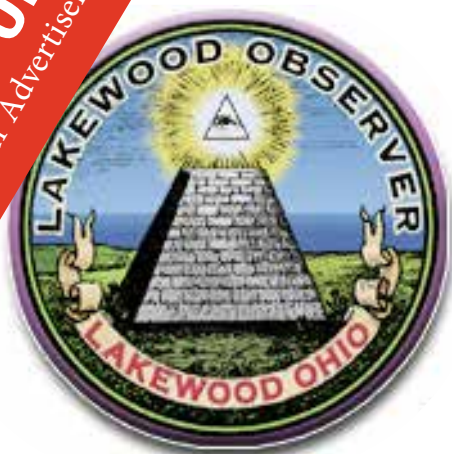


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Volume 13, Issue 5, March 8, 2017

Rangers Reach Sweet Sixteen With Historic Win

by Mike Deneen

The LHS girls basketball team defeated Medina 49-41 on Thursday night in the district championship game at Valley Forge High School. A huge contingent of Ranger fans made the trip, and they were treated with the program's biggest win since 1995. Junior center Olivia Nagy led the scoring with 23 points. Medina staged a furious third quarter rally to narrow a 12 point halftime deficit, but Lakewood's tenacious defense carried the Rangers to victory.

The building was full of energy before the game even started. Fans were lined up outside the building to get tickets. The Ranger side was full of fans,

and there was a strong turnout by LHS students. Lakewood fed off the energy, jumping out to an 8-0 lead in the first quarter. Senior Trinity Nall got things going with a three pointer, and Nagy scored three points to build a 10-2 Lakewood lead after one quarter. Medina struggled against the Rangers pressure defense, turning the ball over numerous times.

Junior Saher Hamdan scored a three pointer early in the second quarter to give Lakewood a 15-4 margin. Medina answered with five consecutive points to make it 15-9. Then the Rangers went to work on the inside, feeding the ball to Nagy. She scored on three consecutive possessions to stretch the lead back to 21-9.

Junior Isabel Cintron hit a three pointer late in the half to help build a 28-16 Lakewood lead at the intermission.

Ranger fans were abuzz at halftime...they sensed a major win was coming. However, the Bees had other ideas. They held the Rangers to only three points over a span of seven minutes and 48 seconds, chipping the Lakewood lead down to 33-26 during the third quarter. Medina fans were fired up, and the final quarter was going to be a gut-check for Lakewood.

Medina opened the final period with a pair of free throws, cutting the lead to 33-28. Tension grew among

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photo by Mike Deneen

Happy Rangers celebrate their District title, first for the program since 1995.

Beer Engine's 10th Anniversary Is A Win, Win, Win With LCAC!

by Celia Dorsch

Win #1 - (2007) Robert and Garin Wright, the father/son team that established Cleveland's Buckeye Brewing Company in 1997, chose to locate their new craft beer bar in Lakewood.

Win #2 - (2017) Ten years later, BEER ENGINE continues to grow its vision of providing unique, freshly crafted beer along with top quality service and great food.

Win #3 - (March 13-19, 2017) BEER ENGINE celebrates its success with an incredible seven-day fundraiser for Lakewood Charitable Assistance Corporation.

Like all the members of Lakewood Charitable Assistance Corporation's volunteer board, I was amazed by BEER ENGINE's decision to share 10% of their anniversary week proceeds with our organization. This donation will directly impact more than 600 Lakewood households in need of holiday food baskets and spring cleaning supplies from LCAC in 2017. What a generous gift! Wanting to learn more about LCAC's benefactors, I met with co-owner Robert Wright and general manager, Peter Stancato at the BEER ENGINE - 15315 Madison Ave.

Stepping into BEER ENGINE is nostalgic. The



BEER ENGINE owners, Robert and Garin Wright.

vibe is comfortable and relaxing, compliments of Robert's background in interior design. Robert reminded me of the location's many incarnations: The Titanic, Martini's, Lenard's and Dairy Dell (where he and his late wife, Nancy Womer enjoyed

treats). Lakewood ties are strong in this family business. Garin, co-owner and master brewer, is a 4th generation Lakewoodite. According to Robert, Garin voiced his opinion that our community was the ideal spot

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Lakewood students are ready to dish out pancakes to families for this fun, traditional event.

H2O Presents: Breakfast With The Bunny

by Bridget Jablonski

Calling all toddlers, children, and anyone who likes pancakes! Help to Others, or H2O, is Lakewood's own unique student volunteer organization that coordinates with numerous charities in the area to teach teenagers to devote some of that teenage angst to a good cause. Students are literally ready to

serve again with their Breakfast with the Bunny event on Saturday April 8th, 2017 at the Lakewood Women's Pavilion. Seating times are at 8:30, 9:30, 10:45 and 11:45 a.m. The menu includes pancakes, sausages, fruit and choice of beverage. To keep you alert for the Easter bunny and tempt your tastebuds, The

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Memories Of Home And The Wisdom Of Women

by Amy Kloss

March is Women's History Month. If you want to celebrate women in an interesting, fun and thought-provoking way, visit the Beck Center to view an exhibit by three artists who have spent years working to portray their personal and political views through collage, painting and quilt-making. "Memories Evoked: Circling Back Home" is showcasing the

works of Jill Milenski, Gayle Pritchard and Gail Crum in the lobby of Lakewood's Beck Center through March 12.

The women met in 1996 at Artstown studio in Avon Lake when Pritchard taught a workshop on creating art from ordinary objects. The class and connection

At right: A sampling of the women's work in the show.

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Lakewood Observer

Becoming An Observer

by Debra O'Bryan

The Lakewood Observer is not like other newspapers. The paper you are holding is written by residents. We do not have a writing staff, we rely on submissions from you. Yes... you, your family, neighbors, and friends in the city.

Anyone in Lakewood is encouraged to write for this publication about anything in Lakewood! Write about what interests you. You may contribute regularly, on occasion, or once in a blue moon. It's totally up to you. If you think something should be covered, please do so and write it up. You can team up with classmates, colleagues, or friends if you don't want to go solo. If you want to share a news event, special event, opinion piece, recipe, poem, or just a photo. It's entirely up to you, and it's a piece of cake to do.

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We generally are interested in 200-500 word articles. Businesses are asked to refrain from solely promoting their business. That is what advertising is for, and we are here to help with that as well.

All submissions must be original. Our editorial staff will check for spelling and grammar and edit accordingly. Sometimes articles are shortened due to space constraints. We are always here to help you through the process if needed. Questions can be sent to: production@lakewoodobserver.com.

Not interested in writing, but still have a voice to be heard? Then the Observation Deck is the place for you. Our online forum welcomes you to throw a cheer out to something great happening in our fine city, or maybe a jeer about something that's not sitting well with you and you want to talk about it. Maybe you just have a question about something going on, at the "Deck" you are sure to find someone to offer answers. This is the place to discuss all things Lakewood. We do ask that you use your real name and are respectful to others using and reading the deck. Just click on "Observation Deck Forum" and join. Like the paper, it's free.

Just like taking photographs? Start a photoblog that appears in our online Photo Gallery. With so many ways to be involved in this unique community paper, isn't it time you started?

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Beer Engine's 10th Anniversary Is A Win, Win, Win With LCAC!

continued from page 1

for Buckeye Brewing Company's retail outlet. The rest is history.

BEER ENGINE opened at the corner of Arthur and Madison in 2007, in the midst of an economic recession. They were the first major craft beer bar in the area, with a certified beer engineer and staff highly educated in the beer industry. Robert attributes their rising success to "great service, great food, unique/fresh beer, and being good neighbors." Business has grown every year, keeping bookkeeper, Kathy Wright busy. According to BEER ENGINE's staff, Lakewood is a dynamic place to do business.

Did you know BEER ENGINE features two beer hand pumps, also known as a beer engine? The beer is pumped from a cask in the basement cellar to the bar upstairs. Cask beer, while relatively

uncommon, is naturally carbonated and unfiltered. In addition to the casks, 27 quality drafts and a wide variety of bottles are available. Stop by and ask the bartender to show you how the beer engine works. While you're there, congratulate them on 10 years of serving suds in Lakewood!

SAVE THE DATE!!

March 13-19 - Celebrate BEER ENGINE's 10th Anniversary and support LCAC. Stop by for lunch, dinner, or a cold brew. Lakewood Charitable Assistance will receive 10% of your tab and 100% of any donations you make toward decorating their walls with a personalized paper keg or mug.

March 20 - 6 p.m. - Mayor Summers will appear at BEER ENGINE's 10th anniversary celebration and make a formal check presentation to LCAC.

Senator Skindell Introduces Transportation Funding Bill

by Tony DiMenna

This past week State Senator Michael Skindell (D- Lakewood) introduced Senate Bill 61 to increase state funding to public transportation. The bill would increase General Revenue Fund (GRF) dollars for the remainder of this current fiscal year by \$5 million. In the upcoming biennium budget, it would increase the public transportation line item to \$25 million in Fiscal Years 2018 and 2019. It would also increase the use of federal flex funds in the public transportation budget to \$50 million in Fiscal Years 2018 and 2019.

The use of General Revenue Fund (GRF) dollars has radically decreased from \$44 million in 2000 to \$7.3 in both Fiscal Years 2016 and 2017 in the last biennium budget. Currently, the use of federal flex dollars for public transportation is only at \$10 million per year.

"Public transportation in this state is quite underfunded, with Ohio ranking 47 out of the 50 states. The demands of younger Ohioans, coupled with the increased needs of our low-income and senior citizens, make such low funding unsustainable," said Senator Skindell. "Many low-income workers rely exclusively on public transit to keep a stable job. But these jobs are not exclusively located in urban areas, nor are the people who most use public transit. By providing a more robust system, the state can more adequately promote self-sustainability and independence. A better investment in affordable public transportation will best serve the needs of all citizens."

"The proposed bill to flex \$50 million in highway funds to help replace bus vehicles is welcome news to RTA and all transit systems in Ohio," said Joe Calabrese, CEO and General Manager of Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority (RTA). "Across this state, more than \$400 million is needed today to replace outdated vehicles. It's critical that this bill obtains widespread support."



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Upcoming Submission Deadline	Publish Date
March 15, 2017	March 22, 2017
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CONTRIBUTING WRITERS - Ian Andrews, Kathy Augustine, Matt Bixenstine, Nicole Born-Crow, Mike Deneen, Tony DiMenna, Celia Dorsch, Tiffany Fox, Bethany Francis, Christine Gordillo, Trudy Hutchinson, Carol Jacobs, Bridget Jablonski, Genevieve Jaskulski, Hiam Jawhari, Karen Karp, Amy Kloss, Eric Knapp, John Kompier, Alyse Lamparyk, Debra O'Bryan, Paula Maust, Valerie Mechenbier, Pat Miller, Tristen Rader, Elaine Rosenberger, Abby Schneider,

City

Lakewood City Council

February 21, 2017 - Meeting Highlights

Proposed Name Change of Housing Committee

The council proposed three different solutions. First, leaving the existing committee structure as is; second, changing the name to Housing and Development Committee; and third, creating an entirely separate Development Committee. They plan on meeting again for deliberation.

Downtown Lakewood Request for Qualifications

The council opened public engagement of redevelopment of former hospital site. They expressed their desire to foster open discussion about what new businesses residents would like to see downtown.

Finance Committee Report

The Finance Committee reviewed salaries and collective bargaining agreements with the paramedic and firefighter unions. Union negotiations are up for renewal this year, and in Resolutions 8921-17 and 8921-17, the Finance Committee proposed to increase salaries of union employees at a steady rate (3% the first year, then 2% the next two consecutive years). This resolution also establishes a health care committee to meet within the first two

years of the contract to provide adequate health care options for workers, while simultaneously reducing cost and staying within the budget.

Through Ordinance 1-17, the Committee also reviewed the salary ordinance for non-collective bargaining/at-will employees. The proposed ordinance offers salary increases in line with the paramedic and firefighter unions.

Ordinances 3-17 through 12-17 include legislation to carry out capital projects that the council committed to in last year's budget. In Ordinance 3-17 specifically, the Committee proposed taking the balance from 2016 (\$10.5 million) and re-rolling the notes for an additional year (versus bond, for long-term financing). The ordinance also proposes using \$11.6 million for infrastructural projects including water, sewage, roads, sidewalks, improvement of water treatment plants, improvement of parks, and roof and structural improvements of city buildings. The city proposes to going to one year of short term debt to try and keep costs low for residents and not have to increase taxes.

by Bethany Francis

Public Works Committee Report

The committee met to discuss Resolution 8920-17, regarding a submerged lands lease for lakeside property, north of Webb Road. The Webb Road Outfall Repair Project (included in 8920-17) explains the necessity of repairing a manhole in an outfall pipe damaged by erosion. The council voted, and Resolution 8920-17 passed.

Public Safety Committee Report

The Public Safety Committee met to discuss Resolution 8916-17, a resolution to extend the moratorium on retail medical marijuana establishments. The state of Ohio wants to see a demonstration of local buy-in before approving licensure for a dispensary - or at least, a lack of opposition. Councilmember Bullock expressed concern about how medical marijuana dispensaries would affect Cuyahoga County's opioid crisis and wanted to do further research. Councilmember O'Malley expressed the council should repeal the referendum altogether and move to decide if medical marijuana dispensaries should be permitted in Lakewood. The council did not come to a con-

clusion on the resolution and moved to defer for further discussion.

Lakewood Animal Safety and Welfare Advisory Board

The Animal Safety and Welfare advisory board created educational materials including a power point presentation and a guide to responsible pet ownership. The presentation and brochure will soon be available for download on the City of Lakewood website, as well as aids for dealing with wild animals and feral cats and dogs.

Ordinance Proposal for Owner-Occupied Two-Family Member Homes

Councilmember Anderson proposed that owners of occupied two-family homes apply for an annual housing license. All single, double, and triple family homes require licensure, and Anderson said that the need of an annual housing license for owner-occupied two-family homes would promote best practices by landlords. Because the annual license requires basic information on tenants, it would also ensure that those living in Lakewood would pay Lakewood municipal tax. He stated that this ordinance would bring in an additional \$200,000 in municipal tax.



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Lakewood Public Library

Calendar Of Events

compiled by Elaine Rosenberger

Wednesday, March 8

Author Event - “The History and Uncertain Future of Handwriting” by Anne Trubek

Anne Trubek argues that the decline of handwriting in daily life does not signal a decline in civilization but rather the next stage in the evolution of communication. Trubek uncovers the significant impact handwriting has had on culture and humanity, from the first recorded handwriting on the clay tablets of the Sumerians, to the invention of the alphabet as we know it. Each innovation has threatened entrenched interests, yet new methods of communication have always appeared. Books will be available for sale and signing at the event.

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

Thursday, March 9

Author Event - “The Beatles in Cleveland: Memories, Facts & Photos about the Notorious 1964 & 1966 Concerts” by Dave Schwensen

Hot on the success of their film “A Hard Day’s Night,” the Beatles’ 1964 summer tour filled auditoriums with delight and, in some cases, full-blown fan hysteria. On September 15th in Cleveland, police stopped the show in mid-performance and ordered the Beatles off the stage. A scheduling change brought the Beatles back to Cleveland on August 14th for the tour’s first outdoor show at Municipal Stadium. Go behind the scenes and see John, Paul, George and Ringo through eyewitness accounts from the promoters, concert MC’s, deejays, journalists, opening acts and fans. Books will be available for sale and signing at the event.

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

Friday, March 10

Documentary - Do Not Resist (2016)

Starting on the streets of Ferguson, Missouri, as the community grapples with the death of Michael Brown, “Do Not Resist” offers a stunning look at the current state of policing in America and a glimpse into the future. The documentary puts viewers in the center of the action—from a ride-along with a South Carolina SWAT team and inside a police training seminar that teaches the importance of “righteous violence” to the floor of a congressional hearing on the proliferation of military equipment in small-town police departments—before exploring where controversial new technologies, including predictive policing algorithms, could lead next.

6:30 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

Saturday, March 11

Film - “Stage Fright” (1950)

By 1950, Alfred Hitchcock had established himself as one of the world’s foremost filmmakers. Terry Meehan’s new series, “Hitchcock in the Fifties, Part 1,” follows the master of suspense as he embarks upon his remarkable creative journey through the decade. We begin with a lesser-known gem starring Jane Wyman as an aspiring actress who gets involved in a murder investigation of the husband of a flamboyant torch singer (Marlene Dietrich). Meehan will introduce each film with an original video presentation, followed by audience reaction and a lively discussion.

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

Monday, March 13

Workshop - Finding Power: Adventures in Effective Assertiveness

In this introduction to some powerful assertiveness techniques, you will learn the basics of a very effective method to usually get what you want from others in your life (without manipulation or intimidation). You have a right to be heard. You have a right to get what you want most of the time. You have a right to say, “No.” Dr. River Smith will help you find the power to do that.

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

Tuesday, March 14

Author Event - “What Happens Next” by Colleen Clayton

When sixteen-year-old Cassidy “Sid” Murphy ends up on a ski lift next to handsome local college boy, Dax Windsor, she’s thrilled, but Dax takes everything from Sid—including a lock of her perfect red curls—and she can’t remember any of it. Back home, Sid drops her college prep classes and takes up residence in the AV room with only Corey Livingston for company. Now, if she can just shake the nightmares and those few extra pounds, everything will be perfect, or so she thinks. Clayton’s Kirkus-starred young adult novel “What Happens Next” was a finalist for the Ohioana Book Award. Books will be available for sale and signing at the event.

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

Wednesday, March 15

Talk - The Dangers of Nuclear Weapons, Presentation by William Fickinger, Introduced by Diane Mather of Performers and Artists for Nuclear Disarmament

From the end of WWII, through the Cold War and the Cuban Missile Crisis, and more recently the Iran Nuclear Deal, nuclear weapons have been in the forefront of our lives. William Fickinger, retired physics professor from Case Western Reserve University and board member of Cleveland Peace Action, will discuss on the history of nukes, the science behind them and efforts to ban them entirely. Fickinger’s discussion will focus on the many negotiations concerning nuclear weapons that have taken place over the past seventy years.

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

Thursday, March 16

Booked for Murder: Detectives Around The World

Discover a new place and uncover a mystery, as you follow a different detective through a different location each month. Tonight we will discuss “The Neon Rain” by James Lee Burke (Louisiana, USA).

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

Author Event - “Rabbitude: A Memoir by Romeo, Author and Diva” by Tanja D. Stich, Presented by Buckeye House Rabbit Society

“Rabbitude” is a memoir written from the perspective of Romeo, a Lionhead Dwarf.

Author and bunny enthusiast Tanja D. Stich was born in a small town in Bavaria, Germany and came to the United States as a young adult. Romeo was her first animal companion as an adult, and this was her first encounter with the Lionhead breed. Books will be available for sale and signing at the event.

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

Saturday, March 18

Film - “Dark Blue World” (2001)

Punishment for having joined the British Royal Air Force (RAF) during World War II equals imprisonment for Franta Slama (Ondrej Vetchý) in his homeland of Czecho-Slovakia during the Cold War. Following the Nazi invasion of the country in 1939, Franta and fellow pilots escaped to England and were welcomed by the RAF. Among the volunteers was novice pilot Karel Vojtisek (Krystof Hadek). Intensive training and English lessons completed, the men are assigned to fly England’s legendary Spitfire fighter plane. During a mission, Karel is shot down and lands uninjured. English with some Czech language. 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, March 19

Concert - Down the Road Old-Time String Band

From Appalachia to the Ozarks, Down the Road Old-Time String Band will take you on a musical journey through the centuries-old, captivating folk music of America. While many of the tunes were brought here by settlers, others were created here on American soil—the truest form of Americana. Down the Road Old-Time String Band keeps this tradition alive and loves to share it with audiences of all ages.

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

Monday, March 20

Workshop - Power Healing & Joy: Part I

With a focus on childhood sexual abuse, River Smith will explore the ingredients needed to transform childhood pain into powerful healing.

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

Tuesday, March 21

Knit & Lit Book Club

Come share your passion for great literature and show off your knitting, crochet, counted cross-stitch, embroidery and quilting works-in-progress. Tonight we will discuss “The Lost Wife” by Alyson Richman.

7:00 p.m. Main Library Meeting Room

Children & Youth Events

compiled by Eric Knapp

Wednesday, March 8

Art Connection

For students in kindergarten through fifth grade

Create an art piece to show off to friends and family! Registration required.

4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. in the Main Library Activity Room.

Thursdays, March 9 through April 13

Illustration Creation

For students in kindergarten through first grade

Create your own pictures each week based on your favorite picture books. Ends with an art show for family! Registration required.

4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. in the Main Library Activity Room.

Saturday, March 11

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, March 12

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.

Wednesdays, March 15 – April 19

Extreme Survivor Role-Play Experience

For students in fifth through eighth grade

Each week you’ll tackle an extreme survival scenario: shark attacks, lost in the desert, and even the zombie apocalypse. Join us for games, challenges, trivia, and a costume contest the final week. Registration required.

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

Mondays, March 20 – May 1

Art Explosion

For students in fifth through eighth grade

Learn about different artists in this six-week program, then experiment with your own style to show off at a special culminating art show. Registration required.

7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. in the Main Library First Floor Multipurpose Room. Art Show takes place Saturday, May 6, 3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Lakewood Public Library

The Spring Book Sale

by *Genevieve Jaskulski*

It's time for our spring book sale, and we are so excited to once again showcase one of our biggest highlights here at Lakewood Public Library. We have a wonderfully large selection of materials for you this time around, and just to start the year off right there is a special sale on fiction! All fiction in the Bargain Book area will be reduced from fifty cents to twenty-five cents; Fiction in the Better Book Room and the Big Better Books in the Basement Lobby will remain full price.

Our sale will take place on Saturday, March 25 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Main Library Friends Book Sale Room and as always for our Friends of the Library members, the preview sale will be the Thursday before, on Thursday, March 23 from 6 to 9 p.m. It should be noted that this is the last chance to become a Friend Of the Library at the price of \$2, hereafter it will be \$3 for

an individual membership.

We are particularly excited to share that we have received a large donation of graphic novels and Automotive-repair manuals to showcase this time around, as well as the usual CDs, VHS tapes, fiction and nonfiction books that come either in paperback or hard copies; there is something for everyone.

You would truly be hard pressed to walk away from our sale without something for yourself, or your family, in our treasure trove of lovely affordable surprises. Our eclectic and expansive collection of wonderfully accessible materials for you to enjoy has been meticulously hand-sorted by our amazingly dedicated Friends of the Library, who spend countless hours in preparation for our sales, and who donate their time and energy.

With summer coming up, the Library is especially grateful to our Friends of the Library, and the time they put in. Their effort to bring you the best quality, at an insanely affordable price, is actually what funds a good majority of the other programs we are so thrilled to be a part of here.

Summer concerts are just around the corner, and there is so much to anticipate this warm season. We are looking forward to every single program, not to mention a little more sunshine here and there.

If you have any questions about our book sale, or any of the other fantastic programs coming up, ask one of our helpful and enthusiastic librarians behind one of our service desks. Happy Spring everyone!

Zap's Wild And Wacky Balloon Show

by *Nicole Born-Crow*

Zap is back at Lakewood Public Library! Saturday March 18th, 2017, join us for Zap's Wild and Wacky Balloon Show, an event that blends magic, comedy, and balloon art into one fun-filled night. If you have never seen Zap the Magician perform, now is your chance!

Bob Durante, aka Zap, has been performing magic for the last 35 years. As a young magician, he worked at the Yellow Barrel of Magic Store, which is the oldest magic shop in this part of the country and still in business in Elyria. There his talents were fostered by the owners who helped many a fledgling performer by holding competitive magic conventions during the 70's and 80's. Later, Durante had the good fortune to work with Tony Slydini, whom he considers one of the greatest magi-

cians of the last 100 years.

Perhaps you've seen Zap at the library before in one of his many incarnations as "Zap the Wonder Chap" or "Zap the Merry Wizard." He is a familiar face in children's entertainment here in Northeast Ohio. He loves to entertain, and that shines through all of his performances. When asked what he likes best about performing for children, Durante says, "It's the moment you see the wonderment shine in their eyes. They know that what they are seeing is something that could not possibly happen and yet it does. That is magic."

So join us Saturday, March 18th at 7 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room for the first Family Music & More of the spring season. This event is generously funded by the Friends of Lakewood Public Library.

Oleg Kruglyakov Concert

by *Hiam Jawhari*

The balalaika is a Russian stringed musical instrument with a triangular body and three strings. It comes in various sizes and can produce several different pitches.

Oleg Kruglyakov is a balalaika player. He was born in Omsk, Russia. Singing together with his family as a child created a fondness for this musical style. Later, he was educated at the

renowned Ekaterinburg Conservatory. He studied, conducted, and taught the balalaika. The vibrant language and history of the Russian people captivated him and influenced his style.

Come to the Lakewood Public Library on Sunday, March 12 at 2:00 p.m. in the Main Auditorium to listen to Kruglyakov's music, and experience some of Russia's history and culture all at once.

Extreme Survivor Roleplay At The Library: 5th-8th Grade

by *Eric Knapp*

What would you do if your ship sunk and you found yourself in the middle of the ocean surrounded by sharks like the crew of the USS Indianapolis in 1945? How would you survive if you were separated from your team members on a mountain climbing expedition with temperatures dropping by the minute? What if you were trapped right in the middle of the... Zombie Apocalypse?

Each week, we'll explore a different survival scenario, participate in interactive discussions of survival techniques, and then put them into practice! We'll also try trivia, play games, and face challenges both mental and physical that relate to Extreme Survival. On our final meeting, we'll have a costume contest, photo opportunities, games, and prizes! Extreme Survival is a six-week program for students in fifth through eighth grade. Register online, stopping by Children's and Youth Services, or call (216)226-8275 ext. 140. Wednesdays, March 15 – April 19; 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. in the Main Library First Floor Multipurpose Room.

Illustration Creation

by *Jeffrey Siebert*

Calling all artists in kindergarten through first grade! Do you love to look at the illustrations in picture books? Create your own masterpieces in Illustration Creation, an engaging art program featuring picture book illustration. This six week program will feature a different children's book illustrator and author each week for project inspiration and will culminate in an art show for family and friends. We'll read a story, learn a little

bit about the illustrator and create our own works of art for sixty fun filled minutes! This program at the main branch of the Lakewood Public Library is for students in kindergarten through first grade. Illustration Creation will be on Thursdays, March 9 through April 13 from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. in the Main Library Activity Room of Children's and Youth Services. Space is limited and registration is required. Stop by the Children's desk or call 216-226-8275x140 to register.

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Schools

District Staff Spotlight:

LHS Custodian Hatmaker The Tops

by Christine Gordillo

Lakewood High head custodian Randy Hatmaker is a military man at heart and it's that sense of duty and service that he brings to his job that has earned Randy the honor of being one of Lakewood City Schools' March Staff Spotlight honorees.

Hatmaker, who served 27 years in

the Navy Reserves and has been with the District for 24 years, heads up a team of 15 custodians and cleaners who are responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of the 250,000- square-foot high school. With such a massive space to attend to, it is important to Hatmaker that the work is done quickly, efficiently and correctly.

His military training has allowed

him create a system that helps alleviate any backlog and prevents small problems from turning into bigger ones. His approach is one of friendly customer service where he makes sure to meet face-to-face with a staff member making a request to ensure he knows exactly what that person's needs are. He then follows up once the job is complete to make sure all are satisfied.

He urges his staff to get to know the specific needs of teachers in their area. "Learn your teachers, learn what makes them happy in the day...Our job is to make it easier for the teachers to do their job so they can help our students," he says.

LHS staff members praise Randy for his professionalism and responsiveness. Says Hatmaker's nominator, Culinary Arts instructor Rob McGorray: "Randy solves problems easily and creates solutions that minimize or



Lakewood High head custodian Randy Hatmaker.

eliminate the problem from happening again. He is a great and goes well out of his way to help in any and all ways."

District Staff Spotlight:

Garfield's Moran Always Team Player

by Christine Gordillo

A love of teaching and a love of sports come together in the form of Garfield Middle School's Colleen Moran and the result is a passionate, team-focused teacher who is a Lakewood City Schools' March Staff Spotlight honoree.

After nearly 35 years of teaching middle schoolers in the District, Moran, a lifelong Lakewood resident, remains as passionate about teaching as she did when she was a new grad fresh out of Cleveland State heading to work for her hometown district.

Moran's commitment to Lakewood and the District is evident whether it's in the time she gives mentoring young teachers such as her nominator Kyle White and daughter Kelly at Grant Elementary or in her role as a volunteer coach for Garfield's 7th and 8th grade girls' basketball teams. According to White, Moran is "the best science teacher on Earth!"

In the classroom, she makes sure everyone knows they are all on the same team working for the same goals. Yet, she takes care to give each student what he or she needs individually and



Garfield Middle School science teacher Colleen Moran.

find the hook that will engage them.

Moran, who is a member of the LHS Alumni Sports Hall of Fame for her high school basketball and coaching days, is always one to give credit to her teammates, whether it be in sports or in school. She praises her 6th grade science team as "incredible." After three decades, she says the reason why she enjoys teaching remains the same: "I love interacting with the students every day."

Help Lakewood Music Boosters raise funds: Eat For A Cause!

by Tiffany Fox

Visit Angelo's on March 16 and be a part of enriching lives! During that day, 20% of total sales will be donated to the Boosters.

When you donate to the the Lakewood Music Boosters you support the 70+ music groups enriching the edu-

cation of Lakewood's children. Last year LMB contributed over \$15,000 to the district music department and awarded over \$7,000 in scholarships for private lessons and music camps directly to the students.

Please join the community and help the Boosters continue to provide for these programs, while you eat really great pizza!

Lakewood City Schools' Open Enrollment Period Open

by Christine Gordillo

The open enrollment period for Lakewood City Schools parents who wish to send their student to a school other than their assigned school for the 2017-2018 school year is now open. Parents have until March 30 to submit a request form.

The first notification period will be from June 5-12 and the final notification round will be August 14-18. The online application form can be found on the District web site at www.lakewoodcityschools.org under the tab "Forms." Please call 216-529-4203 with any questions.

Superintendent Chat March 21

by Christine Gordillo

The next Lakewood City Schools' Superintendent Chat with Jeff Patterson will be held Tuesday, March 21 at 6 pm in the Ranger Cafe at Lakewood High School. Please join Superin-

tendent Patterson for an informal discussion about goings on in the District and bring any questions and/or comments you may have. This is the third of four quarterly chats the superintendent holds each year.

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Lakewood Recreation

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H2O Presents: Breakfast With The Bunny

continued from page 1

Root Café will donate their renowned coffee for the morning. Also included is one of kids' favorite food groups-- syrup!

After enjoying breakfast, try your luck with the fabulous raffle baskets full of goodies and gift cards generously donated from local businesses. Raffle tickets are \$1 a piece or 6 for \$5. Photos with the Bunny will be available for \$5, so you can also try your luck with coaxing your young one into a darling (or hilarious) photo with the Easter bunny! If you have a young child and are terrified of what the teenage years will look

like, come on out and see what responsible, caring individuals they can become.

The breakfast price is \$8 for adults and \$5 for children under 12. All proceeds support H2O's year-round service programs and summer camps. This event is generously sponsored by First Federal of Lakewood. Please visit <http://www.thelakewoodfoundation.org/h2o> for your online reservations. This event may sell out, so book early!

Bridget Jablonski is a Lakewood mother of 2 who enjoys supporting local organizations and participating in all aspects of the Lakewood community.

Schools

Ranger Sports Soar In Postseason

by Christine Gordillo

Ranger winter sports teams and athletes closed the season out on some fantastic high notes and the post-season competition is not finished yet. Major accomplishments include competing in state championships, setting records and winning a District championship in girls' basketball!

Swimmer and senior Kelley Reis

closed out her LHS swimming career with a 11th place finish in the 100-yard backstroke and 21st place finish in the 100-yard butterfly in the Division 1 State Championship Meet. Reis broke her own school backstroke record twice over the course of the meet and finished with a time of 56.96 seconds. Reis will continue her swimming career on the collegiate level at the University of Cincinnati.

Also in swimming, the boys' 200-yard freestyle relay team of seniors Nick Ferrone, Evan Gainous, Preston Polen and junior Colman McGuan improved upon its own record set during the regular season of 1:32.42 with a time of 1:31.07 at the District meet. The girls' 200-yard freestyle relay team of seniors Emma Bressler, Julia Neff, Reis and junior Maggie McHugh also made it into the record books with a time of 1:42.30 recorded at Districts.

Junior indoor track sprinter Jordan Robinson qualified for the Indoor Track & Field State Championships in the 60 meters. Robinson qualified for the meet by finishing first of 90 runners with a time of 7.93 seconds at a recent meet in Oberlin. Robinson finished 16th of 18 runners at the State meet and gained invaluable big-meet experience for next year.

Another individual highlight belongs to senior wrestler Will Rodriguez, who went undefeated in his regular season matches, was Sectional runner-up and qualified for Districts along with freshman Nick Darling and senior Donovan Williams.



Three-time State qualifier Kelley Reis.

Rangers Reach Sweet Sixteen With Historic Win

continued from page 1

the Purple Faithful, as the Bees carried strong momentum. Lakewood re-established order by going back to Nagy, who scored consecutive baskets to make it 37-28. Ranger fans were feeling better... and then they were even happier when Hamdan made a three pointer to make it 40-28 with only 5:18 to go.

The Bees then went on a 9-2 run, making the score 42-37 with 2:16 remaining. Medina again had the momentum, and Rangers fans were counting down the seconds in hopes of hanging on. Then Junior Courtney Ribar made two free throws to make it a three possession game with only 1:14 left on the clock. Courtney only had two points on the night, but they were the crucial shots that ended the Bees final rally. The game then became a free-throw contest in the final minute, as Medina fouled to stop the clock on every Ranger possession. Nagy, who had struggled from the line earlier in the second half, calmly made four consecutive free throws to keep the Bees at bay.

When the final seconds ticked off the clock, the players rejoiced with screams. Ranger fans erupted with applause, appreciating the team's impressive tournament run. The team was very appreciative of the fan turn-

out. "I did not expect that many people would show up," Nagy said after the game, "it was great." Despite her big scoring night, Nagy deferred praise to her teammates after the game. "I just love my team so much," she said during the postgame celebration.

Ranger coach Mike Harper was thrilled after the game, waving and saluting the fans. He was impressed with his team's toughness, especially during Medina's third quarter rally. "They showed incredible poise under pressure," he said. Senior Ryann Greenfield was the team's leader on the floor, directing the offense and playing a tough game on defense. She hit the floor many times during the game while diving for loose balls or attempting steals. "I want the season to keep going," she said postgame.

Ryann will get her wish. This is the team's deepest tournament run since 1995, and they want to keep it going. The Rangers now advance to play Berea-Midpark on Tuesday night at 7 p.m. at Brecksville-Broadview Heights High School. The schools, both members of the Southwestern Conference, met twice during the regular season. The Titans won both matchups, but the tournament is a whole different ballgame.

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Lakewood Cares

Connecting For Kids Expands Programming To Lakewood

by Lorilynn Wolf

Connecting for Kids, a local non-profit that provides education and support to families with concerns about their child, has recently expanded into Lakewood offering its popular Music Therapy & More (SM) and Elementary Experiences (SM) at the Lakewood Public Library and its Speaker Series at Lakewood City Schools. All of these programs are supported by a generous grant from Community West Foundation.

“Up until now, all of our programming has been held in Westlake and families who rely on public transit were telling us that it was difficult to reach the Westlake area because several bus transfers were required if traveling from the inner ring suburbs,” said Sarah Rintamaki, Executive Director of Connecting for Kids. “We are thankful that Community West Foundation recognized this need in our community and made it possible for us to offer programs in the Lakewood area, where bus service can be easier to navigate from the near west side.”


The Connecting for Kids Speaker Series in Lakewood is presented in partnership with the Lakewood City School District and offers presentations on various childhood topics by local, pediatric professionals. The

next session entitled, “Parenting the Anxious Child,” will be held at Grant Elementary School, 1470 Victoria Ave. at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, March 21 featuring Liesl L. Glover, Ph.D., who will discuss the causes of childhood anxiety and provide coping strategies families can use to help their child. Free child care is offered to Lakewood residents. To register, visit www.connectingforkids.org/speakerseries.

Music Therapy & More is a hands-on family training program for children ages 0-6 years old who are struggling in an area of development. It is designed to teach families how to use music to improve their child’s motor, communication and

social skills as well as behavior. The program is led by a Board Certified Music Therapist from Music Therapy Enrichment Center, Inc. (MTEC). This program is offered free of charge at the Lakewood Public Library located at 15425 Detroit Ave., Lakewood. Because of limited space, all families must register. Please visit www.connectingforkids.org/music to see upcoming dates and to register.

About Connecting for Kids
Connecting for Kids (CFK) provides education and support to families with concerns about their child. We serve all families, including those children with and without formal diagnoses. CFK offers educational programs, support



Connecting for Kids

groups, a Parent Match Program and numerous resources.

For more information about Connecting for Kids, visit: www.connectingforkids.org, email: info@connectingforkids.org or call: 440-250-5563.

Friends Of The Lakewood Dog Park Ready For Spring

by Karen Karp

Got spring fever? Friends of the Lakewood Dog Park (FLDP) have just the thing for your seasonal affliction.

Please join us for our annual rite of spring, Photos with Hoppy Paws. The FLDP fundraiser is on Sunday, March 19, 2017, from 2 to 4:30 p.m. at Pet’s General Store, 16821 Madison Avenue,

in Lakewood, OH.

Bring your pets and your peeps to pose with the super-size bunny, Hoppy Paws. No appointment is necessary, just hop on over.

Photographer Martha Widdowson, of Portraits by Martha, will be behind the camera to capture all the fun. In addition to photos of various sizes and combination photo packages, Portraits by Martha features magnet, button and phone case photo accessories. Traditional portraits begin at \$12 for one 5x7 or two 4x6 photos. A portion of each sale will benefit FLDP.

Sit, stay and enjoy the human treats provided by Pet’s General Store and Friends of the Lakewood Dog Park. While you are nibbling, browse through baskets of colorful, handmade fleece toys, perfect for your very good dog. We also have logo T-shirts and hoodies available for purchase.

Friends of the Lakewood Dog Park is an all-volunteer, non-profit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization that



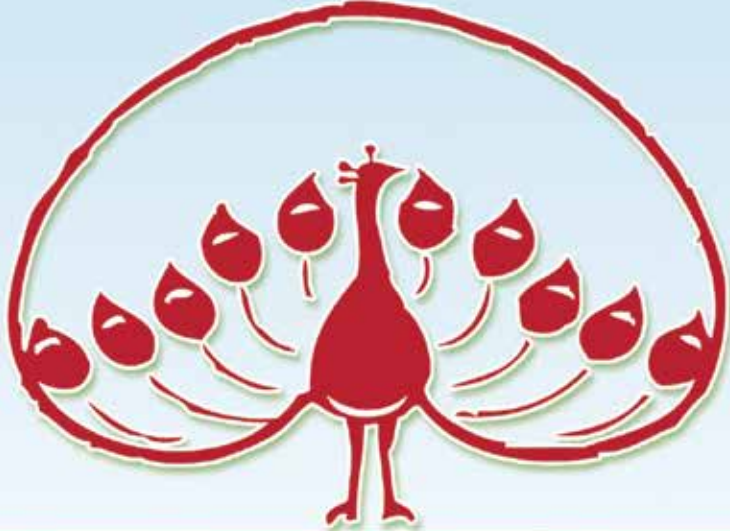
Where are the treats?
Photo credit - Portraits by Martha

works with the City of Lakewood to care for the dog park and raises funds for dog park improvements.

Visit the FLDP website, lakewood-dogpark.com, or find us on Facebook, Lakewood Dog Park - Friends of the Lakewood Dog Park, to learn more about FLDP, sign up for email and check for upcoming events.

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Lakewood Is Art

Didn't Make Termbo's Best Of 2016:

Reviews Of Recent Releases By Local Bands, Pt. 44

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.

Haunted Head - Screaming - Public Square Records - 2 songs - 7"

I'm not quite sure what the deal is with this one. I think this was produced in 1998 (it was definitely recorded then, but I mean manufactured in '98 as well), but never released? Or only some were released? Or they just found copies they thought were lost? Or they finally got the covers? Or they broke up before releasing it? Or I was just straight up lied to and this isn't a new release at all? The member of the band I received this from said it was "new old," which doesn't really clear that up at all. Anyway, "Screaming" is a pretty darn decent punk tune in a '70s sorta Pagans style. Legitimately catchy, and I like that it sounds like the guitarist messes up the riff in the first five seconds of the song, but maybe that was intentional. Who can say? Side B, "98 Shutdown," isn't quite as good a song, but hey, it's a b-side, and it still isn't bad. You don't really hear much of this style of punk anymore, though based on that "Back To Cleveland" compilation (where I first heard Haunted Head), the market was once pretty over-saturated with it. Even so, I do remember Haunted Head as one of the standout bands of that style (I say that style to include the stuff that wasn't like that, like 9 Shocks or Wayne Kramer) on the Back To Cleveland record, along with The Spasms and Teenage Knockouts/TKO's, if I recall correctly. Fans of this kind of punk will dig it, people who don't like this style won't. I did. 4/5

(I think there's copies available at [dead-beat-records.com](#), or try an area record store and save on shipping.)

The Roobydocks - Reliant Robin - My Mind's Eye - 6 songs - 7", download

Since The Roobydocks played their first show in October 2016, they've quickly become one of my favorite bands in town. And here they are with a 7" out already! The opening track, "How Was Jail?" really sets the stage for what this



Album art from this issue's reviews.

band is about: good catchy punk. I like that this has lyrics with it, as you can see how funny some of the lines are, such as "his life's a performance that lacks any art" in "Leopard." On a similar note, I had no idea that the first line of that one part in "More" was "wreck." I thought he was saying "rock," which doesn't make any sense. Glad to see it's "wreck," as that goes much better with the following shouts of "destroy" and "annoy." I also like that he uses the phrase "out of whack." Side B brings us a true anthem for the youth in "Life Is Joke." This seems to be The Roobydocks' biggest hit so far, and for good reason. Life truly is joke. I'd also like to bring up the guitar playing on this record. Besides the fact that I really like the clean tone the guitarist has going (really makes things sound unique, ya know?), I find something new that I like about the lead guitar lines in "The Garden Of Life" on each successive listen. The EP closes with "Bubble," a song about how much our narrator hates the music scene. An area musician read through the complete lyrics of this record in my presence and offered the following judgement: "intense." Assuming all that is said to be coming out actually does come out, it seems like Cleveland will be having a good year in music, and this is maybe

the perfect way to kick that off. Oh, and it comes with a sticker. Stick it to the window of the man, man. Or just put it on your guitar case like I did. 5/5

(I'm special and got an advance copy of this. The release show for this one is Friday, March 10 at Now That's Class. If you can't go to that, you can purchase the record at [mymindseye.bigcartel.com](#) (or at My Mind's Eye) and listen/download at [theroobydocks.bandcamp.com](#))

Aaron Troyer - Faith In The Unknown - Superdreamer Records - 11 songs - Cassette, download

Aaron Troyer, for those out of the loop, is the frontman of Columbus, Ohio's own Day Creeper. I'd thought this was his first solo outing, but the press release I got with this said otherwise, so there you go. Mostly, it's like a poppier version of Day Creeper. There's quite a lot of synth on this album, which I'm not sure is a positive thing. On one hand, it does give it a kinda unique vibe. On the other hand, there's so much synth. Side A has its moments, the opening track "Feel" in particular, but Side B really did more for me. The three more acoustic-based tunes that closed the tape were a nice change of pace, and "Unwanted Alibi" kinda reminded me of Prisonshake, though

as I've mentioned before, maybe that's just 'cause something about Mr. Troyer's voice reminds me of Doug Enkler for some reason. Not a bad indie rock/pop full length. Decent stuff. 3.7/5

([superdreamerrecords.com](#) to buy the tape, [aaronroyer.bandcamp.com](#) to download)

Winston Hytwr - XXXploration Date - Superdreamer Records - 9 songs - Cassette, download

I really don't know what the deal is with this. So there's Winston Hightower, the guy, but then there was a group called HYTWR that he's part of? Or HYTWR is just him? I don't know, I don't live in Columbus and so I'm not really inclined to find out in person. My press release here informs me that our guy Winston has also been in Minority Threat, Slugbugs, Yuze Boys, and Splashing Safari. To be quite honest, I'm not really up on current Columbus stuff as much as I should be, so the only band there whose music I'm actually familiar with is Slugbugs. If any of those other bands mentioned (or any bands at all, really) wanna send me stuff, you know, so I can have a deeper understanding of Columbus' current musical climate, you can go ahead and do that. I should get back to the matter at hand. Helpfully, this tape did not include a track listing, so I was left to piece together the running order using the included lyrics and the track listing on Bandcamp, which did not match the cassette. The cassette opens and closes with, I think, some keyboard experimentation type stuff (those tracks, according to my research, are titled "S.S.O." and "Standard Ohioan," respectively). In between those are maybe the strangest songs I've heard on Superdreamer so far. It's seven tracks of kinda weird lo-fi pop rock. Parts of it are kinda psychedelic. Other parts are kinda Guided By Voices. Kinda weird. Kinda good. 3.7/5

([superdreamerrecords.com](#) to buy the tape, [winstonhightower.bandcamp.com](#) to download)

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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Lakewood Is Art

“A Great Wilderness” Touches On Timely Themes At Beck Center

by Pat Miller

Beck Center for the Arts proudly presents the regional premiere of “A Great Wilderness” March 3 through April 9, 2017 in the intimate Studio Theater. Show times are 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, and 3 p.m. Sundays. Tickets are now on sale. Buy early and save with promo code: NATURE to receive \$5 off each adult/senior ticket purchased by March 2.

Written by 2014 MacArthur Genius Grant recipient Samuel D. Hunter, “A Great Wilderness” begins with Walt as he prepares for a reluctant retirement. After decades as the gentle-natured leader of a Christian retreat that endeavors to “cure” gay teens, Walt is packing up his life when Daniel arrives. Soon after, Daniel disappears into the Idaho wilderness, leading to a truly explosive turn of events. With profound humanity, this play navigates complex moral terrain, and explores the inconstant strength of our personal convictions.

Beck Center Artistic Director Scott Spence is excited to direct this timely play and talented cast. “Theatre is always at its best when it can hold up a mirror to society,” remarked Spence. “‘A Great Wilderness’ tells the story of

a man’s awakening just as his waning years are hitting him like a truck. It provides the sort of reflection we all can benefit from these days.” The cast includes Bryan Byers, Heidi Harris, Lenne Snively, Kelly Strand, and Tim Tavcar. Christian John Thomas makes his Beck Center debut following performances at Carnegie Hall and 54 Below in NYC. Harris and Snively appear courtesy of the Actors’ Equity Association (AEA).

A post-performance Talk-Back focusing on the various themes within the play will take place in partnership with the LGBT Community Center of Greater Cleveland. Specific details will

be announced shortly on beckcenter.org. Tickets are \$31 for adults, \$27 for seniors (65 and older), and \$12 for students with a valid I.D. A \$3 service fee per ticket will be applied at time of purchase. Preview Night on Thursday, March 2 is \$10 with general admission seating. Group discounts are available for parties of four or more. Purchase tickets online at beckcenter.org or call Customer Service at 216.521.2540 x10. Beck Center for the Arts is located at 17801 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood, just ten minutes west of downtown Cleveland. Free onsite parking is available. This production of “A Great Wilderness” is presented through special



arrangement with Samuel French, Inc. It is generously sponsored by the residents of Cuyahoga County through Cuyahoga Arts and Culture and the Ohio Arts Council.

Non-Traditional String Quartet Performs In Rocky River

by Carol Jacobs

Carpe Diem is not your ordinary string quartet! This boundary-breaking ensemble will present the fifth concert in the Rocky River Chamber Music Society’s 58th season on Monday, March 20 at 7:30 p.m. in the acoustically glorious sanctuary of West

Shore Unitarian Universalist Church, 20401 Hilliard Blvd. in Rocky River. Members of the Quartet are Charles Wetherbee, violin; Amy Galluzzo, violin; Korine Fujiwara, viola; and Carol Ou, cello.

Carpe Diem’s programming reflects its passion for not only traditional quartet repertoire, but also for Gypsy, tango, folk, pop, rock, and jazz-inspired music. The Quartet champions, with fervor, the music of living composers. It has commissioned, premiered, and performed works by a broad spectrum of composers including Frank Bennett, Osvaldo Golijov, Jennifer Higdon, Gunther Schuller and CDSQ member, Korine Fujiwara. In its March 20 Rocky River concert, Carpe Diem will perform Ms. Fujiwara’s Fiddle Suite “Montana,” along with Russian composer Sergei Taneyev’s Quartet No. 9 in A major, and Austrian composer Franz Schubert’s “Quartett-satz” in C minor. CDSQ has recorded several works including “Montana,” on the Seize the Music label, and all nine string quartets by Taneyev, on the Naxos label.

Carpe Diem is dedicated to pushing the limits of the classical string



Carpe Diem String Quartet (Amy Galluzzo, violin; Charles Wetherbee, violin; Carol Ou, cello; & Korine Fujiwara, viola)

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Program, March 20:
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Sergei Taneyev, Quartet No 9 in A major
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Lakewood Is Art

Student Dance Festival At Kent State Includes Choreography By Lakewood Resident

Kent State Student Choreographers Highlight New Works in “il· lu· mi· nate, 1. to light up.”

by Abby Schneider

Kent State University’s School of Theatre and Dance will continue its 2016-2017 production season with “il· lu· mi· nate 1. to light up,” a week-end of dance comprising two student dance concerts: the B.F.A. Senior Dance Concert on Friday, March 17 and Saturday, March 18 at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, March 18 at 2 p.m. and the Student Dance Festival on Sunday, March 19 at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Both concerts will take place in the Erdmann-Zucchero Black Box Theatre located at 1325 Theatre Drive in the Center for the Performing Arts.

The B.F.A. Senior Dance Concert presents ten pieces of original choreography created by the graduating senior dance majors. The choreographers will present a variety of dance topics ranging from autobiographical stories and personal perspectives to social commentary. The Student Dance Festival will premiere five



The dancers. Photo Credit: Bob Christy

original pieces choreographed by Kent State dance majors. Each work offers something new and different to the audience while also integrating the choreographers’ personal reflec-

tions of their experiences at Kent State University.

For tickets call 330-672-ARTS (2787), purchase online at www.kent.edu/theatredance or in person at the Performing Arts Box Office located in the Roe Green Center lobby of the Center for the Performing Arts at 1325 Theatre Drive. The box office is open Monday – Friday, Noon to 5 p.m. Tickets are \$18 for adults, \$14 for Kent State University alumni, faculty and staff, \$14 for seniors (60+) and non-Kent State students age 18 and under are \$10. Tickets for full-time, Kent campus undergraduates are free of charge. Groups of 10 or more can purchase tickets for \$12 per person. Flex pass subscriptions are also available. The box office accepts Visa, MasterCard, Discover, checks, and cash.

The B.F.A. Senior Dance Concert represents the culmination of the seniors’ choreographic endeavors at Kent State and will offer a dynamic array of work explored through various dance forms from modern to hip-hop. Graduating senior dance majors and minors will close the concert with a performance of “Strange Invisible Perfume,” choreographed and restaged by new dance faculty member, assistant professor Gregory King.

Madison DeLong choreographed “Forth and Back,” an exploration of the juxtaposition of one moving on in life only to be unexpectedly pulled back. She is honored to have this dance represent at Kent State University at the 2017 American College Dance Association Conference held on March 25-28 at Kent State University.

“me within you” and “You vs. Me vs. Her vs. She,” choreographed by Sarah Ahlswede and L. Taylor Ashton respectively, are two works inspired by the choreographers’ personal experiences and movement styles as well as those of their individual dancers.

Social issues inform the dances of Devan Hayes’ “Virago” and Jordan Penrod’s “Language.” Through the use of music and spoken work, the choreographers grapple with current concerns surrounding women’s rights, immigration and racism.

Original dances choreographed by graduating B.F.A. seniors Ashley Buersmeyer, Michaela Henry, Emily Jean Jarosz, Mackenzie Murray, and Abigail Schneider will round out this creative and diverse concert.

The Student Dance Festival culminating concerts on Sunday, March 19 at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. offer audiences a selection of contemporary/modern dance and explore a variety of topics, emotions, and/or social issues. Ideas such as finding the art in imperfections, man against self, optimism and determination, and logic and emotion are conveyed by the performers and the choreography. In addition to the five original student works, the B.F.A. seniors will perform Gregory King’s “Strange Invisible Perfume.”

For more information on the B.F.A. Senior Dance Concert and Student Dance Festival, please visit www.kent.edu/theatredance.

Abigail Schneider, one of the senior choreographers, has been a resident of Lakewood Ohio since 2005. She received her dance training at Lakewood’s Beck Center for the Arts.



Burning River Baroque. Photo credit: Tom Hughey

Burning River Baroque Presents “On The Brink Of Insanity: Portrayals Of Women As Mad, Crazy, And Unhinged”

by Paula Maust

Praised by the Boston Musical Intelligencer as a group that “left an indelible imprint on my psyche,” Burning River Baroque will return to Lakewood Presbyterian Church for their newest cutting-edge program “On the Brink of Insanity: Portrayals of Women as Mad, Crazy, and Unhinged.” Dramatic musical works often contain scenes of overwhelming emotion in which male characters are frequently portrayed as being consumed by power. When women are overcome with emotion, however, male composers often attribute madness or craziness to them.

Burning River Baroque will present a selection of works by George Frideric Handel, John Eccles, and Henry Purcell where women’s passions and emotional expressions render them as unhinged in the eyes of their

creators. A set of Sephardic folk songs depicts several ways that female narrators describe various types of insanity.

In a new move for the ensemble, the program will feature an original work by Malina Rauschenfels using texts from the Salem witch trial of Bridget Bishop. This fusion of new and old works will shed light on how the ways we describe those who are different from us can have very real and long-lasting effects on the community at large.

The concert will take place in the chapel of Lakewood Presbyterian Church (14502 Detroit Ave) on Wednesday, March 22 at 7:30 p.m. Admission is a \$10-\$20 donation. Performers include Paula Maust, harpsichord; Malina Rauschenfels, soprano and baroque violin; and Anna Steinhoff, baroque cello. More info. can be found at www.burning-river-baroque.org.

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Business

Hospitality Industry Labor Summit Hosted By Lakewood Chamber Of Commerce

by Valerie Mechenbier

The demand for quality food industry employees is at an all-time high. How do restaurant owners, caterers, and retail food operators identify, hire, retain, and motivate the best people? How do line cooks, dishwashers, bakers, servers, chefs, hosts and managers affect the dining experience?

Members of the Lakewood food and restaurant community gathered on February 28th at Ranger Cafe @ West Shore for a roundtable discussion of issues related to hiring in the hospitality industry. The event was moderated by New York Times Best-Selling cookbook author and Cleveland Scene dining editor Doug Trattner. After an opening exercise to determine best practices - and critical pain points - in the industry related to sourcing, hiring, and retaining employees, the discussion then turned to specific labor situations and economic conditions faced by restaurant and food service managers today. Event sponsors Cuyahoga Community College Hospitality Management Program, Towards Employment, Cornucopia, Inc., and West Shore Career-Tech Culinary Arts/ProStart presented brief overviews of their programs as possible sources for hospitality industry employees.

The Hospitality Industry Labor Summit also provided an opportunity for Lakewood restaurateurs to share ideas and network with peers, and to

be treated to a delicious lunch provided by the culinary students at West Shore Career-Tech. The students, in turn, benefited by interacting with some of the best known restaurant owners in Lakewood and hearing first-hand about what is expected of the people they hire.

This event was presented by the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce Education Task Force. More photos from the event can be found on the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce Facebook page.

Join us - we're in business for your business! www.lakewoodchamber.org



Cleveland Scene Dining Editor Doug Trattner moderates the discussion at the Ranger Cafe.

Polaris Cuyahoga County Career Fair

by Kathy Augustine

Cuyahoga Job and Family Services and Polaris Career Center will be hosting the 2017 Polaris/Cuyahoga County Career Fair, at Polaris Career Center at 7285 Old Oak Blvd in Middleburg Hts, Ohio, 44130, on Wednesday, March 29, 2017, from 9 a.m. to noon.

This free event, designed to foster the development of a competitive and productive workforce, will provide a vital link between employers, job seekers, community organizations and government agencies. The 2017 Career Fair will have 75 companies and approximately 600 job seekers. In addition, representatives from Polaris, and local community based organizations will be on-hand, providing access to educational resources, job search assistance and much more.

The Career Fair is a collaborative

effort between Cuyahoga Job and Family Services, Polaris Career Center, Middleburg Hts Chamber of Commerce, City of Middleburg Hts, Berea City School District, North Olmsted School District, City of Strongsville, City of Berea, Lakewood Area Collaborative, Ohio Means Jobs/Cleveland-Cuyahoga and WIRE-Net.

For information <http://www.cjfs.cuyahogacounty.us/>. For additional information visit www.polaris.edu.

Memories Of Home And The Wisdom Of Women

continued from page 1

among the women was so intense, they mounted an exhibition the following year and commenced their regular meetings to collaborate in the process of assemblage, taking ordinary objects and creating both two-dimensional and sculptural pieces. Decades later, they've arrived at middle age with political opinions and life experience reflected in the collage, paintings and fiber works on display at the Beck.

Although they have been meeting for years, much of the art in the show is recent. "We influence each other in subtle ways," says Milenski. "We share materials and ideas, which brings a real cohesion to our show." Their work is colorful, whimsical and multi-

dimensional. It includes Pritchard's intricate quilts, Crum's creatively assembled found objects and Milenski's use of children's clothing, toys, puzzle and game pieces.

The work is intensely personal, but also political and feminist. Intricate and layered with old photos, advertising images, game pieces, toys and objects found in flea markets, many of the works evoke a nostalgia for the American past. The show invites viewers to contemplate the myriad objects and techniques in each piece; nothing is simple or one-dimensional. When viewing the artists' work together, themes emerge: childhood, parenting, homemaking, body image, isolation and loneliness, misogyny, nurturing, loss and the collective wisdom of

women.

Although the theme of "circling back home" is reflected in the use of items personal to each artist, such as photos of their own childhood homes, our current political climate is not ignored. All three artists attended Women's Marches in January because they were disgusted by the way Trump's campaign treated women's issues. Some of the works in the show reflect their political views. Pritchard created "She Was Warned" after the silencing of Elizabeth Warren by her colleagues on the senate floor in February. During the presidential primaries, Milenski created "Dark Horse Pulls Ahead," a reflection on the rise of outsider candidates Donald Trump and Bernie Sanders.

"Throughout history, women's voices have been disregarded and undervalued, even silenced," says Pritchard. "Women artists have experienced this marginalization, too, and are still completely under-represented in museum collections, history books and art directorships." With this exhibit, the Beck Center shines a light on three artists who certainly deserve recognition, both for their extraordinary art as well as their long collaboration.

The public is invited to a Gallery Talk with the artists from 1-2 p.m. on Sunday, March 12, the final day of the show. The show can be viewed any time the Beck Center is open, 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. Monday through Saturday and noon to 6 p.m. on Sunday at 17801 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood.



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Forum

Dog Whistle Politics:

Pit Bull Ban Is More Bark Than Bite

by Tristan Rader

Since I started my campaign for Lakewood City Council this year, I have had the chance to speak with many current and former Lakewood residents. One of the major themes

that keeps rising to the surface is Breed Specific Legislation [BSL]. This is the ordinance passed here in 2008 placing harsh limits on pit bull ownership within city limits. Some measures were taken to lower fines and waive registra-

tion fees, but this really isn't enough. I am 100% on the side of those who want this ordinance repealed entirely. Last week a friend of mine told me about how she ended up in Cleveland. She had lived in Lakewood for a few years, got a pit bull puppy, then became aware that Lakewood restricts pit bull ownership. She told her landlord, thinking that she would simply have to register her dog, pay a fee and that was it. Unfortunately, the next week she was served an eviction notice, citing the BSL ordinance.

It appears that in this case, the landlord didn't follow proper protocol. But this is what is happening, and right or wrong, it is a direct consequence of this legislation. Not only do BSL ordinances cause all pit bulls to be stereotyped as evil menaces to society, BSL has the same effect on pit bull owners, lumping them into that same category.

Often, these rules are not really about pit bulls anyway. In the same way, the war on drugs is not about the drugs, and closing public basketball courts has nothing to do with safety. This... is really about that. It's dog whistle politics.

BSL disproportionately affects minorities and on purpose. In his latest book, Pit Bull: The Battle Over an American Icon, Bronwen Dickey lays

out the events that led to this phenomenon. As industrial America started its long decline in the 1970s, whites departed older urban areas, leaving behind those less able to move, mostly minorities. Many who stayed in the neglected urban centers came to depend on pit bulls for companionship and protection, as they are reliable, hearty and loyal dogs. Soon many cities, particularly suburbs, began passing laws to keep out what one prominent BSL advocate called "killer dogs and their dangerous owners," both.

Not unlike the dogs they most often target, BSL is more bark than bite. The subjectivity involved in determining a dog's breed is problematic for enforcement of BSL. Someone has to look at the dog and make a call, which is impossible to do with any accuracy. It is guess work. This makes BSL little more than a giant sign reading, "You and your dog are not welcome here."

I am not accusing city councils of old of being racist. I don't know them, I have no idea what was on their minds at the time, or what evidence they weighed. But we have an opportunity now to weigh current evidence ourselves and do what's right for our community today. This is why, as Lakewood Councilman At-Large, representing the best interests of the city as a whole, I will introduce an ordinance in the first 60 days of my term to repeal all Breed Specific Legislation in the city of Lakewood.

Portman Is No-Show At Town Hall Meeting

by Trudy Hutchinson

A crowd of approximately 300 people filled the sanctuary of Cleveland's St. James AME Church on February 23 where a town hall meeting with United States Senator Rob Portman was convened by Indivisible CLE. Senator Portman did not attend and did not respond to the request from Indivisible CLE to hold a town hall meeting during the current Congressional recess.

The town hall meeting was intended to create a community forum for discussion of concerns brought to Senator Portman by the people of Northeast Ohio. In Senator Portman's absence, local speakers addressed issues that affect people's lives in Northeast Ohio. Rian and Kareem spoke from Black Lives Matter; Jimmy Sharp, of Organizing for America, spoke on the importance of maintaining the Affordable Care Act; John Morris, of the Shaker Heights Teachers Association, spoke about the value of organized labor in public education and Mario M. Clifton-Zymler, Co-Chair of the Cleveland Community Police Commission, spoke about the challenges of implementation of the consent decree between the City of Cleveland and the Justice Department.

Following prepared remarks, citizens lined the aisle for an opportunity to take the microphone and speak directly to the cardboard cutout figure of Senator Rob Portman. Speakers asked Senator Portman for his support of initiatives that help people rather than corporations, that will address the dangers created by climate change, that will protect the rights of LGBTQ citizens, and for budget support for the National Endowment for the Arts. One speaker testified concerning the damage that would be done to his business if tariffs

are imposed on goods imported from Mexico. A speaker who immigrated from Taiwan told Senator Portman that his disappointment that followed the election of Donald Trump was replaced by a feeling of hope and pride after the Women's March in January.

Speakers came to the microphone to complain about Senator Portman's support for cabinet nominees who they felt were unqualified. One speaker noted that Senator Portman voted to confirm Betsy DeVos, who contributed \$50,000 to Senator Portman's campaign, despite the fact that a Political Action Committee that Ms. DeVos once chaired owes \$5.3 million to the State of Ohio. Several speakers observed that when they call Senator Portman's office with concerns, they receive the same response from his office as they received from the cardboard figure placed in front of their microphone.

The speakers reminded Senator Portman that he works for the citizens of the State of Ohio and that he represents all citizens, whether or not they voted for him last November. Speakers came from as far as Youngstown, Hiram and Kent to attend the Town Hall meeting.

Indivisible CLE describes itself as "an activist movement to resist the Trump agenda and protect our democracy, inspired & empowered by the Indivisible Guide." The group also invited United States Senator Sherrod Brown to convene a Town Hall Meeting, however, Senator Brown declined. Senator Brown did, however, acknowledge the request and expressed support for the goals of the activist group.

Trudy Hutchinson is a Lakewood resident interested in community activism.



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Lakewood Living

LakewoodAlive To Host Workshop On March 11

“Knowing Your Home: Flooring Options”

by Matt Bixenstine

The right flooring can enhance a room's warmth and character while increasing your home's value. But with no shortage of flooring options available today, finding the right fit for your space can seem daunting. Thankfully, LakewoodAlive is here to help.

LakewoodAlive will host “Knowing Your Home: Flooring Options” on Saturday, March 11, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon at Cleveland Lumber Company (9410 Madison Avenue in Cleveland). The second workshop of 2017 for this popular home maintenance educational program will highlight various flooring options

for the different rooms in your home.

Industry experts from Cleveland Lumber Company and North Coast Floorcoverings will join LakewoodAlive for this free workshop, discussing the strengths and weaknesses of various flooring options, as well as where each option works best. This workshop will explore the latest trends in the flooring industry, including heated flooring, cork, high-end laminates and other flooring trends.

North Coast Floorcoverings will present regarding cost expectations and

the installation process for each of the coverings, enabling homeowners to compare options by durability, cost and ease of installation. Ultimately, this workshop aims to equip attendees with the knowledge necessary to select a flooring product and have it installed with confidence.

Visit Lakewoodalive.org for more information and to reserve your free spot.

Now in its fourth year, LakewoodAlive's “Knowing Your Home” series draws hundreds of attendees annually. Our workshop series is generously

supported by: Citizens Bank, City of Lakewood, Cleveland Lumber Company, Fifth Third Bank, First Federal Lakewood, PNC, Remax Beyond 2000, The University of Akron Lakewood and Third Federal Savings & Loan.

In lieu of being charged for these events, participants are encouraged to either consider making a donation to LakewoodAlive or bringing canned foods or other non-perishable items for donation to the Lakewood Community Services Center. We appreciate your support.

LakewoodAlive's Lumberjack Bash Draws Sellout Crowd For Plaid-Clad Fun

by Matt Bixenstine

For one February night, The Bottlehouse Brewery Lakewood morphed into a sea of plaid complete with bushy beards, paper axes, pancake stacks and all the necessary elements for throwing a party fit for a true lumberjack.

LakewoodAlive hosted Loving Lakewood: Lumberjack Bash presented by Geiger's on Saturday night, February 25th, drawing a sellout crowd of 215 plaid-clad lumberjacks and jills. Proceeds from this fundraising event will support LakewoodAlive's programming as we strive to foster and sustain vibrant neighborhoods in Lakewood.

Before guests even entered The Bot-



Photo by: Alex Belisle

Longtime board member, Sean McDermott (left) and Executive Director, Ian Andrews.

tlehouse, they were greeted by something you don't see every day – a chainsaw artist on Madison Avenue carving a wooden sculpture. The final product, which featured a Lakewood-style home with tall trees and “Lakewood” carved into the front, served as a live auction item before the night was through.

Once inside, attending lumberjacks and jills were chopping at the bit to enjoy pancakes and bacon-wrapped sausage links prepared by Karen King Catering, sample the Blue Ox cocktail and pose for photos at the “head in the hole” lumberjack selfie station. Cleveland-based band Lost State of Franklin enticed the crowd to dance their axes off by performing a lively brand of music that blended elements of folk, bluegrass and country.

If you thought Hammerschlagen would be popular, then you hit the nail on the head. This crowd-pleasing game pitted attendees against each other in a contest to see who could hammer a nail into a wooden stump more quickly. Onlookers cheered and provided encouragement as Hammerschlagen participants practiced this basic carpentry skill in fun fashion.

More than 30 attendees partook in the Epic Beard Contest presented by Men's Cuts. Contestants showed off their facial hair onstage, competing for the distinction of Most Unique Beard, Sexiest Beard, Longest Beard and Best In Show. Men's Cuts, Rising Star Coffee Roasters and STEM Handmade Soap furnished contest prizes.

During the Lumberjack Bash's program, awards were bestowed to four individuals in recognition of their exemplary service to LakewoodAlive. Outgoing board members Sean McDermott & Rolly Standish and longtime

friends of LakewoodAlive Ann Bish & Mary Bond each received customized wooden plaques designed by Lakewood freelance artist Jeff Ritchie.

LakewoodAlive thanks the many volunteers who contributed their time and talents to this fundraising event, especially the following members of the Lumberjack Bash Committee for their tireless efforts: Julie Warren, Kelly Florian, Brittany O'Connor, Missy Toms, Lauren Brocone and Chrissy Kadleck.

“From sponsors to volunteers to Lumberjack Bash attendees, we really can't say enough about the tremendous support we receive from our community,” said Ian Andrews, Executive Director of LakewoodAlive. “Our committed team of volunteers, led by Julie Warren, proved instrumental in making the Lumberjack Bash a success.”

Loving Lakewood: Lumberjack Bash received generous support from the following sponsors: Geiger's (Title Sponsor) Cleveland Property Management Group and First Federal Lakewood (Platinum Sponsors), Citizens Bank, Cleveland Home Title and M.V.P. Valet Parking (Gold Sponsors), Men's Cuts (Presenting Sponsor for the Epic Beard Contest), Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices, Clark Wealth Management, Cleveland Lumber Company, Erie Design, King's Kitchen, Lanter Legal, Lion and Blue, Moore Yourkvitch & Dibo, NEO Realty Group, Plantation Home, Relief Properties, Ride + Workout, Scalish Construction, Sentry Protection Products and Wegman, Hessler & Vanderburg (Silver Sponsors)

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Lakewood Living

Get To Know LakewoodAlive Series Kicks Off

by Ian Andrews

From the LakewoodAlive office, in the INA Building basement at the corner of St. Charles and Detroit Avenues, comes the first in a series of articles about LakewoodAlive. Since 2011, I have had the honor to be part of this incredible organization and I’ve also been faced with many reasonable questions. What is LakewoodAlive? Who works where? What does the organization do? Isn’t LakewoodAlive “The City”? It’s time to answer these questions and start a conversation. We hope you enjoy this series which will run through the end of 2017.

LakewoodAlive is a non-profit 501c3 community development organization. What does that mean? We work to support small businesses and business districts. We work to ensure residents are living in healthy and safe housing. We work to bring the community together to discuss the issues of the day. By supporting businesses, homes, people, public spaces and promoting conversation, we believe we are fulfilling our mission to foster and sustain vibrant neighborhoods.

The series will spend more time delving into each of the programs from Main Street to Housing Outreach to Community Forums. For this first piece, the aim is to give a broad overview.

LakewoodAlive is a volunteer-driven organization and is governed by a board of directors of folks who either live or work in Lakewood. There are 25 voting and 3 non-voting members. The board president is Eric Lowrey, a realtor with Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Lucien Realty. Our vice president is Brittany O’Connor of Citizens Bank. The treasurer is Will Costello of Laskey Costello. Our secretary is Kerri Rodgers of Sherwin-Williams. Visit our website at lakewoodalive.org to see our board roster.

There are board-designated committees, most of which are open to anyone who wishes to volunteer and lend their talents. They include housing, design, community forums, finance, governance, marketing, development (fundraising) and the Downtown Lakewood Business Alliance.

While we are volunteer-driven, a dedicated and talented staff is essential to coordinating all of our programming from day-to-day activities to long-range plan-

ning year after year. The staff is comprised of 5 full-time employees and is made up of Executive Director Ian Andrews, Housing Outreach Director Allison Urbanek, Staff Program Assistant Lisa LaRochelle, Community Engager Mark McNamara, and Marketing and Development Manager Matt Bixenstine. A sixth position (event and volunteer coordinator) is being filled in the coming weeks.

Our office is in the basement of the INA Building below Panera Bread. What we lack in sunlight, we gain in a reasonable rent for a small budget.

Where do we go from here? Stay tuned for the next series of articles which will explain each of our programs, how they connect to our mission, and hopefully dispel a few myths while starting a conversation with new questions. Stop

by the office, pick up the phone or send an email. We are here to support this community. Help us do that by volunteering, providing a donation, or simply letting us know about something that’s been on your mind that we might help with. Have a question? Call me at 216-521-0655 or send an email to iandrews@lakewoodalive.org. I look forward to hearing from you.

From The Archives Of The Lakewood Historical Society
The Honeymoon Inn

submitted by Alyse Lamparyk on behalf of Lakewood Historical Society

As the story goes, in the early 1800’s an English coachman ran away with his master’s wife to America and settled in Rockport in the Western Reserve where he quarried his own stone and built this six-room house, so-named the Honeymoon Inn. Demolished in 1928, it was rumored to have been one of the oldest houses in Lakewood at the time, where it stood on the corner of Roycroft and Detroit Avenues.

Anyone having more information about other stone houses built in Lakewood, please feel free to share that information with the Lakewood Historical Society at 216-221-7343 or curator@lakewoodhistory.com.



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