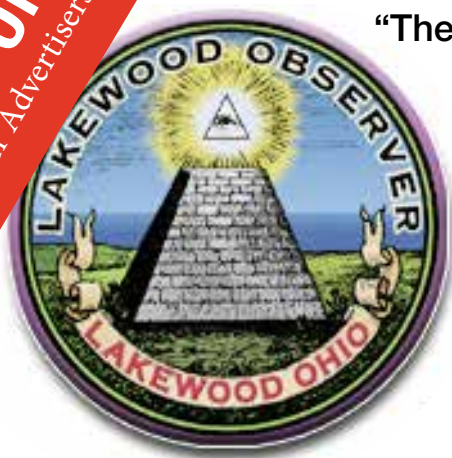


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"Then there must be something, mustn't there. The truth is, these are not very bright guys, and things got out of hand." - Deepthroat Watergate

THE LAKEWOOD OBSERVER

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Volume 13, Issue 10, May 17, 2017

University Of Akron Lakewood Relocating To LHS

by Christine Gordillo

The Lakewood Board of Education at its May 15 meeting approved a lease agreement with the University of Akron (UA) that will relocate the University's Lakewood regional campus from its current space on Warren Road to Lakewood High School. This move will

help expand post-secondary educational opportunities for Lakewood High School and other area students.

The agreement makes available to UA six classrooms and two offices during evening hours (4:00PM - 9:00PM) Monday-Friday beginning Aug. 1, 2017 through July 31,

2018. In lieu of rent, the university will donate \$50,000 annually to the Lakewood High School Community Fitness Center Fund, which goes toward the construction of the new fitness center set to open at the high school this fall.

"This new relationship will provide increased access

to a high quality, affordable education for both college students and high school students taking college courses in Western Cuyahoga County," said Dr. Jarrod Tudor, head of University of Akron Regional Campuses. "We hope that this sharing of public resources proves to be a model for other

partnerships between our state's universities and public school districts. We are grateful to Superintendent Patterson and Mayor Mike Summers for their cooperative efforts in bringing this 'win-win-win' concept to fruition."

Superintendent Jeff Patterson sees the agreement as another step in the District's efforts to help students bring the cost of college down by offering easy-to-access classes through the state's College Credit Plus program.

"Anything we can do to expand the opportunities for our students beyond the traditional high school classroom experience and help families make college more affordable, we embrace," said Superintendent Jeff Patterson. "We want to make our new high school spaces more available to the community, and that includes the University of Akron, Lakewood."

On June 4 LakewoodAlive, Lakewood Historical Society To Host 2nd Annual Historic Birdtown Walk & Picnic

by Matt Bixenstine

It's a celebration of the rich history of Birdtown and you're invited.

LakewoodAlive has joined forces with the Lakewood Historical Society to host the 2nd Annual Historic Birdtown Walk & Picnic on Sunday, June 4, from noon to 4 p.m. at Madison Park.

The celebratory event kicks off with a community picnic from noon to 2 p.m. at the pavilion near Madison Park's George Usher Field. Complimentary refreshments will be provided courtesy of Connect 2 Compete, a pro-

gram of Cox Communications.

The festivities continue with guided walking tours of the Historic Birdtown Neighborhood commencing at 1 p.m. The tours will depart from in front of the Lakewood Public Library-Madison Branch (13229 Madison Avenue) every half-hour until 2:30 p.m., showcasing this proud, working-class neighborhood in eastern Lakewood. Last year's inaugural event drew more than 100 guests.

"We're pleased to once again partner with the Lakewood Historical Society to offer Lakewood residents

this exciting opportunity to explore one of our city's beloved neighborhoods," said Allison Urbanek, LakewoodAlive's Housing Outreach Director. "It's yet another example of how we at LakewoodAlive are committed to our ongoing mission to foster and sustain vibrant neighborhoods here in Lakewood."

Steeped in history, the origins of the Birdtown neighborhood date to the late 19th



Join in at Madison Park!

century. In 1892, the National Carbon Company (now

continued on page 13

Come Support Keep Lakewood Beautiful With The Annual Spring Humus And Plant Sale

by Marianne Quasebarth Usiak

It's that exciting time of year and gardeners are all atwitter. Come support Keep Lakewood Beautiful and enhance your garden with the purchase of humus (a.k.a. "Black Gold"), new and different perennials, hostas, and herbs!

Be sure to stop inside the skate house and peruse the perennial quarts, gallons, and herbs. Humus will be on sale for \$4 per bag and is great for the lawn or your gardens. It is so easy too, with our convenient drive through. We will load all the bags of "black gold" humus right into your vehicle!

See you there!

Date: Saturday, May 20

Time: 9 a.m. to noon

Held at Lakewood Park Old Stone House rain or shine!

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 serves a four year term and 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, nearly 40

Adopt-a-Spot Gardens, Beautiful Home Awards, and the Tree Committee. New programming is always being developed, and new volunteers are always welcome. For more information or to join the Keep Lakewood Beautiful organization as a board or committee member see: <http://www.onelakewood.com/KLB>, or call 529-6601.

Lakewood Chamber Of Commerce Announces Scholarship Recipients

by Valerie Mechenbier

The Lakewood Chamber of Commerce 2017 Scholarship recipients have been announced and will be honored at the Taste of Lakewood on June 11th at Madison Park. The Lakewood Chamber of Commerce scholarship program, established in 2000, awards scholarships each year to four high school seniors who have demonstrated exceptional dedication to their studies, extra-curricular activities, and, just as importantly, a commitment to working at a part-time or full-time job during their high school years. Over seventy young men and women have received Lakewood Chamber of Commerce scholarships over the past 18 years.

Congratulations to the 2017 Lakewood Chamber of Commerce Scholarship recipi-

ents:

Mohamad Abusharekh, St. Edward High School. Mohamad is active with SEHS Football, Mock Trial, and Science Olympiad. Mohamad volunteers at Ennis Court and works in the Lakewood Recreation Department. He will be attending Loyola University (Chicago) in the fall.

Kent Adams, Lakewood High School. Kent is the National Honor Society (NHS) Treasurer and participates in the Lakewood Ranger Marching Band, Swim Team, French Club, AYF, Model UN and is an Eagle Scout of Boy Scout Troop 115. Kent works at McDonald's on Detroit Avenue. He will be attending Georgetown University (Washington DC) in the fall.

Walker

Miller,

continued on page 2

The On-Going Investigation Into Disappearance Of Roaa S. Al-Dhannoon

Lakewood Police News Release

Since October 19, 2016 the Lakewood Police Department with the assistance of the FBI and other law enforcement agencies have been investigating the disappearance of Roaa S. Al-Dhannoon.

On Monday May 15, 2017 members of the Lakewood Police Department, FBI, Cuyahoga County Prosecutor's office and the Ohio Search and Recovery K-9 Team searched a wooded area along Big Creek in Brooklyn for evidence in

this incident.

A container buried along the creek was located and excavated by the FBI Evidence Recovery team. The item is suspected of containing biological remains. The Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner's office was contacted and responded to the scene. The Medical Examiner's personnel took possession of the container and it was transported to their office for further examination.

The investigation is ongoing and continuing.

Lakewood Observer

Lakewood Chamber Of Commerce Announces Scholarship Recipients

continued from page 1

Lakewood High School. Walker is a member of NHS, Barnstormers, and the Lakewood Ranger Marching Band. She is a 6-year member of the Youth Honors Wind Ensemble at Baldwin Wallace University and participates in competitive synchronized skating with Cleveland Edges Skating Club. Walker works at Justice at Westgate and will be attending Baldwin Wallace University in the fall.

Hana Shaheen, Lakewood High School. Hana is a four-year member of

Student Council and a four-year LHS Cross Country and Track athlete. She is active with her church youth group and works at GV Art + Design. Hana will be attending Cleveland State University this fall.

A portion of the proceeds from the Taste of Lakewood, the Chamber's largest annual community event, funds the scholarship program. For more information on the Taste of Lakewood, visit tasteoflakewood.com.

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Statehouse

Ohio House Pushes Unfinished, Unbalanced State Budget Off On Senate

by Nickie Antonio

Before new state economic indicators came out, the Ohio House today passed a version of the state's two-year budget, House Bill (HB) 49, that remains hundreds of millions of dollars out of balance, if not more. The vote comes a little more than two weeks after Gov. Kasich and GOP legislative leaders announced they would need to cut close to \$1 billion from the bill to maintain a stable, balanced budget. Still, the final version of House Bill 49 approved largely along party lines today fell over \$400 million short of being a balanced budget bill by that standard.

"I cannot support sending this budget off to the Senate when we know that it doesn't come close to being balanced, which is not only careless but unconstitutional," said Rep. Nickie J. Antonio. "I fear this budget is full of empty promises and inflated projections for revenue-the people of Ohio need real solutions."

Democratic lawmakers argued on the House floor that the past six years of GOP tax-shifting policies have not delivered the jobs and economic growth that Republicans promised, but instead harmed middle class families and directly contributed to the state's current fiscal crisis. Ohio's job growth has trailed the national average for 51 consecutive months, Ohio families bring home thousands of dollars less than the average household in America, and close to 30 percent of Ohio jobs are low wage, paying less than poverty wages.

"As we lead the nation in opioid overdose deaths and are forced to resort to emergency measures like mobile morgues, it is our responsibility to provide real resources for families and communities," said House Democratic Whip Nickie J. Antonio (D-Lakewood). "Now, failed economic policies of the last six years have destabilized our budget, making it nearly impossible to guarantee real funding to combat the crisis unless we use emergency reserves. I stand by our calls over the past four years on GOP lawmakers to provide real resources in the fight against heroin and opioids. We owe families and communities across the state a real guarantee of more help and funding, and that's not what we voted on today."

Among Democratic amendments were:

- Additional \$200 million for drug addiction and treatment through JobsOhio offered by Rep. Nickie J. Antonio.
- Family First for Economic Stability Act, a provision that would provide equal pay and paid family leave for all Ohio families.
- Government Accountability and Anti-Corruption Initiative, legislation that would create criminal penalties for state contract rule-rigging and prohibit the Administration's appointed inspector general from a guaranteed career extension.
- College Affordability Omnibus, a duo of college affordability measures that cap tuition at a three-percent increase and increase Ohio's College Opportunity Grant.
- Stabilizing Medicaid Expansion, a proposal that would put Ohio's Medicaid expansion population into Ohio Revised Code to prevent political game-playing with access to lifesaving healthcare services.
- Get to School Safely, a proposal to restore transportation funding to K-12 Ohio schools.
- A House for Every Ohioan, a tax rebalancing bill to undo Republican property tax cost increases by 12.5 percent while increasing the Homestead Exemption eligibility and credits for retirees and senior citizens.

House Bill 49 now goes to the Ohio Senate for additional scrutiny. The Republican-controlled legislature and Gov. Kasich must approve a balanced budget by June 30 to avoid government shutdown.



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City

City Council Meeting: May 1, 2017

Animal Safety & Welfare Advisory Board
by Bethany Francis

The Council passed Ordinance 19-17, revising the Animal Safety and Welfare Advisory Board code to provide greater authority on the Board's part to advise on animal-related issues. In the past, the code restricted the parameters of the Board to issues specifically referred to it by Council.

Cornucopia, Inc. Concessions Lease for Lakewood Park 2017 Summer Season

In the last Public Works Committee Meeting, the City worked with Cornucopia, Inc. to revise the proposed concessions lease at Lakewood Park. Ordinance 20-17, legislation introduced to contract with Cornucopia, Inc. for the 2017 summer season at Lakewood Park, provides a space for the non-profit to sell healthy concessions to the public. Law Director Butler explained the new agreement takes into account concerns addressed by the Committee, such as trash receptacles and permission to sell natural sunscreen and bug spray. The Committee revised the hours of operation, as well, changing from park hours to pool hours. The Council enthusiastically adopted the ordinance.

Finance Committee Report

Councilmember Bullock moved to defer Ordinance 21-17, refunding \$6.05 million of the outstanding 2007 general obligation bonds, and Ordinance 22-17, authorizing a defeasance of \$670,000 for 1995 water revenue bonds, to the following City Council Meeting. Bullock assured he will have a full report at the following meeting, describing a presentation by the financial management team that shows "excellent work in sav-

ing taxpayers' money."

Fairview Hospital 2016 Community Health Needs Assessment

The Health and Human Services Committee met April 24, 2017. Councilmembers Marx, Anderson, O'Leary and O'Malley, Mayor Summers, formal councilmember Sean Juris, Mike Meehan and Stephanie Switzer of the Cleveland Clinic Law Department, Drs. James Hekman and Judith Welsh of the Cleveland Clinic, Director Gelsomino of Human Services, Lakewood Clinical Manager Katie Kurtz, Gina Gavlak from North Coast Health, County Health Commissioner Terry Allan, and three members of the public all attended the meeting, which focused on the 2016 Community Health Needs Assessment.

The Cleveland Clinic presented the assessment, evaluating health-related needs in the greater Cleveland area. The assessment identified the health professional shortage in the area and the percentage of residents without health insurance as problems to address. Councilmember Marx expressed her concern for uninsured community members, questioning the best way to secure health care resources for those without access.

Dr. Hekman explained the new family health center will provide resources for respiratory diabetes, mental health, and cardiology services. Councilmember O'Malley noticed the assessment failed to address the ongoing opioid crisis, as well as mental health, remarking that drug rehabilitation and mental health should be a priority when discussing community health needs. In response, Fire Chief Gilman clarified the opioid crisis did not begin until after the assessment was complete. O'Malley contended, "If this is going to be a blueprint for what services are going to be provided at the family health center, we need to continue the conversation." Anderson acknowledged the community's empathetic approach to the opioid epidemic, identifying it as a mental health issue first, then a crime issue. Marx promised many future meetings involving Chief Gilman and the Cleveland Clinic in order to accurately address health issues facing the Lakewood community in order to find workable solutions.

Housing Committee Report

The Housing Committee met to discuss Resolution 8928-17, legislation expanding the City's authority to purchase real property in Lakewood, not to exceed \$70,000. Community member Pam Wetula came out to address her concerns of too much centralized power regarding the process. Wetula commented that while she appreciated the initiative to restore properties, she believed it is unfair to take property away from the public. She emphasized the City's decisions in the past to "keep people out you think are undesirable," contending a preference for an open bidding process for anyone who desires to live in Lakewood.

Councilman Anderson assured Wetula the properties in question are those the market has not responded to, explaining the lack of interest in these properties at auction. Councilman O'Leary clarified that the authority is used very sparingly, starting in 2008 with the housing crisis (where the City improved eighteen properties), with approximately one house per year purchased for improvement thereafter. In addition, Director Sylvester provided an example of the program's success, referencing a home on Dowd Avenue the City rehabilitated.

Law Director Butler reassured Wetula that the City is very careful to avoid any abuses by the system. He explained that the City receives money from the federal government to provide housing opportunities for all kinds of people, which he insisted is treated very seriously. He explained Sylvester's department oversees the projects, employing the best price and vendor to improve real properties, as well as providing backstops to guard against "friends" of the City receiving work.

Councilman O'Malley thanked Wetula for her concern, clarifying that the resolution truly aids vulnerable communities. O'Malley explained that he shared the concerns she raised, but he has witnessed the city improve properties that allow the marginalized to "afford their piece of the American dream," something, he contends, they would be unable to do without the city's involvement in the restoration process. After this healthy discussion, the Council adopted the resolution.

Lakewood Bike Month

May is officially Lakewood Bike Month, thanks to the passage of Resolution 8930-17. Councilmembers Bullock and Marx created the resolution as an initiative to reduce fossil fuel use and improve public health. Keith Pishnery and Ben Van Lear of Bike Lakewood, a volunteer advocacy organization affiliated with Bike Cleveland, had a presentation of special bicycle-related events, such as Bikes and Bands at Mahall's (May 7) and Bike to School Day for Lakewood Middle Schools (May 10). On National Bike to Work Day (May 19), Bike Lakewood is donating coffee for cyclists before work, in front of Lakewood Public Library.

Revising Lakewood Tattoo Laws

Councilmember O'Malley asked the Council to revisit Chapter 1793 of the city code, which prevents tattoo industries from opening in Lakewood. O'Malley contended tattoos are mainstream and

the industry is professional, arguing revenue from tattooing generates \$3 billion dollars annually in the United States. O'Malley expressed his desire for the opportunity for a "legitimate and mainstream industry" to exist in Lakewood, and the Council referred his request to the Human Services Department.

Mayoral Appointment to Lakewood Loan Approval Board

Mayor Summers appointed Ben Kline to the Lakewood Loan Approval Board. The citizen board makes loans to low income and first-time homeowners, which supports the City's housing initiative. The mayor thanked Kline for his time.

2017 Capital Lease Authorization

Finance Director Pae introduced Ordinance 23-17, entering into an agreement (with a yet-to-be-named financial institution) for the 2017 capital program, financing new equipment and vehicles, with a \$1.7 million budget. The funding would provide for the Fire and Medical Squad, a dump truck for plow, four to five police vehicles, a refuse and recycling packer truck, and an upgrade to the Public Safety Computer Aided Dispatch and Data Records System. Council referred the ordinance to the Finance Committee.

Potential City Code Change, Regarding Animals and Fowl

Law Director Butler submitted Ordinance 24-17, an amendment to Chapter 505 in the City's code, regarding animals and fowl. Butler explained the revision would update the code for penalty provisions, such as minor misdemeanors. The Council referred the ordinance to the Rules & Ordinances Committee.

Public Comment

Lakewood resident Pam Wetula praised the work on the third charter amendment, thanking those involved for taking the work seriously. Wetula stressed the importance of placing important rulings in the chartered amendment, versus the codified ordinances, begging the group to remember that this work is supposed to protect the public and the City of Lakewood. She remarked that when accessing the third charter amendment, the public should be able to find a framework that protects them. She contended that procedures should not be open to change with each new administration, arguing it is the best way to protect the public.

Council Comment

Councilman Anderson thanked all of the volunteers involved with Keep Lakewood Beautiful for the Madison Park cleanup project, praising the good turnout and hard work.

Councilman Bullock looked ahead to the completion of work at Kids Cove Playground at Lakewood Park. He questioned if the City established an opening date, suggesting a public event to celebrate its creation and allowing use of equipment. Bullock remarked that the construction on the playground should be complete by June.

Law Director Butler shared that there is a murder mystery charity event on May 20 at Unitarian Universalist in Rocky River. The event, which also includes an auction, benefits the Lakewood and Rocky River Rotary Service.

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Lakewood Public Library

Yoga Tuesdays At The Library

by Hiam Jawhari

“Yoga” means “union.” It is a physical and spiritual Hindu exercise that continues to gain popularity in the West. Several researchers worldwide have proven the numerous benefits of yoga. But what draws hopeful yogis to the practice is the peace of mind and coinciding physical gains. Some yoga styles use meditation techniques, such as focusing on breathing. These techniques are excellent for

relieving stress and allowing relaxation. Busy thoughts are calmed, and warm feelings dance harmoniously with physical motions. Each yoga posture -- or “asana” -- has a name. Postures work on separate parts of the body to improve health, heal aches, and keep illness away. Yoga can prevent disease and aid in recovery. It boosts the immune system, builds muscles, improves flexibility, aids in weight loss, and enhances posture.

Our library is inviting Marcia Camino, owner and operator of “Pink Lotus Yoga” on Detroit Ave, to share her extensive yoga knowledge with us. She is a certified yoga instructor and teacher - trainer. At her studio, she offers a variety of yoga styles, including Indian Hatha, Vinyasa, Kundalini, and Restorative Yoga. She also offers Yoga Nidra, meditation, and Chinese-influenced Yin and Yang Yoga. Camino has also authored some

books: Craze Aayzee and Oomee space Yogi, Series for children. She has written, recorded and produced two yoga CDs.

Visit the Lakewood Public Library at the dates and times below to be swept up in the yoga experience.

Tuesday, June 6 at 7 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room to practice Historic Hatha Yoga which is designed to calm the body, mind and spirit.

Tuesday, June 13 at 7 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room to practice The “Quiet Revolution”: Yin Yoga. Yin is therapeutic and quiet in nature. It’s designed to help with highly stressed areas such as hips, pelvis, shoulder, neck and back.

Tuesday, June 20 at 7 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room to practice The World of the Sun Salutation, to honor and give salutation to the sun by learning some moves and postures.

Tuesday, June 27 at 7 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room for the Power of Breath Work and Guided Relaxation, This class holds a variety of exercises: breathing, concentration and relaxation in one class.

Free Online Learning Resources At LPL

by Andrea Fisher

Learning new things, improving your skills, and getting ready for college or the career that you want has never been easier. Lakewood Public Library offers patrons access to LearningExpress Library and Job & Career Accelerator, which provide educational resources including tutorials, practice tests and eBooks to help patrons of all ages and skill levels to build skills in a variety of subjects, career preparation and study guides.

LearningExpress Library offers resources including tutorials on popular software programs like the Microsoft

Office Suite, Citizenship practice tests, ACT practice tests and study guides for many different career paths. There are also a variety of skill-building tools in math, science, reading and writing. Whether you are an elementary school student who needs to practice Geometry, a high-schooler preparing for the ACT, applying to medical school or studying for a cosmetology certification, LearningExpress Library can help you.

With Job & Career Accelerator, find the tools that you need to search and apply for jobs, and resources to help you get hired. Unsure of what career is right for you? Find out which careers fit your

skills and interests. Job & Career Accelerator also provides job seekers with tools to create resumes and cover letters, as well as tools designed to help ace the interview.

To access LearningExpress Library and Job & Career Accelerator register at lakewoodpubliclibrary.org and click on Research to find LearningExpress Library. Click register and complete the required information. Once registration is complete, search for a specific subject or browse for resources and tests in one of the Centers. You can access LearningExpress Library 24/7 from anywhere with an Internet connection!

Sweet Dreams: Stuffed Animal Sleepover

by Fran Storch

Do your kids ever ask what happens in the Library after hours? (No, the librarians do not sleep there.) You and your 4 to 7-year-old children are invited to join us for a Stuffed Animal Sleepover storytime on Wednesday, May 31 at 6:00 p.m. in the Main Library Activity Room.

For 45 fun-filled minutes, little ones and their favorite stuffed animals will enjoy a special story time and create “dreamy” crafts. Kids then kiss their cuddly friends good night and leave them at the Library for a sleepover and more fun and games.

The good times continue on

Thursday, June 1 from 6:00 to 6:30 p.m. when children return to pick up their bedtime buddies, watch a silly slideshow of the fun their furry friends had with other stuffed animals the night before, and receive something special to remember the occasion.

If your children have ever wondered what goes on in the Library at night when it is closed, then this is their chance to get a behind-the-scenes sneak peek through the eyes of their stuffed animal friend. Space is limited and registration is required.

To register for the Stuffed Animal Sleepover or to learn more about other youth programs and activities,



Stuffed animals put on a puppet show.

stop by the Children’s and Youth Services desk at the Main Library, call (216) 226-8275, ext. 140 or visit www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.org/youth and click on the yellow Register for Programs box.

Lakewood Public Library

Calendar Of Events

compiled by Elaine Rosenberger

Wednesday, May 17

Literature Series - Class Strife: a Multi-Generational Look through Literature

The third program discussing “Hillbilly Elegy” and “The Great Gatsby.” This free course is presented by Barbara Parr, an instructor with Case Western Reserve University’s Laura and Alvin Siegal Lifelong Learning Program.

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

Thursday, May 18

Author Event - “The Heavenly Table” by Donald Ray Pollock

It is 1917 and dispossessed farmer Pearl Jewett ekes out a hardscrabble existence with his three young sons: Cane, Cob and Chimney. Several hundred miles away in southern Ohio lives a farmer by the name of Ellsworth Fiddler. After Ellsworth is swindled out of his family’s entire fortune, his life is put on a surprisingly unforgettable and violent trajectory that will lead him to cross paths with the Jewetts. Books will be available for sale and signing at the event.

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

Thursday, May 18

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 Neruda Case” by Roberto Ampuero (Valparaíso, Chile).

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

Saturday, May 20

Film - “Jersey Boys” (2014)

Presented by Barbara Steffek-Hill

The movie is a musical biography about one of the most idolized pop/rock sensations of all time. A group of young guys from New Jersey pool their talents and perform in local lounges. After being tossed out of a bowling alley, the quartet takes the establishment’s name. A new sound is created and the Four Seasons launches, sparked by lead singer Frankie Valli’s (John Lloyd Young) unique voice. 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, May 21

Performance - Judah Leblang Presents “One Man’s Journey through the Middle Ages”

“One Man’s Journey through the Middle Ages” is a (mostly) humorous one-man show—an examination of middle age, the process of getting older and the various times when “man planned and God laughed.” These linked vignettes tell the true story of performer Judah Leblang’s life between the ages of forty and fifty-something and the various unplanned events that occurred along the way.

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

Tuesday, May 23

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

Tuesday, May 23

Talk - How to Prevent Surgery

Presented by Dr. Casen DeMaria

Americans desire optimal health in their lives but spend money on healthcare without any improvement. Some even consider having surgical removal or replacement to solve their problems, but they do so without addressing the underlying causes. Casen DeMaria, Doctor of Chiropractic Medicine, will discuss how patrons can take preventative measures so they will never have to go through an unnecessary surgery.

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

Wednesday, May 24

Lakewood Historical Society

Talk - The I-X Files: Cleveland’s WWII Bomber Plant

Presented by Bill Meixner

Prior to its conversion into an exhibition and event facility, Cleveland’s I-X Center began life as a plant for the construction of the Army Air Force’s B-29 “Superfortress” bomber during World War II. Local aviation historian Bill Meixner, a charter member of the Society of Racing Historians, will review this fascinating chapter in Cleveland’s industrial history.

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

Wednesday, May 24

Literature Series - Class Strife: a Multi-Generational Look through Literature

The fourth program in our series discussing “Hillbilly Elegy” and “The Great Gatsby.”

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

Thursday, May 25

Author Event - Cleveland Neighborhood Guidebook: The Least Practical, Most Literary Guide to Cleveland

Edited by staff of Belt Magazine

“Losing Lakewood” Essay by Sally Errico

Introduced by Anne Trubek

This anthology details places no longer here, such as the Little Italy Historical Museum and League Park, as well as increasingly popular areas, such as North Collinwood and Asiatown. Read stories about starting a business in Ohio City, marketing Larchmere, first time home-buying in the Detroit-Shoreway neighborhood, self-loathing in South Euclid, troubling developments in Tremont, closed schools in Lee-Miles and a vineyard in Hough. Books will be available for sale and signing at the event.

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

Saturday, May 27

Film - “Selma” (2014)

During the height of the civil-rights movement, Martin Luther King Jr. (David Oyelowo) and other activists plan to lead a march from Selma, Alabama to the capital of Montgomery to secure voting rights for black Americans. This was a trying time for King, who was thought of as a threat by the FBI under the leadership of J. Edgar Hoover and for black people in Alabama—four black girls were killed by a bomb in Birmingham, protesters were beaten by state troopers and one was killed in Marion. As King is harassed by the FBI and criticized for having extra-marital affairs, the first march is met with violent resistance from police. As American citizens watch this on national news broadcasts, it’s clear that change is coming. This film continues our series highlighting women directors.

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

Tuesday, May 30

Local Perspectives: A Panel Discussion on Local Products and Food Producers

With an increasing emphasis placed on the linkage between producer and consumer, the demand for locally produced goods has never been greater. Join us for a panel discussion highlighting the perspectives of five Ohio-based producers and advocates of local food/products. Panel participants include members from the Oberlin Food Hub, Lakewood-based health food market and cafe Nature’s Oasis and other local food advocates and producers.

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

Children & Youth Events

compiled by Eric Knapp

Monday, May 15 through Monday, August 7

“We are Family” Summer Reading Club Starts

For birth through those entering twelfth grade

Read 30 books, 30 chapters, or 30 hours and enjoy crafts, stamps, and activities all while reading for prizes! Registration required.

Main Library and Madison Branch.

Saturday, May 20

LEGO® Construction Challenge

For youth in kindergarten through fifth grade (caregivers welcome)

Team up or go solo building something special for our community display, then hop over to our Tallest Tower and Best Bridge challenges. Registration required.

2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. in the Main Library First Floor Multipurpose Room.

Sunday, May 21

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.

Wednesday, May 31 & Thursday, June 1

Stuffed Animal Sleepover

For you and your 4 to 7-year old child

This special two-day event involves a storytime and craft, then the stuffed animals are left behind for a special sleepover that the kids will get to experience through a silly slide-show the next day. Registration required.

Wednesday, May 31, 6:00 – 6:45 p.m. in the Main Library Activity Room and Thursday, June 1, 6:00 – 6:30 p.m. in the Main Library First Floor Multipurpose Room.

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Schools

PTA Awards Honor

District Educator Of Year, Students & Volunteers

by Christine Gordillo

The Lakewood Council of PTAs handed out its annual awards at a ceremony on May 3 at Garfield Middle School including \$4,000 in scholarships to students and the Educator of the Year award, to Horace Mann & Grant Elementary curriculum and technology teacher Jaime Chanter.

Chanter is a technology leader in the District having founded the popular elementary Future Club, now at four elementary schools and the District's monthly Twitter Chat. She has presented on educational technology at national and international conferences and recently became a certified Google Innovator. Educator of the Year nominees from other school buildings were also recognized: Maureen Manderfield of Roosevelt

Elementary School, Ken Budic of Harding Middle School, Elizabeth Street of Garfield Middle School and Chris Lamphear of Lakewood High School.

Earning \$1,000 scholarships each this year were seniors Ian Bell, Rachel Daso, Brendan McCallum and Julia Neff.

The Helping Hand award goes to a staff member in the school buildings other than a teacher who goes above and beyond in helping students and staff. Lakewood High bookroom manager Pam Williams and student activities coordinator Karen Stovering received the Helping Hand District award this year for their friendly and courteous service in one of the hubs of the school.

The Golden Apple award is reserved for special recognitions of

service. It is given to individuals for their outstanding efforts to improve or make a difference on the behalf Lakewood City Schools students and who have been instrumental in supporting and aiding in the success of PTA. This year, LHS PTA president Karen Lee was awarded the Golden Apple for her many years of service and leadership at every level of the PTA in the District.

Council also presented a Good Guy award, in an effort to recognize and encourage more men to get involved with PTA. Kenneth Johnson of Roosevelt Elementary PTA and Nathan Brady of Grant PTA were given the award for their engagement with their school communities and Garfield Principal Mark Walter earned the award as well for his overall continued support of the Garfield PTSA.

years, attending every meeting and serving as 3rd Vice President.

Finally, PTA Council President's Award was given to Grant PTA President Matt Sattler, who was praised for his "outside the box" thinking when it comes to engaging families and creating events that are fun, educational and don't bust the budget.

Congratulations to all the honorees and to the outgoing PTA Council officers, led by president Kim Walcheck. The new slate of officers were installed at the end of the awards ceremony, led by incoming president Joanne Schwark.

West Shore Culinary Student Takes Top State Award



by Christine Gordillo

Congratulations to West Shore Career-Tech Culinary Arts student Jessica Bohannon (pictured at right), who won first place in the 2017 Ohio FCCLA State Creative Cake Competition. Jessica created a chocolate butter cake with raspberry jam, white chocolate mousse, vanilla buttercream and a swirled mirror glaze and gum paste flowers (pictured above). Jessica's win earned her a \$1,000



scholarship to Johnson & Wales University in Rhode Island, where she will attend in the fall.

Lakewood Project Concert May 20

by Christine Gordillo

The Lakewood Project, Lakewood High's electric rock orchestra, will perform its annual Spring Concert on Saturday, May 20 at 7:30 pm in the Lakewood Civic Auditorium. The show will feature the full orchestra plus

small ensembles performing pieces composed by the students. Many of the ensembles feature the group's departing seniors. Tickets for the show are \$5 in advance and \$8 at the door. To buy advance tickets, call the LHS Bookroom at 216-529-4047.

Lakewood Music Boosters Needs Volunteers For Spring Concerts

by Tiffany Fox

Please consider donating some of your time to the Lakewood Music Boosters. We have numerous concerts this month and we need volunteers to help with ticket sales, distributing programs, etc.

If you have a few extra hours this month, please sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/kdqbkhk> or contact us by email: Lkwdmusicboosters@gmail.com

THANK YOU!

Upcoming Concert Dates:

May 17th: LHS Choral concert

May 18th: 6th Grade Spring Concert

May 19th: Horace Mann Spring Concert

May 19th: Lakewood Music Boosters Sing and Serve at Around the Corner

May 20th: Spring Lakewood Project Concert

May 22nd: 7th Grade Spring Concert

May 24th: 5th Grade Instrumental Concert

May 25th: LHS Band Concert

May 31st: Hayes Spring Concert

Tiffany Fox is an Executive Board member for the Lakewood Music Boosters.

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Schools

LHS' Hankins Receives Grammy Finalist Award

by Christine Gordillo

Five months after being named one of 10 nationwide finalists for the Grammy Museum's Music Educator Award, Lakewood High School Orchestra Director Beth Hankins on May 4 was presented with her finalist award and the accompanying check for \$1,000 at a ceremony during intermission of the school's spring musical, "Little Women."

Chris Bianchi of the Grammy Museum and Stephen Minnich of retailer Journeys, which is a sponsor of the Music Educator Award, traveled to Lakewood for the presentation in front

of an appreciative crowd. Bianchi and Minnich also presented the Lakewood City Schools with a check for \$1,000.

A grateful Hankins, joined by members of the play and pit orchestra on stage, thanked the District for "allowing me to think outside the box and dream" and admitted that "never in my wildest dreams when I became an educator did I think I'd achieve this level."

Congratulations to Beth and thanks to the Grammy Museum for shining the light on the District's stellar music program.



LHS Orchestra Director Beth Hankins receives her Grammy Museum Music Educator Finalist Award from Grammy representative Chris Bianchi.

Lincoln Librarian & Harrison Teacher In District Staff Spotlight

by Christine Gordillo

The Lakewood City Schools' Staff Spotlight shines in May on longtime Lincoln Elementary media assistant Sue Cernanec and Harrison Elementary 5th grade teacher Mark Mollison. These two staff members' dedication, enthusiasm and helpfulness have earned them recognition from their peers.

Sue Cernanec, Lincoln Elementary

"She's the glue that holds the school together." "She always goes above and beyond," say her nominators. For 33 years, Lincoln Elementary media assistant Sue Cernanec has helped keep Lincoln humming with her creativity, love of learning and willingness to always lend a hand, which is why Cernanec has been named

one of our May Staff Spotlight nominees.

Cernanec would tell you her role at Lincoln is simply to "turn kids on to books." But in reality, she does so much more. She is the creative mind behind the school's amazing display cases and bulletin boards, which she changes once a month. She helps out with classroom projects. She is the in-house tech go-to person. She volunteers with the 5th grade Giant Eagle shoppers group that helps senior citizens shop. She loves to volunteer with the Future Club and News Crew because she loves to "watch and learn from the children" about new technology. She is a regular helper at dismissal time.

Mostly though, Cernanec enjoys being in the library surrounded by books,

awaiting the next group of students. "It's the best place," she says, "because the kids all want to come. It's an exciting part of their day." Much has changed over 33 years in her role as media assistant, as technology has grown to be an integral part of education and Sue has adapted along with those changes. Despite the tech explosion, she still carefully tends to her school's book collection, often spending her own money and time scouring local library sales to add to the school collection.

From her days as a PTA mom when her children attended Lincoln in the 1980s, Sue Cernanec and Lincoln have always gone together. As one of her nominators, Kathy Sisson, said: "I can't imagine Lincoln without Sue!"

Mark Mollison, Harrison Elementary

It's hard to miss the joy and passion Harrison Elementary teacher Mark Mollison brings to his 5th grade classroom. As his nominator Stacy Rocco says, "Mark teaches with enthusiasm, energy and heart!" For that and many more reasons, Mollison has been named one of our May Staff Spotlight honorees.

Mollison's passion for teaching and his respect for his 5th grade students



Sue Cernanec, media assistant at Lincoln Elementary.

is apparent every day. After 19 years in the District, all at Harrison, Mollison still loves coming to work every day and even admits to missing it when he is off in the summer. "I just like being around the kids, it's easy to be with them," he says. It must be true, because according to his nominator, students are always keeping company with him in his classroom, no matter what time of day.

Mollison's love for his school and students drives his desire to help out in any way he can. He runs an after school game club and organizes the annual school Science Fair. A U.S. Navy veteran, Mark also helps organize an annual breakfast for veterans from all the armed forces.

Those who know Mollison, know that his rapport with his students is a special one.

"You can feel the positive and respectful atmosphere he creates in his classroom and the students thrive because of it," says Rocco. "The bond he forms with his kids is one they will carry with them throughout life!"



Mark Mollison, 5th grade teacher at Harrison Elementary.

LHS Academic Challenge Team To Compete At Nationals And In TV Show Title Round

by Christine Gordillo

Over the past few months, the Lakewood High Academic Challenge team has been competing both on Channel 5's weekly TV show, "Academic Challenge" and in Southwest Conference matches. The team's point total on WEWS was the highest of the season (78 schools competed). You can watch the team on June 17 in the Channel 5 "Academic Challenge" Championship. Recently, the team finished second of 16 teams in a regional tournament in Lancaster and competed in the tournament's state finals in Columbus May 13.

In the conference (nine schools), the team finished runner-up in both the regular season matches and the conference tournament. The team lost only one match in the regular season this year, their five-year total in conference dual matches is an outstanding 37-2. Because of its success (2nd place of 64 teams) last year at the National Invitational Tournament held in Washington, D.C., the team will again be competing at the national level, this time in Chicago June 10-12.

To attend the national tournament, the team is seeking financial assistance. The estimated cost for the 12 students going to the tournament including registration, lodgings, travel, tolls, and meals will be approximately \$5,300.

Checks should be made out to **Lakewood Academic Challenge Team – LHS**, and sent to Lakewood High School,

c/o Robert Sedlak, Mathematics Department, West Shore Career Tech, 14100 Franklin Blvd., Lakewood, Ohio 44107.

Any question please call advisers Bob Sedlak or Peter Petto.

Peter Petto – 440-724-4629

Bob Sedlak – 216-849-2160

Team roster (those headed to Chicago are indicated with an asterisk):

Seniors: Ian Bell* & Evan Suttell *

Juniors: Brian Donahoe, Kevin Cush*, Erika Hakko*, Seamus Holian*, Abe Dalisky*, Calvin Dolatowski, Veronica Lee*, & Damien Jouriles, Andrew Van Auken, Zach Howe

Sophmores: Tim Daso*, John Bobik, Nikoy Norris, Mike Ferrone, Nick Cleary, & Franc Lleshaj

Freshmen: Evan Bell*, Alice King, Aidan Bohac*, & Kathryn Oleksa*

Lakewood Music Boosters Sing 'N Serve

by Tiffany Fox

On Friday May 19th, join the Lakewood Music Boosters and your favorite music teacher for a family fun night of music, singing, food and beverages.

Celebrity bar tenders are teachers and Lakewood Administrators at Around the Corner, 18616 Detroit Avenue 6 pm-10 pm.

Music Boosters will receive a percentage of food purchases and all tips.

Raffles and Karaoke throughout the evening!

Bring your family...bring a friend...and help support The Lakewood Music 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.

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Lakewood Is Art

“Really Really” Makes Regional Premiere At Beck Center

by Pat Miller

Beck Center for the Arts proudly presents the regional premiere of “Really Really” June 2 through July 2, 2017 in the Studio Theater. Showtimes are 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, and 3 p.m. Sundays. A post-performance Talk-Back focusing on the various themes within the play will take place in partnership with the Cleveland Rape Crisis Center Saturday, June 17. Tickets are now on sale. Buy early and save with promo code: REALLY to receive \$5 off each adult/senior ticket purchased by June 1. This production contains adult language and content.

Written by Helen Hayes New Playwright Award recipient, Paul Downs Colaizzo, “Really Really” comes to

Beck Center following a sold out, twice extended run Off-Broadway. Inspired by the Duke lacrosse rape case, the play begins with a comedic tone and startlingly transitions into serious subject matter. In this comic tragedy, the veneer of loyalty is peeled back to reveal a vicious jungle of sexual politics and raw ambition found in today’s youth. *The New York Times* praised “Really Really” as “terrific...this is ‘Lord of the Flies’ with smartphones.”

Beck Center is pleased to welcome back Donald Carrier, the Associate Director of the Case Western Reserve University/Cleveland Play House MFA Acting Program. He returns to the Studio Theater after previously directing the critically-acclaimed comedy,

“Seminar.” The talented cast of seven includes Randy Dierkes, Molly Israel, Rachel Lee Kolis, Chris Richards, Olivia Scicolone, Jack Schmitt, and Daniel Scott Telford. Chris Richards appears courtesy of the Actors’ Equity Association (AEA).

Tickets are \$31 for adults, \$27 for seniors (65 and older), and \$12 for students with a valid I.D. A \$3 service fee per ticket will be applied at time of purchase. Preview Night on Thursday, June 1 is \$10 with general admission seating. Group discounts are available for parties of four or more. Purchase tickets online at beckcenter.org or call Customer Service at 216.521.2540 x10. Beck Center for the Arts is located at 17801 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood, just ten

minutes west of downtown Cleveland. Free onsite parking is available.

This production of “Really Really” is presented through special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc. It is generously sponsored the residents of Cuyahoga County through Cuyahoga Arts and Culture and the Ohio Arts Council.

Beck Center for the Arts is a not-for-profit 501(c)3 organization that offers professional theater productions on two stages, arts education programming for all ages and abilities, including dance, music, theater, visual arts, and creative arts therapies for individuals with special needs, outreach education, and free gallery exhibitions.

I Got Your Choice Quote Right Here:

Reviews Of Recent Releases By Local Bands, Pt. 48

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.

Fascinating - Picture This - Quality Time Records / Jurassic Pop - 8 songs - 12”, download

It seems like it’s been not very long at all since “Dice Game,” Fascinating’s previous record, was released, but hey, what can be said other than that Ricky Hamilton is a super prolific dude. The first thing I notice about the first track “Catholic Sun” is that the production of the vocals has improved since “Dice Game.” That’s a step in the right direction. You gotta find the balance between too noisy and too polished. “Catholic Sun” is a good catchy pop rock tune. The “do do do” backing vocals are a nice touch. Long-time Quality Time fans will remember “It’s Gone” from Ricky’s solo cassette that came out at the end of 2016, but I think this version trumps that one. The guitar leads are especially cool on this one. I’m gonna miss lead guitarist Alfred Hood on the next Fascinating record, though I’m sure his replacement Adam Spektor (who is somewhat inexplicably pictured on the insert, despite not playing on this record) will do an admirable job filling his shoes. Ricky writes what could be considered very simple songs but at the same time makes them incredibly catchy. “Tryst” is but one example of this found on this particular record. I will say that it annoys me that he says “3 AM in the morning,” since that’s redundant, but I guess grammar policing really is not my job. Have you seen the stuff I write here? I suppose “Dangerous Times” is Fascinating’s “punk” song, since it’s slightly faster than the rest of them. Some article I read about Fascinating described them as sounding like the Stooges, which, no offense to whoever wrote that, is quite possibly one of the stupidest things I’ve ever heard. Anyway. There’s a bit of a menacing sound to “Vanishing Act” and I like the harmonies on the chorus. “Sign From Above” sticks out to me because I

know all these other songs so well from seeing Fascinating live. Not a bad song though, they should do it live more (I have a theory that I’m not going to write here about why they don’t, but feel free to email me if you wanna know). “Under The Moonlight” is just a nice little pop song to close out the normal portion of the record, and features the kind of lyrics that you know and love from Ricky, including phrases like “ocean of feeling” and “solid action.” This isn’t a dig at Ricky in any way, that’s just how he writes and I respect that. In fact, it’s probably a compliment. Someone’s gotta be talking about “solid action,” and you know what? It’s probably for the best that it’s Ricky, as it just seems perfectly natural coming from him. The record closes with a good noisy freaker instrumental entitled “How I Killed Ann Coulter With My Mind.” It’s kinda out of place on the album, but I like it anyway. Another solid release from Fascinating. 4.5/5

(qualitytimerecords.bandcamp.com or jurassicpoprecords.com)

Fits Of Hail - Belmore - Sound Of The Sea - 3 songs - 7”, CD, download

So, the deal with this one is that there are 2 songs on the 7” (but you get the third if you use the download code included) and 3 songs on the other formats. Just to clear that up. “Clutter,” which is either track 1 or side A, depending on your format, I guess would be called alternative rock, not that that’s a very good description, but I can’t think of a better way to describe it. It’s a solid tune anyway, with



Cover art from this issue’s reviews.

by Buzz Kompier

a good chorus and some nice droney fuzz guitar. “Came Through The Change” is a lot more psych-rock or maybe even stoner rock, with a hypnotic repetitive groove owing a lot to the rhythm section of Alan Grandy and John Kalman. The download/CD exclusive track, “Brandywine’s,” didn’t grab me as much, but still wasn’t bad. Overall, worth a listen. Oh, but I do want to point out how much it annoys me

that the credits as relating to the photo on the sleeve are listed right to left instead of in a way that makes sense. What’s the deal with that? 3.6/5

(fitsofhail1.bandcamp.com)

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

Arts in Bloom at Beck Center!

Schoolhouse Rock LIVE!
May 12 – May 21, 2017 | Mackey Theater
Are you ready to rock? Beck Center Youth Theater brings the Emmy Award-winning cartoon to life with classic songs like “Just A Bill,” “Conjunction Junction,” and more!
\$10 Students (18–Under) | \$12 Adults/Seniors

Really Really
June 2 – July 2, 2017 | Studio Theater
Regional Premiere! After a sold out, twice extended run Off-Broadway, Beck Center presents this comic tragedy about the harsh reality of today’s youth. *Mature content.*
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Student Dance Concerts
June 3 & 4, 2017 | June 10 & 11, 2017
See what Beck Center students have been learning with “Dancing Toy Shoppe” and “Dancing to the Radio.” From tap to ballet, these concerts are not to be missed!
\$10 Students (18–Under) | \$12 Adults/Seniors

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Lakewood Cares

Lakewood Women’s Club’s First Spring Fundraiser Attracts An Influential Crowd

by Lissette Rivera

Georgetown Vosh, located in Lakewood, Ohio, hosted over 120 of the area’s most influential women, Thursday, May 4, 2017, at Lakewood Women’s Club’s inaugural spring fundraiser, “Women Honoring Women.” 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,” was the keynote speaker.

“Laura was the ideal keynote speaker,” said Kristy Feyedelem, president, Lakewood Women’s Club. “She enhanced the room’s energy and brought tears to our eyes.”

Ponticello did what she does superbly. She passionately shared transformational stories in hopes of empowering the attendees to awaken their infinite possibilities.

“The room was packed with such influential and remarkable women,” explained Ponticello. “We celebrated what they have achieved, what we are striving to achieve, and all of our potential to achieve.”

State Representative Nickie J. Antonio presented the awards for the ceremony. Eleven nominees were recognized in two award categories for their outstanding achievements – an Emerging Leader and a Distinguished Leader.

“We were here tonight to celebrate

all of our achievements,” said Antonio. “These three remarkable women exemplified each and every woman in that room.”

The Emerging Leader was awarded to Gabrielle Jackson, 4th grade teacher at Cleveland College Preparatory School and Lakewood Community Relations Advisory Council member; and the Distinguished Leader award was presented to Celia Dorsch, Former Director at Helping Two Others (H2O) and Board of Trustee for Lakewood Charitable Assistance Corporation. A College Scholarship was also awarded to Caroline Saracina, an outstanding senior at Saint Joseph Academy.

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 Worron, board member and Event Chair, Melissa Meehan, former president, Ellen Todia, member and former president, and Molly McGirr, community participant.

The donations from the event will support the 2017 scholarship winner and Trinity Lakewood Community Outreach, the Club’s 2015-17 non-profit recipient. Next year’s nonprofit recipient was also announced. GiGi’s Playhouse, a one-of-a-kind achievement center for individuals with Downs syndrome, their families, and the community, is the 2018-

2020 beneficiary.

“Laura has graciously offered to donate 10 percent of all proceeds from her book-signing to the Lakewood Women’s Club,” said Torey Worron. “We are grateful to have had a packed room full of women honoring women!”

Lissette Rivera is Account Director at Advance 360 and Public Relations Chair for Lakewood Women’s Club. She is the mother of Savanna Hepp (11), who goes to Harding Middle School and Karlo Hepp (9) who attends Lakewood Catholic Academy.

Carol Lynn’s Salon Plus Celebrates Ten Year Anniversary And Gives Back

by Carol Lynn

Celebrating and Sharing!

This year marks the 10th year Carol Lynn’s Salon Plus has been in business! We are celebrating and saying thank you to our community for your loving support here in beautiful Lakewood, Ohio. Ten years and counting, we at CLSP want to say thank you! On Sunday, May 21st we will host an Open House from 1-5 p.m. Come and celebrate with us for a chance to win door prizes and raffle baskets, while you relax with a free hand and arm massage or a free chair massage. Food and beverages also provided! Please join us as we support a wonderful organization here in Lakewood - GiGi’s Playhouse Down Syndrome Achievement Center. All proceeds from the raffle will be donated to GiGi’s Playhouse. We love working together with another Lakewood business to support our friends. That’s keeping it local!

GiGi’s Playhouse is a Down syndrome achievement center in Lakewood, Ohio. The mission of the Playhouse is to change

the way the world views Down syndrome through national campaigns, educational programs, and by empowering individuals with Down syndrome, their families and the community. **GiGi’s Playhouse is the ONLY nationwide network of Down syndrome achievement centers; changing lives through free, results-driven programs for individuals of all ages, families and communities.** GiGi’s Playhouse is an inspirational and dedicated place for families to celebrate their child and benefit from free programs that unleash joy, confidence and continuous improvement. Playhouses empower children and adults to achieve their “Best of All” and to pursue their dreams. Founded in 2003 by GiGi’s Mom, Nancy Gianni, in Hoffman Estates, IL, the organization now includes 32 community Playhouses including the first global Playhouse location in Mexico. Last year, over 26,000 individuals with Down syndrome benefited from free programs and positive empowerment. GiGi’s Playhouse is a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization funded solely by donations.

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 Tuesday, May 23, 2017 from 1-7pm at Lakewood United Methodist Church - 15700 Detroit Ave. Lakewood, Ohio 44107.

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

Steve was a graduate of Lakewood High School ('90). Dr. Meadows 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 at [www.](http://www.redcrossblood.org)



Dr. Steve Meadows

redcrossblood.org and use Sponsor Code “LUMC” To access the registration link.

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Lakewood Cares

Walk To Remember Celebrates Loved Ones

by Laurie Henrichsen

Lakewood residents are encouraged to gather family and friends and save the date for the 2017 Walk to Remember sponsored by Huntington Bank. Now in its sixth year, the event will take place on Sunday, June 11, at the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo. Funds raised help Hospice of the Western Reserve provide special services in Lakewood and surrounding communities including pediatric hospice and palliative care, the granting of patient wishes through the “*Moments to Remember*” program, grief support camps for children, art and music therapy and much more.

The event is open to anyone wishing to honor the memory of a loved

one; they need not have received hospice care. Thousands of walkers will come together to celebrate life while paying tribute to their loved ones. Registration is open online at hospicewr.org/walk, or by contacting Bridget Murphy at 216.383.3715, or bmurphy@hospicewr.org.

“There’s a celebratory feel to the day,” said Lakewood resident Lisa Tomm. Tomm, who is the clinical team leader of the nonprofit agency’s West Campus, added that it is not unusual for multiple generations within a family to walk together to honor the memory of a loved one. “All of the funds raised stay in Northeast Ohio helping local hospice patients and their families, including many right

here in Lakewood,” she added. “After the Walk, families are free to stay and enjoy the rest of the day exploring the Zoo and Rainforest.”

Registration will open at 7:30 a.m., with the opening ceremony beginning at 8:45 a.m. The Walk will begin at 9 a.m. (Choose from 1 mile and 3 mile options.) A closing ceremony will be held from 9:30 to 11 a.m., featuring food, fun and festivities at the Palava Pavilion. Registration is \$12 for children, \$25 for adults and \$65 for family (includes two adults and three children ages 4-12; children 3 and under are free). It includes all-day admission to the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo and Rainforest, t-shirt, live musical entertainment and much more.

New This Year: Comfort Buddies

For every \$100 raised or donated to “*Walk to Remember*” this year, one of eight adorable “*Comfort Buddies*” will be given to a Hospice of the Western Reserve patient. Comfort Buddies provide reassurance and meaning to a variety of patients, from young children to those with memory impairment. The soft, plush animals improve patient experience by reducing agitation and restlessness and providing an overall sense of well-being. Each *Comfort Buddy* is infused with a calming lavender scent. The adorable stuffed animals are weighted to provide a sense of security and to reduce fall risks when placed on the lap of a patient. *Comfort Buddies* can also be heated in the microwave to provide additional warmth and coziness. While donors will not receive an actual *Comfort Buddy*, clinical caregivers will be personally presenting them to Hospice of the Western Reserve patients and their families.

Showcase Re-Sale Store

by Mary Herrick

If you are looking for a resale store that has the feel of a chic boutique, the Showcase Resale Store at 15404 Madison Avenue awaits you! With a new spring and summer inventory, the store offers clothing for men, women, and children, shoes, handbags, jewelry, housewares, books, pictures, toys and other miscellaneous items. On Tuesdays, all store merchandise (except jewelry) is 50% off for any customer 50 years of age or older. On any day other than Tuesday, if you bring in this

original article and buy one item at full value, you will receive an item of lesser or equal value free.

Showcase has been a mainstay of the Lakewood community for over 35 years and is staffed and maintained by a store manager and volunteer members of the Christ Child Society of Cleveland, a non-profit organization that has served children in the Greater Cleveland Area for over 100 years. Proceeds from the store are used to fund the Christ Child Society’s many projects which include preschool reading

enrichment programs and school libraries as well as the distribution of winter coats, beds, school uniforms, and necessities for newborn babies and children in shelters.

As it celebrates over 35 years of service to the Lakewood community – and the first anniversary of its relocation to Madison Avenue – Showcase continues to welcome first-time shoppers as well as long-time customers. If you are cleaning out your closets, please consider donating gently used or like-new items. Store hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 4 p.m. Stop by. Shop. And support a worthy cause. You’ll be happy you did.

More Ways to Help Hospice

Once again this year, walkers and donors will be able to purchase and sell Honor Signs for \$250. Honor Signs will be placed along the walk route to commemorate loved ones and can be taken home after the walk by family members. To register for *Walk to Remember* or make a donation, visit hospicewr.org/walk. *Walk to Remember* sponsorship opportunities are also still available at all levels. For more information, contact Bridget Murphy.

Laurie Henrichsen is Public/Media Relations Manager, Hospice of the Western Reserve.

Grace Presbyterian Church To Host 50th Veteran Recognition And Remembrance Service

by Gary Rice

On Sunday, May 28th, at 11:00 a.m., Grace Presbyterian Church (1659 Rosewood--at the corner of Hilliard and Madison Avenues) will host their 50th community veterans recognition and memorial service. Always a memorable event, this has turned into a timeless Lakewood tradition for many veterans, families, and friends. Numerous veterans organizations also make plans to attend this meaningful service. All are cordially welcome to attend; particularly veterans and their families. (Access elevator from church parking lot side.)



At right: A previous year’s service.

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Business

The State Of Skate:

Speaking With Brian Jules, Owner Of Westside Skates

by J. William Ross

During the last twenty-two years, Westside Skates has become a staple of Northeast Ohio's skateboard scene. Since opening the doors in 1995, owner Brian Jules has seen and supplied an evolution in skating trends. I had the opportunity to talk with Brian about skateboard styles, developments in the community, and what motivated him to raise a skate shop in lovely Lakewood, Ohio.

It was a cool day in mid-March when my son and I walked into Westside Skates. Brian was busy helping a young man, accompanied by his mom, pick out the right board for his birthday. While the boy carefully chose his complete set, my son and I found a complete array of boards on the walls. We started in the very back room, where the eighties style decks decorated the wall behind a half pipe. The middle room was decked with longboards, cruisers, and shapeshifters. And the front room had everything a skater could want: a wall full of decks, clothes, shoes, trucks, wheels and, to the mother-of-the-birthday-boy's relief, helmets.

I started skating in the nineties. I remember having a lot of fun. When I was getting the hang of it, I bought a board from Westside Skates at its original location. Brian had decided to open Westside where The Flying Lemur

bookstore used to be, on the southwest side of Madison and Bunts. "I remember we had to paint the floors because they were all vines... the landlord was reluctant to give us some paint," he joked. After some effort and a few fresh coats of paint, Westside was open for business.

Brian knew that he was taking a chance opening a skate shop. While there was plenty of popularity in the eighties, the early nineties were a low point for the skateboard industry. So why did Brian choose to open a skate shop during an ebb in demand? "Originally I wanted a place for people to meet...exchange information," he explained. "I just graduated from Kent, went out to Hollywood, didn't like it out there." When he came back, he realized something was missing. "(I was) like, wait a second there's no 100% skate shop in Cleveland. I used to skate with the guy who had a skate shop on the East side of Cleveland, Ohio Surf and Skate (who) gave me some ambition to start our own business."

As the nineties progressed, so did the style of skating. Westside sold the thinner, faster, "popsicle" shaped decks instead of the older eighties models. Skaters were incorporating more flips into their tricks and when they were looking for a cool place to skate, they went wherever DIY skateparks were found. These parks were built

by skaters with sometimes makeshift materials. They were constructed in spots where they could hone their craft without distraction, but there was a problem: sometimes these DIY parks weren't exactly within the legal realm. "You take your chances for sure," Brian recalled. He told me about a specific DIY park that used to be on the west side. It was shut down just after concrete was poured for a half pipe.

Luckily, In 2004, the City of Lakewood opened a community skate park at Lakewood Park. It became a place where skaters could continue to hone their craft without wondering if it would still be there the next day. I asked Brian what effect the park had on his store and the neighborhood. "It was a boost," he said. "It did help out a lot. It draws people from all over the surrounding suburbs, counties." He was happy that it was designed by a skater. He went on to say that it was a great place to shoot demos with the pros and also a great place to spectate.

In 2009, when Westside Skates moved to their current location across from Lakewood High School on Madison, business was picking up. "When we first moved here was our busiest year ever," Brian recalled how they still had most of their items in boxes from the move but didn't have time to unpack as they were so busy. The store space

increased and the business grew.

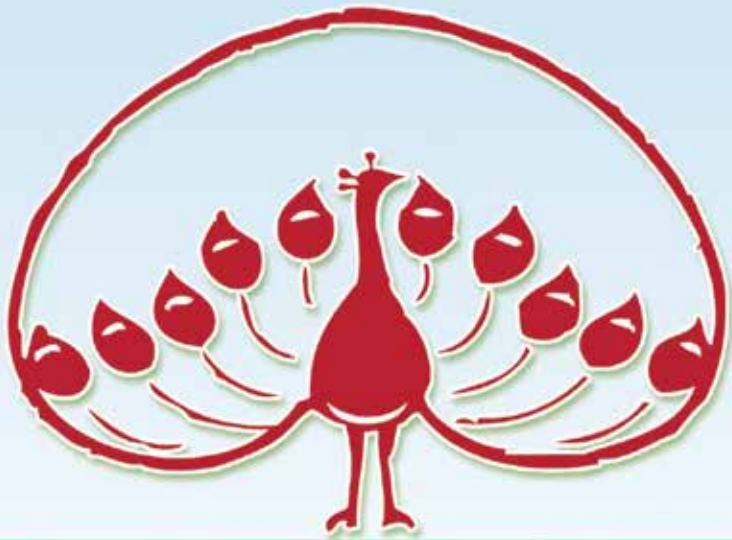
Currently, Westside has a promotional skate team of "the finest talent in the area." The team includes names like Canton's own Jonny Carl, who was recently featured in an Instrument Skateboard ad in Thrasher Magazine. "He's super good." When not on road trips promoting Westside with his team, Brian is hosting Art shows and local video premieres, "In today's day and age, a lot of kids, they film everything and a lot of them are talented, they edit it, they make skate videos like the pro videos, so we host the new premieres in the back. We host pro video premieres sometimes."

Lakewood has a unique store in Westside Skates. While rolling with the new trends and developments in the skateboard world, owner Brian Jules has provided boards and gear for not only Lakewoodites, but the surrounding communities as well. He's seen the shape of the boards change. He's seen the city embrace skateboarding by building a great skate park. And, to the delight of all local skaters, his store will be here to supply and promote the next big thing in skateboarding.

Jeffery Ross is a long-time Lakewoodite who has recently decided to get his writing career underway. His interests include birdwatching, uprooting baobabs, and painting roses.

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Entertainment

This Year’s Horrible Fest: A Delightful Preview

by Buzz Kompier

The annual (Not) Horrible Fest is upon us once again. Several days and nights of rock ‘n’ roll, mostly at Now That’s Class (11213 Detroit Ave.). For those who feel like you may be interested, here’s what’s gonna be going on.

Thursday, May 25

Before the real fest even starts, there’s a pre-fest party at Now That’s Class, featuring the original lineup of local legends **Brainwashed Youth** making a rare appearance. Opening will be two other cool local bands, Saucepan Records’ own **Real Regular** and **Perverts Again**, for whom this show will double as

a release party for their new single, “My Accident,” on Total Punk Records.

9 p.m. - \$5 / free with weekend pass Friday, May 26

To kick off the fest, there’ll be a backyard barbecue at Now That’s Class. This barbecue will not only feature food, but also backyard games, a hot tub, and live entertainment from yardcore favorites **Weed Whacker** and **Lido Lounge** (who I’m pretty sure have been playing shows around town recently as **Dime Disguise**, so I’m not sure what’s up with the name change).

5 p.m. - free

The event proper kicks off

promptly at 8 p.m. Night 1 will feature several New York acts (**Warthog** (Beach Impediment), **Kaleidoscope** (Feel It) and **La Misma** (Toxic State)), one Pittsburgh group (**Empty Beings**), and two local acts, d-beat group **Lacerate** and electronic/techno act **Prostitutes**. In addition to all this, local legend **DJ Deutschland Jerky** Rave will be playing records between bands.

8 p.m. - \$20

Saturday, May 27

This year’s matinee show will be held at Sidetrack Cafe, located in beautiful Lakewood, Ohio. Bands featured will include **DOG**, **Dianetics**, and **Birch**

Boys, as well as some area talent (which if you know me, you know that’s what I’m most looking forward to) from Cruelster spin-off group **Know So**, the affable lads known as **The Roobydocks**, and **Street Gurgler**, who I don’t know anything about, but apparently they’ll have Mr. California with them.

1 p.m. - \$10

Closing the fest out on its second night will be a guaranteed barrage of stuff you may or may not wish to witness. Two acts who have recently signed to a major label, Toronto’s (or Australia’s, or Cleveland’s) own Blow Blood Records, **Bulsch** and **Magic City**, will be kicking things off. **BB Eye**, featuring the man known as Lumpy himself will provide some new wave synthy something or another for your general pleasure, **Janitor Scum** (who put out one of my absolute favorite records of 2016) have come all the way from Calgary to make you learn, and **Hank Wood & The Hammerheads** will also be there.

8 p.m. - \$20

There’s also probably some after-party-type stuff going on, but I don’t know anything about that. Ask a punk, so long as that punk isn’t me. If you like to save your money, weekend passes (which will get you into all shows detailed above) are available for only \$42 at the NTC bar or at My Mind’s Eye or probably even some other places that I’m unaware of. Tune in a few weeks from now for my extensive review.

Play Ball! LakewoodAlive To Host “Battle Of Birdtown” Celebrity Softball Game

by Matt Bixenstine

The familiar crack of the bat and roar of the crowd will resonate across Madison Park when LakewoodAlive hosts the inaugural “Battle of Birdtown” Celebrity Softball Game on Saturday, June 3, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon at George Usher Field.

This friendly, coed game will feature various Lakewood community leaders, residents and business own-

ers, including many representing the Historic Birdtown Neighborhood. A seven-inning affair, it will pit Team Lark against Team Robin. Spectators are encouraged to attend this free event and cheer on their favorite players.

Birdtown, a proud, working-class neighborhood, is steeped in history and dates to the late 19th century. The name is believed to have been derived from the various streets within the

neighborhood named after indigenous bird species.

Sponsored by the City of Lakewood, Geiger’s and Cox Communications, the “Battle of Birdtown” will benefit LakewoodAlive’s Housing Outreach Community Engagement Program. This program develops community outreach and engagement initiatives for homeowners and residents to help cultivate a heightened sense of pride and ownership.

To learn more regarding LakewoodAlive’s Housing Outreach Community Engagement Program, contact our office at 216-521-0655 or visit LakewoodAlive.org.

Calvary United Methodist Hosts Free Carnival

by Sue Hampton

On Saturday, May 20th Calvary United Methodist Church, 16305 Hillard Blvd. will host a free carnival from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The family friendly event will include bounce houses, games, prizes, food, and drinks. Everyone is welcome!

On June 4 LakewoodAlive, Lakewood Historical Society To Host 2nd Annual Historic Birdtown Walk & Picnic

continued from page 1

GrafTech) sought to ease its employees’ commutes to work to reduce staff tardiness. The factory acquired 115 acres extending west along Madison Avenue and established the Pleasant Hill Allotment, which was divided into 424 lots and later become known as Birdtown. The name is believed to have been derived from the various streets within the neighborhood named after indigenous bird species.

Sponsored by Citizens Bank, the City of Lakewood, Dollar Bank and First Federal Lakewood, the Historic Birdtown Walk & Picnic is orchestrated by LakewoodAlive’s Housing Outreach Community Engagement Program. Through community outreach and engagement initiatives aimed at residents in low-to-moderate income neighborhoods, this program seeks to cultivate a heightened sense of pride and ownership.

The walking tour is co-sponsored by the Program Committee of the Lakewood Historical Society to build awareness of this historic neighborhood. For more information regarding

the Historic Birdtown Neighborhood, contact the Lakewood Historical Society at 216-221-7343.

To learn more regarding LakewoodAlive’s Housing Outreach Community Engagement Program, contact our office at 216-521-0655 or visit LakewoodAlive.org.



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Lakewood Living

Refugee Resettlement Challenges And How To Help Locally

by Matt Kuhns

The life of a refugee involves tremendous difficulties, which misunderstandings and ignorance only make worse. Lakewood resident Kerissa MacKay helps address these challenges, as a local program coordinator for the U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants (USCRI). On May 25, MacKay will speak about her work, refugees’ lives, and ways that all of us can help.

MacKay will explore resettlement in the U.S. during a presentation to the Lakewood Democratic Club. She will relate some of the struggles and personal experiences of refugees, before and after resettlement. Her presentation will provide insight into

- how one becomes a refugee
- life as a U.S. resettled refugee
- myths and facts
- how you can help

MacKay will also speak about USCRI, where among other roles she assists newly resettled refugees in becoming self-sufficient. USCRI is a secular, non-profit resettlement agency based in Washington D.C., which serves refugees, immigrants, unaccompanied migrating children, survivors of human trafficking and victims of

torture.

The Lakewood Democratic Club will host MacKay at its meeting on Thursday, May 25, at the Woman’s Club Pavilion in Lakewood Park.

Local Rugger Carries Gritty Tradition To BGSU

by Ronald Ciancutti

The Bowling Green State University Rugby team owned the ball for nine and a half minutes of the first ten minutes of the National Collegiate Championship match. But it was those other 30 seconds that left the Falcons on the losing end of the scoreboard to Notre Dame College. The Falcons had worked their way to the Notre Dame ten yard line only to see a pass interception returned for 90 yards and a Notre Dame try. Stealing the kickoff to Notre Dame, the Falcons again marched to within the shadow of the goalposts. But a dropped pass was booted ahead and a timely bounce into the streaking arms of Notre Dame made the score 10 – 0. The two mistakes put the Falcons in a hole they couldn’t quite pull out of and the score crawled to 34-17 by its conclusion.

Doors open at 7 p.m., and the evening’s program begins at 7:30 p.m. Meetings are free to attend. New members are also welcome to join; dues are once per year and may be paid at the meeting.

For more details contact lkwdohdemclub@gmail.com.

Matt Kuhns is a freelance graphic designer, and occasional author. He lives in Lakewood.

The BGSU Rugby team played in Wales and other parts of England as part of the regular season in 2016 and will travel to various cities in Italy to compete in 2018.

The Ciancutti Family has been a proud member of the Lakewood Community since 1992, supporting and participating in the efforts of the Recreation Department, the Educational sector and the forward looking local government. Can’t think of a better place to raise a family.

From the Archives Of The Lakewood Historical Society Oldest Stone House Hosts “Farm To Table” Program



by Jess Yenni, Curator at Lakewood Historical Society

Elizabeth, 7, enjoys the chickens at Hale Farm & Village. Live chickens will be coming to the Oldest Stone House for our “Farm to Table” program on June 10th! Join us and learn about the farm to table food trend and the art of keeping hens, then take home your very own bean plant. More details at www.lakewoodhistory.org.



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Lakewood Living

LakewoodAlive How To Contract A Repair Workshop On May 25

by Matt Bixenstine

We're known as the "City of Beautiful Homes," yet as many residents have discovered, maintaining our renowned-yet-aging housing stock requires more than a little TLC on the part of homeowners.

LakewoodAlive will host "Knowing Your Home: How to Contract a Repair" on Thursday, May 25, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at Lakewood Public Library - Madison Branch (13229 Madison Avenue). The eighth workshop of 2017 for this popular home maintenance educational program will focus on the process of working with a home

repair/improvement contractor.

Led by Allison Urbanek, LakewoodAlive's Housing Outreach Director, this workshop will cover the basics of understanding your repair, including navigating the process of obtaining estimates, scheduling the job and ensuring the project is completed properly in a timely manner. The goal of this presentation involves helping to remove guesswork from the daunting task of home repair and improvement projects. When your project is done correctly the first time, you save precious time, money and sanity.

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.

Matt Bixenstine is the Marketing & Development Manager for LakewoodAlive. He enjoys all things Lakewood, especially walking his basset hound through Madison Park.

Safe & Affordable Fun Kids Connection

by Mitchell Robida

Summer is an important part of the year for fun and exploration. Again this summer, the Lakewood City Schools Community Recreation & Education Department will be offering its Kids Connection Summer Day Camp. Kids Connection offers safe, fun, and affordable opportunities for kids who have completed kindergarten through sixth grade for around \$25 per day.

At Kids Connection, kids will spend the summer doing a wide variety of fun activities that include swimming, games, field trips, arts & crafts and much more. Kids Connection is located at Emerson Elementary School (13439 Clifton Blvd), one of Lakewood's state-of-the-art schools. This location will offer campers access to the computer lab, LRC, gymnasium and baseball field, and is a short and safe walk to Lakewood Park and Foster Pool.

Over the course of the summer, Kids Connection campers will have the opportunity to go on many field trips, including the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo, a Lake County Captains baseball game and the Cleveland History Museum, just to name a few. Best of all, each and every field trip is included in the weekly price of camp.

The camp is staffed with certified teachers who provide families with a safe, fun, and affordable alternative

to childcare. The program consists of nine one-week sessions, Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Parents do not have to drop-off or pick-up that early or late, but it is an option that is available. The cost for camp is \$125 for a resident and \$155 for a non-resident, per one-week session.

For more information on the Kids Connection Day Camp or any Lakewood Recreation activity please contact 216-529-4081 or visit the website: www.lakewoodrecreation.com.

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For more information, contact: The Volunteer Services Office (216) 529-5005 Visit the City of Lakewood at www.one.lakewood.com

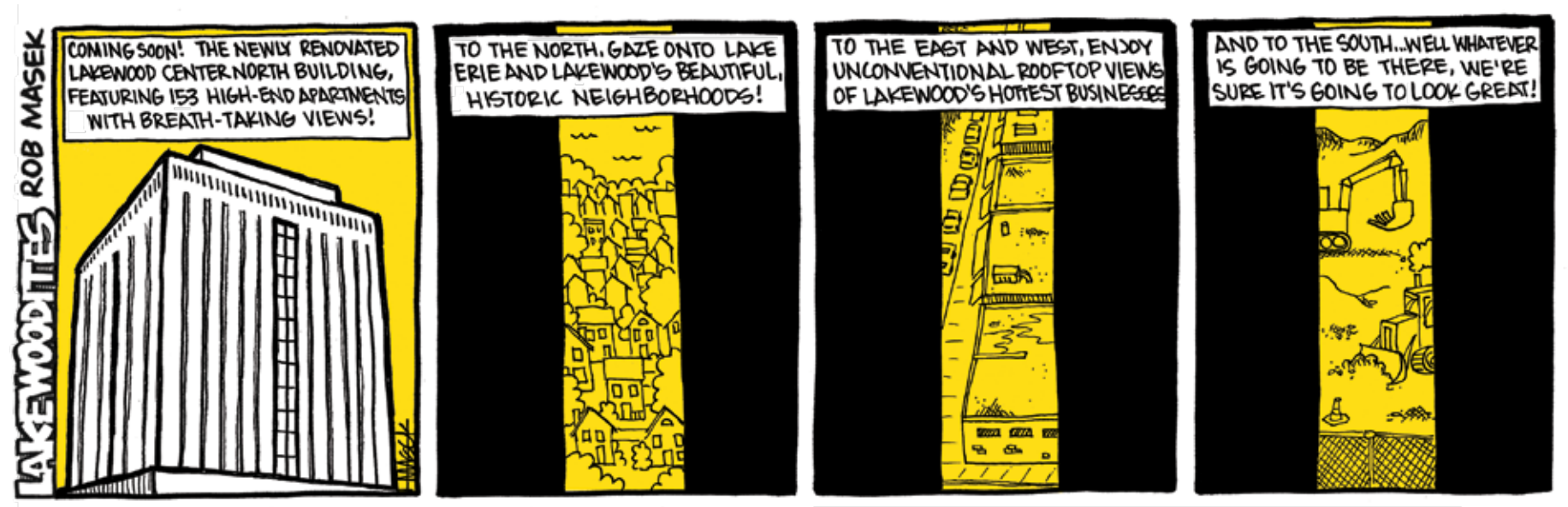
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2 Items	\$8.00	\$10.00	\$13.00	\$15.00
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