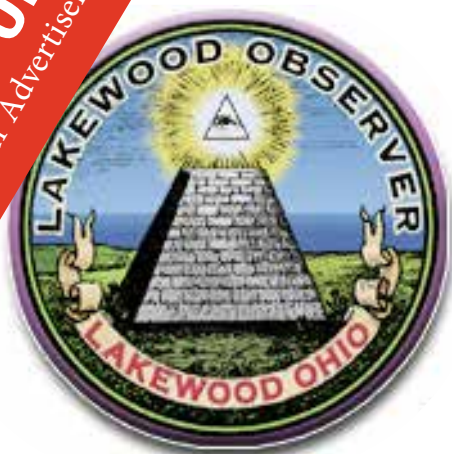


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Volume 13, Issue 6, March 22, 2017

LHS Brave The Shave Event Raises \$12K For Pediatric Cancer Research

by Christine Gordillo

The students and staff of Lakewood High can hold their bald heads proudly as they raised more than \$12,000 for pediatric cancer research and St. Baldrick's Foundation at the school's Brave the Shave event on March 16. About 30 students, teachers and other District employees and community members shaved their heads for the cause.

The event's original goal was \$5,000, but the organizers soon realized that donations were coming in quickly and more people were signing up to be a shaveree so they continued to bump up the goal. A two-day delay of the event due to a snow day helped boost the donations even more so that come shave day, \$12,000 was the new target.

Said co-organizer and teacher Scott Stelter: "I would like to again thank everyone who has shown support in some way. We are truly fortunate to work in such a caring, loving, and considerate environment and community. Mr. (Dennis) Wondrak and I are in awe of how this school has come together to take on childhood cancers so strongly."

The St. Baldrick's Foundation is a volunteer-driven charity committed to funding the most promising

research to find cures for childhood cancers and give survivors long and healthy lives. St. Baldrick's coordinates its signature head-shaving events worldwide where participants collect pledges to shave their heads in solidarity with kids with cancer, raising money to fund research. Since 2005, St. Baldrick's has awarded more than \$200 million to support lifesaving research, making the Foundation the largest private funder of childhood cancer research grants.



LHS junior Kaylei Matello was the first brave student to have her hair shorn.

GV Art + Design: A Lakewood Institution

by Kelly Standish

It's no surprise that GV Art + Design quickly became the destination location for its "CLEVELAND that I LOVE" apparel

and sports art. Founded and owned by the Vlosich family, GV's roots run deep in the City of Lakewood. Mom and Dad, Gloria and George, raised their two sons right up the street (on Larchmont Ave.) from their retail store on Detroit. Gloria, a teacher in Lakewood for over 40 years, and George, an advertising executive, made sure art and sports were a big part of George and Greg's lives growing up attending the Lakewood schools.

Before a family vacation to Washington, D.C., in 1989 Gloria found her original Etch A Sketch from her Mom's basement to entertain the boys on the long car ride. On the way to D.C., George created the U.S. Capitol building on the Etch A



The Vlosich family in their newly expanded location.

LHS Students Win National Art Awards

by Christine Gordillo

Lakewood High School senior Maya Sutliff has been named a national Gold Medal winner - the highest honor - in the prestigious Scholastic Art & Writing Awards presented by the Alliance for Young Artists & Writers, and senior Garrett Bodnar has been named a Silver Medal winner.

This competition is the nation's longest-running and most prestigious recognition program for creative teens in grades 7-12. Within the Awards' 29 categories, which include poetry, photography, sculpture, humor, editorial cartoons, and video game design, a record-breaking 330,000 works of art and writing were submitted for adjudication at the regional level this year.

Sutliff won her Gold Medal, which represents the most outstanding work in the nation, in the Drawing & Illustration category and Bodnar won his Silver Medal in the Printmaking category. The two will be honored along with the other national winners and their teachers at a ceremony



Maya Sutliff's Gold Medal-winning drawing.

June 8 at Carnegie Hall. The 2,500 national winners represent 3% of the 85,000 artists that advanced from their regional competitions across the country in January.

Sutliff said she wasn't expecting to go any further than the regional competition. "It was a nice surprise to get in the morning! I think the best part was honestly seeing how happy and excited Ms. Sedlak was," she said, referring to her teacher, Amy Sedlak.

In addition to Bodnar and Sutliff, eight Lakewood High school students were named

Historical Society Spring Sale

by Heidi Murray

Lakewood Historical Society is excited to announce the Tabletops & Trifles Sale at the Nicholson House at 13335 Detroit Avenue, on Friday, April 7th, 1-7 p.m., and Saturday, April 8th, 10 a.m.- 3 p.m. A fine selection of everything exquisite will be artfully displayed for your shopping pleasure, including crystal, china, silver, jewelry, linen and many more decorative items.

Hosting Easter Dinner? Planning a wedding or shower? Shop this sale for the perfect

party accents from serving to centerpieces we have everything from shabby chic to Downton Abbey elegance. We have something for all budgets and tastes.

Parking is available at St. Ed's across the street. Tabletops and Trifles is a prelude to the annual Sale on the Grounds, which occurs on the first Saturday and Sunday in May.

All proceeds from this sale benefit the programs and properties of the Lakewood Historical Society. Come shop—you're sure to find a special piece—or even many!

Etch-A-Sketch art of athletes, celebrities and even the President and Vice President who signed his work and invited his family to the White House, complete with a press conference. At 20 he was invited to speak at the Kennedy Center to Scholastic winners, being one of the top 3 winners nationally himself. He received local, national and even world attention from the little red toy he transformed into Pop art. George and his family were soon invited to appear on many news and talk shows, including Oprah, the Letterman Show, Jimmy Kimmel, Fox News, Disney, ESPN, CNN the BBC and more.

After graduating from Lakewood High School, George attended the Cleveland Institute of Art and upon earning his degree in graphic design, went to work for one of the largest ad firms in Cleveland. While working and starting a family, he continued to perfect his

continued on page 14

continued on page 9

Lakewood Observer

Capital Campaign: Lakewood Music Boosters

by Tiffany Fox

Please help the Lakewood Music Boosters raise funds to purchase a garment conveyor system for the new LHS performing arts wing.

With the new high school nearing completion, the music teachers have requested additional funding for vital equipment such as an electrical industrial garment conveyor and trolley system for safely moving and storing precious clothing such as marching

band uniforms, concert dresses, and costumes for the Barnstormers Drama Club used throughout more than twenty performances each year. This will be utilized by the entire George P. Read Music Department.

This garment storage and trolley system will cost approximately \$22,000.

Please buy a 'Hanger' for the new storage system and your name, or the name of whoever you choose, will be placed on a plaque in the new performing arts wing.

One 'hanger' for \$30
Four 'hangers' for \$100

The 'hangers' can be purchased at LMB website: www.lakewoodmusicboosters.com

Contact: Lakewood Music Boosters
lkwdmusicboosters@gmail.com

Lakewood High School After Prom Fundraiser To Be Held April 1st

by Ann Schwarz

The Lakewood High School 2017 After Prom Committee is holding a Fund Raiser at O'Toole's Pub and Restaurant 13601 Detroit Avenue on April 1st. No Fooling! This fun event is for adults only and will be from 7 to 10 p.m. Tickets are \$25 per person or \$27 via Pay Pal. Tickets can be ordered in advance. Tickets will also be available at the door for \$30. Go to www.lakewoodafterprom.org for information about obtaining tickets.

Chinese Raffle Baskets and Side Boards will be available. The Grand Prize is a \$500 Visa or Master Card gift card. There will be Beer, Pop and great food.

The LHS After Prom will be held at Garfield Middle School on April 29, 2017 after the Prom at The Cleveland Botanical Garden. This is a fun and safe way for the students to spend the evening. There will be tons of activities and a surprise theme for the night. Please come out and support the After Prom for the Lakewood High School Seniors.

Lakewood Division of Aging: Going To The Cleveland Orchestra

by Barry Wemyss

Mark your calendars now to join the Lakewood Division of Aging as we enjoy a matinee performance of the Cleveland Orchestra at Severance Hall. On Friday, April 21, 2017, the world-famous Cleveland Orchestra will be offering a matinee performance of "Brigg Fair: An English Symphony," by Frederick Delius, and "Don Quixote" by Richard Strauss.

The Division of Aging will be transporting seniors, 60 plus, to Severance Hall for the concert. We

will be leaving Lakewood at 9 a.m., and arriving at Severance Hall for a continental breakfast and preconcert talk by 9:45 a.m. Tickets for this matinee performance are \$25. There is limited seating available and the tickets will be going fast. Purchase your tickets at the Lawther Center, 16024 Madison Ave, prior to April 7, 2017. Please call the Division of Aging Activities Office at 216-529-5005 with any questions.




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St. Patrick's Day In Lakewood



Lakewood, Ohio, land of bars and restaurants, celebrates St. Patrick's Day like few other cities. Corned beef and cabbage is not hard to find. The big parties were on the west side of Lakewood. Here Rubin and Mark at the West End Tavern, getting some of the best ready for St. Patrick's Day 2017. These guys rocked St. Patrick's Day, and most other days with great food. Thanks my Irish brothers from another mother.



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City

Lakewood City Council Meeting - March 6, 2017

Zoning Code Expansion

Ordinance 17-17 proposed changes to the Planned Development provisions of the Zoning Code in order to facilitate the use of planned developments in the future. Planning & Development Director Sylvester proposed these changes to ensure a better process for the city in implementing planned developments in any zoning district. The council deferred the legislation to the upcoming Council of the Whole for further discussion.

Job Creation and Rates of Pay for Non-Collective Bargaining Employees

Ordinance 1-17 proposed creating positions and rates of pay for full time and certain part time annual salaried employees and hourly rate employees not covered by collective bargaining. After doing some research, Councilmember O'Malley discovered that currently, thirty-four city employees wages were not set at the minimum living wage set by Chapter 113 of the city, \$12.99 an hour. Mayor Summers explained that many of the employees were part time, which may fall under different payroll laws than full time employees. He also expressed concern that crossing guards, who were part of the aforementioned, failed to regularly attend work, so instead of raising their pay, perhaps the council should introduce incentive-based pay legislation to ensure regular work attendance. O'Malley contended, "This isn't a whole lot of money; why aren't we just doing this? It's already been established as the minimum." After a healthy discussion, Mayor Summers and City Council decided two things: first, to pass the ordinance in the meantime to raise the workers closer to the established fair wage, along with 3% increases, and second, to meet in the future to address the crossing guard issue. Councilmembers Bullock, Marx, and O'Leary also voiced support of complying with the fair wage, O'Leary commenting, "the living wage is important and we want every Lakewood employee to earn it."

by Bethany Francis

Improvements to Infrastructure

Ordinances 3-17 through 12-17 addressed funding for various infrastructure improvements citywide, all of which the council adopted. Ordinances 3-17, 5-17, 6-17, and 7-17 secured water, drainage, and sewer improvements for the city. Ordinance 3-17 also implemented construction and installation of a revetment to protect the Meridian Condominium property lines with Lake Erie, as well as improvements to the roofs of the fire station and Winterhurst Ice Rink. Ordinance 4-17 budgeted \$1,250,000 toward designing, engineering, permitting and constructing improvements to the city's digester mixers, heat exchangers, and tanks. Ordinance 8-17 committed \$1,800,00 to improving Lake Avenue and Maple Cliff Drive by resurfacing and replacing concrete. Ordinance 9-17 put \$800,000 towards improving the city's parks, specifically Kaufmann Park and Kids Cove Playground in Lakewood Park. Ordinance 10-17 put \$650,000 towards improving sidewalks, and Ordinance 11-17 budgets \$300,000 toward fixing the roof of the public works garage and other public buildings. Lastly, Ordinance 12-17 pledged \$1,100,000 to design, engineer, and install a retaining wall on the northern property line of Winton Cliff to stabilize the exposed shale bluff.

Rules & Ordinances Committee Report

Councilmember Litten explained Ordinance 59-16, or the Use of Public Ways by Service Providers. The committee solidified that the Public Works Director (and not the Building Commissioner) should oversee this ordinance. The committee also supported all the minutes from this meeting, as well as all meetings, being free and public. O'Malley agreed, suggesting all minutes be posted on the city website for easier public access.

Lakewood Animal Safety and Welfare Advisory Board Appointment

Councilmember Bullock named Sue Spear as the head of the Lakewood Animal Safety Welfare Advisory Board. He expressed that Spear brings a great deal of knowledge of animal companion care.

Citizens Advisory Committee Appointment

Councilmember Marx thanked Travis Madden for his willingness to participate on the Citizens Advisory Committee, but he is moving to New York. In response, Marx appointed Erik Meinhardt to the committee. She appreciates his enthusiasm for the city.

Mayoral Appointments

Mayor Summers appointed Erin Shonnesey to the Lakewood Animal Safety and Welfare Board. He also appointed David Stein to the Lakewood Human Rights Commission.

Lakewood Public Arts Task Force

Councilmember Bullock expressed the arts add vitality to the community, and he is enthusiastic about the Public Arts Task Force's 2017 public art projects. He explained the task force is seeking to create one permanent and one temporary piece of art, both of which are included in the city's budget. He urges the task force to start small, select a project, and create it, moving quickly into the spring by engaging artists and funders, as well as complying with any legal outlines.

Overlook Park Signage Project

Councilmember Litten requested consideration for resolution to complete decorative signage infrastructure project developed by the residents of Overlook Park. The proposed beautification project started with a petition by

neighbors in order to increase property values of homes, and residents have worked on this proposal for over 3 years. The neighborhood would cover the vast majority of the project cost, but the project has been on hold as residents wait for an assessment from the city of Lakewood to determine cost, the balance of which would be covered by the city of Lakewood. The city must be involved because the construction is within the public right of way, as well as involving public infrastructure that the city must maintain. Councilmember Litten held a community meeting for the residents, which Councilmembers O'Malley and Marx both attended in support.

At the city council meeting, approximately thirty neighbors and members for the Overlook Park Neighborhood Association attended, and several spoke in support of the project. Resident Ann Spence questioned the need for a city assessment, as the neighborhood association acquired all funding needed through fundraising and donations. Resident Chris Martin expressed that the neighborhood is not trying to create a sense of elitism with their decorative signage but rather encourage other neighborhoods in Lakewood to pursue their own beautification projects in an attempt to unify the city. Resident Elizabeth Nolan reminded the council that there was an effort in Lakewood in the past to form neighborhood associations, and she looks forward to working with the council to see the project come into fruition.

Potential for Cornucopia Concessions Services

Mayor Summers informed the council that Cornucopia Inc. expressed interest in running concessions at Lakewood Park, starting this summer. Cornucopia Inc. is a forty-two year old Lakewood-based non-profit that is dedicated to creating work adjustment

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Easter Bunny & Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 8

Skilled Nursing Facility - 13900 Detroit Ave.

10:00 Egg Hunt
10:45 Easter Bunny

Assisted Living - 1381 Bunts Rd.

10:00 Easter Bunny
10:45 Egg Hunt

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City

College Students Lose Exemption From City Income Tax

by Matt Kuhns

Lakewood students away at college must file city income tax returns, this year, as a result of new policies adopted in late 2015.

Prior to the revised policies, students living in Lakewood for less than 16 weeks of the year could simply file a Declaration of Exemption. Beginning with the 2016 tax year, however, this changed, and the city's new Declaration of Exemption omits the line for students.

Lakewood's government points to state legislation as the reason behind this change. The 2014 HB5 measure imposed a number of changes on municipal income tax. Finance Director Jennifer Pae says that Lakewood considered at length what local revisions this required.

"In response to the uniformity changes at the State level, the City of Lakewood reviewed its income tax ordinances during 2015, and using recommended language developed by the Ohio Municipal League, revised the city's ordinances... to be in compliance," Pae said in an e-mail.

Lakewood's assistant finance director and income tax department manager, Patricia Chittock, advised that keeping a student exemption to the city's definition of "resident" would now conflict with provisions of Ohio Revised Code Chapter 718.

"By exempting students as residents, we are in essence making them residents of their college towns," Chittock wrote, but "Ohio colleges and universities do not consider college students residents."

Remaining compliant with state domicile provisions, she reported, meant losing Lakewood's student exemption.

Among the city's decisions was that Lakewood's old definition of "resident," with its exemption for college students, didn't conform to the new law. The revised definition omits the student exemption, and Lakewood's Declaration of Exemption options reflect this change.

The City of Brunswick has kept a similar exemption to its income tax policies, however, and some Lakewood residents have asked why our city acted otherwise.

The language of Ohio's Revised Code Chapter 718, as updated by HB5, may offer only limited guidance. It does not include the words "student," or "college." The definition of "resident" is simply "an individual who is domiciled in the municipal corporation as determined under section 718.012." That section, in turn, essentially uses "domiciled" status to define itself: "An individual is presumed to be domiciled in a municipal corporation for all or part of a taxable year if the individual was domiciled in the municipal corporation on the last day of the immediately preceding taxable year..."

The Ohio Municipal League and other officials have said they will look further into what HB5 does or does not require, on this topic.

In the meantime, Lakewood's public information officer Colin McEwen says the city only drew its conclusions reluctantly, after fighting at length to protect local

"home rule" powers from HB5. In 2014, Lakewood and a number of other cities formed Ohio Municipal Advocates to lobby against the bill. More than 100 cities, including Lakewood and Brunswick, passed resolutions opposing HB5.

When a mostly Republican majority of lawmakers approved HB5 anyway—against opposition including Lakewood's state representative and senator—City Council delayed revising Lakewood's tax policy until near the law's deadline. Though all seven council members voted for Ordinance 31-15,

its text declared the city reluctant to comply, and disclaimed any provisions that may fail a future legal challenge.

Council approved that ordinance at the same December 21, 2015 meeting as it voted to close Lakewood Hospital, and some Lakewoodites say the city should have done more to alert them, in the year since then. For now, local college students who plan on filling out a Declaration of Exemption will discover that the revised form has no line for them to circle.

Lakewood income tax filings for 2016 are due April 18.

WCOG Meeting March 8, 2017

by LWVGC observer Mary Ann Garvey (Rocky River)

This report is not an official statement of the League of Women Voters. Mayor Clough's office prepares official minutes.

The meeting took place at Westlake City Hall beginning at 9:30 a.m. The first half-hour was a closed session devoted to financial matters. The meeting adjourned at 10:39 a.m.

Present: Mayors Clough (Westlake), Koomar (Bay Village), Patton (Fairview Park), Summers (Lakewood), Kennedy (North Olmsted), and Bobst (Rocky River).

Also present: Renee Mahoney (fiscal officer). Renee Mahoney reported on the newly formalized **internet banking policy**. The mayors have forwarded the proposal to their finance directors and the topic will be discussed at the next meeting.

2016 Financials: There is a total of \$300,000 in cash and the checking account. All items were within budget. The cities' contributions for 2017 will be the same as for 2016. Most income comes from seizures.

RTA: Superior Avenue has been reopened to bus traffic. There is talk of limiting Superior's use to rush hour.

The **NOACA** meeting is scheduled for March 10th.

No report from the **Land Bank**.

Cuyahoga County Mayors and Managers met last month in Strongsville.

Mayor Summers testified before the state Ways and Means Committee on the subject of **tax collection**. The state representatives want to simplify tax collections from businesses, but the proposed bill will not accomplish that. The House wants to enforce centralized collection by mandate. (Business filers

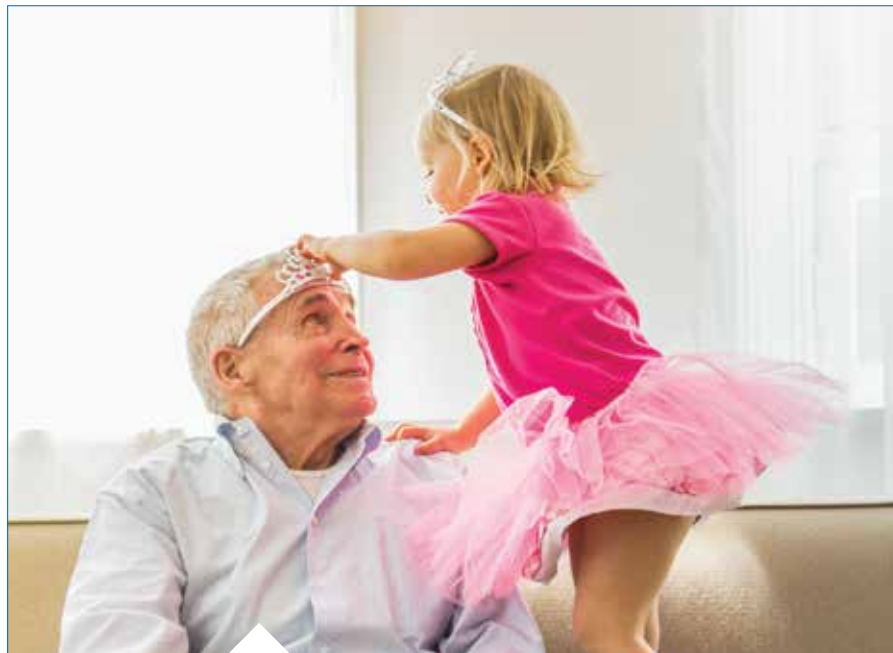
currently have a choice.) This would create huge issues for companies in Columbus because of the number of business filings there. The city's top 50 employers could experience a \$400,000 loss. Only 8% of filings in Lakewood are business filings. No one from Cleveland has been part of the discussion.

Mayor Bobst reported on S.B. 331, which was passed December 2016. Effective March 21, the law allows **micro wireless facility (MWF) operators**, including public utilities and cable operators, to construct and operate facilities (antennas, accessory equipment, and other wireless devices or equipment) in a municipal corporation's public way. The city must permit MWF attachment to a support structure owned or operated by the city. The Mayor is concerned that this will lead to a city's inability to control what happens on public right-of-ways. It may also result in maintenance issues for the city. Columbus, Dayton, Cincinnati, Cleveland, and Toledo are prepared to challenge the MWF provision in court.

Mayor Patton reported that Fairview Park has extended its moratorium on **marijuana** establishments. Mayor Summers reported that Lakewood has done the same. Rocky River has banned such facilities. Only twenty licenses have been granted in Ohio for the sale of marijuana.

Mayor Patton is concerned that the Home Blown Glass and Clothing store will begin selling bongs and hemp wear. She also advised the group that the Broke Ass Phone building will be demolished.

Meetings are open to the public. The next one will be Wednesday, April 12 at 9:30 am in Westlake City Hall.



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From The Statehouse

Senator Skindell Celebrates National Sunshine Week, Recognizes Need For Access To Public Information

by Michael Skindell

This past week, State Senator Michael Skindell (D-Lakewood) recognized National Sunshine Week and the importance of access to public information. This year, Sunshine Week took place from March 12th-18th. It brought together nonpartisan organizations to inform Americans about public records laws in government. The week’s events focused

on accountability, transparency, and open dialogue to foster an environment where government works for the people. “Transparency helps hold our public officials accountable. It provides valuable information for citizens to make informed decisions about their legislators,” said Senator Skindell. “Open government is the cornerstone of our democracy.” Senator Skindell has taken the issue of government accountability and

transparency very seriously throughout his career in public service. In 2014, he worked to pass Senate Bill 270, which requires the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities to post inspection and compliance reports for service providers online. Allowing families to easily access these reports helps them make the best decisions for the care of their loved ones. In 2015, Senator Skindell introduced

a bill to clarify that public money paid from a charter school to an operator or management company still retains its status as public money. This bill was accepted as an amendment into another bill and signed into law. Previously, the Ohio Supreme Court had decided that Ohio law lacked language to keep these dollars public, and ruled that for-profit operators could sell property and keep the funds. With the passage of HB 2 and Senator Skindell’s provision, taxpayer dollars are safeguarded in the event of a school closure.

“Public trust can only be earned when the sun is allowed to shine upon government dealings. Our public officials must turn on the lights, open the shutters and raise the blinds,” Senator Skindell added. “Only sunshine will guard our public assets. Only transparent government will protect the people’s interests. Only accountability will restore public trust.”

Lakewood City Council Meeting

continued from page 3
training for people with disabilities. Mayor Summers explained Cornucopia desires bringing healthy concessions to the park, and he urged the council to sign the contract for the 2017 outdoor season. Councilmember Marx was thrilled for the opportunity to support both healthy concessions and disabled workers, as was Councilmember Litten, who questioned whether the concessions needed any restoration before Cornucopia entered the space. They referred Mayor Summers’ communication to the following Committee of the Whole.

New Financial Memberships for 2017
Finance Director Pae addressed the inclusion of three new memberships: the Central Ohio Organization of Public Purchasers, International Personnel Management Association Northern Ohio Chapter, and National Association of Clean Water Agencies. The addition of these memberships is within the \$60,000 budget, and the Finance Committee will review these memberships.

Potential Economic Development Grant for University Tees
Planning & Development Director Sylvester came out in support of an economic development grant for University Tees (tenant at 13000 Athens Ave, also known as the Screw Factory Building). He explained that a loan from the fund helped them move to Lakewood in 2009, and the company makes significant payroll tax for Lakewood. Improvements are needed for the Screw Factory Building, with estimates totaling \$400,000 in upgrades. He requested a \$100,000

Economic Development Grant for University Tees, as the city is expected to cover for 25% of these kinds of grants. The council referred the request to their next Committee of the Whole meeting.

Public Comment: Wildlife Concern
Resident Tom Yanks expressed his neighborhood is infested with deer. He explained the deer are consuming neighborhood plants and gardens, with residents putting up fences and trying repellants with little luck. He also expressed concern about lime disease and asked how the city can help. Mayor Summers responded that there are expensive services they could employ to count the deer to determine in the Ohio Department of Natural Resources should be brought in to thin the herds. However, he, along with Councilmember Bullock, were opposed to killing the deer and voiced favor for finding non-violent ways to deter the deer from staying in the neighborhood. Councilmember Bullock further contributed, “let’s get options that we can then educate our residents with – because frankly, the city doesn’t have the capacity to deal with all of the wildlife issues in town.” Additionally, Councilmember Anderson addressed he is expecting a report back from the Metroparks and sharp shooting efforts in 11 different locations and promises to share that information with the administration, to aid in how to proceed.

Opioid Crisis and the Medical Marijuana Moratorium
Yours truly approached council,

concerned about Lakewood’s opioid crisis. I spoke in favor of ending the medical marijuana moratorium and urged the council to pursue marijuana dispensary licensure in order to reduce opioid addiction and death. My speech is included in the Forum section of this paper. The council was receptive and said they are considering facts from all sides of this issue.



HOLY WEEK AND EASTER AT TRINITY CATHEDRAL

PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 9	
8 a.m.	Early Eucharist
9 a.m.	Mostly Jazz Mass
11:15 a.m.	Choral Eucharist
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12	
6 p.m.	Tenebrae Service Trinity Chamber Singers sing music by Allegri and Victoria
MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 13	
12:10 p.m.	Eucharist & Healing Service
6 p.m.	Contemplative Service & Eucharist
7 p.m.	Potluck Dinner
GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 14	
12 p.m.	Solemn Liturgy
1 p.m.	Good Friday Blues & Lamentations Music by the Gateway Band
1 p.m.	Children’s Good Friday Program (Childcare available 12 – 2 p.m.)
7:30 p.m.	Good Friday Concert Allegri: <i>Miserere</i> Mozart: <i>Ave verum corpus</i> Liszt: <i>Evocation of the Sistine Chapel</i> Mozart: <i>Requiem</i> Trinity Chamber Singers, Cathedral Choir and Chamber Orchestra Nicole Keller, organ; Todd Wilson, conductor
EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 16	
6 a.m.	The Great Vigil of Easter
9 a.m.	Contemporary Festival Eucharist Music by the Gateway Band
10:10 a.m.	Easter Egg Hunt for children grades preK-5
11:15 a.m.	Festival Eucharist Music by Hancock, Bach, Billings and Widor The Trinity Cathedral Choir with brass and timpani

PHOTO CREDIT: SAM HUBISH

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CONNECT WITH US:

Lakewood Public Library

Calendar Of Events

compiled by Elaine Rosenberger

Wednesday, March 22

Lakewood Historical Society - Lakewood’s Templar Motors: 100 Years Since the Founding, Presented by Dave Buehler

With legendary names such as Winton, Baker, Sperry, Lang and Parrish associated with the city on the lake, Lakewood’s own transportation history is vast. The core of Lakewood’s automobile history could be based around the city’s one and only automobile manufacturer—the Templar Motors Company. Located on Athens Avenue, the Templar Motors Company operated from 1917 to 1924 and manufactured cars for a global market with over 130 dealers worldwide.

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

Thursday, March 23

Friends’ Preview Book Sale

Members-only preview sale. Memberships may be purchased at the door.

6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. in the Main Friends’ Book Sale Area

Author Event - “The Devils That Have Come to Stay” by Pamela DiFrancesco

In this stark Acid Western, the dark side of the oft-glorified Gold Rush period in California is revealed when the narrator, a nameless, fragile man in search of salvation, witnesses the brutality of western expansion. Books will be available for sale and signing at the event.

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

Friday, March 24

Documentary - “The Kill Team” (2013)

Presented by Karl Kaltenthaler, Ph.D

“The Kill Team” goes behind closed doors to tell the riveting story of Specialist Adam Winfield, a twenty-one year-old infantryman in Afghanistan, who attempts -- with the help of his father -- to alert the military to heinous war crimes committed by his platoon. Tragically, his father’s pleas for help went unheeded. Once Adam’s fellow soldiers got wind of what he’d done, they threatened to silence him—permanently.

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

Saturday, March 25

Friends’ Book Sale

9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the Main Friends’ Book Sale Room (Basement)

Film - “American Psycho” (2000)

This season, the Library will show seven films directed by women. The first film in the series follows Patrick Bateman (Christian Bale), a businessman who is obsessed with Huey Lewis, new suits and having the best business card in the boardroom. He’s also a serial killer, and he rapes and murders his victims for no apparent reason. In his quest for success, Bateman goes on a killing spree as funny as it is terrifying.

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

Sunday, March 26

Concert - The Chardon Polka Band

Despite their extensive catalog of traditional favorites, this fresh young group out of Chardon, Ohio is not your average polka band. They love bringing new life and energy to the traditional music of their forebears, but they are not afraid to write new songs for Cleveland today. And everybody has fun when they add polka-pop reinterpretations of artists like Justin Bieber and Lady Gaga to the mix—whatever it takes to keep everybody dancing! Catch them while you can. The Chardon Polka Band is in demand—here and across the country.

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

Monday, March 27

Workshop - Power Healing & Joy: Part II

With a focus on domestic violence and dysfunctional sexist role development, River Smith will help the audience explore the methods to heal ourselves, our relationships and our communities, as we learn how to live more joyful lives. As part of this discussion, we will look at what ingredients are needed to create a healing environment. We will examine how to acknowledge, cope with and transform the pain of the past into the power to heal ourselves, our families, our community and the planet.

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

Tuesday, March 28

Workshop – Genealogy

How far back would you like to trace your family tree? Genealogist Deborah Abbott will show you how to unlock the secrets held by census reports, military records, birth certificates and death notices in this hands-on workshop. Call (216) 226-8275, ext. 127 to register.

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

Thursday, March 30

Author Event - “Mind Waves” by Amanda Uhl

Lakewood and nearby Edgewater Park take center stage in a new, fast-paced paranormal romantic suspense novel. Government operative David Jenkins is skilled at controlling his emotions. Feelings are lethal when your job is to infiltrate minds, erase and implant thoughts and guard the nation’s intellectual capital. But even he can’t fight his strange attraction to freelance artist, Grace Woznisky. He’ll do whatever it takes to protect her from a madman intent on possessing both of their minds. Books will be available for sale and signing at the event.

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

Saturday, April 1

Film - “Sweet Bird of Youth” (1962) Presented by Barbara Steffek-Hill

Southern charmer Chance Wayne (Paul Newman) aims to make a splash in Tinseltown and hitches his aspirations to boozy, fading movie star Alexandra Del Lago (Geraldine Page). She accompanies Chance to his Florida hometown, run by corrupt politician Tom “Boss” Finley (Ed Begley). 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, April 2

Concert - SLAP Presents a Tribute to Leonard Cohen

To honor the songwriting legacy of Leonard Cohen, SLAP will perform his most beloved songs using their unique blend of jazz, rock and funk. Honing their instrumental skills and improvisational command since their pre-teen days in the suburbs, SLAP is Cleveland’s premier jazz combo. “Like a bird on a wire,” SLAP delicately balances love, danger, humor and beauty in their music.

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

Monday, April 3

Workshop - Power Eating: Transforming Our Relationship to Food and the Planet

River Smith helps us to examine the often unhealthy struggle so many of us have with food and the stressful experience we often have with our bodies. We will discuss some basic strategies to improve our relationships with food, improve our emotional/physical health and improve the health of our communities and the planet.

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

Tuesday, April 4

Coast Line: Poetry Readings by M. Carmen Lane, Major Ragain, Dan Rourke and Joe Turner

M. Carmen Lane is a poet and diversity consultant. Lane, whose first collection of poetry is “Calling out after Slaughter” (GTK Press), has been published in various journals. Major Ragain has taught at Kent State University in each of the last six decades, starting in 1969. He is the author of five collections of poetry, the latest of which is “A Hungry Ghost Surrenders His Tackle Box” (2006). Dan Rourke has performed his poetry for twenty-five years in the Cleveland area. Joe Toner’s critics rave that his poetry ranges from the inscrutable to the incoherent.

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

Children & Youth Events

compiled by Eric Knapp

Sunday, March 26

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.

Saturday, April 1 through Sunday, April 30

Poetry Month Scavenger Hunt

For all ages

Search the children’s area for pairs of rhyming words, make a poem from them, and submit it into a prize drawing.

At the Main Library Children’s and Youth Services.

Saturday, April 1 through Sunday, April 30

Magnetic Poetry Board

For students in kindergarten through twelfth grade

Stop in and make your own serious or silly poem to show off on our magnetic poetry board.

At the Main Library Children’s and Youth Services and the Madison Branch.

Lakewood Public Library

Listen. Observe. Create.

Lakewood Public Library Celebrates National Poetry Month

by Amy Kloss

April is National Poetry Month, and Lakewood Public Library has big plans. Throughout the month, both adults and children will have opportunities to appreciate the spoken word, play poetry games, view films about poets and write their own verse at the Library.

New to this year's programs is "Coast Line," a poetry reading series. This showcase of local poets will take place in the Main Library Auditorium at 7:00 p.m. on two Tuesdays, April 4 and April 25. Among the talented writers represented is Kisha Nicole Foster, who has been writing and performing since 1999. Her energetic performances at poetry slams helped Foster make a name for herself locally. Her command of the

audience and booming voice then led her to several national competitions. Foster and Nin Andrews, another nationally recognized poet with fourteen published collections, will appear on April 25.

Another Ohio-born writer whose work will be featured is Hart Crane, one of the most influential poets of his generation. Born in Garrettsville, Ohio in 1899, Crane's youth was marked by family discord and alienation due to his homosexuality. After moving between Cleveland and New York for many years, his brief life came to an end when he threw himself off a boat on a return voyage from Mexico at the age of 32. On Sunday, April 30 at 2:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium, Tim Tavcar, artistic director of WordStage, will personify

Crane through the recitation of poems, letters and the music of his time. Another look at the life of Hart Crane, "The Broken Tower" is a black-and-white movie made by actor James Franco in 2011 for his degree in filmmaking from New York University. Franco directed and stars in this biographical film, which will be shown in the Main Library Auditorium on Monday, April 10, at 6:30 p.m.

Poetry Month will also bring opportunities for both children and adults to try their hand at writing their own poetry. Children's and Youth Services is offering a Scavenger Hunt at the Main Library and a Magnetic Poetry Board at both the Main Library and Madison Branch for the entire month of April. Patrons of all ages can search the

children's area of the library for pairs of rhyming words, and then use those words to write their own poem after picking up a Scavenger Hunt entry form at the desk. The Magnetic Poetry Boards will be open and available for creative verse any time inspiration strikes.

There are other collective and individual options for writing poetry at the Library. "Exquisite Corpse," a game invented by surrealist writers, will offer patrons a chance to collaborate on the creation of poems throughout the month. Boxes will stand in the Main Library, and patrons can write down a word and drop it in a box. Later, the words will be combined into one large poem. In addition, writers of all abilities and experience levels are welcome to join Leanne Hoppe in the Main Library Auditorium on two Fridays, April 21 and 28, at 7:00 p.m. to participate in a poetry workshop.

The "Poet of Rock 'n' Roll," Chuck Berry will be featured in a film on Friday, April 7, and Drumplay will bring their unique music, incorporating the spoken word into percussion, strings and horns, to the Main Library Auditorium on Friday, April 14 at 7:00 p.m. There is so much happening at the Library, you would need a book to contain it all. Luckily, we have one! Pick up a Spring/Summer 2017 Program Guide at the Library for details of all Poetry Month programs, which as always are free and open to the public.

Adapted And Special Needs Programming

by Nicole Born-Crow

Sensory Storytime and Music Therapy & More are back for another season at Lakewood Public Library. In partnership with Connecting for Kids and in collaboration with other area libraries Sensory Storytime will transition to Adapted Storytime. Adapted Storytime is where children with varying learning styles and abilities learn together in a safe, supportive environment where respect and appreciation for differences is encouraged. Similar to a traditional story time, Adapted Storytime is a perfect option for any child who has trouble sitting still, and requires more interaction to stay engaged. This

program is geared towards children ages 3-7, but all ages are welcome.

Music Therapy & More is a program delivered in collaboration with Connecting for Kids and is supported by a generous grant from the Community West Foundation. Presented by a Board Certified Music Therapist for children ages 1-6, families will enjoy thirty minutes of music-making fun, dancing, and instrument playing. At the conclusion of the program, parents will receive handouts with resources for continuing the music therapy experience at home.

Adapted Storytime will be held on Sundays from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. at

the Main Branch of Lakewood Public Library in the Toddler Storytime Room.

Spring and Summer dates are April 9, Mat 7, June 4, July 30, and August 27.

Music Therapy & More will be held on Saturdays at 9:30 am and again at 10:30 a.m. on April 8 at the Main Branch of Lakewood Public Library in the Toddler Storytime Room.

To register for either of these programs, go to www.connectingforkids.org/register, email info@connectingforkids.org, or call (440)-250-5563.

National Poetry Month At The Library

by Molly Kass-Kaufman

Have you ever wanted to make long, boring paragraphs into something cooler? Would you rather rap than write an essay? Do you want to bend or break the rules of writing to make something uniquely you? If so, you're probably a spoken word artist or poet. The Library is celebrating National Poetry Month in April, and we need middle and high schoolers to help.

On Tuesday, April 11 at 6:30 pm, we will be hosting Poetry Game Night, where 6th through 12th graders can shake things up with black-out poetry, poetry telephone and more. And we want to hear you on Sunday, April 30th, when we host our National Poetry Month Open Mic Night. This is the perfect

opportunity to show off your poetry, songwriting or performance skills, whether you've been on stage a hundred times or want to try out something new! Middle school performances begin at 5, and high school performances begin at 7. Submit your piece to childrenservices@lakewoodpubliclibrary.org with the subject "Open Mic Night." Poetry Month programs will take place in the Multipurpose Room at the Main Library. Register for all programs at lakewoodpubliclibrary.org, in person or by calling (216) 226-8275 ext. 140.

Looking for more poetry? Kids of all ages can still come to the Library or Madison Branch to add to our magnetic poetry board or do a poetry scavenger hunt!

Merosé Hwang Discusses Shamanism In South Korea

by Elaine Rosenberger

With rising health care costs and a scarcity of doctors, people are considering alternatives to traditional health care. In neoprimitive communities, many see shamanistic rituals as providing both preventive and curative medicine. Learn more about shamanism when Merosé Hwang presents Shamanism in South Korea on Tuesday, March 28, at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium.

Merosé Hwang received her B.A. in

Religious Studies with a concentration in Native American Shamanism. She received her Ph.D. in East Asian Studies from the University of Toronto. Hwang is currently the Program Coordinator for Asian Studies at Hiram College, and her academic interests include gender, race, sexuality, post-colonial discourse, and transitional/restorative justice.

Hwang's talk takes place at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium. Admission is free and open to all.

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Schools

Rotary Honors West Shore’s Outstanding Students

by Christine Gordillo

West Shore Career-Technical District Outstanding Student Award recipients were honored by the Rotary Club of Lakewood and Rocky River at a luncheon on March 13 at the Don Umerley Civic Center in Rocky River.

The 14 students, top performers in their career-technical programs, were chosen for their exemplary accomplishments in the classroom, school activities, clubs, athletics and service in the community. Each student exemplifies traits of leadership, dedication, responsibility, caring, community involvement, and initiative.

“The Rotary Outstanding Students represent the ‘best of the best’ in the West Shore Career-Technical District. Our teachers and staff work tirelessly to give all of our students rich academic, technical and real world experiences,” remarked Bill DiMascio, West Shore Career-Technical District educational coordinator.

“These students have taken full advantage of the opportunities afforded to them. No matter what path they choose to follow for future success, we know they possess the relevant knowledge and skills to achieve their fullest potential.”

School administrators, parents, and guests were among those in attendance. According to Rotarian Nancy Ralls, West Shore Career-Technical District career development coordinator, this is the 20th year the club has honored the Outstanding Student Award winners.

The Rotary club will present each student with a gift card and a plaque to honor their achievements at West Shore’s annual Career Passport and Student Recognition Assembly on May 18. Each award recipient is automatically nominated to receive the “Career-Technical Student of the Year Award” which will be announced at West Shore’s Career Passport and Student Recognition Assembly.

West Shore districts are Bay Village, Lakewood, Rocky River and Westlake. This year West Shore is serving 524 students in its workforce development programs.

The 2016-17 Outstanding Student Award recipients are: Noah Burns, automotive technology; Jackie Grant, business management; Kyle Cook, community-based training at GFS; Breanna Hamilton, community-based

training at the Marriott; Sara Jaber, community-based training at Rae Ann; Max Hamilton, construction trades; Clara Wagh, culinary arts; Eman Naserallah, early childhood education; Chris Chajon, electronic technology; Joshua January, health careers technology; Lauren Lowell, Media Art & Design; Shagayag Akbari, medical office management; Anthony Nelson, networking/Cisco; Rachel Daso, engineering/Project Lead the Way.

Two LHS Students’ Artwork Chosen For Governor’s Exhibit

by Christine Gordillo

Lakewood High art students fared well in the Ohio Governor’s Youth Art Exhibition regional competition, with two pieces of students’ work selected to be part of the exhibition at the Statehouse next month.

Judges received more than 1,000 entries from high school students across Northeast Ohio and from those, 126 were selected to join winners from the other Ohio regions to be judged at the state level to determine which pieces of art will hang in the James A. Rhodes State Office Tower in Columbus for the exhibition, which runs from April 23-May 18. The artwork of senior Lauren Lowell and junior Elyza Mihalski (art pictured) was selected to hang in the 300-piece exhibition.

In addition to the two pieces selected to be shown in Columbus, 14 other pieces of art by LHS and West Shore Career-Tech students were honored at the regional competition and moved on to state judging. The students who earned regional recognition are: Michael Amato, Kaylee Banhidy, Clare Ciolli, Greyley Cook, Victoria Donegah, Lauren Lowell (3 pieces), Husam Mafaryeh, Faiza Manaa, Megan McHugh, Jennifer Meyer (two pieces), Elyza Mihalski, Balint Muller, Ava Olic and Sophia Parker. Their teachers are Dayna Hansen, Anne McQuay, Arline Olear and Amy Sedlak.

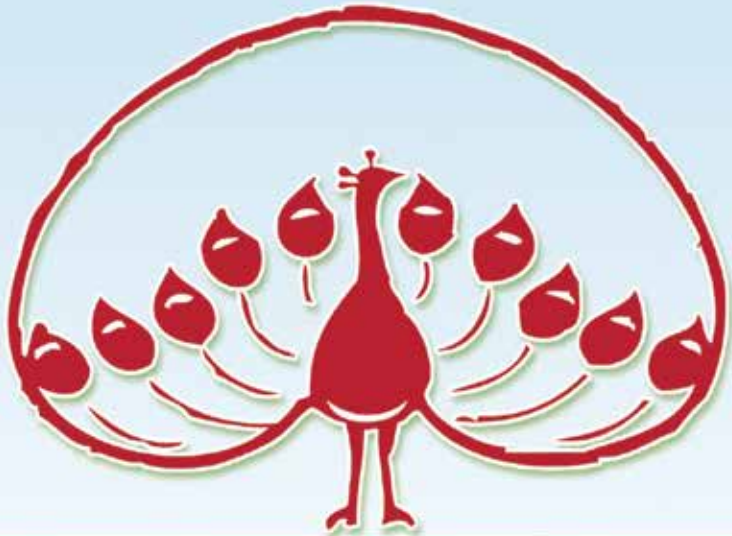
From the 11,500 regional entries from the 15 regions, approximately 2,500 are selected to enter the state

judging. State jurors then select 300 for the actual exhibition, with 25 of the 300 chosen to receive the Governor’s Award of Excellence. Scholarships are offered to seniors by over 30 universities and colleges of art. The selection of students to be offered scholarships is left strictly up to those institutions who offer them. The Governor’s Exhibition is merely a vehicle through which schools and students are brought together.

The Ohio Governor’s Youth Art Exhibition, now in its 47th year, is open to all of Ohio’s high schools, both public and private. Its purpose is to provide all budding young artists of the state with opportunities to advance their talent, whether that be through scholarships or simply experiencing the process of entering their work in a competition.

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Schools

Titans End Lakewood’s Historic Tournament Run

by Mike Deneen

The LHS girls basketball team fell 59-34 to Berea-Midpark on Tuesday night in an OHSAA Regional semifinal game. Lakewood played without junior center Olivia Nagy, who was hospitalized last weekend with a kidney infection. The game was played evenly throughout the first half, but the Titans pulled away in the third quarter to advance to the Final 8 in Ohio. The loss ends a wonderful Lakewood season in which the Rangers

reached the Sweet Sixteen for the first time since 1995. The game was attended by a huge Lakewood crowd, which included many former LHS girls hoops players and lots of current students and staff. Despite losing Nagy, the Rangers played well in the first quarter. Sophomore Christian Massey stepped into a starting role, and held her own against the Titan bigs. Senior Ryann Greenfield scored four of her 8 points in the first period, helping the Rangers gain confidence. Berea-

Midpark led 10-9 after the first quarter, and the large contingent of Lakewood fans was enthusiastic. The purple fans erupted early in the second quarter, when Greenfield and senior Trinity Nall scored back-to-back baskets to put Lakewood ahead 13-10. The Titans used a 4-0 run to retake the lead 16-13 with 5:51 left before halftime. Junior Saher Hamden, the hero of Lakewood’s earlier tournament win over Normandy, scored the next three points to restore a 17-16 Ranger lead. Berea-Midpark scored

the next five points, but Courtney Ribar closed the half with a runner to make the game 22-19 at the break. The second half did not go nearly as well. The Titans quickly went on a 12-2 run in the opening two minutes of the third period. Berea-Midpark used four three-point baskets to build a 42-30 lead by the end of the third quarter. The lead expanded in the fourth quarter, as the Titans used their skill and depth to wear down the shorthanded Rangers. Both teams emptied their benches late, and the game ended 59-34.

Greenfield led the Rangers with eight points; junior Isabel Cintron had 7. This was the final Ranger game for seniors Greenfield, Nall, and Emma Ribar. This year’s district title capped their strong basketball careers at LHS. They were each a key part in numerous big wins during their careers, including this year’s playoff upset of Magnificat. Greenfield battled numerous injuries over the years to become one of LHS’s all-time best players. Nall and Ribar also showed tremendous toughness and skill while wearing the purple. The Rangers season ends with a 18-8 record.

LHS Model UN Excels At Conference

by Christine Gordillo

The Lakewood High School Model United Nations club recently completed their “season” with an outstanding showing at the Cleveland Council on World Affairs Conference at Case Western Reserve University March 7-8. Senior co-president Evan Suttell won the “Gavel” as the best delegate in his committee (the highest award), representing Ethiopia in the General Assembly. Multiple students won Honorable Mention awards, including freshmen Max Gilliland and Aiden Bohac, sophomores Sasha Seckers, J.T. Bobik and Nick Cleary, juniors Max Evans and Abby Laform, and senior Albert Foster. LHS likely finished 4th out of 20 schools.

Club advisor Dr. Chuck Greanoff noted that “the exemplary performance of so many younger members is due to the outstanding leadership of co-presidents Ian Bell, Rachel Daso and Evan Suttell. They were a model of teamwork and commitment, and took initiative in training and planning that made our club function so well.” All three have won multiple awards in past conferences, including gavels. Earlier this year, Bell and training consultant senior Zach Dudzik were selected to act as committee chairpersons for the Model UN Conference held in Lorain. CCCW Model UN Coordinator Charles Polinko praised their preparedness and knowledge of policies and procedures.

Dr. Greanoff cites the “outstanding senior leadership,” along with the positive attitude of all club members, as the primary reasons for the club’s success. “We win quite a few awards, but I’m most gratified to see students take the lead in our preparation and planning. Of course, in Lakewood, everything comes down to community support and engagement. We owe so much to our parents, and special thanks to the Lakewood Rangers Education Foundation for its continuing financial support for our club.”

Lakewood Project Ready For Road Tour

by Christine Gordillo

The Lakewood Project, Lakewood High’s electric rock orchestra, will be taking its show on the road! The group, the first of its kind in the country when it was formed in 2002, will be traveling to Delaware City Schools, Indian Hill Schools, and Ashland City Schools from March 22-24. The schools were chosen because of Lakewood City Schools connections with the orchestra directors at each. In Delaware, the middle school orchestra director is Abby Wimbiscus, a former Lakewood Project member, as is Sarah Sponsler, the Ashland High School orchestra director. In Indian Hill, former Lakewood High Orchestra student teacher Trista Emmons is the director of orchestra. The Lakewood Project will perform a concert at each school as well as give approximately 10 clinics to students in grades 4-12. The clinics will give the LHS musicians a chance to teach improvisation, arranging, and

playing songs by ear. According to Lakewood High Orchestra Director Beth Hankins, The Lakewood Project has toured Ohio several times in the past and even made it as far as Utah and Texas to share its musical ideas.

Rangers Reel In All-Conference Honors

by Christine Gordillo

Winter sports All-Conference teams for the Southwest Conference have been announced and there are plenty of Rangers represented! These honors are nice icing on the cake of a great winter sports season. **Boys’ basketball:** Jacob Sala was named to the All Conference 2nd Team and Chris Golden and Raekwon Whitfield earned Honorable Mention. **Girls’ basketball:** Olivia Nagy was named to the All Conference 1st Team and Ryann Greenfield to the 2nd Team. Cortney Ribar and Isabel Cintron earned Honorable Mention. **Ice Hockey:** Players named to the All-Division Team: Rob Holden, Will Holden, Jonas Hupcey, Donny McCrae and Mac McFarlin. Conference 2nd Team: Rob Holden; Honorable Mention: McFarlin and McRae, who also was named to the GCHSHL All-Star Game.

Swimming & Diving: Kelley Reis was 1st Team All Conference for 100-yard butterfly and backstroke. Also named to the conference 1st Team were Preston Polen (100-yard butterfly) and Evan Gainous (100-yard backstroke). The 400-yard freestyle relay team of Gainous, Polen and Nick Ferrone and Colman McGuan were also named All Conference 1st Team. 2nd Team honorees: Ferrone (200-yard freestyle); McGuan (200-yard IM); Gainous (100-yard butterfly); 200-yard free relay of Ferrone, Gainous, McGuan and Polen. Honorable Mention: Luke Healy, Joey Toole, Maggie McHugh, Julia Neff and Elizabeth Pearlman. **Wrestling:** Will Rodriguez was named to 1st Team All Conference. Donovan Williams and Yousef Awad earned Honorable Mention. Congratulations to all these hard-working student athletes and their coaches!

LHS Students Win National Art Awards

continued from page1 Golden Key winners at the regional level and also had their work judged at the national level. Those regional winners are: Kaylee Banhidy (Photography); Micha Inak (Design); Faiza Manaa (Drawing & Illustration); Sara McMillen (Digital Art); Elyza Mihalski (Drawing & Illustration); Balint Muller (Photography - two awards); Ava Olic (Drawing & Illustration); and Maya O’Reilly (Ceramics & Glass). The Scholastic Awards were founded in 1923 to offer recognition and scholarships for students for their artistic talents.

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Lakewood Is Art

Cleveland International Film Festival: The Gem In Your Backyard

by Mark Moran

After 16 years living in the Cleveland area, mostly in Lakewood, I left last summer to return to the east coast. I had come to love Cleveland, and for what it's worth I am now a champion, defender and an ambassador. One of the things I talk up, whenever I talk about Cleveland, is the Cleveland International Film Festival (CIFF), returning for its 41st year between March 29 and April 9, at Tower City Cinemas and five neighborhood theaters. I'll be back for just a weekend, but I know a few people who plan their vacations around the festival, and plot out the movies they want to see the way other people fill out March Madness brackets.

That's part of the fun of the Film Festival—picking what you're going to see, since invariably not everything will prove to be memorable (and at \$16 a pop for non-members, more than a few movies is not in everyone's budget). I fell in love with CIFF in 2014 when a friend and I picked three winners: "A Fragile Trust," about Jayson Blair, the New York Times reporter caught out fabricating and plagiarizing stories; "Just About Famous," a really fun and funny film about impersonators; and "Antarctica: A Year on Ice," a startlingly beautiful documentary about the "South Pole" and the scientists and their supporters who work there.

Last year, I saw "Atomic Falafel," an Israeli comedy about an impending

war between Israel and Iran (yes, that's a comedy), in which an Israeli teenage girl, principally preoccupied with seducing a reluctant boyfriend, and an Iranian teenage girl focused mainly on her desire to be a rap star, form an unlikely cyberspace friendship and manage in the end to divert their two countries from destroying each other. A little silly, but it was redeemed by the ending and the movie's cheerful hope that young people—who really do connect with each other across the old contentious borders—hold the secret to peace.

My winner last year was "My Internship in Canada," a satire about politics in French-speaking Quebec, both funny and sobering. Winston Churchill famously said "democracy is the worst form of government, except for all the others." (You may have heard—a large group of people, steeped in a 200-plus year-old culture of self-government can on occasion make a really, really, really bad choice.) In this French language movie with English subtitles, Steve Guibord is a former hockey superstar (the Canadian equivalent, I suppose, of being a reality TV star host) who holds a seat in Parliament from a small town in Quebec. Neither terribly brilliant nor extraordinarily brave, he is nevertheless a good guy doing his best. He is visited (in his office above a lingerie shop) by a young French-speaking Haitian political science scholar named Souverain who will accompany Guibord

as an intern while he navigates the turbulent politics of a strike by Canadian First Nation peoples against a logging company doing business on their land. This local conflict becomes ensnared in a larger controversy about whether Canada should go to war in the Middle East, and as a farcical plot unspools, it will come down to Guibord to cast the deciding vote. With him throughout is Souverain—brilliant, highly literate and impossibly, endearingly idealistic. He quotes Rousseau and Alexis de Tocqueville and interprets every plot twist by the lights of an incandescent faith in the rationality and higher purpose of self-government. (He reports all this back by Skype to his people in Haiti, who wonder as a matter of course when someone will be assassinated.)

It's not a deathless work of art. But it's sharp and funny and thoughtful and well-acted, and you will never see it in your local AMC. Look for more of the same at CIFF this year—like "California Typewriter," a documentary about the fate of the forgotten typing machine; or "Platelet Dining," in which a couple on their first Tinder date hit it off until the girl turns out to be a vampire; or "Stronger Than Bullets," a Libyan documentary about the revival of rock-and-roll music in that country after the ouster of Muammar Gaddafi. The

"movies" are an American invention, one of the most quintessential, drawing on a characteristic national fascination with new technology in the early 20th century that succeeding generations of talented entrepreneurs (interested mainly in turning a profit) would experiment with until a new art form was created—one that could be refined and perfected by visionaries interested less in money than in creating something unique and beautiful and lasting, an art form that would nevertheless still be "popular," enjoyed by regular folks.

Lakewood has, in its own backyard, an exceptional showcase in the Cleveland Festival for this singular American art form. This year's festival promises 202 feature films and 216 short films from more than 70 countries. Look for listings online (at <http://www.clevelandfilm.org/>) or in program booklets available at neighborhood outlets everywhere in the Greater Cleveland area.

When I left last summer, it was with a heart full of conflicted emotion and memories, bitter and sweet, I can never recreate. Happily, the Cleveland International Film Festival happens every year, so I will always have at least one reason to come back, if only for a long weekend. See you at the movies.

Lakewood Residents Involved In Long-Running Passion Play

by Barbara Nagy

Each year, thousands of people head to local venues throughout Northeast Ohio to experience the musical passion play "Tétélestai." This year, Tétélestai celebrates its 40th Anniversary as it continues to bring the Good News of Easter to audiences in eight different Ohio cities, including a stop at Lakewood United Methodist Church on Detroit Avenue in early April.

The all-volunteer cast includes Lakewood residents Maury and James Petrak. The father and son duo will be traveling with the troupe throughout the 2017 season. Maury and his wife Angela met as fellow cast members in 2000. As Maury says, "It has had a very positive impact on our family. We have grown in our love for the Lord as time has moved forward. We love to be able to serve God and our Brothers and Sisters by being involved." The traveling and time commitment over the 8 weeks of performances are demanding, and Maury admits it will be really nice to perform at a venue so close to home. "It is so awesome to be able to bring this production to share with the Lakewood community. We have been blessed to live here for the past 15 years and look forward to sharing his message with the people of Lakewood."

The word Tétélestai means "It is finished," the last words of Jesus as He died on the cross. The production has become a cherished tradition for many churches and families as they prepare for the holy season of Easter. Tétélestai's dramatic stage production and timeless music bring the story of Jesus' trial, execution and resurrection to life in a visual way that leaves a lasting impression. Faithful audience members see the play as a way of enhancing the services presented by their own churches.

Tétélestai is produced locally by

Cleveland Performing Arts Ministries and will be performed during its 40th Anniversary Season at Lakewood United Methodist Church located at 15700 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio 44107 on April 7, 8 and 9, 2017. Performances will be on Friday and Saturday evenings at 8:00 PM, with a Sunday matinee at 2:00 PM. The play lasts approximately two hours with a short intermission. A reception follows each performance and affords an opportunity for the audience to meet and mingle with the cast and crew. Doors open approximately one hour before the performance. There is no admission charge; however free will offerings will be welcomed at the end of each performance.

To see our full 40th anniversary schedule of performances or for further information please visit: LiveThePassion.com or call Cleveland Performing Arts Ministries at 440-944-0635. Tétélestai is a registered service mark of Tétélestai, Inc. Cleveland Performing Arts Ministries produces Tétélestai in northeast Ohio and is a registered 501(c)(3) organization.

Arts in Bloom at Beck Center!



A Great Wilderness
March 3 – April 9, 2017 | Studio Theater
REGIONAL PREMIERE! This timely drama follows a man as he endeavors to "cure" gay teens. Contains strong content. Join us for a timely **Talk-Back** following the 8 p.m. performance on **Friday, March 31**.



CARRIE the musical
March 24 – April 2, 2017 | Mackey Theater
Beck Center Teen Theater elects a new prom queen with this cult-classic, high school horror! Don't miss out, or "they're all gonna laugh at you!" PG-13.
\$10 Students (18-Under) | \$12 Adults/Seniors



Ugly Duckling
4 p.m. & 7 p.m. April 1 | 1 p.m. & 4 p.m. April 2
Beck Dance Education presents this family-friendly ballet based on the classic fairy tale by Hans Christian Andersen. Also features excerpts from *Les Sylphides*.
\$10 Students (18-Under) | \$12 Adults/Seniors



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Lakewood Is Art

100% Cassette Tape Rock:
Reviews Of Recent Releases By Local Bands, Pt. 45

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.

Cereal Banter - Oatmeal Outburst - self-released - 2 songs - Cassette, download

I don't really know much about this group, but apparently they've been around for a while, so there ya go. Both tracks on this tape are long instrumental freeform experimental jams. Free jazz, maybe? I don't know these things. "Oatmeal Outburst" is my pick of the two. I like that there are different "movements," so to speak. Keeps it from getting too repetitive. It's actually sorta hypnotic in a couple places. "Porridge Parley" is decent as well. Something about certain parts of it reminds me of some of the more "freakout" Obnox moments. Good

stuff if that's what you're into. Though both tunes are pretty long (over twelve minutes each, I believe), they do a good enough job of keeping your attention. I mean, I'd prefer slightly shorter, but hey. Experimental freakout avant-garde whatever. Not bad. 3.5/5
(cerealbanter.com)

Heavenly Creatures - Your Record Collection / This Summer Will Kill Us All - Peanut Butter Records - 8 songs - Cassette, download

This tape compiles two Heavenly Creatures EPs: the "Your Record Collection" 7" and the "This Summer Will Kill Us All" CD. Both are here on this cassette in their entirety for your listening convenience. If I were to get right to the point, I would tell you that a general description of this would be jangly indie pop, but I'm not gonna do that. I caught two lyrical references to R.E.M. in "Your Record Collection" alone (the song, not the EP),

though I'm sure I missed a few. "Snow" has the most hesitant lead guitar playing I've heard in recent memory, but still is a catchy indie pop tune. "Water Is Rushing In" has a more ominous indie vibe that I kinda like. I definitely can hear the R.E.M. influence on that one. At this point, we move on to the second EP, "This Summer Will Kill Us All," where the band changes from a two-piece to a three-piece and the tunes are recorded at Bad Racket. Anyone who's been reading my column for a while probably already knows what I think about that. Overall, the quality of this EP is not quite as high as the previous one, though there's still some decent songs, "Blah Blah Blah Amen" and "Comforting Pain" (even though the latter goes on longer than I think it had to). I could say something about where it was recorded maybe having something to do with this drop, but I feel I've said enough. You jangly indie pop fans out there will definitely be into this one, but you probably already knew that. 3.5/5
(pbrecs.bandcamp.com)

Parrot Heads - Parrot Heads - Nervous Room - 9 songs - Cassette

Not quite sure what went on with this tape. The cassette is out, then it's recalled or whatever because of some issue, but then there are still copies, and then the band is on hiatus, or maybe the label is on hiatus, or someone was unsatisfied with something, or whatever. My copy doesn't even have a cover. Parrot Heads, as far as I'm aware, feature every member of every band from Willoughby ever of all time including every member of the Pagans. Okay, since people won't get that that's a joke, let me change that instead to say that Parrot Heads feature members of Another Mother's Milk, Miss Macy & The

Low Pay Daddys, Swirly In The Fryer, and every member of every band from Willoughby ever of all time...okay, yeah, you didn't think it was funny the first time, I know. I think that this tape would actually be really good but for the fact that it has maybe the worst recording quality I've heard this side of bands trying intentionally to record poorly, and I listen to a lot of punk stuff. It's very, very lo-fi, let's put it that way. That said, it's still pretty good. Synth punk, I guess? Punk with synth? Are these actually two separate things? Someone's gonna argue with me somewhere. Side 1 has some cool ones, but Side 2 I kinda got into more. "Tiki Bar 2" shows off Parrot Heads' more ominous-sounding side. You know that song "Rubber Love" off the "In Love Or In Vitro" compilation tape? No, of course you don't. Some of this kinda reminded me of that. Weird, almost kinda creepy, lots of synth, good punk junk. Just when you started to think, "man, this is good, but I really wanna hear that 'Tiki Bar' tune again," "Tiki Bar 1" shows up and yes! you get to hear it again! Sadly, despite it being listed on the tape, "Free Bird" does not actually appear here, but maybe that was just a defect of my copy. Overall, it's good stuff. I wish it sounded a little better, but hey, what can ya do. 3.8/5

(I have no idea what's going on with this band, this label, or really anything at all in general. I think Nervous Room and Parrot Heads both have Facebook pages, maybe try one of those.)

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.

Beck Center Teen Theater Presents
High School Horror With CARRIE

by Pat Miller

Beck Center Teen Theater continues their 2016–2017 season with "CARRIE the musical," March 24–26 and March 31–April 2, 2017 in the Mackey Theater. Show times are 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, and 3 p.m. Sundays. A student matinee will take place at 10 a.m. on Thursday, March 30. Tickets are on sale now at 216.521.2540 x10 or beckcenter.org. "CARRIE the musical" contains strong language and adult content.

Carrie White is a misfit. At school, she is an outcast who is bullied by the popular crowd, and virtually invisible to everyone else. At home, she's at the mercy of her loving but cruelly over-protective mother. But Carrie's just discovered she's got a special power, and if pushed too far...she's not afraid to use it. Based on the bestselling novel by Stephen King, this production features music by Michael Gore, lyrics by Dean Pitchford, and book by Lawrence D. Cohen.

With a cast of 21 Beck Center students ages 12 to 19, this notorious musical is directed by Associate Director of Youth Theater Education

Jonathan Kronenberger. He is joined by musical director Larry Goodpaster and choreographer Katie Zarecki. "It's always exciting to work with our teens on a piece which has characters their own age and reflects their own experiences," remarked Kronenberger. "High school can be a hellish time for people. We need to remind ourselves that we're all human, and what does it cost to be kind?"

Tickets are \$12 for Adults/Seniors and \$10 for Children (18 and under), and may be purchased online at beckcenter.org or by calling 216.521.2540 x10. Discounted group rates, and student matinee tickets for classes, are available and can be scheduled by calling Customer Service Manager Rennie Tisdale at 216.521.2450 x28. The remainder of the Youth Theater season also includes "Schoolhouse Rock Live!," May 12–21, 2017.

The 2016–2017 Youth Theater season is presented by the Mort and Iris November Philanthropy Fund, and is made possible by the support of Cuyahoga County residents through Cuyahoga Arts and Culture and the Ohio Arts Council.

Eat For A Cause!

by Tiffany Fox

Help the Lakewood Music Boosters raise funds...

Visit Angelo's on April 5th 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

education 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 Recreation




Adult summer softball team registration available through March 31


A variety of men's, women's and co-ed leagues are available, including Sundays and weeknights

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richard.wallenhorst@lakewoodcityschools.org

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Lakewood Cares

Grace Lutheran Celebrates Mission Festival With “Common Threads”

by George Hansell

Grace Lutheran Church, located on the corner of Grace and Madison Avenues across from Madison Park, will host a Mission Festival on Sunday, March 26th. The Guest Speaker for the occasion will be Mr. Jeff Stredney, director and founder of Common Threads, a unique ministry of Building Hope in the City.

Common Threads was founded about 8 months ago. According to its website, “Common Threads is resale done right. High-quality thrift items set in an engaging retail space. A place where you can know for certain that what you donate and purchase makes an impact right here in Northeast Ohio.” The ministry is located at 22049 Lorain Road in Fairview Park.

Jeff will offer the message during

the congregation’s 8 AM and 10:30 AM services. Featured in the message will be how people are not only being equipped with practical job skills, but also how their spiritual lives are being impacted as they see Jesus at work through this ministry.

Also featured in the message will be how Common Threads can be an opportunity for followers of Jesus to put their faith in and love for Jesus to work through volunteer service in this ministry.

The Greater Lakewood Community

is cordially invited to join the Members of Grace Lutheran Church for this special day of worship and learning as we celebrate God at work in the mission field located right in our own backyards.

Wear Purple On March 26th, Global Epilepsy Awareness Day

by Ingrid White

On March 26th the world celebrates purple day, a grassroots effort dedicated to increasing awareness about the neurological disease called epilepsy. People all over the globe will wear purple and host events to support epilepsy awareness.

Purple day was the idea of 9-year-old Cassidy Megan from Nova Scotia

in 2008 when she was no longer invited to sleep overs with her friends after she had developed seizures. In Cassidy’s own words: “I wanted people all over the world to come together and teach each other about epilepsy.”

Sixty-three thousand or up to 1 in 26 Ohions, 3 million Americans and worldwide 63 million people suffer from epilepsy, a neurological disorder manifesting with unpredictable seizures that can occur at school, in the home, on the street, in a store. Educating the public about simple safety issues can go a long way to reduce the burden of this disease on those affected.

In Cleveland, the Epilepsy Association is a non-profit that exclusively provides community-based education and support services to people of all ages and their families in North East Ohio affected by epilepsy. A number of events and programs centered around purple day are being hosted. The offices are located at 2831 Prospect Avenue, Cleveland, 44115.

Email Colleen Saunier for more information at csaunier@epilepsyinfo.org or call 216 579 1330. The website gives more information about resources, fun events and fundraisers spread throughout the year: www.epilepsyinfo.org. This includes a fundraising event at VOSH on May 3rd.

Scotts PITCH HIT & RUN Comes To Lakewood

by Rick Wallenhorst

The Lakewood Recreation Department is hosting the Scotts Major League Baseball® PITCH HIT & RUN™ Competition at the First Federal Lakewood Stadium on Sunday, May 7th, beginning at 8 a.m

According to the registration form, the PITCH HIT & RUN® competition provides youngsters, ages 7-14, an opportunity to participate in an exciting baseball/softball skills competition. Age is determined as of July 17th.

The program is intended to encourage

youth participation and emphasize the “fun” element of baseball/softball. Since there is no registration fee, everyone has the opportunity to participate.

Participants will compete in pitching, hitting and running to accumulate a total score based on his/her performance. Champions at the local level advance to a Sectional Competition.

All participants must provide a copy of a valid birth certificate for age verification at all levels and complete the Official Registration Form. Register at the Recreation Department.



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On March 1, the Oldest Stone House Museum re-opened its doors for the season and welcomed its first visitors, Keira Gardner and Jim Erickson, of Lakewood. Stop in for a free tour on Wednesdays from 1 to 4 p.m. and Sundays from 2 to 5 p.m. If your class or community group can't make it to the museum, let the museum come to you! Contact 216-221-7343 for details.



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Business

Cleveland Metroparks CEO Brian Zimmerman To Address Lakewood Chamber Of Commerce

by Valerie Mechenbier
Cleveland Metroparks 100 Years: 1917-2017

As Cleveland Metroparks enters its centennial year, take a look back - and a look ahead - at the park system border-

ing Lakewood that was recently named 'Best In Nation,' winning the prestigious 2016 National Gold Medal Award for excellence in Park and Recreation Management. "The Gold Medal Award honors communities throughout the

United States that demonstrate excellence in long-range planning, resource management and innovative approaches to delivering superb park and recreation services with fiscally sound business practices." -- nrpa.org/goldmedal.

Cleveland Metroparks Chief Executive Officer Brian Zimmerman will speak about the park system's centennial anniversary in his address to the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce at the Chamber's April 7th luncheon meeting at The Clifton Club, 17884 Lake Road. The cost is \$20 for members, \$25 for non-members. For more information about this event and to register, visit lakewoodchamber.org.

Mr. Zimmerman's address is the second event in the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce 2017 Speaker Series, made possible with the generous support of COSE | Council of Smaller Enterprises, Cox Business, Cleveland Clinic Lakewood, and First Federal Lakewood.

Cassie Bishop, First Time Author

by Mary Marcus
Cassandra Leigh Bishop, LHS class of '98 and Cleveland State University Master's program graduate has published a children's book! "Teddy's Journey to the Clouds" is available on Amazon and at your local libraries. The book was written for families dealing with the terminal illness of a child.

Cassandra (Cassie) says when her mother was little, her grandma would tell her the story of Angelica & Mark, two angels who would fly about their Lakewood neighborhood helping to keep everyone safe. Cassie's mom told her the same stories. Cassie was deeply moved by a Facebook child dealing with brain cancer and the two ideas

became the inspiration for the book. On Thursday, April 6th, 2017, Cassie and her illustrator, Jenna Fournier, will be at Barnes & Noble at Crocker Park from 6:30 to 9pm to launch the book and to personally sign copies. The book-signing info is available on the Barnes & Noble website.
Congratulations, Cassie!

Second Annual Peace, Love & Party Ball

by Cree Criado
Angel & Cree Criado, owners of Rhythm & Grace Ballroom Dance Studio, held the 2nd Annual Peace, Love & Party Ball in early February!
Once again, dancers from all over Ohio joined together and celebrated their love of dance! Rhythm & Grace Ballroom Dance Studio was joined by 4 other dance studios, bringing together over 75 people, all there to show off their new moves for U.S. and British champion adjudicator, Kimberley Mitchell! Everyone danced from 11am to 6pm and then the evening

activities began!
Just as the year before, the evening started off with a charity dance off! People paired up and danced three random dances chosen by our judges, but each dance had a twist! It could be super fast, danced butt to butt, or had role reversal, where the ladies led the men!
Everyone had a blast and almost \$500 was raised for The Determined Daddies, a group of daddies that joined together to bring awareness about Type 1 Diabetes.
The evening ended with a standing ovation for a wonderful 3 dance

professional show by champion dancers, Kristen Dobson & Toshko Kondov.
"We are always thankful to everyone who attends our event," said Angel & Cree. "To have all of these people come together to support one another and express their love for dance is why we continue to host this event! We hope to see everyone again next February for the 3rd annual Peace, Love & Party Ball!"
Angel and Cree Criado are the owners of Rhythm & Grace Ballroom Dance Studio located on Madison Avenue in Uptown Lakewood, Ohio.



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Forum

End The Medical Marijuana Moratorium

by Bethany Francis

At the previous city council meeting, Councilmember O’Malley addressed the potential of allowing state licensure for the sale of medical marijuana in the city of Lakewood. He and the Public Safety Committee expressed the concern that opening a dispensary in Lakewood in the middle of an opioid crisis would promote drug usage, rather than reduce it.

I am calling on the City Council to end, rather than extend, the moratorium on retail medical marijuana establishments. Public safety and public health will only improve by allowing licensure for medical cannabis establishments, and the city would only benefit from the increased tax revenue.

As many of us well know, the opioid crisis we are facing as a community is extreme. As the Columbus Dispatch reported in November 2016, Ohio is the leading state in the nation in opioid overdose deaths. Specifically, Ohio has the most deaths from heroin – 1 in 9 heroin deaths across the United States happen in Ohio. Last year alone, 28 people died in Lakewood from heroin, and the police and fire departments responded to 251 overdose calls.

We cannot play naïve about who created this epidemic. The Ohio Board of Pharmacy, as well as the Ohio Substance Abuse Monitor, reported that doctors prescribed over 4 million doses of painkillers to residents of Cuyahoga County. The Ohio Department of Health stated that prescription painkillers accounted for 63% of unintentional deaths in 2010, as well as costing Ohioans \$3.6 billion dollars annually. Let’s analyze what this means: when patients are

running out of these highly addictive painkillers, they turn to opiates like heroin as a cheaper, readily available solution.

How can we, as concerned citizens and community members, respond to this crisis?

Well, the American Journal of Public Health testified that, in states permitting medical marijuana dispensaries, opiate overdoses significantly decreased. For example, a study by the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor reported that availability of medical cannabis resulted in a 64% lower opioid use. We have the power save lives. The pragmatic decision to open a dispensary in Lakewood would only promote public health and safety.

In addition, I have not even mentioned the benefits to those living with chronic pain or disease in our city. In 2007, a placebo-controlled study by the Journal of Neurology proved that medical marijuana was effective in reducing pain in HIV, Multiple Sclerosis, and cancer patients. The American Cancer society stated that

medical cannabis reduced nausea and vomiting in chemotherapy patients. On a basic level, medical cannabis would help Lakewood residents who are suffering.

Both examples I have provided are very close to my heart. I had a friend and co-worker overdose and die from heroin in December. His loss tore through the hearts of our community. In addition, my father was diagnosed with stage-four colon cancer. I watched his aching, emaciated body suffer extreme nausea and loss of appetite from frequent chemotherapy sessions – not to mention his chronic pain. It was his diagnosis that drew me to the benefits of medical marijuana as I spent hours researching positive studies that proved marijuana slowed cancer growth – and even cured – colon cancer. Unfortunately, he passed away in September of 2015, but his death only further encouraged me to fight for the availability for medical cannabis – so other daughters, sons, and wives will not have to watch their loved ones suffer needlessly.

Lastly, I want to comment on the fiscal benefits of opening a medical dispensary in Lakewood. Medical marijuana taxes significantly boost local economies and aid funding for our public schools. To use an example from the Midwest, medical cannabis sales in Michigan are expected to bring in more than \$63 million dollars in revenue this year, with a projection of bringing in \$556 million dollars by 2020. It would only benefit Lakewood to pursue this lucrative financial opportunity.

If we, in the Lakewood community, want to promote public health and safety, while simultaneously stimulating our local economy, our best decision is to end the medical marijuana licensure moratorium. For evidence of its success, we must look no further than the precedents set by similar cities, proving that allowing medical marijuana dispensaries reduces opioid addiction, opioid overdoses, and opioid-related crime.

For the healing and growth of our community, we must end the medical marijuana moratorium.

GV Art + Design: A Lakewood Institution

continued from page 1
etching skills and artwork.

After 15 years of being in the National spotlight and building a reputation for his artwork, George was commissioned in 2007 by the Cavs and Quicken Loans to film a youtube video in which he creates an Etch-A-Sketch of LeBron James. Dad wrote the rap song for the video and along with it, they designed their first t-shirt called “One Town. One Team. One Dream.” The campaign showcased their talents as a group and was up for best viral video of the year. The video has had over 3 million views. An updated video was released in 2015 when the Cavs reached the Finals again.

Beginning in 2008 they started a pro Cleveland campaign called “Cleveland That I Love,” selling shirts online and out of the family home. The response was overwhelming and the creativity continued. “Cleveland that I LOVE” became more than just a shirt or slogan, it became a movement that helped spark the resurgence of Cleveland Pride. The Cleveland community and sports teams started to take notice along with the major companies across the country. The GV Art team was commissioned to create artwork for companies like University Hospital, Progressive, Cleveland Clinic, Disney, Fandango as well as 30-40 ft. murals, using the linework from the Etch A Sketch, for the Cleveland Convention Bureau, the Cleveland Browns, the Cleveland Indians, and the JACK Casino.

Greg, a graduate of Cleveland State University and a Lakewood High recruit on the CSU basketball team, was impressing the sports world with his very detailed and realistic paintings and photography. Some of these pieces laid the ground work for many of GV’s t-shirts that have been created with several athletes from all of Cleveland’s Sports teams. These shirts are often designed with input from the athlete and proceeds are used to support the athlete’s charitable foundation.

As the business grew, the family business outgrew the house. Boxes of shirts suddenly filled each room. It was time to find a retail location and space.



Staying true to Lakewood, the Vlosichs were excited to find a space down the street from their childhood home. In 2013, GV Art + Design opened their first store at 17411 Detroit Ave., across from St. James Church to a long line of GV fans waiting for the doors to open.

They were amazed to see the response the store received. Gloria, who was now retired and the family concentrated solely on increasing business and creating new t-shirt ideas, Etch-A-Sketch art, and murals. GV was commissioned by Sherwin Williams to create the 5th largest billboard in the country for their building in downtown Cleveland (only to be replaced by LeBron James upon his return to Cleveland).

Last year, with the success of the Cavs, the Indians, and the selection as the only t-shirt vendor for the Republican National Convention, people lined up outside of the Lakewood store for hours before the release of new t-shirts. It became evident, when the retail space started spilling into the office space, it was time to expand. AGAIN.

Wanting to stay close to home, they were pleased when the building across the street from their existing location became available. Not only was the location perfect, but it would allow GV to expand their storefronts from 2 to 4, to display more of their artwork, and to have a much larger creative space. GV Art + Design opened their doors at 17128 Detroit Ave. in February 2017.

This new store and showroom, uniquely designed to showcase not only

the t-shirts and apparel, but sections that are artistically dedicated to each of Cleveland’s Sports teams, the City itself, several area colleges, Lakewood High School, and every special occasion that comes and goes, it is a sight that everyone should see. The store has become a Cleveland Landmark with people visiting from all over to buy apparel and spend time in the store checking out the artwork and designs.

With the increase in space also comes the launch of several exciting things for GV Art + Design. New t-shirt lines will include a new brand “From Within,” an inspirational message teamed with several celebrities and individuals with inspiring stories. Also, the launch of CLE FIT, workout apparel inspired by Cleveland’s very fit running, yoga, biking and workout community.

In addition, the new store will host many special events, including a singer/songwriter workshop, fundraising events, yoga sessions, creative art seminars and much more. Just recently, 75 students from Harrison Elementary School came in for a tour and learned about how hard work and a dream can make anything possible. Giving back has always been a big part of what GV is about.

GV Art + Design feels blessed to call Lakewood their home and continues to be inspired by the many residents who support them on a regular and consistent basis. Be sure to follow GV Art on social media for announcements of exciting new t-shirt designs and upcoming events.



Lakewood Living

Views From Overlook Park

by Gaynel Mellino

Overlook Park Neighborhood Association is proud to announce its 2016 Beautification Award Winners. The Lifetime Achievement Award recognizing continuous excellence in landscape design and appearance goes to Cheryl and David Jerome on Edgewater Lane. David and Cheryl lovingly and meticulously tend to the yard themselves and each garden bed offers something new and spectacular to the avid gardener and casual visitor alike.

The Special Recognition Award recognizes excellence in either exterior historical preservation or major landscape renovation, or significant projects which result in improved curb appeal which is beneficial to the entire neighborhood. Lori and Mike Petti of Wilbert Rd. are the recipients this year for the addition of this beautiful and inviting back porch



The Lifetime Achievement Award winner. and the landscaping surrounding it. It complements the house architecturally and is thoroughly enjoyed by the family. Both landscaping (a work in progress) and porch were designed by another resident of Overlook Park, Julia Artbauer.

The Rose Cliff Award recognizes creativity and beauty in the presentation of landscape flowers, both annual and perennial. Julia and David Huffman of Wilbert Rd. are the recipients this year for the beautiful collection of flowers and shrubs in both their front and back yards. The Huffman's yard is full of history as many of the plants came from previous homes. The phlox was originally in David's grandparents' garden in the late 1930s. Some ended up in David's childhood home in Clifton Park in the 60s and now on Wilbert 30 years later. The hydrangeas are propagated from a original lace cap variety given to Julia by her mother many years ago.

The Hickories Award recognizes excellence in overall landscape presentation and maintenance. Our ship shape award. The winners this year are David Meeker and Robert Tuhacek on Lake Avenue. They meticulously maintain their yard but the backyard is a slice of heaven with carefully pruned shrubbery, a well kept patio, a gorgeous assortment of plants such as ferns, hostas, boxwood and annuals, and eclectic sculptural touches from planters to artwork.

Overlook Park is very lucky to have so many residents that contribute to their community with the beautiful upkeep and cultivation of their landscape. Congratulations to this year's winners.

Gaynel Mellino is the president of Overlook Park Neighborhood Association and has been a Lakewood resident for 27 years.

LakewoodAlive To Host “Knowing Your Home: Managing Pests”

by Matt Bixenstine

Register Now to Attend this Free Workshop at Lakewood Public Library

The arrival of spring beckons the return of sunshine and warmth, yet also typically results in an increase in encounters with pests within your home. That's why now is an opportune time for area homeowners to attend our latest free workshop.

LakewoodAlive will host “Knowing Your Home: Managing Pests” on Saturday, March 25, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon in the Lakewood Public Library Auditorium (15425 Detroit Avenue). The third workshop of 2017 for this popular home maintenance educational program will delve into how to deal with common household pests including:

Ants, Bed bugs, Cockroaches, Mice,

Raccoons, Skunks, Spiders, and Squirrels.

Shawn Payne, owner of Lakewood Exterminating, will share tips and tricks for managing household pests, discussing how to identify everyday pests in and around your home, and addressing best practices for sealing your home to protect it from pests and wildlife. A Lakewood resident with an extensive background in horticulture, Shawn was responsible for pest control at the NASA Glenn Research Center in Cleveland prior to taking on his business full-time.

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.

Inaugural Adult Kickball Tournament

by Rick Wallenhorst

The Inaugural Commissioners Adult COED Kickball tournament will be taking place on Saturday, June 3rd. Games will be played on the Metropark soccer field beginning at 9 a.m. We are looking for 16 teams (4 pools) on

a running/rolling schedule. Winners of each pool go to the playoffs. Three games are guaranteed. Team cost is \$50, which includes umpire fees.

The registration deadline is Monday, May 22nd.

Come out and have an enjoyable day.

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The Back Page

LAKWOODITES ROB MASEK

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Plain	\$7.00	\$8.50	\$11.00	\$12.00
1 Item	\$7.50	\$9.25	\$12.00	\$13.50
2 Items	\$8.00	\$10.00	\$13.00	\$15.00
3 Items	\$8.50	\$10.75	\$14.00	\$16.50
4 Items	\$9.00	\$11.50	\$15.00	\$18.00
Deluxe	\$9.50	\$12.25	\$16.00	\$19.50
Extra Items	\$0.50	\$0.75	\$1.00	\$1.50
Ext. Cheese/Spec. Topp	\$1.50	\$2.00	\$2.50	\$3.50

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