. There are many parallels between Team Trump and Team Summers. So perhaps we shouldn’t be too alarmed by Trump... We have already seen many of his tactics locally. As the Bible says, “There is nothing new under the Sun.”

Here are some of the parallels I’ve noticed.

*Both Summers and Trump are members of the “Lucky Sperm Club,” comprised of heirs that inherited the family business from their parents.

*Despite acquiring their wealth via family, both have convinced voters that they are “smart businessmen.”

*Both ran campaigns touting themselves as “successful businessmen”

running against “career politicians.”

*Trump has feuded with the media, especially Meghan Kelly. Team Summers harassed LO’s Publisher in an effort to put the Observer out of business. They also pulled the Observer from City Hall until public outcry became too strong. Trump has pondered banning the media from the White House altogether. God help us after he is sworn in.

*Trump famously refuses to release his tax returns. Team Summers has fought release of information on the Hospital deal at every turn. There is much they still haven’t released. Both Trump and Summers loathe transparency. (Rich guys don’t like to be questioned.)

*Team Summers sent the police to harass a critic. Just wait until Trump gets control of the FBI.

*Both Summers and Trump love simple, empty slogans, such as “The Future of Health Care” and “Make America Great Again.” This sloganeer-

ing is a byproduct of their expensive MBA educations.

*Both Trump and Summers have hijacked a political party for political expediency. Lifelong Republican Summers pretends to be a Democrat. Longtime Democrat Trump joined the GOP Circus. In both cases, officials of those parties cynically enabled these men. That’s because many leaders in both parties are Corporatists -- big business rules...social issues are “just for show.” Party leaders also crave power. Ryan and McConnell overcame their initial rejection and eventually embraced Trump. Marx, O’Leary, and Anderson did the same with Summers.

*Both offer no specifics on their big plans. We still don’t know what Summers plans to do with the hospital site. Just like we have no idea who will pay for Trump’s Wall, or what the GOP will use to replace the Affordable Care Act.

*Both are corporatists that place the importance of business over citizens.

Team Summers advocated eminent domain abuse for Issue 47. Trump has personally benefitted from eminent domain abuse in his businesses.

*Both Trump and Summers are happy to divide the population for their own benefit. Team Summers has created Lakewood’s Civil War, which dates back to Issue 47. Trump joyously divides the nation by race, religion, gender, etc.

I’m sure that many so-called “Lakewood Democrats” will take offense to this comparison. They will say “Summers is a nice guy, Donald is a pig!”

It’s true that their styles are different. For example, Team Trump loves to be openly and loudly racist. Team Summers prefers softer “dog whistle bigotry” on issues such as pit bulls and basketball hoops. However, once you peel back the stylistic differences, there isn’t that much difference between the two.

I hope I’m wrong, but I fear for our future.

Lakewood Living

From The Archives Of The Lakewood Historical Society

Madison Avenue Streetcar Line

by Alyse Lamparyk

From 1917 to 1954, streetcars on the Madison Avenue line ran from downtown Cleveland to Spring Garden Avenue in Lakewood. Here, a Cleveland Transit System electric

snow sweeper clears the way at the end of the route after a heavy storm in 1951.

Photograph donated to the Lakewood Historical Society by Bruce Young.



Stuff The Subaru For My Best Friend's Bowl

by Judy Towner

My Best Friend's Bowl is a non-profit pet food bank providing pet food to owners experiencing difficulty feeding their pet. We've been around since 2011, distributing food at the Lakewood Community Services Center here in Lakewood.

On February 5th, 2017, or Super Bowl Sunday to sport fans, our dedicated volunteers will once again be out front at Lakewood High School, 14100 Franklin Blvd. collecting donations from our supporters. Starting at 10 am and concluding at 2 p.m. you can drop off your contribution. Enter and exit on Franklin. Drive up and our helpers will unload your donation, get your information for a tax letter and you are on your way to your Super Bowl watch party.

We are looking for dry dog and cat food, canned cat food, cat litter and piddle pads (for our senior outreach program at the Westerly apartments). If you prefer to donate cash, we'll gratefully accept that as well. Checks can be made out to our fiscal agent, The Lakewood Foundation, just put MBFB in the memo section. You can also donate on our facebook page at My Best Friend's Bowl or our website <http://mybestfriendsbowlakewood.com/bowl/how-can-i-help/>.



The annual "Stuff the Subaru" event is back in Lakewood!

You can stage a "mini food raising drive" at your office, yoga studio, gym, book club, salon or, well, you get the picture. If you need us to pick up your collection proceeds, please contact us at 216-482-0646.

If it is raining or snowing, we will still be there! We hope to see you. Watch for our cool new signs along Franklin. They were donated to us by a great friend of MBFB!!!

Judy Towner is the director of My Best Friend's Bowl Pet Food Bank, and Lakewood Community Service Center.

Adopt-A-Pet: Surprise Bear

by Mike Deneen

Meet Collar #152 Surprise Bear. This sweet girl is ready to be adopted out through the Lakewood Animal Shelter. Surprise was rescued back in September 2016 and has spent the past 5 months in foster care. When Surprise was found, she just a tiny kitten, very timid and shy. After spending time in a loving foster home, she gained confidence and is now very friendly, playful, and loves to spend time laying near her foster mom to keep her company. She gets along with other cats, has been

spayed, and is approximately 7 months old. If interested in adopting Surprise Bear, please contact the Lakewood Animal Shelter at 216-529-5020 or message Citizen Committee for the Lakewood Animal Shelter on Facebook.



This little sweetie is available for adoption from the Lakewood Animal Shelter.

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The Great Pizza Bake Off

by David Norton

LAKEWOOD PIZZA BAKE-OFF
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55" HD Smart TV Raffle at the Bake Off
Thursday, January 26, 2017
Lakewood High School
5 – 8 p.m.
Ticket cost: Adults \$10 ~ Children 6-12, \$5 ~ 5 and under FREE

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Lakewood Living

Spring LECPTA Baby Bargain And Big Kid Bonanza Returning March 18th

by Kim Griffith

The Lakewood Early Childhood PTA (LECPTA) is once again planning its popular children’s resale of gently used children’s clothing (sizes newborn to 10), furniture, toys and other items. The Baby Bargain Bonanza (BBB) is planned for Saturday, March 18th at Garfield Middle School, which is located at 13114 Detroit Ave. in Lakewood. The sale is open to the public and will run from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Admission is \$5 from 8:30 a.m. until 9:30 a.m. and just \$1 from 9:30

a.m. until 12:00 p.m.

There are many good deals to be found on lots of children’s gear. If it is needed for children, most likely, it can be found at the BBB! LECPTA will also be raffling off gift cards to local stores. Raffle tickets are one ticket for \$1, six tickets for \$5 or twenty tickets for \$10. The tickets may be used to enter the raffle for just one gift card drawing, or split amongst the different gift cards. Winners do not need to be present to win. Raffle tickets can be purchased anytime by emailing bbb.lecpta@gmail.com.

This is a great resource to take advantage of if you cannot attend the BBB but would like to get in on the fun of the raffle!

In addition to great deals on clothing and raffles, there will be a bake sale featuring homemade goodies as well as drinks, bagels, donuts and coffee available for purchase. There is sure to be a yummy treat for everyone at the bake sale!

All this sounds great, right? But what if you are thinking, “I already have a closet full of kids’ clothes and

don’t have room for any more!”? Well, maybe it is time to consider being a seller at the BBB. Everyone is welcome to sell children’s items that are no longer needed. The items must be clean, free from recall and in good condition with all parts and pieces. If you are interested in becoming a seller, please visit www.lecpta.com for more information or email bbb.lecpta@gmail.com. There is an early bird sign up discount available until February 18th and we will accept registration forms until tables sell out. Whether you choose to buy or sell, LECPTA looks forward to meeting you on March 18th!

Additionally – new this spring the LECPTA will be partnering with Savers Thrift Store to collect any unwanted clothing or household items that you may be purging with the new year. Savers will collect any size clothing items, shoes, linens, small appliances, electronics, sports equipment, toys, books, etc. and provide you with a receipt. A truck will be present on site at the sale from 9:30am-1:30pm. It’s a great way to donate your items, clear space in your home and help our non-profit organization raise some funds in the process.

Kim Griffith & Jen Demmitt are LECPTA Baby Bargain Bonanza Co-Chairs.

Fundraising For Autism

by Tara Quinn

This February I embark on my second trip with the Global Autism Project to Nicaragua. The Project sends 5-10 volunteers several times a year to underdeveloped areas in the world where they’ve established partnerships with developing centers focused on teaching children with autism. The goal is to provide continuous training to native therapists while respecting the culture, so they can provide therapy to children with autism in their city. The Project is committed to sustainability. I experienced first-hand their honesty and transparency.

I have worked with children with autism for 10 years, and obtained my BCaBA license last year. Summer 2015 brought several painful shifts in my life. The kind where I’m stuck in bed in my Lakewood duplex with my two boxer pups at my side. My boss knew my pain, and suggested I apply to the Global Autism Project. I had heard about the Project through a coworker who went to India the previous year. I also knew that being accepted to the Project meant that I would need to raise \$5000 for the nonprofit. But pain is beyond motivating so I sent in my information, had my 1 hour interview with the CEO and next thing I knew I was nonstop posting on Facebook explaining the nonprofit and asking for donations. Asking for help in something I had yet to experience but really believed in. Changing kids’ lives. It’s hard not to believe in that.

March 2016 I experienced the life-changing trip to Indonesia. I spent 2 weeks with 5 other women from the States and met the hardest working and most dedicated therapists at HI-5 center in Jakarta. We listened, we suggested, we supervised, we went to the streets to spread the word, we danced, we made program lists, we ate incredible food, we laughed, we tried to not complain about the heat, we learned about Hijabs and learned words in Bahasa, we became forever connected. I left Jakarta a better therapist than when I showed up. I learned how being of service is the greatest path to spiritual



Tara (center) with therapists from HI-5 Center in Jakarta along with volunteers from the Global Autism Project.

and personal growth. I experienced first-hand that in feeding others, we feed ourselves. The circular concept that the more I give, the more I receive.

This summer, another painful ‘stuck in bed in my Lakewood duplex with those boxers’ shift and I once again found myself applying to the Project. That painful motivation gets me every time. I feared it would be difficult to raise another \$5000. I was afraid people wouldn’t give again and that my excessive social media posts had resulted in a wave of unfollows. But I strive to live a life of humbly walking through the uncomfortableness. I knew the starting point would be to at least ask.

And like magic, you showed up. You showed up to yoga events at Edgewater, and trivia night at the Root Cafe. You gave your time, and your talents and your money. The goodness of human beings continues to amaze me. You gave me the opportunity to head to Centro de Invencion Edu-Therapeutico in Managua, Nicaragua. It is run by the only Board Certified Behavior Analyst in the country and the staff is eager to learn from the volunteers from the Global Autism Project. It is because of people like you, who will never get to see directly the effects of their donations,

that truly provide this opportunity to these kids. I am so grateful. If you are interested in donating, please visit <https://www.crowdrise.com/skillcorps-nicaragua-february-2017/fundraiser/taraquinn>

For more information on the Global Autism Project head to <http://globalautismproject.org/>.

To follow Tara’s travels, @tara.travel.

Tara Quinn is a Cleveland-adoring, transparent and traveling resident of Lakewood. She strives to remain teachable and of service.

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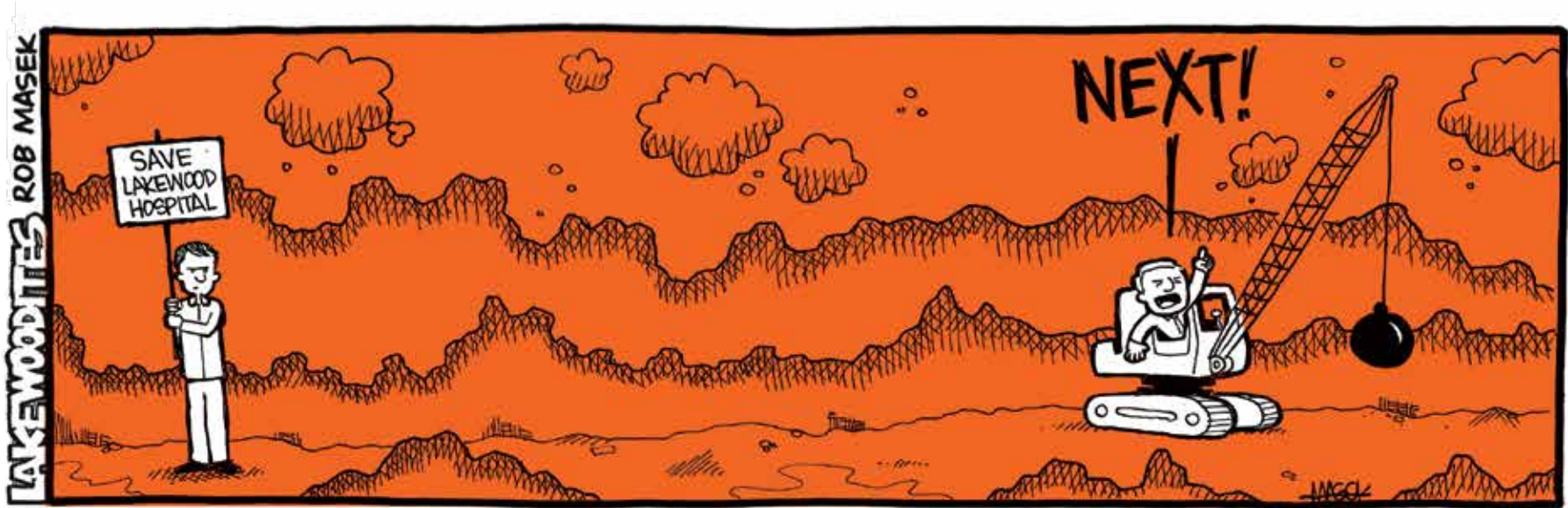
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