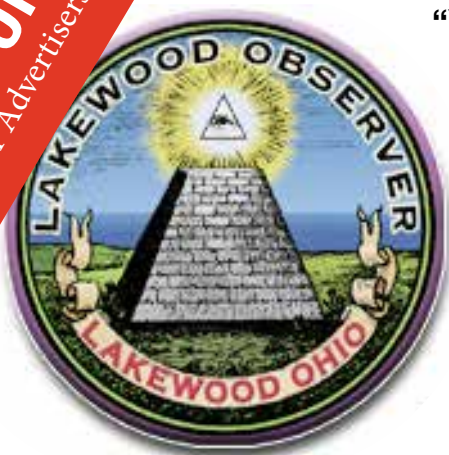


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"You must be afraid, my son. That is how one becomes an honest citizen."
Jean-Paul Sartre

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Volume 13, Issue 11, June 7, 2017

LakewoodAlive Announces Performers For All 11 Concerts In 2017

Front Porch Concert Series Returns Starting July 7

by Matt Bixenstine

It won't be long before live music floods Downtown Lakewood, echoing through neighborhood streets and beckoning families and concert-goers alike to the heart of the city.

LakewoodAlive announces the diverse and talented line-up of musical performers for the 2017 Front Porch Concert Series sponsored by Bentley Wealth Management of Raymond James. See the schedule below for weekly performers com-

prising the popular live music program, which takes place each Friday evening from 7 to 9 p.m. from July 7 through September 15 on the front porch of Lakewood Public Library (15425 Detroit Avenue).

Like a crowd-pleasing encore performance, this summer series is sure to delight its audience, as it features a wide array of free, live music for 11 consecutive Fridays. Cleveland-based reggae sensation Carlos Jones kicks off the series with his catchy island vibes that will heat up the summer



Photo by: Alex Bellisle/Faces of Lakewood

The front porch of the Main Library serves as an idyllic setting for LakewoodAlive's summer concert series.

evening on Friday, July 7.

The 2017 edition of this summer series offers some-

thing for every musical taste. From folk to rock to Ernie Krivda's trademark jazz, each

weekly concert remains family-friendly while delving into diverse musical genres. Attendees are encouraged to bring family, friends, snacks, blankets and chairs. In the event of inclement weather, the affected concert will be moved into the library.

Now in its seventh year, the popular Front Porch Concert Series adds vibrancy and an enhanced sense of community to Lakewood's urban core, drawing several thousand attendees annually.

"We are excited to unveil the performers for our 2017 Front Porch Concert Series," said Ian Andrews, Executive Director of LakewoodAlive. "This series has evolved into a major family entertainment option within our downtown district, creating a Lakewood summer tradition that supports our ongoing mission to foster and sustain vibrant neighborhoods within our city."

2017 Front Porch Concert Series Schedule

(All concerts start at 7 p.m. on the front steps of Lakewood Public Library)

continued on page 4

Taste Of Lakewood Returns To Madison Park

by Valerie Mechenbier

The Taste of Lakewood, presented by the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce and Cleveland Magazine, will be held on Sunday, June 11th from 1-7 p.m. at Madison Park. The Taste of Lakewood is a no-admission fee, outdoor day-long food and music festival that celebrates Lakewood's reputation as a great food destination. Over 25 of Lakewood's best restaurants - including Forage Public House, Angelo's Pizza, El Carnicero, Barrio, Georgetown, Mars Bar, Salt, and Sarita - will be on hand to sell their food to a hungry audience dining al fresco and enjoying great music on the park grounds. The Taste

of Lakewood has served as a coming-out party for Lakewood's newest restaurants and this year is no exception: Yuzu, Upper Crust Pizza, LBM and Distill Table will make first-time appearances at the event.

Outstanding event sponsors make the Taste of Lakewood possible. FireSide Band and Where's Jimmy will perform on the First Federal Lakewood Stage. Kids are welcome to pot a pepper or tomato plant in the Good Food Kids Garden tent sponsored by Cleveland Clinic Lakewood, and new for 2017: attendees can charge their mobile devices in the Tech Tent sponsored by NetworkinGuys, and can vote for

their favorite food vendor by participating in the Dollar Bank Dollar Challenge.

For those who wish to have reserved tent seating and parking at the event, the Taste of Lakewood VIP ticket (\$50) offers both, plus servers who will bring food to your table, a VIP bar, two drink tokens, and a VIP-only raffle ticket to win a complete dinner for four at Pier W.

A portion of the proceeds from the Taste of Lakewood supports the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce scholarship

program, established to reward and assist college-bound high school seniors from St. Edward and Lakewood High Schools.

The Taste of Lakewood is one of the region's "must attend" events of the summer! Check out participating restaurants, purchase VIP tickets, view the complete list of sponsors, catch up with our Taste of Lakewood blogger, and sign up to volunteer at the 14th annual Taste of Lakewood: visit tasteoflakewood.com.



Spring Fest 2017

Come Kick Off Another Growing Season With LEAF

by Margaret Brinich

Celebrate the start of the growing season with LEAF (Lakewood Earth And Food) Community on the front porch of the Main Library the evening of Thursday, June 8th! The first market of the 2017 season will include activities for kids, live music from The Sonder Bombs, and of course

local produce or homemade goods from our vendors.

After you do your shopping, make sure to stop by the kid's craft table to make a craft with seeds to take home and hang on the fridge. New for 2017, we will also be welcoming the Cleveland Metroparks for a family friendly nature

continued on page 11

From The Archives Of The Lakewood Historical Society Vintage Baseball, Then & Now



by Jess Yenni, Curator at Lakewood Historical Society

It is standard practice for Little League teams to be sponsored by local businesses. In this photo, the "Art's Service" team poses in front of its sponsor, Art's Service Station, which was located on Sloane Avenue. In the mood for some old-fashioned sportsmanship? Join us Sunday, June 25 for Vintage Base Ball! Find more information at www.lakewoodhistory.org.

Lakewood Observer

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Part 1 Of 3: Summer Safety For Pets

Pet Safety In The Heat

by Erin Shaughnessy, Member of the Lakewood Animal Safety and Welfare Advisory Board

Prevention is vital in keeping our pets safe and healthy. The warmer months can be uncomfortable and sometimes hazardous for pets, but there are many easy ways to prepare for, and avoid, the dangers of summer. Safety in the Heat

Dogs can overheat easily and can't cool themselves off as efficiently as we can. Preventing heat stroke is far easier than treating it. Make sure your dog has shade when outside and unlimited access to fresh water. Try a kiddie pool! Your dog will be able to cool off and get a drink when it heats up. If you have a real pool, don't leave your dog unsupervised, don't let them drink from it and make sure to rinse off chemicals after each swim.

If you leave your pet home alone, fans are often not enough as they do not cool dogs and cats the way they cool people. Our pets enjoy air conditioning as much as we do, but many of our Lakewood homes aren't equipped. Try a cooling pad or set them up with a cold spot in the basement or on a bathroom floor. Make sure they have cold, fresh water and check on them often. Ask a neighbor to let you know if there is a power outage when you're not home and your pets are shut inside the house.

During warm weather, please remember these tips to keep your pet cool:

- Offer access to unlimited fresh

water! Animals should always have fresh, clean water available. Bring portable water bowls on walks and car rides.

- Provide shade when outside.
- To avoid hot pavement, try a 5 second test; if it's too hot for your feet, it's too hot for theirs.
- Limit exercise or take walks early in the morning or late at night.
- Keep all of your windows screened so your pets don't fall out.
- Apply sunscreen, especially to dogs with thin coats.

Signs that an animal is overheated:

- Excessive panting/difficulty breathing
- Rapid heartbeat/respiration
- Drooling
- Mild weakness, stupor or collapse
- Seizures, bloody diarrhea or vomit
- A body temperature of over 104 degrees

Breeds with flat faces (pugs, bulldogs, Persian cats) and those with dark or thicker coats are more likely to struggle with dehydration and heat stroke because they can't cool themselves down as effectively as others. These breeds, as well as elderly or overweight pets and those who suffer from heart or lung disease should spend as much time as possible in air conditioned rooms.

If your animal is experiencing heat stroke, the first thing to do is get them out of the heat. Then you'll want to use cool (not cold) water to bring their temperature down, either in the tub or with wet rags on the back of the neck and in the

groin area. Having these tips in mind will allow you to act quickly in an emergency.

Visit PetMD.com to learn how to treat a pet with heat stroke: http://www.petmd.com/dog/emergency/common-emergencies/e_dg_heat_stroke.

NEVER Leave Your Pet Unattended in the Car.

Your vehicle can get dangerously hot very quickly, causing your animal organ damage or even death. Rolling down the windows has little effect, according to The Humane Society of the United States. When it's 72 degrees Fahrenheit outside, the temperature inside your car can heat up to 116 degrees Fahrenheit within an hour. When it's 80 degrees Fahrenheit outside, the temperature inside your car can heat up to 99 degrees Fahrenheit within 10 minutes. Your pet just isn't safe alone in the car.

Even if you think it's cool enough to leave your dog in the car, someone else could disagree. Lakewood Animal Control fields calls from Good Samaritans non-stop in the summer. "You could leave your pet in the car for one minute and someone will call us," says Animal Control Officer Kurt Bialosky. "Leave them at home."

If you see a pet stuck in a hot car, here are some steps you can take to help:

- Get the make, model and license plate number.
- Go into nearby businesses and ask management to make an announcement

to find the owner.

- If the owner can't be found immediately, and you think the animal is in danger, call Animal Control at (216) 529-5020.

The key to ensuring the safety of our pets during the summer is keeping a watchful eye on them. The change of season brings new challenges but all of these potential dangers can be prevented. Keep in mind that our animals are totally reliant on us to keep them out of harm's way. Have a happy and healthy summer with your pets!

Stay Tuned for Part Two: Keeping Your Pets Safe Over the Fourth of July Holiday

Important Numbers - Save These in Your Phone, Just In Case!

Lakewood Animal Control / Animal Shelter
(216) 529-5020

ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center
(888) 426-4435

Emergency Vet Services
West Park Animal Hospital
After Hours Emergency Services from 6 p.m.-1 a.m.
4117 Rocky River Drive
Cleveland, OH 44135
(216) 252-4500

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Senator Skindell Casts Vote To Certify Congressional Redistricting Ballot Issue

by Tony DiMenna

On May 30, 2017 State Senator Michael J. Skindell (D-Lakewood), in his role as a member of the State Ballot Board, voted to certify a proposed constitutional amendment to change Ohio's system of drawing congressional districts. The vote, which was unanimous, means the group backing the proposal can begin collecting signatures to place the issue on the ballot next year.

"The gerrymandering of our state's congressional districts creates more partisanship that undermines our ability to

find common ground on issues affecting Ohioans on a daily basis," said Senator Skindell, who made the motion for the board to certify the ballot issue. "I am pleased Ohio voters are a step closer to having the opportunity to decide if it is the right time to make reforms."

The proposal is modeled after a ballot issue voters approved in 2015 that changed the process of drawing Ohio's state legislative districts. That

plan created a seven-member bipartisan commission made up of legislators and statewide elected officials, and set new guidelines for drawing maps to limit gerrymandering.

The group pushing for the congressional redistricting ballot issue will need to collect 305,591 valid signatures of registered voters from at least 44 of Ohio's 88 counties to qualify for the ballot.

LakewoodAlive Announces Performers For 2017 Front Porch Concert Series

continued from page 1

July

- 7. 7. 17: Carlos Jones
- 7.14.17: Cats on Holiday
- 7.21.17: Diana Chittester
- 7.28.17: The Chris Vance Trio

August

- 8. 4. 17: Revolution Brass Band
- 8.11.17: Red Light Roxy
- 8.18.17: Becky Boyd & The Groove Train
- 8.25.17: Vance Music Studios Rock Bands

September

- 9. 1.17: Ernie Krivda
- 9. 8.17: The Havana Nights Orchestra
- 9.15.17: Rock On Band featuring Nance Sias (Kids Concert)

For more information regarding

the 2017 Front Porch Concert Series, please visit LakewoodAlive.org/Front-PorchConcerts.

The Front Porch Concert Series is generously supported by the following sponsors: Bentley Wealth Management of Raymond James (Title Sponsor), Cuyahoga Arts & Culture and Lakewood Public Library (Encore Sponsors), City of Lakewood, Cox Communications, Lion and Blue and Vance Music Studios (Harmony Sponsors).

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

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Deluxe	\$9.50	\$12.25	\$16.00	\$19.50
Extra Items	\$0.50	\$0.75	\$1.00	\$1.50
Ext. Cheese/Spec. Topp	\$1.50	\$2.00	\$2.50	\$3.50

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Lakewood Public Library

The Friends Of LPL Book Sale Returns In June

by Lisa Calfee

The Friends of Lakewood Public Library are having their next big sale just in time for that beautiful summer day when it is just you and a porch swing with a warm breeze and a great book.

The Members Only Preview Sale (not a bag sale) is Thursday, June 8, 2017 from 6 to 9 p.m. You can join the Friends at the door for as little as two dollars to participate.

The Friends' Bag Sale is Saturday, June 10, 2017 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Fill a large grocery bag to the brim with books for only three dollars! With our "Book Transporters" available to cart large purchases to your automobile, you don't need to worry about finding too many bargains, either. Both sales take place in the Main Basement Friends' Book Sale Area. Only cash and checks are accepted.

Browse through a great selection of bestselling authors, classics, poetry, cookbooks, children's books, gardening books, romances, self-help and magazines. There are CDs for music lovers and DVDs of popular movies for sale. A special local interest section featuring Cleveland and Cuyahoga County, Great Lakes Shipping and works by local authors will also be on display.

The Friends of Lakewood Public Library pay for nearly all of the

Library's concerts, films, lectures and publications with no source of revenue other than deep discount book sales and two dollar membership dues. Some of the books on sale have been retired from the Library's

collection; most items are donated to the Friends by your friends and neighbors to keep this Lakewood tradition going strong.

We ask you to please help by dropping off donations of all kinds, from

books and magazines, to DVDs and VHS tapes. Your gift is tax deductible.

Learn more about the Friends, future sales, volunteer opportunities and more at www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.org/friends.

Cindy Summer Presents Herbal Medicine Chest At The Library

by Elaine Rosenberger

Do you suffer from frequent colds, respiratory infections, acid reflux, IBS, insomnia, joint pain, anxiety, stress or depression? If so, Cindy Summer's Herbal Medicine Chest may be just what you need. Unlike some conventional medicines, herbs,

vitamins, and minerals are designed to work with the body rather than against it.

A certified herbalist, Cindy Summer will discuss alternative herbal remedies coupled with dietary suggestions as ways to alleviate common ailments. Summer is certified through

the Alternative Healing Institute in Cleveland and owns a healing studio in Lakewood.

Summer's presentation takes place on Wednesday, June 14, 2017 at 7 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium. Admission is free and open to all.

Summertime Anime Club

by Nicka Petruccio

Teens and tweens can meet up with like minded peers this summer at Lakewood Public Library's "Otaku Café," a six week program aimed at fans of anime & manga. The word "otaku" is a Japanese term used to describe someone with an obsessive interest and has come to be synonymous with anime and manga fans in the United States. The genre has steadily grown in popularity over

the past 20 years, gradually getting absorbed into the mainstream. The appeal still may baffle some, but fans of the genre can't get enough.

To that effect, Lakewood Library is happy to present this program which will go beyond the cartoons and comics, dipping into all aspects of anime culture. Whether you're new or knee deep in your fandom, you'll have a great time immersing yourself in six weeks of anime themed awesomeness.

We'll examine Japanese culture as reflected in anime, practice our manga style drawing, share our favorite series, discuss anime cons & cosplay (dress-up), and lots more!

Join us Mondays, June 5 through July 10 from 4-5:30 p.m. Youths entering the 6th through 12th grades are invited to attend, but registration is limited so call soon to reserve your seat at Otaku Café! Call (216) 226-8275 ext. 140 to register or for more information.

Children & Youth Events

compiled by Eric Knapp

Sunday, June 4

Sensory Story Time

For you and your 3-7 year old child

This story time program can be enjoyed by all children, but it is specifically designed for young children with special needs, autism or those with sensory processing challenges. Registration required.

3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. in the Main Library Toddler Story Room.

Mondays, June 5 through July 10

Otaku Cafe

For students in sixth through twelfth grade

Explore the Japanese culture of manga, anime, cosplay, conventions and more!

4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. in the Main Library First Floor Multipurpose Room.

Thursday, June 8

Reading Marathon

For all ages

Drop in during our reading marathon and hear some amazing stories from our staff!

10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at Main Library Children's and Youth Services.

Saturday, June 10

Art Robots

For students in sixth through twelfth grade

Use our materials to sculpt your own artistic interpretation of a robot!

7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. in the Main Library Activity Room.

Saturday, June 10

Tail Waggin' Tutors

For school-age children

Bone up on your reading skills by reading to a dog. Drop in for a one-to-one session with one of our dogs and owners that have been certified through Therapy Dogs International.

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. in the Main Library First Floor Multipurpose Room.

Mondays, June 12 – July 24

Pen Pal Club

For students entering second through fifth grade

Come in every Monday and write a fun theme letter to a mystery recipient... then get something back!

Main Library Children's and Youth Services.

You're invited to attend

LAKEWOOD TOWN HALLS

What's working in Lakewood—and what should work better in your city, your ward, your neighborhood or your street?

Please attend a local town hall meeting, hosted by City Council At-Large candidate Tristan Rader. All are invited for a conversation where **your input matters**.

Town halls are taking place beginning June 10, one for each of Lakewood's wards. Check out your local town hall, or whichever fits your schedule.

WARD 1	WARD 2	WARD 3	WARD 4
June 10	July 29	June 17	July 8
1:30-3 p.m.	1:30-3 p.m.	1:30-3 p.m.	Noon-2 p.m.
Harding School cafeteria 16601 Madison	Harding School cafeteria 16601 Madison	Garfield School cafeteria 13114 Detroit	Ice cream social Madison Park pavilion 13029 Madison

tristanrader.com/townhall

twrader@gmail.com
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Lakewood Public Library

Calendar Of Events

compiled by Elaine Rosenberger

Wednesday, June 7

Workshop - Introduction to Meditation: A Practice for Moving Toward Inner Peace and Improved Health

Presented by Mello Mitchell

Meditation can reduce anxiety and stress, leading to more balanced living and a healthier life. Learn simple meditations that can become the foundation of your daily practice. Eat light and dress in comfortable clothes. After retiring from corporate life, meditation instructor Mello Mitchell’s passion became to help people reduce stress and anxiety and find inner peace through a variety of practices including meditation and mindfulness.

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

Thursday, June 8

Friends’ Preview Sale (not a bag sale)

Special members-only preview sale. Memberships may be purchased at the door for as little as two dollars.

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

Author Event - “Autopsy of America: The Death of a Nation” by Seph Lawless

Autopsy of America: The Death of a Nation is a harrowing look deep inside the crumbling apocalyptic landscape of America through the eyes of photojournalist Seph Lawless. The captivating images are accompanied by Lawless’ personal anecdotes and thought-provoking stories that are as riveting as the images. Books will be available for sale and signing at the event.

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

Friday, June 9

Documentary - “At the Fork” (2016)

Presented by LEAF

Filmmaker and omnivore John Papola, together with his vegetarian wife Lisa, offer up a timely and refreshingly unbiased look at how farm animals are raised for our consumption. With unprecedented access to large-scale conventional farms, Papola asks the tough questions behind every hamburger, glass of milk and baby-back rib. What he discovers are not heartless industrialists, but America’s farmers—real people who, along with him, are grappling with the moral dimensions of farming animals for food.

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

Saturday, June 10

Friends’ Bag of Books Sale

Friends of Lakewood Public Library host the Friends Summer Bag of Books Sale in the Main Library Basement.

9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the Main Friends’ Book Sale Area

Saturday, June 10

Film - “Dial M for Murder” (1954)

Presented by Terry Meehan

Tennis pro Tony Wendice (Ray Milland) suspects that his wealthy wife Margot (Grace Kelly) is having an affair with handsome playboy Mark Halliday (Robert Cummings). He blackmails an old army buddy (Anthony Dawson) into following his plan for the murder of his wife. Terry Meehan continues his series on Hitchcock in the Fifties, introducing each film with an original video presentation, followed by audience reaction and a lively discussion.

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

Sunday, June 11

Performance - Story Club Cleveland

“More stripped-down than spoken word, more intimate than a reading, less frantic than stand-up, less showy than theater, [live lit is] essentially a reader and a mic and a room full of people. Live lit is verbal seduction, polemic, rhythm and lyric, bedtime story, bombast, and lament all at once.” – Chicago Reader review of Story Club. Story Club is a nonfiction storytelling show for adults. The goal is to mix the spontaneity of an open mic with the experience of live theater.

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

Monday, June 12

Documentary - “Trail Magic” (2015)

Though many serious hikers know that Emma “Grandma” Gatewood became the first woman to solo thru-hike the Appalachian Trail, in 1955 at the age of sixty-seven, they really don’t know the rest of the story. Gatewood, a survivor of domestic abuse, raised eleven children before divorcing her husband and hiking the 2,050 mile trail for the first time The film about this historic Ohioan, who lived much of her life in Gallia County, includes interviews with family, historians and hikers. Gatewood inspires us to walk boldly into life, to “go for it” and change the world.

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

Meditation Mondays

Presented by Nadine Feighan

The physical and mental benefits of meditation include reduced stress and anxiety, increased focus, improved immune system function and an overall sense of well-being. Nadine Feighan presents Heartfulness Meditation, a simple, effective form of meditation focused on the heart. Each of the four Monday sessions will build on the past sessions.

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

Tuesday, June 13

Yoga Tuesdays

The “Quiet Revolution”: Yin Yoga

Presented by Marcia Camino

Yin Yoga makes more flexible and strong the body’s “yin” or connective tissue. Yin helps knees, hips, pelvis, shoulders, neck and back—where our bodies take much undeniable stress. It is highly therapeutic and quiet in nature.

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

Wednesday, June 14

Talk - Herbal Medicine Chest

Presented by Cindy Summer

Vitamins, minerals and herbs are naturally designed to work with your body rather than against it. In this program, Cindy Summer, a certified herbalist, will explore alternative herbal remedies coupled with dietary suggestions to alleviate common health issues such as the common cold, heartburn/acid reflux, sinus and respiratory issues, fibromyalgia and joint pain, irritable bowel syndrome, depression and anxiety, stress and sleep issues.

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

Thursday, June 15

Author Event: “Paradox Forged in Blood” by Mary Frances Fisher

A murder on Millionaire’s Row. A killer’s chilling words: “Shh. I know where you live.” “Paradox Forged in Blood” is set in Cleveland, during the late 1930s. Four decades after the murder of socialite Louis Sheridan, the cold case is resurrected with receipt of new evidence that transports detectives back to Nazi Germany. The only living witness, Ellen O’Malley, must confront a haunting secret and her complicit actions. From Mary Frances Fisher comes her debut novel, “Paradox Forged in Blood,” a book based on true events and stories passed down from the author’s family. Books will be available for sale and signing at the event.

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

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 Blackhouse” by Peter May (Isle of Lewis, Scotland).

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

Saturday, June 17

Film - “Secretariat” (2010)

This docudrama tells the true story of racehorse Secretariat, aka “Big Red.” Penny Chenery Tweedy (Diane Lane) acquires ownership of the not yet born colt by losing a coin toss. Penny hires eccentric French-Canadian trainer Lucien Laurin (John Malkovich). 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, June 18

Concert - Andy and Judy

Massachusetts natives Andy and Judy Daigle love folk music and love sharing it with audiences from the Northeast to the Midwest. The duo often plays well-known folk songs, from old-time traditional music to tunes by stalwart folk legends. Not only are they good singers, the instrumental complexity—the duo plays guitars, mandolin and banjo.—shows they are gifted musicians, too.

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

Monday, June 19

Meditation Mondays

Presented by Nadine Feighan

The physical and mental benefits of meditation include reduced stress and anxiety, increased focus, improved immune system function and an overall sense of well-being. Nadine Feighan presents Heartfulness Meditation, a simple, effective form of meditation focused on the heart. Each of the four Monday sessions will build on the past sessions.

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

Tuesday, June 20

Yoga Tuesdays Presented by Marcia Camino

The World of the Sun Salutation

The sun is a life-giving power. As a way of honoring that life force, yogis move through a series of postures facilitated by breath. Learn the history of the Sun Salutation and try out some of the several styles.

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

Knit & Lit Book Club

Come share your passion for great literature and show off your knitting, crochet, counted cross-stitch, embroidery and quilting works-in-progress. Tonight we will discuss “Epitaph: A Novel of the O.K. Corral” by Mary Doria Russell.

7:00 p.m. Main Library Meeting Room

Pen Pal Club

by Jeffrey Siebert

What better time than Summer to make new friends? The best part? They’re mystery friends! Rediscover the lost art of letter writing with Pen Pal Club at the Lakewood Public Library. Visit the library weekly and write a letter about the theme of the week. As a bonus, you can practice your reading and writing skills at the same time! One letter per week will be mailed to your secret friend by the Library, and you will also receive one letter per week from your secret friend. Paper, envelopes and postage are provided by the

Library. Celebrate your new friends at a meet and greet party at the end of the program.

This program for students entering third through fifth grade will run from June 12 through July 24, 2017 in the Main Library Children’s and Youth Services. There’s no need to register. Just drop in to write your letter and leave it in the mail box whenever you have the chance. The Meet and Greet Party will take place on Friday, August 11, 2017 from 3 to 4 p.m. in the Mail Library first floor Multipurpose room located in Children’s and Youth Services.

Schools

Recent Grad Reflects On LHS Experience

by Nate Young, LHS Class of 2017

High school is a pivotal time in many kids' lives. It is a time when they start to think about what they want their future to hold and take the steps to make it a reality. It is a time when they start to discover who they are and what characteristics they want to define them. For me, high school has been this and more, but it is all because of where I went and those who were there to support me along the way.

When my time at Lakewood High School began in 2013 I was focused on getting good grades and adjusting to a new school. I had known for years that attending college was a goal of mine and it would take a lot of hard work in each of my classes to get there, but what I didn't know is how much more involved I would get at Lakewood High, even outside the classroom. With each year came a new adventure and a new club or activity that I got involved in, and looking back on it, I wouldn't have changed a thing. As I got more involved at Lakewood High I found myself starting

to figure out who I was and who I wanted to be, and with that came more growth. I started to develop my leadership skills and understand the importance of inclusiveness and fairness in all situations. Through groups such as Help to Others, Student Council, AYF Leadership Club and swimming, I began to implement these skills and make a lasting impact with them.

In regards to academics, Lakewood High offers a wide range of challenging courses backed by teachers ready to help, providing more opportunity for success. During my time at Lakewood High I didn't just take classes to fulfill necessary credits or purely learn certain material, but rather to immerse myself into an environment filled with peers, all with similar goals--goals that would not have been achieved unless we were pushed to think critically by our teachers, and encouraged to find new ways to study. At the beginning of every year I remember sitting in class going over the syllabus for the course and being nervous about my ability to reach the

standards set for me. But every year the classes I was most nervous for ended up being the ones I learned the most from, the ones that taught me the most life lessons, along with the material.

As my time at Lakewood High has concluded, and I now prepare for my next journey at The Ohio State University, I reflect on all the moments shared with teachers and peers. I have come to realize that I would not be where I am today if it was not for them. But the people who make up the school are not entirely the reason why Lakewood High stands out. The thing that really sets Lakewood High apart from other schools is that it not only gives the opportunity for one kid to get involved and be successful, but rather a plethora of kids, all with different interests. Lakewood High gives the opportunity to its students to succeed, but allows them to find their own path, and take the initial step toward finding themselves. This skill, of taking the first step toward your own future is one not many schools can instill within



Nate Young, LHS Class of 2017

their students, but is one that will outlive a student's four short years in high school. By outliving a student's years in high school, a skill like this can prepare them to take the first step into something new; something unknown that will confront them in the real world. And as a student who feels confident in Lakewood High's ability to set its students up for success, I can only hope a skill like this will support me as I take the next step and enter into the next chapter of my life, beyond the doors of Lakewood High School.

Rangers Earn Conference Honors

by Christine Gordillo

Congratulations to the Lakewood High School Ranger student athletes who have been recognized by the Southwestern Conference for their outstanding efforts during the spring 2017 season, led by senior Hailey Owens, who was named to the conference 1st Team in softball and will continue her career at Baldwin Wallace University.

2nd Team honorees include Hailey's teammates, juniors Saher Hamdan and Audra Tuleta. Also named to the conference 2nd Team was junior baseball player Edison Budzartigue. A number of Rangers earned Honorable Mention for the conference also. Honorable mention athletes are: Seniors Miles DiCenzi and Halle

Krebs, junior Louis Fricke and sophomore Jordan Robinson from track and field; sophomores Claire Hylton and Payton Rossen from the softball team; senior Aaron Lorkowski and junior

Jared Naida from the baseball team and seniors Jack Burke and James Bosworth from the tennis team.

Congratulations to all these athletes and their coaches!

Register For LHS New Student Orientation

by Christine Gordillo

The Lakewood High new student Fresh Start orientation program will be August 15 & 16, 2017. A parent session will be held Tuesday, August 15 beginning at 6:15 p.m. in the Ranger Cafe for mingling and refreshments. The information program will begin at 7:30 pm in the Civic. On Wednesday, August 16,

students can attend on of two sessions: 9-11:30 a.m. or 12:30-3 p.m. Students will receive Chromebooks and learn the ins and outs of LHS. You can register by visiting the www.lakewoodcityschools.org and clicking on the Quick Link for Fresh Start. Please register by August 6. Any questions, email alison.breckel@lakewoodcityschools.org

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Schools

LHS Mourns Loss Of Madison The Therapy Dog

by Mike Deneen

The Lakewood High School community suffered a tremendous loss on April 27 when Madison the Therapy Dog passed away. Madison had been a staff member at LHS for five years, working with Julie Koponiski, her owner. Koponiski is an Intervention Specialist in the school's Reading Lab, which serves students grade 9-12 who are in Individualized Education Programs (IEPs). Madison has helped hundreds of kids over the years by relieving stress, encouraging student interaction and facilitating calming in the classroom.

Madson's amazing story began over eight years ago. On December 11, 2008 Konopinski was driving on

Detroit Avenue in Cleveland. She saw a frantic stray dog running close to West Blvd. "I turned my car around to go look for her, and she was gone. I drove up and down nearby streets, until I saw her." The dog had gone south on West Boulevard to Madison Avenue. "When her eyes met mine, she bolted across the street to me. She was sideswiped by a car, hurling her body across the street." Julie and her husband examined the dog, who luckily was not hurt. They took her home and decided to call her "Madison" the name of the street where she was found.

Julie recognized that Madison had many traits to become a therapy dog. She pursued therapy dog certification

through Therapy Dog International, an organization dedicated to the regulating, testing, and registration of therapy dogs. Julie and Madison participated in six weeks of training. The certification involved passing 15 different tests. Madison passed with flying colors. A few months later, she was accepted by Lakewood City Schools as the first therapy dog at Lakewood High School. Konopinski credits former LHS Principal William Wagner with helping make Madison's role possible. Current Principal Keith Ahearn also embraced Madison.

Madison became a fixture at LHS, coming to work daily and interacting with the staff and students. A few weeks ago Koponiski noticed that Madison wasn't feeling quite right. Veterinary tests eventually discovered that Madison had developed a brain tumor. She died on the morning of April 27, a Thursday. Koponiski, deeply attached to Madison as both a pet and co-worker, didn't come into work that day or the following. The next Monday she broke the news to her students.

The news quickly spread throughout the LHS community, triggering an outpouring of calls, text messages, emails, cards, and letters. Koponiski, who herself was still grieving, found comfort in the support. "Seeing how much she touched so many people here," she said, "it's like I'm grieving with hundreds of people." Some of the messages reflected the deep impact Madison had on some students' lives. "One kid wrote that Madison was the first friend they made at Lakewood High," said Koponi-



Madison passed away on April 27 at the age of nine.

ski. For some of the students, this is their first experience dealing with death. "I'm trying to be a healthy role model for grief," said Koponiski.

A Madison memorial board was placed in the Reading Lab. It has many of the notes, pictures, and even original artwork done by students to remember their canine friend. The tributes continue to roll in for Madison. Mr. Ahearn is having a plaque made in Madison's honor so that future students will know her story. A collection is taking place to have a dogwood tree planted on the LHS grounds in Madison's honor. A memorial service is also being considered.

Some have already asked if there will be a new therapy dog at the LHS Reading Lab in the future. No decisions have been made on that, as everyone is still processing the loss of Madison. If you'd like to learn more or see tributes to Madison, visit her on Twitter and Instagram @barkingranger.



A memorial to Madison now stands in the LHS Reading Lab.

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Horace Mann 5th graders playing the newly donated ukuleles.

Hawaiian Sounds Coming To
A Music Classroom Near You!

by Aaron Waryk, Music Teacher,
Horace Mann Elementary School

Starting this spring, students at all Lakewood elementary schools have begun learning to play the ukulele! The ukuleles are part of a new rotation of instruments that will be learned by fifth graders who are not participating in fifth grade band or orchestra. This rotation includes piano, guitar, classroom instruments, and now ukulele. It is the hope of the elementary music teachers that the students who learn

to play these instruments in class will find one that they enjoy and choose to continue making music throughout their life.

These ukuleles were a generous donation from the Lakewood Music Boosters. If you would like to volunteer, or make a donation to the Lakewood Music Boosters to support music opportunities like this, please visit www.lakewoodmusicboosters.com or contact Boosters President, Tracy Logan at Lkwdmusicboosters@gmail.com.

Schools

Community’s “Can Do” Attitude: Why I Love Teaching In Lakewood

by Sean McGuan

Hello, I’m Sean McGuan. I’ve taught fourth or fifth grade in Lakewood City Schools (LCS) for 24 years. I am not a native of Lakewood but I am a native Clevelander and have lived in Lakewood for 25 years. I married my college sweetie from freshman year and we have two children at Lakewood High, a junior and a sophomore. With May being the month of Teacher Appreciation Week, I wanted to write this article to reflect and share my ideas about what continues to motivate and make me value being a Lakewood teacher.

Sometimes I think of my classroom as a bus stop where the 9-10 year olds get off, stay for awhile and then move on to the next stop. The life of a 10-year-old has changed during the last 24 years. “iPad? What’s an iPad” to “Mr. McGuan, can we code today?” However, a fifth grade student is still basically the same person in 2017, as they were in 1994. They want to be respected, challenged, have fun and be prepared for middle school, and knowing my colleagues, I can say we meet these student goals.

Fulfilling the needs of students is what motivates me each day of the school year, but even when I’m not teaching, I’m doing anything I can to strengthen the

learning experiences of the students. For example, I have my eyes and ears open for information to support the fifth grade curriculum and search for new places to visit on field trips. This strategy led to all four fifth grade classrooms participating in a program entitled, “The Reasons for the Seasons” at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History’s planetarium. In addition to these personal practices, I’m supported by the professionalism of the Board of Education, Lakewood City Schools’ staff, the desire parents have for their children to reach their dreams, and the “We can do this!” energy of this community. These four components make for an invaluable Lakewood teaching experience.

The commitment of Lakewood teachers and staff to the community has not wavered during my tenure in the district. As a freshman teacher, I admired the strength of the administration. They supported the staff by providing on-site professional development and up-to-date text and digital resources. These practices continue today. For instance, LCS offer teachers the chance to take classes taught by their peers. Teachers can explore curricular programs in greater depth, learn new strategies to incorporate technology into the classroom,

or study timely topics such as understanding issues about race. Another example of forward-thinking commitment is the district moving from each school having a computer lab to having an almost one-to-one ratio of computers to students in nearly all buildings in the district.

Lakewood parents trust Lakewood teachers to lead their children to achieving their dreams because they’ve seen the results, whether in artistic, academic or extracurricular endeavors and know the Lakewood staff will never let a student down.

Parents know they can count on the school board, administrators, teachers and support staff of Lakewood to continue the legacy demonstrated by our predecessors of protecting and promoting the value of these programs by successfully leading the way for our students to achieve superior results. Lakewood bands and orchestras receive the highest marks at music contests. Lakewood artists win scholarships and national recognition for their work. Clubs such as Model U.N., or the Academic Challenge team receive high honors at their competitions.

Lakewood teachers find the spark within each student and build that spark to a successful academic or extracurricular blaze. The Board, administration and staff are relentless advocates for administering sound instructional and extracurricular practices to support all student populations. Before and after school programs of all types are created, such as Project MORE to support reading growth. Specialized internal programs, such as the Gifted and Talented and Advanced Placement programs support learners needing advanced educational opportunities. The middle school Mock Trial teams have taken high honors for years at the annual competition in Columbus. The athletic department, with our fine coaches, enables Lakewood athletes to reach the highest levels of competition, such as breaking high school records, and leading student-athletes that wish to compete collegiately to reach those dreams.

The final and most important example of what motivates me to teach in Lakewood is the tremendous and continuous community support the district receives even from families without stu-

dents in the schools by passing levy and bond issues. Not a single active school building in the district is over 15 years old. The seven elementary schools have been either refurbished or rebuilt. And refurbished doesn’t mean a new coat of paint. Buildings such as Horace Mann and Emerson Elementary Schools were completely rebuilt from the inside-out. These results were because the Lakewood community, a la LeBron, supported not one, not two, but three bond issues. Nothing more can demonstrate how much Lakewood supports and values its schools than when families make a financial commitment to their schools. Thank you!

In closing, I trace my motivation and value of being a teacher to a day early in my career. There was an administrator by the name of Rick Wair, who was the assistant superintendent. He spent the majority of his career teaching and being an administrator in the Mansfield-Ashland area of Ohio, but then moved up for a chance to shine in our fair city. (He did.)

One day, while I was at new teacher orientation, Rick was welcoming and introducing the new teachers to the community. During his main presentation, Rick remarked that he learned quickly that there is a mystique to Lakewood City Schools and the community. Rick believed there was something about the schools and community that you can’t put your finger on, but you know it when you live it and see it. There is an esprit de corps feeling that says, “We can do this!”

It’s that energy that has carried me through nearly a quarter century of being a Lakewood teacher.

LHS Boys Soccer Mattress Fundraiser Set For June 10th

by Rick Harvey

On Saturday, June 10, 2017, the Lakewood High School Boys Soccer Program is pleased to host a unique fundraising event. Our goal is to sell over 100 mattresses, with proceeds going to benefit the program and team building events this summer.

We hope to provide a reminder that if you, or anyone you know might be in need of a mattress, please save the date and visit our mobile showroom at the Garfield Middle School Gymnasium.

This is the time to buy and save up to 50% off retail, all while supporting our program. There will be 20+ sets on display and a team of experts on hand to answer any questions you may have.

When: Saturday, June 10, 2017
Where: Garfield Middle School Gymnasium 13114 Detroit Rd, Lakewood
Time: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

There will be a large selection of high quality, brand new mattresses on display with a wide range of affordable prices. Custom sizes are available! This is a no pressure sale, just stop in and take a look. Layaway, delivery and onsite financing are available. We appreciate your support of our fundraiser and hope you help spread the word to neighbors, family and friends.

*All sizes and styles available, including the popular number beds!

*All mattresses are made in the USA, made to order and shipped directly to your address!

Lakewood Football Fun And Food

by Mike Deneen

Attention all current 6th, 7th and 8th grade Lakewood City Schools students that want to participate in football next school year. You are invited to participate in the first annual series of fun “Football and Food” events. These will

be held every Friday from 6:30-8 p.m. at Garfield stadium from now through July 28th. There will be touch football, trivia games, raffles, prizes and music. After the games end at 7:45pm, pizza will be served. Don’t be shy, come out and join the fun.

Register Now! LHS Boys Soccer Team Summer Camp

by Rick Harvey

Register now for the LHS Boys Soccer Team 2017 Junior Rangers Soccer Camp! LHS Varsity Soccer Coach Andy Toth and the LHS Boys Soccer Team host boys and girls ages 8-13 for the week of June 19-23 at Lakewood High School!

Players ages 8-10 will practice from 9-11 a.m. and players 11-13 will be 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

You can register through the Lakewood Rec Dept or at www.lakewoodrecreation.com.

The cost is \$75 per player and includes a t-shirt.

Players should bring a soccer ball, water bottle, and lots of energy!

This is a great opportunity to learn the skills of soccer in a fun and encouraging environment!



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Lakewood Summer Meltdown To Heat Up City July 8

by Matt Bixenstine

Get ready to add some sizzle to your summer. Lakewood Summer Meltdown 2017, sponsored by Melt Bar & Grilled and presented by LakewoodAlive, is back for its eighth year on Saturday, July 8 from 4 to 10 p.m. in Downtown Lakewood.

One of the region's most highly-anticipated street parties, the Summer Meltdown drew nearly 10,000 attend-

ees from across Northeast Ohio to the heart of Lakewood last year. This "something for everyone" event and fixture on our city's summer calendar takes place on Detroit Avenue between Marlowe and Elmwood, offering seemingly endless recreation and celebration opportunities, including a 5K race, 1 Mile Kids Fun Run, street festival, outdoor activities, games, food vendors, beer garden, live music and more.

Families will love the street festival component, which features free programs from 70+ businesses and nonprofits organizations, including numerous interactive opportunities. Activities range from a sprinkler park to skateboarding to demonstrations of yoga and other exercises.

The ever-popular Meltdown 5K presented by Cleveland Clinic Lakewood draws hundreds of par-



The Summer Meltdown returns to Downtown Lakewood on July 8. Participants annually, as it features a fast course, chip timing, t-shirts for participants and prizes for top finishers. Both this running event and the 1 Mile Kids Fun Run presented by Lakewood Family YMCA afford participants a rare opportunity to partake in an evening race. Visit LakewoodAlive.org/Meltdown to register for either race.

Local brews available in the Gary K. Bish Memorial Beer Garden presented by First Federal Lakewood will complement dining options from vendors and food trucks. Fan favorite alternative rock band Front Porch Lights returns to the stage to delight the crowd as dusk turns to nightfall in beautiful Downtown Lakewood.

Lakewood Summer Meltdown Schedule:

4-7:30 p.m. – Meltdown Street Festival

5-10 p.m. – Gary K. Bish Memorial Beer Garden presented by First Federal Lakewood

5:30 p.m. – Race-day registration begins at the intersection of Detroit and St. Charles Avenues

6:00 p.m. – 1 Mile Kids Fun Run presented by Lakewood Family YMCA begins at Belle Avenue

7:00 p.m. – Meltdown 5K presented by Cleveland Clinic Lakewood begins at Belle Avenue

7:00 p.m. – Alternative rock band Front Porch Lights performs on stage

For more information, please visit LakewoodAlive.org/Meltdown.

The Lakewood Summer Meltdown is generously supported by the following sponsors: Melt Bar and Grilled (Title Sponsor); PrimeLending (Platinum Sponsor); Cleveland Clinic Lakewood (Meltdown 5K Sponsor); City of Lakewood, Beat Cycles, Cuyahoga Community College, First Federal Lakewood and Geiger's (Gold Medal Sponsors); Cox Communications and Lakewood Family YMCA (Silver Medal Sponsors).

Centenarian Celebrates Turning 100 At Crestmont North Nursing Facility

by Bonnie Greenberg

Betty Pedace is turning 100 years young on June 7th. Even though Betty is 99 she enjoys playing poker, bowling and other group activities like Happy Hour with live entertainers like Shane Phillips and Joel Scigliano, just to mention two. Betty enjoys watching her daughter Terri and other family members and staff dance to songs like Cake By The Ocean and Uptown Funk. "Sometimes it doesn't feel like a nursing home," says Betty regarding the fun she has at Crestmont.

Betty was born on June 7th, 1917 in Brockway, Pennsylvania. Both of her parents immigrated to the United States from Italy. When Betty's husband Albert took a position at Ford Motor Company in Brookpark they moved into a house on Wyandotte Ave-

nue here in Lakewood.

Betty was a homemaker. She loved to play cards, travel and cook. She was known for preparing great Italian "feasts" for her family and friends to enjoy. She has shared with me that one of her favorite stores is Galluccis on the east side. For several years Betty was a volunteer in fundraising activities at St. Joseph Academy in Cleveland where her oldest daughter attended high school.

Betty's husband passed away in 1972. She continued to live on Wyandotte Avenue by herself until one month before her 98th birthday when she came to live at Crestmont.

Betty had four brothers and sisters and three of them lived into their 90's. She has two daughters, two grandchildren and one great grandchild.



Centenarian Betty Pedace

Bonnie Greenberg works in the Activities Department at Crestmont North Nursing Facility.

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Shabbat In The Park Open To Community

by Melinda Mersack

jHUB, an initiative which provides interfaith couples and families new ways to comfortably explore, discover, and personalize the meaning of Jewish culture and values in our modern world, is offering Shabbat in the Park on Friday, June 23rd from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at Lakewood Park. For this potluck dinner jHUB will provide an entrée, drinks, and crafts for kids, and attendees are asked to bring a side dish or dessert to share.

“Shabbat is a special time when we unplug from the busy work week and take time to reflect on the priorities in our lives. It is a wonderful time to connect with family and friends and we hope that by offering this unique experience in Lakewood Park, interfaith families will join us to learn about and celebrate Shabbat while meeting new friends and enjoying good food,” said Rabbi Melinda Mersack, Director.

The event is free. Registration is required at www.eventbrite.com/e/shabbat-in-the-park-lakewood-tickets-34704699691 or by contacting Danya Shapiro, jHUB Family Program Manager, at dshapiro@jecc.org or 216-371-0446. To learn more about jHUB, visit www.jhubcle.org.

Rabbi Melinda Mersack is the Director at jHUB. She is a proud Rabbis Without Borders Fellow of CLAL and a Brickner Fellow of the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism. Each year, she attends summer camp as visiting faculty and is an advocate for interreligious dialogue and social justice.

Drug Collection Drive A Huge Success

by Jeff Capretto, Enforcement Agent

The Westshore Enforcement Bureau Drug Task Force (WEBDTF) gratefully acknowledges the citizens of our six western suburbs for actively participating in the semi-annual collection event on April 29th, 2017 with 290 pounds of outdated and unwanted medications collected for safe disposal.

In addition, our WEB communities citizens were responsible for properly disposing of medications via the use of the 365/24/7 drop boxes located within each of the six police departments’ lobbies to the tune of 2,719 pounds for the calendar year 2016.

I urge our citizens to continue to make use of the drop boxes whenever the need arises to dispose of those expired or unwanted medications for the purpose of protecting the environment and to prevent the diversion of the pharmaceuticals of illegal activities.

WEBDTF will continue to offer this valuable service to increase the safety and welfare of all Westshore families.

Spring Fest 2017 Come Kick Off Another Growing Season With LEAF

continued from page 1

show not only this week, but regularly throughout the rest of our season!

On Thursday, June 8th you will be able to shop with the following local vendors.

Community Greenhouse Partners: microgreens, arugula, radishes & more!

Willow Teas, Spices & More

Backattack Snacks: homemade beef jerky and other snacks

Grainman: grains, syrup, honey, and more local foods

Maria Leng-Handmade Gemstone Jewellery

Spoiled Dog Boss: grain-free dog treats

LEAF: cookbooks and tee shirts

EBT is and Produce Prescriptions are accepted at the LEAF Night Market. Plus, we are part of the Produce Perks program, so you can buy one market token (with SNAP) and get one free up to \$10.

And don’t forget, while we are a regular Fresh Stop pick-up location, the City Fresh season does not start until the following week on June 15. But you can still place your order in-person at Spring Fest!

The LEAF Community Farmer’s Market takes place every Thursday evening on the Main Library front porch from 5:30-8 p.m. through October.

Free Summer Lunches For Kids At Church Of The Ascension


by Corky Thacker

School-age kids from preschool through grade 12 can get a free, nutritious lunch every weekday from June 12 through August 11 at the Church of the Ascension, 13216 Detroit Ave. in Lakewood. Meals also are available at no charge to those with disabilities through age 21 who participate in a recognized school program for individuals with developmental or physical disabilities.

The church hosts and staffs the meals as an approved sponsor for the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) administered by the Ohio Department of Education. Funding is provided by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and food is ordered by church volunteers from the Cleveland Food Bank.


Meals are served on a first-come basis in Ascension Hall on the second floor of the church from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Monday through Friday during the program period. Entry is through the second door by the east driveway.

Corky Thacker is a parishioner and vestry member at Church of the Ascension, an Episcopal Church located at 13216 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood.



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Lakewood Is Art

Beck Center Dance Education Presents

Bi-Annual Dance Concerts

by Beth Kretschmar

Beck Center’s popular bi-annual dance concerts return this spring to the Mackey Theater. All students from the Dance Education Program at Beck Center participate in two uniquely different dance concerts the first two weekends in June. Tickets are on sale now.

“Our bi-annual concerts are reflective of the many types of dance that Beck Center offers,” remarked Melanie Szucs, Associate Director of Dance Education. “These performance opportunities also give our students the chance to showcase their classroom efforts and progress by performing on stage in costume and make-up with professional lighting.”

Beck Center’s youngest dance students, ages 2 to 7, perform “Dancing Toy Shoppe,” June 3 and 4, where they share their developing talents and create magic in a toy-themed dance concert. Performances are 7 p.m. Saturday and 3 p.m. Sunday. “Beck Center prides itself on offering age appropriate instruction in a fun-filled environment,” noted Szucs.

Experienced youth, teen and adult dancers perform “Dancin’ to the Radio” the weekend of June 10 and 11 with performances at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, and 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday. Travel through the decades as Beck students bring radio hits to life. This concert features students from intro to ballet, ballet, pointe, contemporary, tap, jazz, and hip hop classes.

Tickets for each concert are \$12 for adults and seniors, and \$10 for children and students and may be purchased online at beckcenter.org or by calling Customer Service at 216.521.2540, ext. 10. 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.

These performances are generously sponsored the residents of Cuyahoga County through Cuyahoga Arts and Culture and the Ohio Arts Council.

Victoria Price’s Learning To See: Postcards From The Road

by A. Nancy Cintron

The images she captures inspire her to keep looking at the world with fresh eyes and continually to try to see anew. Through the eyes of love.

She frequently revisits photos she has taken, in order to “listen” to what they are telling her. She then incorporates what she has heard into the images themselves. In that intersection of the verbal and the visual, she finds new inspiration -- new ways of being present to what is.

Victoria Price is an inspirational speaker, writer, art historian, art consultant, designer and interspiritual/interfaith minister.

Victoria tries to live her life by credo of one of her favorite poets, Mary Oliver:

Pay attention.
Be astonished.
Tell about it.

continued on page 14

One More Time! OK, Again!:

Reviews Of Recent Releases By Local Bands, Pt. 49

by Buzz Kompier

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.

Goldmines / Shitbox Jimmy - Goldmines / Shitbox Jimmy - Quality Time Records / Wax Mage Records - 7 songs (3 Goldmines, 4 Shitbox Jimmy) - 12”, download

Let me start off this review by saying I have no idea what band is supposed to come first here. While the album cover lists Goldmines first, the runout etchings say that Shitbox Jimmy’s side is A. For my more casual readers (i.e. the ones that have never spoken to me in person), this annoys me more than you could possibly fathom. I guess I’m going with Goldmines for now, but that could change. As someone who wasn’t head over heels for Goldmines’ previous 12” like it seemed like a lot of people were, Goldmines do one heck of a job here. “We Real Cool,” with choruses based on the poem of the same name, has lots of guitar from Mandy Look and Jeanna Lax, which is always appreciated. Meanwhile, Roseanna Safos (you may remember her

from every other band she’s also in) really kills it on the drums with an especially bombastic performance while Heather Gmucs holds it all down with a darn good bassline. It’s mega catchy and I would go so far as to say it’s Goldmines’ best song. Though the two songs that follow it don’t quite live up to all that, they’re both still good. “Shadow” is another catchy indie rocker, with an instrumental bit that kinda reminds me of “Psychotic Reaction” for some reason. Something about the rhythm, maybe? “Not The Lion” has got a cool ominous melody that’s both sung and played by the lead guitar. I think Goldmines go three for three here. Like ‘em or not, I think it’s undeniable that they have some darn catchy tunes. Then ya flip the record over and Shitbox Jimmy start their side of things with an utter killer as well. “Later” is just about everything you’d want in a power pop song. It’s just a crusher. On “Try Save,” they get a little more garage-rockin’ but it’s still mega pop, and Joey Nix reminds you that just because he’s playing power pop these days doesn’t mean he’s a wimp, he can still belt it. I like the lead guitar on the

chorus— actually, I like almost everything about this song. They’re really taking things in a power pop direction these days as opposed to their earlier straight garage rock sound. I suspect (actually, I don’t need to suspect, I confirmed this) that Drew (that’s Ritchey, the one who plays guitar and sings sometimes, not Siegel, the one who plays drums) is at least a little responsible for this. Their third tune here, “Do You Wanna” is probably the weakest song on the whole record, but for a weakest link it’s still a pretty good song. I do like the little quiet part, though this tune and the last one, “Teenage Daughter” prove that even the clean, bright production that John Delzoppo did here can’t render what Joey’s saying comprehensible. Oh well, that’s just part of his charm. Hey, speaking of “Teenage Daughter,” you’re not gonna believe this: it’s another good power pop tune. The drums on the choruses provide an interesting rhythmic element that is not quite what you’d expect, but it works real well. Drew Siegel and bassist Jake Grace do a darn good job holding down the rhythm on this one. This band (actually, both bands here) has been around long enough that they know what they’re doing. Also, I think in verse two, Joey doesn’t say even one real word, but I’m willing to be corrected. As someone who was a big fan of “Deliverance” and “The Movie,” it took me a few listens to come around to their new sound, but I got there. You probably will too. I think this record as a whole gets better with each listen. Hold on, can I say “darn good” one more time? Darn good. 4.8/5

(qualitytimerecords.bandcamp.com)

Various - Your Ass: The Musical - Wheelchair Full Of Old Men - 39 songs - 2xCD

Yes, this is another conceptual Wheelchair Full Of Old Men compilation. I don’t even really need to say anything more, but I will anyway. The premise of

this one is that all your favorite bands cover songs from musicals. It’s just as good as it sounds. There are pretty straight covers, there’s some grind stuff, there’s that drum machine that can be found on almost every Wheelchair release...are you intrigued yet? My favorites here were The Dick Panthers’ “If I Were A Rich Man” from Fiddler On The Roof, The Whores’ “Fiddle About” from Tommy, Eurodisney Deathcamp’s “Springtime For Hitler” from The Producers, Luciferian Parallelogram’s “Zip A Dee Doo Dah” from Song Of The South...I mean, with 39 songs here, there’s probably something for everyone. Not recommended to people who don’t have a sense of humor, but you could say that about anything. Not only is this a great concept for a comp, but the packaging is great. It comes with a playbill. That alone is worth it. I don’t think I can rate this, I think you just have to make your own decisions here.

(wheelchairfullofoldmen.bigcartel.com)

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



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Business

New Cookie Bakery In Lakewood Is Open For Business!

by Michael Samulak

Have you been searching for that perfect little extra-special treat to complete your next event or party?! Look no further -- Stephen Watkins, rising start on the local culinary scene, has officially stepped onto the public platform by launching a new bakery, based right here in Lakewood, Ohio!

As of May 15, 2017, Cookie Bucket

Bakery is now officially taking orders -- by the bucket! Inspired by a passion for cooking and a love for food, this talented young chef has now begun the joyous journey of operating a small business. Mr. Watkins took his award-winning talents to the restaurant world after graduating from our very own Lakewood High. While working feverishly in established local kitchens, he turned to baking cakes, pies, muffins, and

cookies as a stress reliever from those long hard days behind the stove and on the line. Stephen soon realized that the cookies he would whip up were enticing the tastebuds of many around him who began clamoring for more! The cookie creations that he soon perfected became something special, very special and tasty indeed. Stephen soon teamed up with his mom and began baking for friends and family

who raved all the more. The mother and son duo revived and refreshed some old family recipes, and from these humble beginnings, the business was born.

Cookie Bucket Bakery is fully licensed and has a large menu of classic and specialty cookies as well as a killer brownie - with or without nuts! These one-of-a-kind cookies are perfect for graduation, birthday parties, or to satisfy your everyday sweet tooth. Unique seasonal items such as the current S'Mores cookie loaded with marshmallow, graham, and chocolate ensure that customers will return regularly to partake of the latest and greatest cookie constructs. Everything is fresh and made-to-order from scratch, using locally purchased ingredients, whenever possible.

A full menu, pricing, and ordering can all be accessed via the FaceBook page: [cookiebucketbakery](#) or call directly at 216.538.7108.

*For those with potential allergies, baked goods have been prepared in the same areas that may have been in contact with tree nuts or peanuts.

Michael Samulak is a published author of two children's picture books and has close to twenty years of experience teaching, mentoring, and engaging youth both in and outside of the classroom. Mr. Samulak has been happily married to his wife Jamie for the last 16 years. The couple have five beautiful children together and are invested and work in the Lakewood community. [www.michaelsamulak.com](#). Follow on Twitter @MichaelSamulak

Two Lakewood Residents Graduate From Tri-C's Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses Program

by John Horton

Two business owners from Lakewood — Michael Murray of Textbook Painting and Andrew Rainey of Randy's Pickles — took a step toward greater success by completing the Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses program at Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C).

Murray and Rainey are two of 36 small-business owners in the program's latest graduating class. They spent 14 weeks at Tri-C studying a specialized business and management curriculum for entrepreneurs.

Previous graduates have seen their businesses outperform the broader economy while exceeding national and local averages in revenue growth and job creation.

Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses (10KSB) unlocks the growth and job creation potential of small businesses across the United States by providing them with greater access to business education, financial capital and business support services.

10KSB launched at Tri-C in Cleveland in May 2012. The alumni list for the Col-



lege's program is approaching 500, with graduating business owners representing a variety of industries and businesses.

Murray established Textbook Painting in 2006. The full-service residential painting company is located at 13000 Athens Ave. in Lakewood.

Rainey founded Randy's Pickles in 2014. The business produces small-batch, handcrafted pickles made from locally sourced ingredients and is located at 2203 Superior Ave. in Cleveland.

For information about 10,000 Small Businesses, visit [www.tri-c.edu/10ksb](#) or call 216-987-3220. Applications are being accepted for the next session beginning in September and are due by June 20.

Gordon Tower Insurance Agency Is Celebrating Our Ten Year Anniversary!

by Mary Bodnar

Gordon Tower Insurance has been successfully operating for a decade as of June 1, 2017. The 10 year anniversary milestone is cause for even more celebration as we moved our agency to the INA building in Lakewood from Brook Park over a year and a half ago and are very happy here.

Lakewood has been Mary and Michael's hometown for the past 18 years and where they have raised their 3 children. Michael J. Bodnar, President and Owner of Gordon Tower Insurance Agency has been successfully selling insurance as a licensed agent to a wide variety of customers for nearly 30 years. He started his insurance career with Allstate in 1988 upon graduating from college.

Michael's family comes from a long history in the insurance industry with the startup of his grandfather, prominent Attorney Gaspar A. Corso, of Ohio Valley Insurance in 1952 in East Liverpool. Gap moved Ohio Valley Insurance to downtown Cleveland in 1953, where it operated and grew exponentially until 1971.

Michael became an independent agent in 1994 with Tower Insurance; the agency side spin-off from Ohio Valley Insurance.

The carrier side spin-off of Ohio Valley Insurance became Progressive Insurance in 1972. (Yes, the Monolithic Monster – we coulda been rich! lol!) Michael then took over the helm at Gordon Tower Insurance in June 2007 when prior owner Bob Gordon retired. Gordon Tower Insurance is a full service independent agency representing a wide range of insurance carriers. Customer Service Rep Melanie Johnson is also a Lakewood resident. We handle all lines of personal and commercial insurance. Unlike the big box companies where you are just a number, you get personal one-on-one support from Melanie, Mary and Michael. Our knowledge is your best protection and we have an extremely loyal client base to prove it.

Stop by and see us sometime! We are also proud of our impressive family art collection, which consists of art by Dillon, Franchesca, Garrett, Mary and brother Matt Bodnar's artwork.



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Forum

Time To Add Labrador Retrievers To List Of Banned Dogs In Lakewood

by Greg Murray

I've been doing a lot of research lately on dogs. As an animal photographer, I do my best to research all breeds so that I have a full understanding of them. It's helpful to go into a session having a good feel for a dog's disposition.

Lately I've been researching dog bite stats. I get my information from the local news and the internets. I see the pit-bull mauulings. And lately, I've noticed many more Labrador Retriever bites. For some reason, these news websites differentiate between the dogs. When a pit hurts someone, it's called a mauuling. When a lab or other dog hurts someone, it's typically called a bite or attack by the news.

Even though the average person can't identify a pit-mix, the news runs with what they say. Don't blame them. They're local news and they need the advertising dollars. Pit-bull "mauling" stories get more website hits and that leads to more advertising dollars. It's about the bottom line after all. They're running a business. You can't blame them for not fact checking. Sensationalized pit mauulings = money. Retrievers biting people? Not so interesting.

Back to the labs. I think it is time that the City of Lakewood seriously consider adding Labrador Retrievers to the banned breed list. They are dangerous and we need to keep our streets

safe. Since 2008 the city has protected us against pit-bull terrier mixes. I now call on Mayor Summers and the council to keep us safe from labs. It used to be Rottweilers, Shepherds, Dobermans and Pits. Now it's going to be the lab for the next 10 years or so until we figure out the next dog to demonize.

This is how the new lab ban would work. It would mirror the pit-bull terrier mix ban. If you currently have a lab, don't worry. You will be grandfathered in and will not have to leave the city or get rid of your family dog. However, your dog will have to follow different rules than other dogs. If you have a mutt that looks like a lab, an unreliable DNA test will be required. If your dog is determined to be 50.1% labrador retriever, it will be automatically considered dangerous. It doesn't matter if your lab has never hurt a human or another dog. It is automatically dangerous based on the way it looks. If your dog is 49.9% lab, don't worry. You and your dog are safe from discrimination. It is not dangerous.

If you are not a Lakewood resident but would like to move here and think that you have a dog that is over 50% lab, be careful. Send photos to Lakewood Animal Control first for visual approval by people trained on breed identification. If they are unsure, you will be required to get an unreliable DNA test

and show the results to them.

I get it. You're an average looking white person. You own a house and don't rent. Your lab is your family. Your children love it. They grew up with it. You love it. You rescued it. You paid lots of money for it. It's never hurt a fly. You can't just up and move out of the city you call your home. Blah, blah, blah. Save your breath people. The city's

safety is at risk people! Watch the news! Forget the experts. Forget the science. Forget the studies that show breed bans don't make cities safer and end up costing tax payers a lot of money. Watch the local news and see what is happening out there. Do what is right for the community and reach out to your councilperson. Tell them you want the labs added to the banned breed list. Then mark your calendar for 10 years from now. Golden Retrievers are next.

Please love them all and help put an end to breed discriminatory legislation. I wish humans loved like pit-bulls.

Victoria Price's Learning To See: Postcards From The Road

continued from page 12

After years of showing the work of other artists in her own gallery, creating a show of her own work at the good goat gallery is a dream come true.

Victoria's new book, This One Brave Life, will be published in February 2018. To find out more, please visit victoriaprice.com.

the good goat gallery* 17012 Madison Ave. Lakewood, OH 44107

Event Hours: Opening artist's reception, Saturday June 10th 6-10 p.m.

Thurs: 1-5 p.m.

Fri: 1-5 p.m.

Sat: 1-4 p.m.

Show will run through July 15th.

*Also open by appointment- email: nancy@thegoodgoatgallery.com. All works will also be available online for purchasing & can be shipped worldwide, visit thegoodgoatgallery.com.



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Lakewood Living

LakewoodAlive To Host

“Knowing Your Home: Windows 101” Workshop On June 15

by Matt Bixenstine

You’ve likely observed the incessant advertisements on television or radio: “Replace your old, leaky windows with new energy-saving windows.” But does this actually apply to your home and how do you know whether you should repair or replace?

LakewoodAlive will host “Knowing Your Home: Windows 101” on Thursday, June 15, from 7 to 9 p.m. at The Nicholson House (13335 Detroit Avenue). The ninth workshop of 2017

for this popular home maintenance educational program will focus on the repair and replacement of windows with a major emphasis on wooden windows.

Led by Fred Cortright, this workshop will seek to answer the age-old question: “How do I make my windows stop leaking!?” Windows 101 will cover the anatomy of a window, both window and storm, and participants will discover techniques to maximize their windows’ efficiency.

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

New for 2017, LakewoodAlive will also host a Knowing Your Home: Windows 201 workshop in partnership with Lakewood Hardware on Thursday, July 20, from 6 to 8 p.m. This second-level workshop will provide a hands-on demonstration of window repair straight from the experts.

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 charging for these events, we are asking participants to consider either 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.

Town Halls Come To Lakewood

by Kristine Pagsuyoin

All of Lakewood is invited to a series of Town Hall meetings, beginning June 10.

City Council At-large candidate Tristan Rader says the events will focus on learning what is important to Lakewood citizens. “I’m interested in an open discussion on the issues,” he explains, “I’m dedicated to not just listening to people but to getting more people involved.”

Each Town Hall will open with brief introductory remarks, with progressive activist and former state Senator Nina Turner planning to address the Ward 4 Town Hall on July 8. Rader says Turner is an inspiring advocate for the kind of citizen-led change he wants to encourage, and that he’s honored to welcome her to Lakewood.

As pleased as he is about Turner, Rader emphasizes that local community is the Town Halls’ true centerpiece.

“Elected officials and candidates get many opportunities to share our ideas and concerns,” he says. “I want to give other people a platform.”

Rader wants to know what’s working in Lakewood and what should work better. He says he is committed to finding solutions through community-led dialogue, and that residents know the most about their city, ward, or neighborhood. All are invited for open, genuine conversation where your input matters.

Attend a Town Hall in your ward or one that fits your schedule.

Sat., June 10, 1:30-3 p.m. (Ward 1)
Harding School cafeteria
16601 Madison Ave

Sat., June 17, 1:30-3 p.m. (Ward 3)
Garfield School cafeteria

Sat., July 8, Noon-2 p.m. (Ward 4)
Ice cream social followed by Town Hall
Madison Park pavilion
13029 Madison Ave

Sat., July 29, 1:30-3 p.m. (Ward 2)
Harding School cafeteria
16601 Madison Ave

For more information: tristanrader.com/townhall or twrader@gmail.com.



Tristan Rader talks with supporters at the May Rally.

Frankfurter Fridays Are Back!

by Corky Thacker

Now in its fifth year, Frankfurter Fridays offer free 100% beef hotdogs and lemonade as well as intergenerational fun activities every other Friday from June 16 through September 22 on the front lawn of the Church of the Ascension, 13216 Detroit Ave. in Lakewood. All are welcome to enjoy food, fellowship, Frisbee, croquet and other lawn games!



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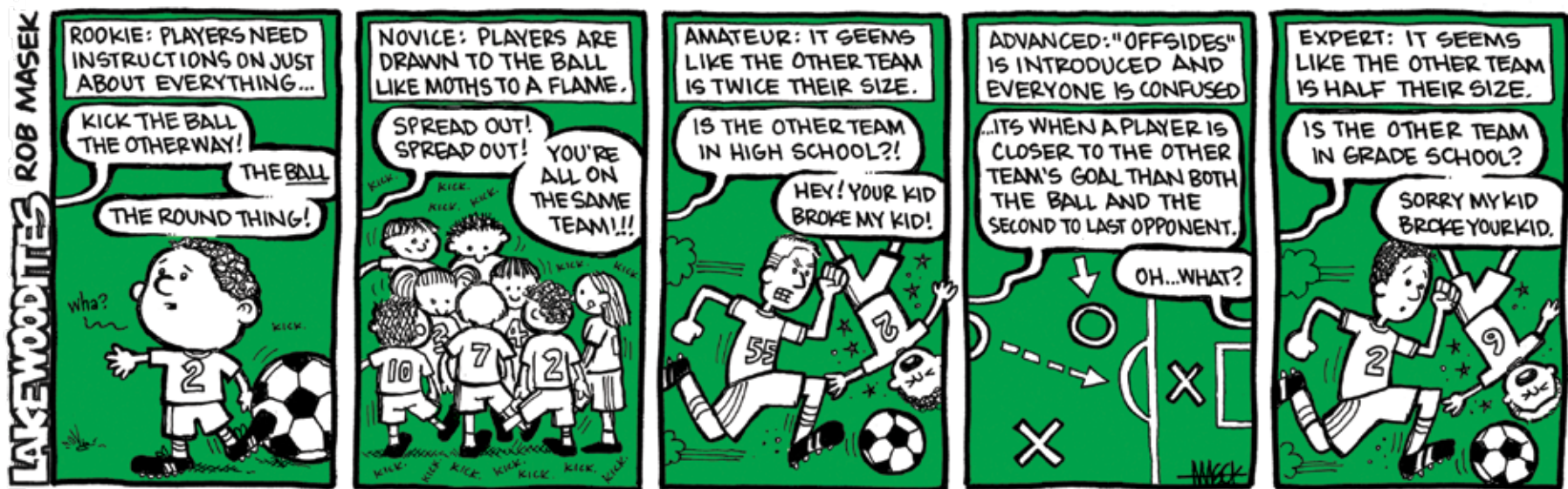
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