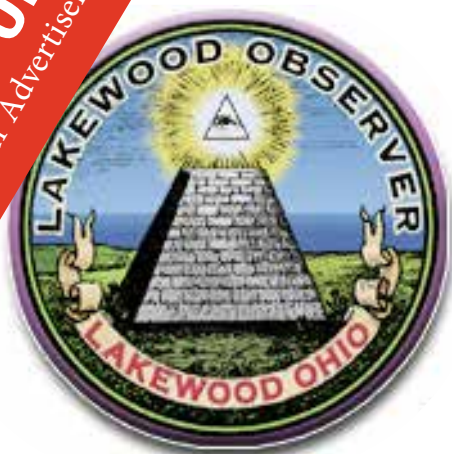


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"And as we let our own light shine, we unconsciously give other people permission to do the same." - Nelson Mandela

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Volume 13, Issue 8, April 19, 2017

Lakewood Schools Earn Best Communities For Music Education Award



Lakewood's iconic Christmas concerts are just one example of the exceptional music programs available to Lakewood students.

by Christine Gordillo

Lakewood City Schools has been honored with the Best Communities for Music Education designation from The NAMM Foundation for its outstanding commitment to music education. Only 4% of districts across the nation are receiving the prestigious award in 2017.

The Best Communities Music Education designation is awarded to districts

that demonstrate outstanding achievement in efforts to provide music access and education to all students. To qualify for the Best Communities designation, the District answered detailed questions about funding, graduation requirements, music class participation, instruction time, facilities, support for the music program, and community music-making programs.

"We are so fortunate in

Lakewood to have a community that has a long tradition of supporting music education in our schools. I am proud of our dedicated and talented music department staff, who continually challenge our students to grow musically and strive to instill an appreciation of music in all our students," said Superintendent Jeff Patterson.

The District's and com-
continued on page 13

Lakewood Women's Club First Spring Fundraiser Attracts Influential Crowd

by Lissette Rivera

Laura Ponticello, award-winning author and publisher who is best known for her books "Live the Life of Your Dreams" and "The Art of Self Transformation, A Guide to Awakening," will be the keynote speaker Thursday, May 4, 2017 at Lakewood Women's Club inaugural spring fundraiser, "Women Honoring Women."

"Laura is the ideal keynote speaker as she has dedicated her career to empowering others to achieve infinite potential in their lives," said Kristy Feye-deleman, president, Lakewood

Women's Club.

The event ceremony will recognize three outstanding women from our community. A College Scholarship as well as an Emerging Leader and a Distinguished Leader award will be presented to Lakewood women who have demonstrated a variety of outstanding accomplishments and contributions to our community.

"We are recognizing three phenomenal women, but the ceremony is much more," explained Laura Ponticello. "Each and every nominee and attendee will be celebrated for
continued on page 11

LakewoodAlive To Host Community Forum Regarding Refugees On May 10

by Matt Bixenstine

The City of Lakewood has a rich history of tolerance and a welcoming spirit. In the wake of executive orders on immigration policy, Lakewood City Council recently passed a resolution reinforcing its "commitment to hope, equality, tolerance, inclusion and optimism." But what can our community learn from this hot-button issue?

LakewoodAlive, a nonprofit community development organization, announces it will host a community forum - entitled "From Refugee to Neighbor Part 2:

Understanding Public Policy and Community Impact" - from 7-9 p.m. on Wednesday, May 10, at the Lakewood Congregational Church Sanctuary (1375 West Clifton Blvd.). This community conversation will build on a previous refugee forum from November 2015 by providing insightful dialogue relevant to the current refugee climate.

Both the general public and members of the media are invited to attend this free forum as the community seeks to listen, learn and reinforce our commitment to celebrating Lakewood's growing diver-

sity. The discussion will delve into our role as a resettlement location, how public policy impacts the refugee community and the progress that's been made towards supporting refugees. Panelist Thomas Kate of The Refugee Response will share his personal story as a refugee to our region.

Moderator David Dombrowiak, President and Chief Executive Officer for the Community West Foundation, will oversee a distinguished group of panelists for an informative discussion. The final 30 minutes will be devoted to
continued on page 10

Celebrate Spring With Earth Day, The Great American Cleanup, And Keep Lakewood Beautiful

by Marianne Quasebarth Usiak

Spring sunshine and warmer winds have finally arrived here in Lakewood, Ohio and the Keep Lakewood Beautiful organization is celebrating this time of year with its Annual Earth Day and Great American Cleanup on April 29th from 9-11 a.m. beginning at Madison Park. Come one or come all, and help spruce up the Madison Ave. commercial district. Learn from an arborist, and then we will plant trees in observance of Arbor Day, plant flowers, and mulch trees and large planters. Meet near

the Madison Ave. entrance to Beck's Pool in Madison Park. For more information or optional pre-registration see: <http://www.onelakewood.com/KLB> or call 529-6601.

After we spruce up Madison Ave., be sure and take home a free seedling tree and recycled flowers. Keeping with one of the mission goals of Keep Lakewood Beautiful, education, we partnered for the 5th year with the Horticulture class at Lakewood High School. We will be giving away 10 varieties of free seedling trees that have been potted by Lakewood High School Horticulture students under the

expertise of the Horticulture teacher, Mr. Mark Rathge. Keep Lakewood Beautiful purchases all the supplies needed for this annual hands on classroom experience where students learn how to and also do plant bare root tree seedlings. Thank you Mr. Rathge and LHS students for your help! We have several varieties to choose from that will especially fit most Lakewood yards. Trees provide us with beauty and many benefits such as: help purify the air we breathe by absorbing pollutants and produce oxygen, increase property values, shade and
continued on page 2

Another Egg'citing Bunny Visit

by Kimberly Eiting

On April 8th, residents, families and staff gathered in our community, O'Neill Healthcare Lakewood, for our annual Easter Bunny Visit and Egg Hunt. All enjoyed watching the children search for eggs, seeing the smiles and excitement on their faces as they revealed the surprises inside, and seeing the Easter Bunny! After the search, refreshments were served. Such a simple event never fails to warm the hearts of all involved and brings all ages together to laugh, enjoy and be a kid again!



All smiles with the Easter Bunny as generations shared Easter joy at the Skilled Nursing Facility at O'Neill Healthcare Lakewood.

Lakewood Observer

CCLAS Hair Of The Dog
Happy Hour And Silent Auction

by Helene Gaidelis

The Citizens Committee for the Lakewood Animal Shelter (CCLAS) is proudly sponsoring its annual Hair of the Dog Happy Hour and Silent Auction on Thursday, May 18th from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the popular Around the Corner Saloon in Lakewood.

Once again, dozens of Lakewood and Cleveland-area businesses have generously donated items and services for auction, including tickets to Cleveland sporting events and live shows, restaurant gift cards, pet-

friendly products and much more! Tickets for the event are \$25 per person in advance and \$30 at the door. To purchase advance tickets for the event or learn more about CCLAS, please visit us online at www.cclas.org. One-hundred percent of the proceeds will benefit sick, injured, and abandoned animals in the community of Lakewood and help us continue our foster and low-cost spay and neuter



program.

Don't miss this opportunity to enjoy a fun evening filled with music, appetizers, open bar and the BEST silent auction in town!

Celebrate Spring With Earth Day,
The Great American Cleanup,
And Keep Lakewood Beautiful

continued from page 1

cool our buildings and paved surfaces, reduce the amount of water and pollutants in sewer systems, provide habitat for birds and other wildlife, and foster safer, more sociable and attractive neighborhood environments.

We hope you can join us and learn more about trees and flowers from some experts who will be present to guide us as we work. Then spruce up your own yard and take home a tree seedling and recycled flowers for FREE for your yard, while supplies last! Please drop by on April 29th and help Keep Lakewood Beautiful!

The Keep Lakewood Beautiful (KLB) organization was initially created in September 1982 to promote civic involvement through public interest in the general improvement of the environment of Lakewood. It maintains an affiliation with Keep America Beautiful. The volunteer board initiates, plans and coordinates programs for litter prevention, solid waste reduction, recycling and green space beautification such as Earth Day, Great American Cleanup, Spring Humus Sale (on 5-20-17), over 50 Adopt-a-Spot Gardens, Beautiful Home Awards, and the Tree Committee. For more information or to join the Keep Lakewood Beautiful organization see: <http://www.onelakewood.com/KLB> or call 529-6601.

Marianne Quasebarth Usiak is a KLB Volunteer Board Member.



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

City

Get To Know LakewoodAlive: Housing Outreach

by Ian Andrews

Lakewood is a city of homes and we love them dearly. They might be old, the toilet in the basement might leak a little, and the porch might be a little spongy in the middle. But we can agree that one of the badges of honor we all wear on our collective sleeve is the pride we have in our homes.

Lakewood has moved into its second century and it is more important than ever to ensure our homes are healthy and safe. More than 80% of all Lakewood's homes were built before 1935. Our aging housing stock has a



George standing next to his new washing machine.

lot of charm and character, but with that comes higher costs for repairs and improvements.

But it's not just about homes. It's about the people who live here. LakewoodAlive's Housing Outreach Program, led by Housing Outreach Director Allison Urbanek, seeks to work with residents to ensure everyone lives in healthy and safe housing. Our homes need to maintain their value, their curb appeal for the neighborhood, and their ability to fill you with pride as a great place to make your home. We also need to ensure that our residents have access to the knowledge, resources and tools to keep those homes healthy and safe while combating disinvestment and fostering vibrant neighborhoods.

Take our friend George who has lived on Plover Street in Birdtown for over 60 years. LakewoodAlive didn't know George before our Community Engagement Program began in 2015. Around that time, our Engager Mark McNamara was tasked with knocking on doors in Birdtown with a goal of meeting residents and making every attempt to connect folks to resources to improve their quality of life.

George is homebound and has significant health issues and like many seniors, he is on a fixed income. He likes to sit on his front porch and wave at passersby and learn about what's

happening around town. He can fondly recall the days of the candy shop that was across the street and the butcher down the block when Birdtown had stores in front of, or built into, homes.

When Mark met George, he learned that his furnace wasn't working well and the house was drafty. The exterior paint was peeling. The tree in the front yard was causing service issues from the utility lines that run from a nearby pole. And his garden, all 3' x 12' of it facing Plover Street, left much to be desired.

Enter LakewoodAlive. We brought together the resources at our disposal and tackled each issue, one by one. Through our partnership with the Cleveland Housing Network, we were able to provide him with a new furnace and insulation through Dominion's Weatherization Program.

Our Paint Program, supported by the City of Lakewood and federal Community Development Block Grant funding, helped provide the paint and supplies. Cox Communications supplied volunteer labor to paint the house. LakewoodAlive also partnered with St. Edward High School for a neighborhood beautification day that saw more than 80 students and parents help improve five properties in the neighborhood, including George's tiny front yard garden.

Cox Communications then offered to pay a tree service removal company to take out the pine tree that was partially dead.

One year later, George found himself without a working washing machine. LakewoodAlive put out a call to board members, donors and volunteers. Within a few days, we had the funds for 75% of the cost of a basic washing machine. LakewoodAlive was able to cover the balance by using its 80/20 Program, whereby we put up 80% of the costs of a repair or critical need and the homeowner provides 20%. Today, George has a working washing machine, clean clothes and a beaming sense of pride.

We are the cheerleaders who provide a service to the community that augments the lengths that government can go and that the private market won't support. This middle ground is



Volunteers from Cox Communication painted George's home in 2015.

where we make impactful improvements in our community. We don't solve every problem and we can't help everyone but we always try to come to a resolution. Our goal is to educate and empower residents. In its fourth year, the free Knowing Your Home Series provides workshops that help folks of all income levels learn how to maintain and improve their homes. Wet basement, leaking roof, leaning garage, or curb appeal: we design workshops that will meet the needs of our aging housing stock.

None of this happens without the support of the City of Lakewood through partnership with multiple offices at City Hall; through access to Community Development Block Grant funding; and through collaboration to comprehensively tackle difficult properties in ways that can leverage our strengths. We also receive support from financial institutions, most notably First Federal Lakewood. Their commitment to LakewoodAlive, particularly the Housing Outreach Program, is incredible and allows us to be flexible and nimble when utilizing private funds to support our community.

Do you know a neighbor that may need help? Or do you have a question about a project or improvement in your home? Contact our Housing Outreach Director Allison Urbanek at 216-521-0655 or aurbanek@lakewoodalive.org. She is more than happy to talk through the situation and determine next steps.

Citizens' Police Academy Reunion April 24

by Ian Andrews

The Lakewood Police Department announces a reunion for all graduates of LPD's Citizens' Police Academy on April 24 at City Hall in the auditorium, beginning at 6:30pm. Anyone who has completed the 12-week course is invited to attend, hear an update from the police department, learn about new body camera technology and reconnect with classmates from the past.

The Citizens' Police Academy is a 12-week course for Lakewood residents or people who work in Lakewood, 21 years of age or older, who are interested in learning more about the Division of Police. Classes are held once a week for 2

hours during the winter months. There is no fee to attend. During the sessions, students are presented with information from a number of speakers to familiarize them with a variety of policing issues in Lakewood. In addition to speakers from the Division of Police, Mayor Summers, the Department of Law, and Judge Carroll also address the class. At the end of each session, the graduates are permitted to schedule a ride-along with a patrol officer for one evening.

For more information, please contact Officer Angela Ortiz at Angela.Ortiz@lakewoodoh.net.

Ian Andrews is the Executive Director at LakewoodAlive.

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Lakewood Public Library

Calendar Of Events

compiled by Elaine Rosenberger

Wednesday, April 19

Documentary - Prisons for Profit (2014) Presented by ACLU of Ohio

What happens when prisoners become dollar signs? Prisons for Profit, a short documentary produced by the American Civil Liberties Union of Ohio (ACLU), chronicles the first eighteen months after Corrections Corporation of America purchased the Lake Erie Correctional Institution from the state of Ohio. The film reveals the disturbing events, including rampant drug use, violence, inadequate medical care, incompetence and confusion that unfolded in the aftermath of that sale.

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

Thursday, April 20

Author Event - No Money, No Beer, No Pennants: The Cleveland Indians and Baseball in the Great Depression by Scott H. Longert

The Cleveland Indians of 1928 were a far cry from the championship team of 1920. They had begun the decade as the best team in baseball, but then their owner died and the great Tris Speaker retired in the face of a looming scandal. Seeing opportunity in the upheaval, Cleveland real estate mogul Alva Bradley purchased the ball club in 1927. Then came the stock market crash of 1929. Scott H. Longert gives us a lively history of the ups and downs of a legendary team.

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

Thursday, April 20

Book Club: Booked For Murder - Detectives around the World

Discover a new place and uncover a mystery, as you follow a different detective through a different location each month. Tonight we will discuss The Case of the Missing Servant by Tarquin Hall (Delhi, India).

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

Friday, April 21

Workshop - Poetry Workshop Led by Leanne Hoppe

Writing poetry is about the journey, not the destination. Part of that journey is seeing what you'll discover, surprising yourself and enjoying the bumps in the road. Leanne Hoppe will be your poet tour guide on this adventure—all abilities and experience levels are welcome.

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

Saturday, April 22

Film - National Lampoon's European Vacation (1985)

After winning an all-expenses-paid trip, the Griswald family heads across the Atlantic to take in the wonderful sights of Europe. As they meander through Europe in rental cars the size of sardine cans, no landmark is safe from the destructive path of America's favorite family. Clark (Chevy Chase), Ellen (Beverly D'Angelo) and the kids come across thieves, exotic dancers, an angry mob of Germans and a bicyclist who just won't get out of the way of traffic. This film continues our series highlighting women directors.

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

Sunday, April 23

Concert - Juice

Cleveland's power trio, Juice, is a high-energy rock band hailing from Rocky River. Featuring Sean Walsh (bass), Jason Livengood (guitar) and Tom Barrett (drums), Juice plays rock classics from the Doors to Led Zeppelin to the Hollies. Get ready to be entertained, dance, and experience something magnificent.

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

Tuesday, April 25

Coast Line Poetry - Readings by Nin Andrews, Kisha Nicole Foster and Dave Lucas

Nin Andrews is the author of fourteen collections of poetry including Sleeping with Houdini, Why God Is a Woman and Southern Comfort. A nominee of the Cleveland Arts Prize, Kisha Nicole Foster is a poet, educator, coach and mentor. Dave Lucas is the author of Weather (Georgia, 2011), which received the 2012 Ohioana Book Award for Poetry.

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

Wednesday, April 26

Author Event - Kent State: Death and Dissent in the Long Sixties by Thomas M. Grace, PhD

Revisit one of the most searing incidents of American history: the killing of four students and the wounding of nine others, including the author, Thomas Grace, by the Ohio National Guard at Kent State University in May, 1970. The author shows that Kent State was not a tragic anomaly. Rather, it was grounded in a tradition of activism extending back to labor battles and civil rights protests of the 1950s. Books will be available for sale and signing at the event.

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

Thursday, April 27

Author Event - Born to Destroy ... Psychopathy in Females, a Life Story by Winifred Rule

Winifred Rule, a member of the Society for the Scientific Study of Psychopathy, will recount her experiences and lessons learned from living with two psychopaths. Born to Destroy is a riveting and nuanced journey through the interpersonal dynamics and life course of the female manifestation of psychopathy and the impact the disorder has within the family. Books will be available for sale and signing at the event.

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

Friday, April 28

Workshop - Poetry Workshop

Writing poetry is about the journey, not the destination. Part of that journey is seeing

what you'll discover, surprising yourself and enjoying the bumps in the road. Leanne Hoppe will be your poet tour guide on this adventure—all abilities and experience levels are welcome.

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

Saturday, April 29

Film - The Virgin Suicides (1999)

The Lisbons seem like an ordinary family. The father (James Woods) is a high-school math teacher. The mother (Kathleen Turner) is a faithful wife. They have five daughters, from 13-year-old Cecilia (Hannah Hall) to 17-year-old Therese (Leslie Hayman). The sense of normalcy shatters when Cecilia becomes depressed and tries to end her life. This film continues our series highlighting women directors.

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

Sunday, April 30

Performance - WordStage Presents "Hart Crane"

The life of Hart Crane was tragically short, but his impact on the world of poetry was large, and the list of those he has influenced is long. Tim Tavcar, the artistic director of WordStage, invites you to contemplate the legacy of this Buckeye born literary giant through poems, letters and the music of his time.

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

Tuesday, May 2

Talk - Our Cleveland Indians: American League Champions 2016

Ryan Robbins, Director of Corporate Partnerships and Premium Hospitality with the Cleveland Indians, has seen the team rise to great heights during his time with the club, from renovations to Progressive Field to clinching the AL Pennant and the whirlwind game seven of the 2016 World Series held in Cleveland. Robbins will share highlights of the Tribe's current success and discuss what this team means to our city.

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

Children & Youth Events

compiled by Eric Knapp

Sunday, April 23

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.

Fridays, April 28 through May 19

Reader's Theater

For students in third through fifth grade

Perform scripts, play theater games, and learn acting techniques in a fun way.

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

Saturday, April 29

Gentleman Joe's Juggling Show

For the whole family

Everyone will be delighted by this blend of juggling, balancing stunts, music, and laughs! Free and open to the public. No registration required.

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

Sunday, April 30

Open Mic Night

For students in sixth through twelfth grade

A chance to perform a song, rap, poem, story, or jokes. Submissions due to childrenservices@lakewoodpubliclibrary.org by April 24. See program guide for rules.

6th-8th grade: 5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. 9th-12th grade: 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. in the Main Library First Floor Multipurpose Room.

Tuesday, May 2

Graphic Novels for Kids

For students in kindergarten through fifth grade and parents

Learn all about awesome graphic novels, their history, variety, and what to choose for your interests and reading level.

6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. in the Main Library First Floor Multipurpose Room.

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Lakewood Public Library

Women Honoring Women Book Signing Event At Lakewood Public Library

by Amy Kloss

At first glance, Laura Ponticello and Traci Medford-Rosow have little in common. They’ve each written a book, but their subjects are vastly different. When these two women team up to present their books and inspirational messages to patrons of the Lakewood Public Library on Wednesday, May 3rd, at 7 p.m., the connection between the two may become clearer.

Ponticello has written “Live the Life of your Dreams,” a self-help book designed to empower readers to achieve personal fulfillment. An author, coach, publicist and public speaker, Ponticello interviewed women all over the world to discover what motivates them and came up with “33 Tips for Inspired Living.” Part memoir, part self-help, the book is a collection of healing graces, healthy practices and inspirational words.

Medford-Rosow took her experience as a litigator at Pfizer protecting

the company’s biggest asset, the drug Lipitor, and wrote “Inflection Point.” When a small company based in India challenged the patents that protected Lipitor from generic competition in 2003, Medford-Rosow was the head of global patent litigation at Pfizer. This challenge set off a ten-year battle for her legal team that took a toll on her

both personally and professionally. “Inflection Point” weaves together the story of the battle over Lipitor and Medford-Rosow’s personal battles in a book that is both a high-stakes legal thriller and a memoir.

Torey Worren of the Lakewood Women’s Club will be in the Main Library Auditorium on May 3rd to

introduce the two authors. Ponticello will be the keynote speaker at LWC’s spring fundraiser the following evening at Georgetown Vosh in Lakewood. Join Ponticello and Medford-Rosow at the Library to find out how Ponticello helped inspire the writing of “Inflection Point.” Books will be available for sale and signing at the event.

A Free, Five Week Course On Class Strife: A Multi-Generational Look Through Literature

by Lisa Calfee

Case Western Reserve University’s Laura and Alvin Siegal Lifelong Learning Program is presenting a free, non-credit five week course at Lakewood Public Library. Class Strife: a Multi-Generational Look through Literature will be presented by instructor Barbara Parr on Wednesdays, May 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31 at 7 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room.

Parr frames the discussion about class struggle around two great reads: J.D. Vance’s New York Times best-selling memoir, Hillbilly Elegy and F. Scott Fitzgerald’s perennial classic, The Great Gatsby.

The course begins with Hillbilly Elegy, a heartbreakingly honest and often hilarious story of growing up in an impoverished, highly dysfunctional Appalachian family. It seems like a straightforward success story as Vance ultimately graduates from the prestigious Yale Law School, but climbing out of generational trauma and addiction takes more than an Ivy League education. The social paradigm that serves as backdrop to this autobiography highlights the struggle of an entire class of modern day Americans.

Miseries of the socioeconomic variety frustrate the lives of Jay Gatsby and Daisy Buchanan from The Great Gatsby as well. In spite of belonging to a social class swimming in extravagant wealth, the characters clamor for position and meaning in 1920’s America. “Old money”, “new money” and “no money” skews the perceptions in Fitzgerald’s pointed social commentary.

Both selections provide an engaging start point for course discussion. Registration is required for Class Strife: a Multi-Generational Look through Literature. Register online at www.lifelonglearningcleveland.org or call (216) 226-8275, ext. 127. Please read the first six chapters of Hillbilly Elegy for the first class.

Graphic Novels For Young Readers

by Nicka Petruccio

Are graphic novels “real” reading? Many parents and even educators may find themselves asking this question when faced with a young reader who loves the format. Graphic novels are fighting the stigma against comics as anti-literature in a big way recently, being included in school curriculums, winning awards historically granted to traditional literature, and carving a new path in the realm of literacy. Still, some may be intimidated by the concept as it challenges the idea of what many have always thought of as quality reading.

To that effect the Lakewood Public Library would like to invite students and their families to attend a presenta-

tion about the graphic novels aimed at young readers. We will explore exactly what makes a book a graphic novel, discuss their value to children learning to read, examine how they can be used to promote positive reading skills, and look at the selection of titles that the Library has to offer our young patrons.

Students in kindergarten through fifth grade and their parents are invited to join us on Tuesday, May 2, from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the Lakewood Public Library Main Branch multipurpose room. The program is free and there is no need to register. We hope you will join us as we jump feet first into the burgeoning world of juvenile graphic novels.

Gentleman Joe’s Juggling Show

by Marge Foley

Come one, come all! Bring your family to the Lakewood Public Library to enjoy Gentleman Joe’s Juggling Show. This versatile performer is a veteran of the Ringling Brothers Circus. Get ready for eye-popping balancing stunts, juggling, musical entertainment and more. All ages will be delighted with this entertaining show that combines humor, clowning and magic. Prepare to laugh and get ready to be amazed! This will be a night to remember - one that will live in your child’s memory for years to come.

This event will take place on Saturday, April 29, 2017 at 7 p.m. in the Main Library First Floor Multipurpose Room, which is located in Children’s and Youth Services. The show is free and open to the public and no registration is required. For details about other youth programs



Gentelman Joe and his various juggling props.
at the Lakewood Public Library, please call (216) 226-8275, ext. 140 or visit www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.org/youth.

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Schools

Middle Schools Earn Top Ratings At State Mock Trial

by Christine Gordillo

Over two Fridays in late March, the Garfield and Harding Middle Schools’ mock trial teams traveled to Columbus to compete in the statewide Middle School Mock Trial State Showcase sponsored by the Ohio Center for Law-Related Education. The group of 7th and 8th graders came away with high ratings and awards for Best Lawyer and Best Witness.

The competition centers around trials based on a work of fiction. This year’s book was Johnny Tremain by Esther Forbes. The legal teams prepared for a trial on the guilt or innocence of the main character in regards to committing treason. More than 450 students from 42 schools participated in the competition.

After reading the book and studying the accompanying packet from the Ohio Center for Law Related Education, the students formed teams taking on the roles of lawyers or witnesses. Harding had defense and prosecution teams for both 7th and 8th graders. Garfield brought a 7th grade defense and prosecution team to Columbus. Each team consists of two lawyers and four witnesses and conducts their trial against another Ohio middle school.

Attorneys and judges served as competition judges, giving students points for professional demeanor, oratory skills and an understanding of trial technique and courtroom procedure.

Harding students competed for a spot on the Mock Trial team through



The Harding 7th & 8th Grade Mock Trial Team.

a playoff system, wherein lawyers and judges from Lakewood and nearby communities offered their time and experience to assign points in categories as the teams argued out the case in a mock Mock Trial. When the points were tallied up, the highest scores were offered a spot on the roster, and preparations began again.

The results for both middle school teams were impressive. Garfield’s 7th grade team and Harding’s 8th grade team each earned the highest Superior rating and Harding’s 7th grade team earned an Outstanding rating.

Individual awards include the following:

Harding 8th grade: Best Lawyer, Mira Getrost and Annika Cooke;

Best Witness, Eden Sutliff and Willow Rosser

7th grade: Best Lawyer, Izzy Fallon (Harding); Best Witness, Teeghan McGann (Garfield) and

Joey Daso (Harding).

Congratulations to all the students and their advisers!

Garfield participants: Collin Hunt, Alexandria Russell, Lindsay Gregg, Erin Ptacek, Declan Markling, Caleigh Naylor, Emma-Claire Lambert-Shemo, Eva Strazek, Sydney Hudock, Teeghan McGann, Emma Murray, Molly Burke, Amelia Moore, and Maggie Dineen. Adviser: Dan Smith

Harding participants: 8th grade: Mira Getrost, Nola Williams-Rising, Gabrielle Toms, Eden Sutliff, Charlotte Milenski, Anastasia Seckers, Annika Cook, Catherine Joyce, Sofia Bianco, Willow Rosser, Holly Eubanks, Jacob Kavc, Sophie Lipka, and Emily Kompier. 7th grade participants: Isabella Fallon, Mia Condosta, Sophia Weiss, Anna Weiss, Julia Kavc, Amanda Chanter, Ellie Humphreys, Madeline Jensen, Amal Elhachdani, Leila Abderrazzaq, Joseph Daso, Julia Shields, and Lucy McIntire. Adviser: Sonja Kreps.

“I Want This...I Want That”... LHS Student Takes “Ownership” Of Her Thoughts

by Madyson Lewellyn, LHS Junior

“Ownership” is a chameleon word--a word that is singular and embodies a multitude of perceptions. From a tender age, humans are notorious for having a desire of wanting and a desire of owning. The toys, the clothes, the trinkets--we want it all. As the life cycle proceeds, we become acquainted with the fact that “to own” does not only mean to have something, but to know something. We may “own” the experience of reading a life-changing book, we may “own” the art of playing the violin, we may even “own” the memory of a beautiful summer sunset. As we assume ownership over the intangible items in life, we forge identity in ourselves--grounding us deep within our roots--to create an authentic sense of self. The contrasting effect is “owning” the tangible items in life that will eventually bestow a plague of unhappiness as a result of an ephemeral validation. Taking ownership within experience, skill, and memory lays foundation for the true ability to build character. Seeking validation, fulfillment, contentment via ownership only leaves one hindered--leaves one unknowing of the true chronicle that is self identity.

The 1950’s serve as a prime example of an era in which uniformity pervaded American society. The young and the aged followed group norms, such as owning houses in the suburbs and televisions sets, rather than striking out. The culprit for such conformity? Seeking fulfillment (the American Dream) through ownership. The art of owning things became a standard of living

as life became cookie-cutter, void of individuality. The increased amount of ownership led to an increased sense of conformity as people strove to validate status through the ostentatious attitude affiliated with owning luxury items.

More. More. More.

The identical mindset that holds a never-satiated-hunger for material, in return, only generates a detriment as it sets us further apart from our own identity as we all assimilate under one. Our entire existence revolves around communicating effectively with other people. Owning things, by that reason, might make one less able to participate in society and even lower the amount one can contribute to the world. Rather than an array of diverse species of flowers, society resembles a patch of daisies--the same seeds planted over and over, time and time again. As we acquire more items to own, we root ourselves more deeply, forbidding the process of growth.

But as time elapsed, a steady migration toward moral ownership over tangible ownership occurred. With the minimalist lifestyle on the rise, people thrive off of as few possessions as possible--the deficit allowing many doors to open for those who acquire less. The lifestyle allows one to discover and to grow his sense of self, travel to uncharted territory, and become affiliated with eternal freedom. As people shift to “own” moments and skills over selfishness and authorization, character is constructed. In result of “owning” true identity, one is able

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The 7th Grade Garfield Mock Trial Team with adviser Dan Smith.

Lakewood Recreation

Adult summer kickball team registration begins April 1 and ends May 15

Co-Ed leagues play Thursday or Friday evenings

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richard.wallenhorst@lakewoodcityschools.org

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Schools

Emerson Principal Heading Back To LHS

by Christine Gordillo

The Lakewood Board of Education at a special meeting held Friday, April 7, 2017 approved the appointment of Emerson Elementary School Principal Brian Siftar as Associate Principal for Lakewood High School effective with the 2017-2018 school year.

The move to Lakewood High School will be a familiar one for Siftar, who was hired by the District in 2008 as a House Principal for Lakewood High School. After serving as House Principal for four years, Siftar was appointed

as the Director of Special Programs and State and Federal Programs for two years before becoming the Principal of Emerson, a position which he has held for the past three years.

"I am honored and humbled to be afforded the opportunity to return to Lakewood High School next year as the Associate Principal," Siftar said. "Having worked at LHS in the past, I have a deep love for the school and appreciate the work that goes into putting every single student in a position to achieve their dreams and goals. I am thrilled

to return to a school that is as comprehensive in its programming and course offerings as it is in its diversity. I look forward to joining Mr. Keith Ahearn's administrative team and working with a faculty that is second-to-none in order to help build upon Lakewood High School's outstanding legacy."

Siftar, who will be on a year-round contract, will be responsible for House 2, oversee AP and state testing during the school year and focus on long-term planning and continuous school improvement plans during the summer months.

"Mr. Siftar's leadership, curriculum knowledge, focus on continuous improvement, and relationship-building skills will make him an invaluable partner in helping to plan for the continued and future success of Lakewood High School in a changing educational environment," Lakewood High Principal Keith Ahearn said.

Superintendent Jeff Patterson noted the qualities that contributed to Siftar's success in the District: "In his many roles here in our District, students, colleagues, and community members have often taken note of his unwavering commitment to the education and well-being of all students. He has been described as approaching his responsibilities with vigor and relentless determination."

Siftar's administrative experience prior to joining the District includes serv-



Emerson Elementary School Principal Brian Siftar will soon become Associate Principal at LHS.

Community Recreation & Education Commission - Open Seat

by Leslie Favre

The Lakewood Board of Education is looking to fill the open seat on the Community Recreation & Education Commission (C.R.E.C.) due to the recent resignation of Janet Gowan.

Prior to her tenure on the C.R.E.C. Ms. Gowan was a member of the Youth Athletic Commission, a sub-commission, for four years. Her leadership, commitment and service will be greatly missed as well as her insightful perspective on various topics that were brought forth to the C.R.E.C.

The Community Recreation and Education Commission is an advisory commission that is appointed by the Lakewood Board of Education. With the help of two standing sub commissions, the Youth Athletic Commission, and the Adult Athletic Commission, it is responsible for providing input and oversight to the Lakewood Community

Recreation and Education Department.

The ideal candidate will have expertise, or experience in the areas of recreation, education, program development/participation and community outreach. Monthly meetings, subcommittee work, as well as participation in community events, are among the time requirements.

Individuals who are interested in promoting the mission of the Community Recreation and Education Commission with passion and pride should submit a letter of interest and a statement of qualifications to Ms. Leslie Favre Krogman, Coordinator of Community Recreation & Education/Operations by April 30.

The Community Recreation and Education Commission will evaluate all applicants and make a formal recommendation to the Board of Education by June 1.

Tri-C's Bethany Thomas Named To All-Ohio Academic Team

by John Horton

Bethany Thomas of Lakewood was one of seven students from Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C) named to the All-Ohio Community College Academic Team, which comprises top students at the state's two-year schools.

The All-Ohio Academic Team recognizes student excellence in academics, leadership and community service. Fifty-one students from across the state were selected for this year's team on the basis of their outstanding records.

Tri-C had more students named All-Ohio than any other school.

Thomas expects to earn an Associate of Science degree from Tri-C in May 2017, becoming her family's first college graduate. She plans to transfer to Baldwin Wallace University in the fall to study biology, neuroscience and psychology to launch a career as a physician's assistant.

She enrolled at Tri-C more than two decades after graduating high school and arrived at Westshore Campus in Westlake determined to be involved. She holds a leadership role in the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society chapter and is active in the Westshore

Campus Gaming Club.

The third-team All-Ohio Academic Team honoree also volunteers at Hospice of the Western Reserve, All Faiths Pantry and the Lakewood Community Services Center.

Thomas joined the following Tri-C students — designated by campus — as All-Ohio:

Eastern Campus: Angelique Patton of Euclid (second team) and Kouame Kouakou of Warrensville Heights (third team)

Metropolitan Campus: Heidi Hubbard of South Euclid (third team) and Adekunle Popoola of Cleveland (third team)

Western Campus: Bruce Hyde of Parma (first team) and William Funk of Parma (first team)

First-team honorees will receive \$1,000 scholarships, while second-team members get \$500 scholarships and third-team members \$250. A recognition program for team members will be held in Columbus on April 20 during Community College Month.

The All-Ohio Academic Team program is supported by the Ohio Association of Community Colleges, Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society and Honda of America Mfg. Inc.

Schools

Grant 3rd Graders Love Lakewood Project - Doughnut Pantry

by Matthew C., Grant 3rd Grader

On Wednesday, March 21st our projects were due. These projects were all about Lakewood. First you had to pick a location. It could be any location as long as it was located in Lakewood. Second you had to write and research your location. If you could, you had to do an interview. It could be the owner, a worker, or just a senior citizen. As long as they knew about your location. The papers had to be at least one whole page long. The max was two whole pages. Finally you had to make a model of your building. The outside like the outside, and the inside similar to the inside. You could use any material you wanted but the size had to be in the range of a shoe-box. The project was started on the first of March so you had three weeks to do it. Some of these projects included GV Art + Design by Rowan L., The Root Cafe by Miles E., KB Confections by Cooper R., Lion & Blue by Cole H., Winking Lizard Tavern by Ellie H., and many others.

My project was about the Doughnut Pantry. Located at 14600 Madison Avenue, it has been in Lakewood since 1984. That's 33 years! Before the Doughnut Pantry was in Lakewood there were two other doughnut shops in the same location. (14600 Madison Ave). Down in the Metroparks the Lakewood Soccer Association buys doughnuts from the Doughnut



The Doughnut Pantry by Matthew C.

Pantry and then sells the doughnuts at the games on Saturday. The Doughnut Pantry is important to Lakewood because

it is a small family-run business (run by Mr. Lucky, his wife, and his three kids) and it is not a chain business. The Dough-

nut Pantry has only one location now, but used to have another one on Lorain Avenue. The Doughnut Pantry is important to me because it is near my house and because its food tastes amazing.

The opening day was nerve racking. I was so nervous I wasn't sure if anyone was going to like my project. The people who came in made it even worse. There were so many people including important ones like Mayor Summers and owners of the businesses! For my project I handed out doughnuts to all the visitors. Luckily for me my project was a big hit! Many people showed up and gave me compliments and most people said that they go there all the time! Overall I thought that the day went really well! So many people and projects got lots and lots of compliments! Some of the projects are still in Grant Elementary School where they were all presented originally! I hope the projects brought pride to the awesome city of Lakewood!

Grant 3rd Graders Love Lakewood Project - The Beck Center

by Christine Masgras

My class did a project on the history of Lakewood. Each student was required to choose one place

in Lakewood, write a two-page history paper, and make a model of the place. Many of the places picked were well-known. There was a total of 24 projects. We did this project so that we could each learn a little bit about the different places in Lakewood. These are a few of the projects done in my class: The Doughnut Pantry by Matthew C., Lion & Blue by Cole H., The Sweet Spot by Rhea T., and Cyranos Place by Alessio M.

I chose the Beck Center because I am interested in the arts and because the arts are an important part in my family's and friends' lives. The history of the Beck Center started in 1931 when a group of eighteen thespians (which means actors) formed a Lakewood theater group called The Guild Of Masquas. It was then named the Lakewood Little Theater. A group of dedicated Lakewood woman formed the Lakewood Little Theater Women's Committee in 1936. Then, the Lakewood Little Theater Men's Advisory Board was started

by Lakewood male citizens. In 1974, Kenneth C. Beck donated \$300,000 to the Lakewood Little Theater, and in 1976 it was named the Beck Center for the Arts. I interviewed Mr. Jason Weiner, who works at the Beck Center, and he told me that it serves more than 3,000 patrons a week and over 35,000 patrons a year! That proves that the Beck Center for the Arts is a very popular place! The Beck Center offers over 200 award-winning programs, classes, lessons in music, dance, visual arts, outreach, theater, creative arts therapies, and early childhood education. It's a very interesting and exciting place!

On Friday morning (the morning of presenting our projects) I was excited, happy, and a little bit nervous. I was also wondering if a lot of people would come to my presentation. At the beginning of the day, the morning walkthroughs came in: one kindergarten class, two fifth grade classes, the two other third grade

continued on page 14

Camp!

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Lakewood Is Art

WordStage Literary Concerts Presents -

The Literary Legacy Of The Beat Generation

by Tim Tavcar

Like the French Impressionist artists of Paris, the Beat writers were a small group of close friends first, and a movement later. The term “Beat Generation” gradually came to represent an entire period in time, but the entire original Beat Generation in literature was small enough to have fit into a couple of cars.

The core group consisted of Jack Kerouac, Allen Ginsberg, and William S. Burroughs, who met in the neighborhood surrounding Columbia University in uptown Manhattan in the mid-40’s. They picked up Gregory Corso in Greenwich Village. They then migrated to San Francisco where they expanded their group consciousness by meeting Lawrence Ferlinghetti, owner of the famed City Lights Bookstore who first gave them a public forum and then became a publisher of many of their works.

Most of them struggled for years to get published. Their moment of fame began with a legendary poetry reading at the Six Gallery in San Francisco.

After the first wave of Beat writers became famous, a second wave followed. Some later arrivals to the crowd include Diane DiPrima and Leroi Jones – aka Amiri Bakara. The “latter day beats” added some much needed cultural diversity, as well as an infusion of new ideas, writings from the feminine point of view and fresh talent to the core of white male friends that were the “classic beats.”

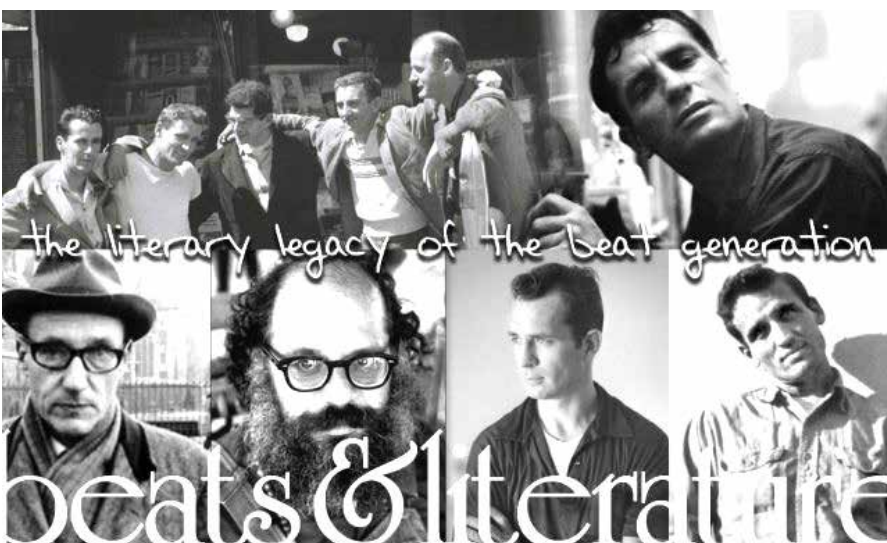
The program will feature poetry and prose from this core group performed by Jeffrey Grover*, Agnes Herrmann*, Paul Slimak*, and Tim Tavcar and will feature a newly composed Soundscape by Master Percussionist, Paul Stranahan.

The performance will take place at The Wright Chapel of Lakewood Presbyterian Church, 14502 Detroit Ave., Lakewood on Fri., April 21, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.

Admission is a suggested donation of \$10 - but WordStage maintains its policy of “Pay What You Can” in order to make their performances accessible to anyone who is interested in attending.

For more information visit our website at www.wordstageoh.com or call 216-712-6926.

*Denotes members of AEA, the professional Actors’ Equity Association.



“Cincinnati Meets Cleveland” Features

Players From Two Great Orchestras

by Carol Jacobs

Both the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, founded in 1895, and The Cleveland Orchestra, founded in 1918, have long musical traditions deeply rooted in their respective city’s histories. It was a young conductor named Nikolai Sokoloff who led a series of summer concerts in Cincinnati during the summer of 1918 and from there was engaged to come to Cleveland, eventually becoming the first music director of The Cleveland Orchestra in the fall of 1918.

Musicians from both orchestras will continue this early musical connection between the two cities on **Monday, May 8 at 7:30 p.m. at West Shore Unitarian Universalist Church**, 20401 Hilliard Blvd. in Rocky River. Three players from the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra will join three players from The Cleveland Orchestra in performing the last concert of the Rocky River Chamber Music Society’s 2016-2017 season.

The featured player will be **Elizabeth Freimuth**, Principal Horn of the Cincinnati Symphony since 2006. She has also performed with numerous other orchestras, festivals and ensembles. Clarinetist **Benjamin Freimuth** attended the Cleveland Institute of Music and performed with The Cleveland Orchestra before joining the San Francisco Symphony in 2003 and the Cincinnati Symphony in 2010. Pianist **Kimberly Russ** moved to Cincinnati in 2016 after serving as Resident Pianist for the Seattle Symphony for fourteen years. Violinist **Katherine Bormann** joined The Cleveland Orchestra in 2011 after performing with the New World Symphony in Miami, Florida. Violist and enthusiastic chamber musician **Lembi Veskimets** studied at the Cleveland Institute of Music before joining The Cleveland Orchestra in 1997 and was active in the Orchestra’s Learning Through Music Program in the public schools. Cellist **Charles Bernard** joined The Cleveland Orchestra in 1992 and has been Assistant Principal Cello since 2002. He has made several recordings and currently performs with Ensemble HD.

This highly talented group of Cincinnati and Cleveland players has chosen an interesting and lively program for its May 8 concert in Rocky River. It will include works by Carl Reinecke, Franz Strauss (father of Richard Strauss), Robert Schumann, and concludes with Ernst von Dohnányi’s Sextet in C major. As is true of all concerts presented by the Rocky River Chamber Music Society, there is no admission charge and all are welcome. For further information please visit www.rrcms.org, follow us on Facebook and Twitter, or call 440-333-4296.

Program, May 8:

Carl Reinecke: Trio for Piano, Clarinet, and Horn, Op. 274
Franz Strauss: Seaside Impressions for Horn and Piano, Op. 12
Intermission
Robert Schumann: Three Romances, Op. 94 for Clarinet and Piano
Ernst von Dohnányi: Sextet in C major, Op. 37 for Violin, Viola, Cello, Clarinet, Horn and Piano

Elizaabeth Freimuth, Principal Horn, Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra



Elizaabeth Freimuth, Principal Horn, Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra

Arts in Bloom at Beck Center!

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\$10 Students (18–Under) | \$12 Adults/Seniors

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Lakewood Cares

Easter Seals Northern Ohio Offers Summer Speech Program

by *Melissa Kocher*

Easter Seals Northern Ohio is pleased to announce its plans for a summer speech therapy program in Lakewood. The program, which will be held at the Easter Seals office located at 14701 Detroit Ave. #470, and will offer services to children with speech and language disabilities or delays.

Easter Seals understands the importance of giving children access to speech therapy year-round. In summer speech sessions, Easter Seals helps clients maintain the level of abil-

ity they've worked all school year to obtain. In addition, they evaluate and accept new clients, children birth to school-age, who can benefit from their services.

One-on-one sessions are designed around the specific age and need of the child. Activities may include hands-on activities, language experiences and structured play. Sessions are typically a half hour and are held once a week, depending on the client's need.

Easter Seals Speech-language pathologists are experienced in

pediatrics, licensed by the State of Ohio & certified by the American Speech-Language Hearing Association. Easter Seals offers a sliding fee scale and provides billing for many insurance plans, BCMH and Medicaid. For more information on the summer speech program, please call (440) 838-0990, ext. 101.



Easter Seals therapists work one-on-one to improve communication skills.

LakewoodAlive To Host Community Forum Regarding Refugees On May 10

continued from page 1

panelists fielding questions from the audience.

The panelists participating in this community forum include:

Thomas Kate, Employment Coordinator, The Refugee Response

Patrick Kearns, Executive Director, The Refugee Response

Tom Mrosko, Director of the Migration and Refugee Services, Catholic Charities

Janus Small, Facilitator, Refugee Services Collaborative

Brian Upton, Executive Director, Building Hope in the City

LakewoodAlive hosts community forums pertaining to topics relevant to Lakewood citizens. For more information regarding the "From Refugee to Neighbor Part 2: Understanding Public Policy and Community Impact" community forum on May 10, please visit LakewoodAlive.org/Forums.

Red Cross Blood Drive In Memory Of Dr. Steve Meadows

by *Elizabeth Lazowski*

There will be a Red Cross Blood drive in memory of Dr. Steve Meadows on Thursday, April 27, 2017 from 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. at O'Neill HealthCare Campus - 605 Bradley Road, Bay Village, OH 44140.

Dr. Meadows was a loving son, brother, husband, and father. He was diagnosed with acute leukemia and passed away from the disease 24 hours after his diagnosis. He received blood as part of his treatment. The need for blood is great and always present.

Dr. Meadows was a graduate of Lakewood High School. Steve was a partner at the Eye Center of Lakewood and a skilled ophthalmologist. He was a compassionate physician who cared for his patients and provided excellent medical treatment.

Please register to donate blood



Dr. Steve Meadows

at www.redcrossblood.org and use Sponsor Code "Steve" to access the registration link. Thank you!

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From The Archives Of The Lakewood Historical Society Streetcars In Lakewood

by *Jess Yenni, Curator at Lakewood Historical Society*

For many years, the streetcars in Lakewood played an important role in transportation. Men commuting to work often rode shoulder to shoulder with women who were running errands or making social calls. Here, riders prepare to board at a stop on Madison Avenue during the early 1900s.



Lakewood Area Collaborative Job Club Meeting

by *Kathy Augustine*

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

The next Job Club meeting will be held on Tuesday April 25th, from 6-8 p.m. at the Lakewood United Methodist Church. Our guest speaker will be Ann Hunter from Career Transition Center. The topic will be Keys to Finding the Hidden Job Market.

One of our regular Job Club members says, "No one should tackle a job search alone. The Lakewood Job Club will motivate you and teach you how to find work that is fulfilling and rewarding. Job Club has excellent speakers and resources that will offer encouragement and hope."

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

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

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Lakewood Cares

Gordon Tower Insurance In Lakewood Once Again to Sponsor Hunger Relief Event:

All You Need Is Love (And Food!) On April 29

by Mary Bodnar

Gordon Tower Insurance Agency at 14701 Detroit Ave Suite # 362 is once again the Corporate Sponsor along with Auto Owners Insurance for “All You Need is Love (And Food)” Hunger Relief Benefit on Saturday April 29th, 2017 at 6 p.m. to be held this year at Vosh at 1414 Riverside Dr, in Lakewood. “All You Need is Love (And Food)” brings together the timeless music of the Beatles as area musicians perform their favorite tunes while we raise money for this worthy cause! All proceeds benefit Trinity Lakewood Community Outreach (TLCO) a dynamic and fast growing hunger relief organization. Please join Gordon Tower Insurance at

this wonderful event.

Tickets are only \$10 at the door and bring a canned good. Support local Hunger Relief! (Mary was the Lead Coordinator and Michael was the Food Coordinator for Interfaith Hospitality Network/Family Promise in Lakewood - a Family homeless shelter, for 15 years so Michael knows about Food! & Insurance!) All funds raised go to support the hunger relief efforts of TLCO, which include four monthly hot meals, a monthly produce distribution during the summer/fall months, a food pantry, and a community garden that provides fresh food for the meals during the growing season.

TLCO is the community out-

reach arm of Trinity Lutheran Church. Funds are also used to purchase food for the pantry and hot meals over the course of the year. This is important because the need for hunger relief services continues to grow and resources continue to shrink.

VVosh is generously kicking back 10% of all food sales proceeds Dr Z Amps is donating amps for use for the musicians, Chuck Davis of Adkins Printing at 14541 Madison Ave is donating printing services for our flyers and table tents, and Bank of America has generously purchased VIP

seating for the event.

The mission of TLCO is fostering a healthier community through collaboration, education and meeting basic needs. With the help of over 200 volunteers, TLCO offers hunger relief to hundreds of individuals and families from Lakewood and all over Northeast Ohio each year. Raffle items have been donated by local restaurants, businesses and sports/entertainment venues. Preferred food donations include peanut butter, canned tuna, canned fruits/vegetables, cereal, and beef stew.

Lakewood Welcomes Prominent Cleveland Area Pastor

by Laura Jaissle

On May 1, the Rev. Dr. Charles Yoost will arrive at Lakewood United Methodist Church as Interim Pastor, following the ten year pastorate of the Rev. Bruce Hartley. Dr. Yoost was Senior Pastor at Church of the Saviour in Cleveland Heights for seventeen years, where his sermons and “Thoughts for the Day” were broadcast on radio stations WCLV, WHKW and WDOK. He is a frequent workshop leader and guest preacher. In November, 2016, he led seminars on “Discipleship and Church Renewal” and “Pastoral Ministry – Past, Present and Future” at his Alma Mater, Boston University School of Theology.



Rev. Dr. Charles Yoost

to working with the Rev. Laura Jaissle as the congregation prepares to welcome a new Lead Pastor. The Rev. Dan Bryant, currently Mahoning Valley District Superintendent of the United Methodist Church, has been appointed by Bishop Tracey Malone to begin pastoral duties on July 1.

Lakewood Women’s Club First Spring Fundraiser Attracts Influential Crowd

continued from page 1

what they have achieved, what they are striving to achieve, and their potential to achieve.”

The award winners were chosen from a number of nominations submitted by the community prior to the event. The selection committee was comprised of the current president of the Lakewood Women’s Club, Torey Worrone, board member and Event Chair, Melissa Meehan, former president, and Ellen Todia, member.

Tickets for the event are on sale now at: <https://womenhonoring-women2017.eventbrite.com/>. The

minimum donation of \$35 per person includes admission to event as well as appetizers, an open bar for two hours, and the opportunity to win raffle items, gifts, and a meet the author book sale & signing.

The donations from the event will support the 2017 scholarship winner and Trinity Lutheran Community Outreach, the Club’s 2016-17 non-profit recipient.

“Laura has graciously offered to donate 10 percent of all proceeds from her book signing to the Lakewood Women’s Club,” said Torrey Worrone. “Corporate Sponsorships are still available, contact me if interested!”

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Business

Elmwood Home Bakery = Supergood

by Kathy Harsany

If you're one of those gluten free people, stop reading now. What follows may make you weep.

Otherwise, take a walk down Madison, one block west of Malley's. Right across Elmwood, check out the Elmwood Home Bakery. It's been in same location for over 60 years. How do I know? Well without giving away my age, let's just say that one of the grandest snacks this former 5-year-old kid could savor was, and is, a slice of buttercrust bread from the Elmwood Home Bakery, topped with a smear of cold butter. If your mom just brought it home and opened the bag in your kitchen, you can bet that the whole room is going to smell like she baked it herself. Then you've got to decide: which part will you eat first: the buttery crust, or the mellow middle. That great smell comes from a hint of yeast and fermentation. Actually, whether you're 5 years old or 55, the whole darn thing tastes good. And guess what: considering the alternatives, it's probably a pretty healthy snack. And wait 'til you try it for a sandwich. Lunch box delight! That one's not going into the cafeteria trash bin.

So if you've passed the gluten hurdle, and you're one of those people who realize that life without a little bit of sugar now and then is just

not fun, we can talk about all those things you'll see in the bakery case. Let's start with my favorite pastry: cherry squares. Or do I like apple squares better? Either way, you'll be eating yummy fruit with a lattice topping and sugar crumbs. Do they make cakes? Let's just say that Elmwood bakery made a spectacular date-nut cake for my wedding (in

1971) topped with white buttercream icing. You don't need to wait for a wedding to enjoy that one - it's available every day the store is open.

You're probably pretty hungry by now, so get on over to the Elmwood Home Bakery and tell owner Andy Rerko that one of the Harsanys sent you. And tell him we miss the penny gum machine.

Kathy Harsany is a 1964 graduate of LHS, retired mostly but hey you never know, former economist at FRB, Citibank and Equitable Life; teacher of the visually impaired, decorative artist etc etc hobbies = beekeeper, dahlia grower, quilter, swimmer, hiker, baker, dog and cat owner, sister to two other amazing LHS grads and last but not least, Cleveland Indians fan.

Plant Store Revival: Lakewood Plant Company

by James Gifford

What goes around, comes around. Back in the seventies, tropical plants were all the rage. Wandering Jews, Corn plants, and Swedish ivy were household names and everyone knew how to macrame to hang their favorites. Lakewood Plant Company has revived that tradition and is enhancing it with 10 foot Birds of Paradise, 3 foot wide Monstera plants and a large succulent and cactus selection.

Working in conjunction with Peace by Piece Cleveland, a company that employs adults with disabilities, Lakewood Plant Company strives to offer a large selection of plants that will do well in our basically sunless winters. Plants such as ZZ plants,

Sanseverria, Bamboo palms, Golden pothos and of course many varieties of philodendron are usually in stock. Our helpers from Peace by Piece keep these plants misted and watered, transplant smaller plants into larger containers and generally do a lot of the work associated with the tropical plant industry.

Walk around our store at 15612 Detroit Ave. and you'll catch the fragrance of lemon flowers from a five foot tree with hanging fruit. Oversized Golden Pothos hanging baskets abound. Air plants, with their alien look are scattered throughout the shop. Popular fiddleleaf figs are also available.

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"I Want This...I Want That"...LHS Student Takes "Ownership" Of Her Thoughts

continued from page 6

to influence the world as well. Is the most influential person the one who "owns" a brand-new BMW or the one who "owns" a race that was practiced diligently toward for several months? Those who devote time to bettering themselves and the world around them are more worthy of respect than those who have an empty abundance of substance. For society to grow into a vibrantly diverse garden, one must plant his own seeds of identity in order to bloom into his own unique flower.

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Entertainment

Movie Review Of “Song To Song”

by Bob Rittenhouse

This recent movie, “Song to Song,” appears at first glance to be a musical. The movie does have excerpts from some 86 songs, but is far from a musical. The 145 minute movie reflects a movie pattern of Director Terrence Malick, an award winning director, screenwriter, and producer some of whose movies sort of reflect a French

word, “etourdie” or scatterbrain, of a scattering of often small, unclear plots throughout a movie. There are 4 mostly major characters, a successful rock music producer, Cook (Michael Fassbender) who is a close friend at the beginning of the film of BV (Ryan Gosling of “La La Land” fame), a musician and composer who has some of his music stolen by Cook.

They are both interested in a young female musician, Faye (Rooney Mara), but her relationship with BV seems to win her over after many attempts for her to find ultimate reality in her life including her relationship with Cook. A fourth character is an attractive waitress, Rhonda (Natalie Portman), who Cook persuades to marry him, but she is confused by his pleasure-oriented behavior involving other women.

The movie is mostly a tragedy about younger adults trying to find their identities and fulfillment, who may have somewhat shallow self-images. The various song excerpts with some rock music run beside the characters’ various life adventures and trials. The movie is very long and demonstrates poor editing with more than one possible ending. There is some very excellent photography, and happy moments of innocent love among the characters particularly Faye and BV.

Faye seems to reflect in the dialogue that she does not like the scenes of flights of large numbers of bird flocks which symbolically may indicate she is not sure from where she came and where she is going in her life. BV seems to be her main strength although at one point she has a relationship with another woman, Zoey (Bernice Marlohe). Likewise BV has a temporary liaison with an older woman, Amanda (Cate Blanchett). A couple of times, Faye tries to get guidance for living from her

father. A confusing scene is with BV visiting his aging father in a nursing home, and he is asleep or not responsive to BV’s needs. Among other confusing images in the movie, which seemed out of place with the plots, was BV with a shotgun hunting probably ducks in a wheat field, and a shot of a chandelier among others including some rock concerts and disorientation scenes in crowds. There are some adult scenes which may be objectionable to some patrons.

This movie is not recommended to people having trouble forming their own self-image. It be may interesting to young adults and older adults as well.

Vinyl Records Vs. Alternatives

by Jonas Evans

People often now stream music from Ipods, phones or computers. Sure they get it free, but can it really compare with vinyl records? Vinyl has a nicer sound quality and frankly it’s more fun to have a record on vinyl than to stream music.

With vinyl you have started a collection and you can talk about it and expand it, while anyone can stream music and get whatever song. With vinyl, people stop and think about what they are buying, they make their decision accordingly and have a better experience listening to their music.

There is a great record store called My Mind’s Eye on Detroit Ave. that has great records on vinyl. Not only do they have a large selection but one that has

music for everybody, especially older bands like The Beatles and The Rolling Stones, which may not be the number one bands to people now but are great bands that have left a large impression on modern-day music.

Having a great store like My Mind’s Eye in our community is a great opportunity to see how truly amazing music is. Listening to older music, as previously stated, opens up a better listening experience, especially when you listen to it on vinyl which was what it was originally recorded on. It makes the experience more authentic and fun.

Choosing vinyl can better your music listening experience, and can better your understanding of how music has changed throughout the ages.

Lakewood Schools Earn Best Communities For Music Education Award

continued from page 1

munity’s commitment to music education is evident in the new Performing Arts wing that will open this August that includes a band room, choir room, eight practice rooms, uniform and equipment storage rooms, a keyboard lab, and a music library room.

This award recognizes that Lakewood City Schools is leading the way with music learning opportunities as outlined in the new federal education legislation, the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The legislation, signed into law in December 2015, and awaiting state implementation designates music and the arts as important elements of well-rounded education for all children.

The Lakewood City School District offers music education from kindergarten through 12th grade. Instrumental instruction begins in 5th grade. Middle school offerings include classroom band, orchestra, and choir with extracurricular opportunities in all three such as Strolling Strings and Jazz Band.

The high school boasts of five orchestras, four choirs, three bands, and classes in music the-

ory, music history, pop music and piano. In addition, our high school extracurricular ensembles provide numerous opportunities for our students to enhance their musical experience through groups such as the Lakewood Ranger Marching Band, The Lakewood Project, Chamber Choir, Jazz Band, just to name a few.

The District’s middle school and high school ensembles routinely score Superior and Excellent ratings at adjudicated competitions. High school students are regularly named to regional and state honors ensembles. Lakewood High has been represented in the National Association for Music Education’s All-National Honors Orchestra the last four out of five years and Lakewood High Orchestra Director Beth Hankins was one of 10 Grammy Music Educator national finalists this year.

Said longtime elementary music teacher Carrie Smith of Lakewood’s legacy of music education excellence: “I love teaching music in the Lakewood community because our families value the arts and help instill the love of music in their children from an early age.”

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Forum

Open Letter To Ohio Senator Sherrod Brown: Investigate Suspected Fraud In Lakewood Municipality

by Gabriela Kaplan

Thanks for your attention to our grievance about Lakewood’s \$1.8 Million ordinances obligating us to the “cliff erosion protection” project. As you know, even the ODNr doesn’t recommend this at this time. Coastal seawalls and revetments etc, harm shores, lake water and won’t assure the prevention of cliff collapse. With these type of ordinances, President Trump’s \$0 funding for Great Lake Protection, and Trump’s denial of climate change, the multibillion dollar industry our lakes provide is greatly threatened.

As a follow-up to that grievance, new information from the Ohio Court of Appeals raises suspicion that there is a pattern of fraudulent activity amongst Lakewood’s officials. For example: Lakewood Hospital: Lakewood’s high percentage of Medicaid patients made our hospital less profitable than it could be. City officials claimed no one wanted to take over its management, so the mayor approved the closing of the hospital. The 1,000 jobs lost when the hospital closed decimated hundreds of millions of dollars of revenue. Many employees had to move for no other health care provider is here to hire them.

False advertising made the absurd claim that an emergency room is equiv-

alent to a hospital and that closing the hospital was no great loss. Hearings in city hall begging to save our hospital fell on deaf ears, so we demanded a vote to keep our hospital. When casting ballots, many voters interpreted that a “YES” vote meant that the hospital would stay open. So “YES” won - and the hospital CLOSED! So now, patients go to Avon etc.

Because of this, our community is suing the municipality, which is costly to all. Recently, the Court of Appeals ordered our officials to show documents that Metro Hospital DID want to take over our hospital, something city council concealed in order to justify closing our hospital. <http://lakewoodobserver.com/forum/view-topic.php?f=7&t=23901>

A more serious problem concerns health. As I am a board-certified neuro-radiologist I share this: Patients who suspect that they are having a stroke must seek emergency treatment, for not doing so can be devastating and even deadly. <http://www.mdedge.com/clinicalneurologynews/article/116649/stroke/new-trials-address-unresolved-issues-endovascular>

During a stroke, for each 15 minutes of no treatment the brain loses about 12% of its brain cells - so TIME IS BRAIN. <http://www.life-recovery.com/pdf/assoc/263.pdf> and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sjkgm6x3LIY>

Lakewood hospital was able to treat acute strokes with neuro-interventional arterial therapies using the \$3 Million angio equipment we purchased with our taxes. Our ER can’t perform these procedures, so patients are shipped by ambulance to neighboring hospitals for treatment. Ambulances take 15- 20 minutes to go to Fairview and 25-30 minutes to the Clinic for this therapy. Patients with mental changes who come to Lakewood’s ER, if diagnosed with a stroke, will take about one hour by the time they are treated in a hospital. To shorten the diagnostic time, our ER has a van that provides CT scans for these patients. This CT scanner however takes limited images, can’t rule-out mini ischemic strokes and the van is not equipped to give therapy. If the van is busy or too far away, it won’t help. Our ER can treat strokes with (TPA) intravenous therapy but TPA only saves 12% of brain tissue, and bleeding complications can occur. The neuro interventional arterial therapy which is only done in a hospital has 80% success for salvaging brain tissue.

<http://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMoa1415061#t=article>

So, we ask: Since closing our hospital cost Lakewood hundreds of millions of dollars in revenues and is harming us in so many ways, why did our city officials close it? If the ODNr didn’t recommend the \$1,8 Million cliff erosion project as all experts told us this can’t assure the cliff won’t fall, and this will erode shores, damage lake water, etc. - we wonder - why did our officials push for these projects? Could it be, because they and the involved parties had pecuniary reasons at the expense of its taxpayers?

Our concern is that if we do not investigate this now, our officials can make this into a pattern. We must stop this before it’s too late. On behalf of Lakewood citizens, we request your office brings these concerns to the attention of the FBI.

Dr. Kaplan is a Lakewood condo owner, Board Certified Neuroradiologist with a Fellowship from Johns Hopkins Hospital, Assistant prof. Columbia University, NYC, U of Michigan, Ann Arbor. Retired. Practiced at Lakewood Hospital and University Hospitals. Who’s Who in American Medicine. Who’s Who in the World, Who’s Who in America, Who’s Who in American Women. President of lifewatchgroup.org, an international think tank. www.lifewatchgroup.org

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A Tale Of Two Cities

by Bonnie Sikes

The Cleveland Clinic recently announced the imminent closing of the birthing unit of the Medina Hospital on July 1, 2017. The Medina City Council immediately reacted with a 6-0 resolution to stop the closing of the birthing unit. The Mayor of Medina made futile overtures to the Cleveland Clinic and currently he is in discussion with another healthcare provider to continue to provide birthing center services to the citizens in the Medina area.

In complete contrast, when the non-profit Cleveland Clinic deemed that Lakewood Hospital was no longer profitable, the current mayor of Lakewood and Lakewood City Council led the charge to close the hospital over objections from many citizens. Instead of incorporating citizen input and fighting for local health care and local jobs, the elected officials of Lakewood paved the way to transfer public assets to a private entity.

Citizen opposition in Lakewood

continues. The taxpayer lawsuit is currently being considered by Judge John P. O'Donnell in the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court. Requests for public documents that would shed light on the reasons behind the decision to close Lakewood Hospital have been stonewalled by the Lakewood law director, Kevin Butler. City Council has remained quiet on this issue.

Kudos to the Mayor and council persons in Medina for standing up for the interests of their constituents. Lakewood lost a hospital and in the process, many Lakewood citizens have lost faith in their elected officials. Elections for the three city council at-large positions are in November. It's time to elect new leadership to represent the citizens who demand transparency in government. One such candidate has already announced his candidacy. His name is Tristan Rader. With new representation on city council we will begin to move our city forward.

Bonnie Sikes is a Lakewood resident.

Grant 3rd Graders Love Lakewood Project - The Beck Center

continued from page 8

classes, and one fourth grade class. By the way, they were not all there at the same time. In the afternoon, two VIPs came in, one of them from City Hall, and the other from the Old Stone House. I received quite a few compliments. More people came to my station then I had actu-

ally expected. Here are some of the compliments I received: "This is very creative!" "Wow, that's great!" "I love it!" My greatest surprise was when the current president of the Beck Center, Mrs. Einhouse, came. She liked it too and has offered me to display the model at the Beck Center! Overall, I think that it was a very exciting day.

Lakewood Living

LakewoodAlive To Host Workshop On April 22

“Knowing Your Home: Garage Repair & Replacement”

Register Now to Attend this Free Workshop at Cleveland Lumber Company

by Matt Bixenstine

It’s not uncommon for older Lakewood homes to have aging garages unfit for any use other than storage. Thankfully, this homeowner problem will be addressed during an upcoming “Knowing Your Home” workshop.

LakewoodAlive will host “Knowing Your Home: Garage Repair & Replacement” on Saturday, April 22, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon at Cleveland Lumber Company (9410 Madison Avenue in Cleveland). The sixth workshop of 2017 for this popular home maintenance educational program is designed to specifically address aging Lakewood garages.

This workshop aims to serve as your first step when looking to repair or replace your garage, equipping you with knowledge and confidence to proceed with your project. The Great Garage Company will provide a pre-

sentation focused on:

- General garage repairs like foundation rot, issues related to dirt floors and no foundation, doors, roofs and carpentry issues
- Leaning garages and what can be done
- Replacement - what to expect when going through the process
- Garage kits
- Working with contractors and architects to get what you want
- Understanding local garage code

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,



LakewoodAlive’s “Garage Repair & Replacement” Workshop takes place on April 22.

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.

“Lakewood”

by Matt Morgenstern

The historic heat wave of February 2017 was alive, bleating it hurt in its progress outside!, nothing sympathetic in the empty overhead on Lakewood’s coffee fingers; but everyone’s looking for a broader picture!; knowing a painting is an emotional thing on the Madison sidewalk, and a photograph is always a drifty photograph; the crossing guards asks, can they find the dread, the iconic authenticity wandering under the trees, on the concrete bike lanes?; alone, is there an artist painting out there on Emerson’s gray frontier, or out along Thoreau’s, impressibility chilling the art; or is there too little time for the butterflies inside there to find something legitimate, all the time to find the distant song stuck somewhere small, moving its way in and out like anything does before going away, thinking of coming home; Carabel to West Clifton’s only a couple of minutes, one quiet to another; I know traveling to Athens is a trip across many undiscoverable voyages, running to stop signs miles away under and above blue and white skies, long things, long things getting anywhere anyways, thoughts looking around.

Matt Morganstern is graduating from Miami University with a degree in Creative Writing this May. He’ll be moving back to Lakewood and is looking to enter higher fields of academic literature studies or teaching high school English.

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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

Available Items: Pepperoni, Sausage, Mushrooms, Onion, Green & Red Peppers, Anchovies, Ham, Bacon, Fresh Garlic, Black, Olives, Hot Peppers, Ground Meat, Pineapple, Jalapeño Peppers
SPECIAL TOPPINGS: Artichoke Hearts, Tomato, Broccoli, Chicken

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