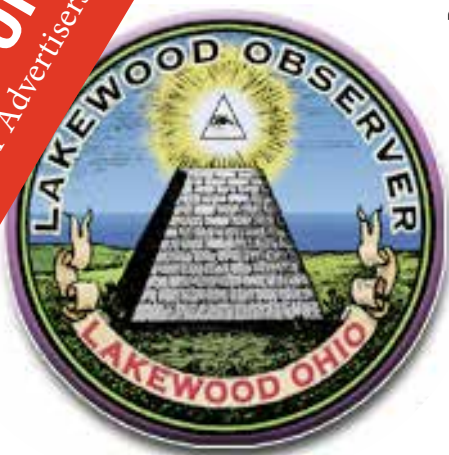


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# THE LAKEWOOD OBSERVER

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Volume 13, Issue 12, June 21, 2017

## Congratulations, Class Of 2017!



Photo by Christine Gordillo

Lakewood High School Class of 2017.

## LHS Team Wins Academic Challenge Championship



From left: Evan Suttell, Ian Bell and Brian Donahoe.

by Christine Gordillo

The Lakewood High School Academic Challenge Team captured the championship of the WEWS-NewsChannel 5 Academic Challenge TV show! The team of seniors Ian Bell and Evan Suttell and junior Brian Donahoe beat teams from St. Vincent St. Mary and Benedictine high schools for the win. Lakewood finished with 560 points, St. Vincent St. Mary 440 and Benedictine 390. Besides the trophy, the win earned the school \$4,000. Congratulations to the team and to advisers Peter Petto and Bob Sedlak.

Thirteen members of the

team also recently traveled to Chicago to compete in the National Academic Championship tournament, in which the team finished tied for fifth place. Members of the overall team are: seniors Ian Bell and Evan Suttell; juniors Brian Donahoe, Kevin Cush, Abe Dalisky, Calvin Dolatowski, Erika Hakko, Seamus Holian, Damian Jouriles, Veronica Lee, and Andrew VanAuken; sophomores John Bobik, Nick Cleary, Tim Daso, Michael Ferrone, Frank Llesay, Nikoy Norris; freshmen Evan Bell, Aidan Bohac, Alice King and Kathryn Oleksa. (class status is for 2016-2017) It was the fifth

straight year the team has been invited to compete in a national tournament.

## Celebrate And Nominate

by Ruth Gillett

WE CELEBRATE: At a recent Lakewood City Council meeting, six Lakewood Homes were acknowledged, and the homeowners were congratulated, as winners in the 2016 Beautiful Home Awards sponsored by Keep Lakewood Beautiful. The Beautiful Home Awards contest is an effort by KLB to both raise awareness of, and to appreciate, the efforts of so many Lakewood property owners who invest time, talent and resources in making their

## Brian Taubman For Lakewood City Council At-Large

by Brian Taubman

Why I'm Running For Lakewood City Council

I have a mission for our city council, and it's simple: It's time for Lakewood to care about all of its citizens.

This mission is why I am running for Lakewood City Council At-Large this November. This role is not just a title to me, it's how I want to give my life back to the city I love. Over the last few years, I've realized Lakewood, the city where I chose to build my family, needed an upgrade, and needed to start giving back to the citizens and businesses that make this city great. I am excited to help build on the strong roots our community already has. Lakewood is a great community and I'm proud to call it home, but I know we can make it even bet-



Brian Taubman

ter, together.

When I get elected to City Council, it won't be a stepping stone — it will be a calling. Two years ago, I ran for judge on the premise of helping people, businesses, animals, and the entire city of Lakewood, and my passion to do just that has only grown. I will be the voice

**continued on page 2**

properties visually appealing. Gardening is a way that people both enjoy nature and literally show their pride in their home and community.

The six winners and their gardeners for 2016 are: Sarah Loomer and Zach Smith, 1050 Lakeland; Debbie and Ric Rada, 2033 Bunts; Ray and Joanne Heinart, 2388 Woodward Avenue; Paul and Terry Schuerger, 14216 Bayes; Jonathan Tallman and David Reichert, 1538 Elbur; and

**continued on page 4**



Homes of all shapes and sizes are eligible for the KLB Beautiful Home Awards.

Lakewood Observer

From The Deck

WHAT IS CITY HALL HIDING?

by Jim O'Bryan

For two years City Hall has fought the people's right to access what courts determined were public documents. If that is not bad enough, they have been repeatedly caught lying and misrepresenting all aspects of City Hall during the same two year period.

The LO published fact: "Lakewood Hospital is closing." Mayor Summers responded: "No, it is not." He said, "The hospital is losing money." The LO proved it wasn't. City Hall then inflated the numbers and we called them on it. Now we find out they knew the numbers were bogus all along, and decided to lie to residents.

While City Hall boasts of recent record releases, they have produced handpicked documents which amount to less than 1% of documents requested years ago. At the LO Deck online, we break it down with Documents, and legal help.

<http://lakewoodobserver.com/forum>

HOT OFF THE DECK!

Topic	Author	# Responses	Views	Last Responder
public right...city record?	D.Anderson	81	7026	Mark Kindt
Civic Accountability --	Mark Kindt	129	8075	m buckley
Free Outdoor Shakespeare in Lakewood Park - June 24 and July 29	Brian Pedaci	1	57	mjkuhns
City Hall's Message: "Take It or Leave It"	Michael Deneen	11	923	Mark Kindt
City Hall Asked Residents To Vote Based On Lies They Told	Jim O'Bryan	1	349	Mike Deneen
Father's Day UpDate	Jim O'Bryan	0	247	
Town Halls in June and July: you're invited	mjkuhns	11	800	m buckley
TV Alert: Academic	Michael Deneen	2	350	mjkuhns
Tree Closes W. Clifton	O'Bryan	1	411	Bridget Conant



Brian Taubman Announces At-Large Council Run

continued from page 1

of the disheartened, disenfranchised, and forgotten — seniors, veterans, and youth alike. Our community must get better if we're going to survive — and thrive — in the tough times ahead. When I am elected, I will improve Lakewood for citizens, visitors, and businesses alike. To see the issues I'm passionate about visit [taubmanforlake-](http://taubmanforlake-wood.com)

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THE LAKWOOD OBSERVER

STILL BANNED AT CITY HALL

Your Independent Source for Lakewood News & Opinion

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City

Summer Safety For Pets (Part 2 Of A 3 Part Series)

# Keeping Your Pets Safe On The 4th Of July

by Erin Shaughnessy

While the Fourth of July is one of the best times of the year to be a resident of Lakewood, the holiday can be a nightmare for pets. Did you know that July 5th is the busiest day for animal shelters across the country? The stress and anxiety that fireworks cause in animals can lead to pets running away from home and finding themselves scared, exhausted and in dangerous situations. Your pet can panic and jump a fence or break away from a leash because of fireworks. Never leave your pet outside during fireworks and never take them with you to a fireworks display. If you believe they will experience anxiety when they hear the fireworks show, have someone stay with them during that time. Should the worst happen, and your pet runs away, make sure that their microchip is active and they have a collar with up-to-date tags that will make it easier to be reunited. Safety collars will release if your pet

gets stuck on something unsafe. A little planning in advance can minimize the risks the holiday can bring.

What if you find a lost dog on July 4th? Lakewood Animal Shelter is closed on Independence Day. Animal Control Officer Kurt Bialosky advises that you can keep a friendly dog overnight and leave a message for Animal Control with a description of the dog, location where it was found and that you want them to pick it up the next day. Another option is to take the dog to the Animal Emergency Specialty Center in Brook Park, at 14000 Keystone Parkway, which is open 24 hours a day (find contact information below).

We owe it to our animals to understand the stress that fireworks can cause, take steps to reduce this stress, prevent escape from home, and maximize the chances they can be easily reunited with their families.

Whether it's an Independence Day celebration or just a summer cookout,

make sure you designate a responsible person to keep an eye on your pets while you're taking care of your guests. Too often our pets are left unattended to scarf down dropped food, get dehydrated or sneak out an open gate. Make sure your pets are safe and happy during get-togethers this year.

Ask your family and friends (especially kids) not to feed your pet! Toxic foods include grapes, raisins, chocolate, onions, avocados, citrus, coconut, alcohol, nuts, dairy, and bones. Some summer treats that your dog might enjoy are green beans, baby carrots or plain popcorn. Your cat will love lean fish, broccoli or frozen corn.

Here are some tips to help keep your dog safe at home during your summer celebration:

- Keep a visible tag with your name and phone number on your dog's collar.
- Leave your dog home during fireworks with a frozen stuffed treat and music or, ideally, a comforting dog-sitter.

- Keep fireworks, sparklers & charcoal away from dogs.
- During parties, keep your dog away from the grill and bonfires.
- Have treats handy so your guests don't offer non-permitted foods.
- Does your pet get scared hearing the fireworks? Try a Thundershirt, which can also help during summer storms.
- Make sure your dog gets exercise before parties begin.
- Between the parade, fireworks and parties, your pets can experience a lot of stress all in one day. Make sure they get the attention they need during the festivities.

Stay tuned for Part Three: Environmental Safety for Your Pets.

**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 pm - 1 am  
4117 Rocky River Drive  
Cleveland, OH 44135  
(216) 252-4500

Animal Emergency Clinic West  
Open 24/7 Including Holidays  
14000 Keystone Pkwy.  
Brook Park, OH 44135  
(216) 362-6000

## Farmers Market Coupon Lottery At The Lawther Center

by Barry Wemyss

The Lakewood Division of Aging and the Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging are pleased to announce that the Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program is once again to be offered in 2017. The SFMNP pro-

gram will provide selected eligible seniors with \$50 in coupons which can be used for fresh, locally grown fruits and vegetables at any of the local farmers markets.

There are eligibility requirements for this program. Participants

must be 60 years of age or older. They must be Lakewood residents, and they must fall within the income guidelines. The guidelines are as follows: \$22,311 or less for a single-person household, or \$30,044 for a two-person household.

Interested individuals must complete an application form at either the Lawther Center, 16024 Madison Ave. or Senior Center East, 12400 Madison Ave. The names of all interested participants will be entered into a lottery drawing, which will be held at the Lawther Center on Friday, July 7th, at 12:30 p.m. Participants need not be present to win. For those who are not selected on July 7th, their names will be kept in the event that additional coupon sets become available later in the summer. Please call the Division of Aging Activities Office at 216-529-5005 with any other questions or concerns.

## Celebrate And Nominate

continued from page 1

Linda White and Gail Perusek, 1287 Summit.

The winning homes were selected from over 20 nominations. All neighborhoods of the city received nominations and the winners represent North, South, East and West side areas. Judging is based on criteria that includes eye catching landscaping and thoughtfully maintained homes.

LET'S NOMINATE: Keep Lakewood Beautiful is now accepting nominations for the 2017 Keep

Lakewood Beautiful Home Awards process ! It is easy to nominate a home that you notice as beautifully landscaped and noteworthy....simply email Luann Baker at luann.baker@lakewoodoh.net, or call and leave a message at (216) 529-6601. Submit your nomination by July 31st! KLB will take it from there. There are many, many beautifully landscaped and maintained homes in Lakewood...please take the time to call out your own, or someone else's, good efforts.



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# Lakewood Public Library

## Revisit The 2016 Cavaliers With Terry Pluto

by Amy Kloss

Last year, Cavs fans rejoiced. As of this writing, the Cavaliers are working their way toward another NBA Championship and it seems like a good time to revisit the spectacular events of 2016. Join Terry Pluto, columnist for the Cleveland Plain Dealer, on Wednesday, June 28 at 7:00 p.m. in the Main

Library Auditorium as he presents his book, “The Comeback: LeBron, The Cavs & Cleveland.”

Recently named Best Sports Writer in Ohio by the Ohio Associated Press Media Editors, Pluto has been writing for the Plain Dealer since 2007. A graduate of Benedictine High School and Cleveland State University and

formerly a writer for the Akron Beacon Journal, Pluto has followed the career of LeBron James since his days as a high school player in Akron, through LeBron’s first stint with the Cavs, his move to Miami and return to Cleveland in 2014.

The book reflects Pluto’s long association with Cleveland sports in general

and LeBron in particular. Pluto began writing “The Comeback” in 2014, the year LeBron James came home and took up the challenge of leading the Cavaliers to a championship. The book covers the disappointment in Cleveland when LeBron made the decision to move to Miami through the celebrations that erupted when the Cavaliers won the NBA Championship in 2016.

Whoever wins in 2017, Terry Pluto will be at Lakewood Public Library on June 28 to discuss LeBron, the Cavaliers and “The Comeback.” Books will be available for sale and signing at the event.

## Full S.T.E.A.M. Ahead

by Eric Knapp

Enhance your child’s education by making learning fun and different with imaginative programs that focus on science, technology, engineering, art, and math. These programs are funded by a \$2,500 Cox Community Charity Grant awarded to the Lakewood Public Library for this purpose. Registration required. Space is limited. Register online at [lakewoodpubliclibrary.org/youth](http://lakewoodpubliclibrary.org/youth) or call (216) 226-8275, ext. 140.

**Jr. Robotics JungleBOT Express** – For students entering 2nd – 4th grade. Lego® WeDo Robots join together with Mowgli from the Jungle Book! Work with a partner to build and program

your adventure. **2 Days to Choose From:** Friday, June 23 OR Friday, July 21 from 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. in the Main Library First Floor Multipurpose Room.

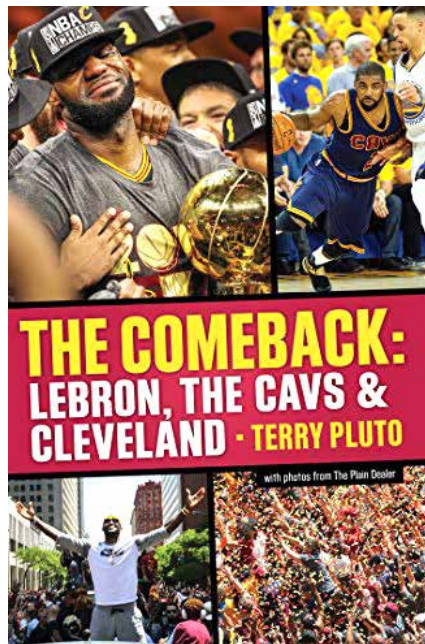
**LEGO® Minions** – For students entering 1st – 4th grade. Build a minion mosaic with Lego® bricks! Tuesday, July 18 from 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. in the Main Library First Floor Multipurpose Room.

**Magical Menagerie Jr. Video Game Creation** – For students entering 1st – 3rd grade. Learn how to make your own video games with Scratch, a free development program from MIT. Bring a flash drive to save your progress and continue the fun at home. **2**



Get ready to learn!

**Days to Choose From:** Friday, June 9 from 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. in the Main Library First Floor Multipurpose Room OR Friday, July 14 from 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. in the Madison Branch Auditorium.



Terry Pluto will discuss his book, “The Comeback: LeBron, The Cavs & Cleveland” on Wednesday, June 28.

## One-On-One Computer And Job Help

by Andrea Fisher

Are you new to computers and aren’t sure where to start? Are you looking for a new job and need help with your resume? Do you want to learn how to use Microsoft Excel or brush up on Microsoft Word? Do you want to learn how to use Facebook to keep in touch with friends and family? We can help! To best serve you, Lakewood Public Library offers personal one-on-one appointments for computer and job help.

The Library offers computer help with Tech Tutors, every Tuesday and Wednesday between 10:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. and Thursday between 7:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. in the Main Library Learning Lab. When registering, we’ll need to know the specific area where

you need help. We can customize a lesson plan based on your needs.

Appointments are also available for One-on-One Job Search help. You can spend a half hour with an instructor working on your resume, learning a new computer skill to help you on the job or exploring resources to find the perfect job for you. Appointments are

available Tuesdays between 7:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. and Thursdays between 10:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Reservations are available up to one month before the appointment.

To schedule a one-on-one appointment, call (216) 226-8275, ext. 127. Tech Tutors are also available at the Madison Branch. Call (216) 228-7428.

## Dr. Jane Li-Conrad Discusses Homeopathic Medicine At LPL

by Lisa Calfee

“There is always hope,” says Dr. Jane Li-Conrad. As an osteopathic family physician who practices family medicine without pharmaceuticals, Dr.

Jane believes homeopathic medicine can offer hope for any medical condition.

On Wednesday, June 21, 2017 at 7:00 P.M. “Remedy Jane” is visiting Lakewood Public Library to discuss the history of Natural Medicine, the laws of healing and how to use remedies from your home garden. The event takes place in the Main Library Basement Auditorium at 15425 Detroit Avenue.

To get to the origins of homeopathy, we have to travel back to Hippocrates (460-377 B.C.) who said, “By similar things a disease is produced and through the application of the like it is cured.” His idea was picked up again in the 1500’s by Paracelsus with the theory, “What makes a man ill also cures him.” Two hundred years later, Samuel Hahnemann (1755-1843) expanded both their ideas and became the founder of the alternative medicine practice of homeopathy which means “similar suffering.”

Please come and explore the history and principles of homeopathy with Dr. Jane Li-Conrad as part of our lecture series designed to improve your health and well-being. We look forward to seeing you!

## Fishy Fun



by Marge Foley

Smiling students display unique artwork created at the Lakewood Public Library during a recent Art Connection program. A paper tube dipped in paint was used to create bubbles and colorful strips of construction paper were woven into textured fish. Registration for the next Art Connection program for students entering kindergarten through fifth grade opens on July 1st. This fun, inventive class will take place on Wednesday, August 16, 2017 from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. with a new engaging project.



Schools

LHS Teacher Wins Prestigious Math Award

by Christine Gordillo

Lakewood High School math teacher Peter Petto has been selected as the winner of the Martha Holden Jennings Foundation's George B. Chapman, Jr. Teacher Award for Excellence in Mathematics Education. It is one of the highest awards the foundation bestows on an educator.

As part of the award, Petto will receive a grant of \$7,500 to implement a project of his choosing. He will be using the money to develop an Essential Questions Activities project, primarily for use in math classrooms,

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but also useful in science and other classrooms at Lakewood High School.

An Essential Question Activity is a team project event in which groups of students collaborate and compete to research and solve important questions about the world we live in. These are questions that they have refined and researched. The focus of their activity is the construction of mathematical models that they will both defend and critique.

Examples of modeling problems that might be developed include:

- *Living on you own: should you rent or buy a place to live?*
- *What is the best arrangement for a classroom?*
- *Is there a better voting scheme than the one we use now?*

Petto plans to devote his grant money to receiving training in modeling, problem-posing, and techniques for encouraging these discussions. He will share what he learns with other teachers during professional development days, as well as with colleagues in teacher-based teams and during departmental meetings. Also, funds will be used for the acquisition of tools to aid problem visualization (various manipulatives). And finally, funds will allow the acquisition of reference books and project materials that will enable all interested teachers to adjust, customize, and augment the activities

that we will construct and pilot.

Said Petto of receiving this honor: "I felt very honored when Lakewood nominated me for the Chapman Teacher Award and completely delighted to learn I had received it. I feel very lucky to be teaching at Lakewood High School because of the collaboration between the many teachers, administrators, and staff who love helping students learn and grow."

Superintendent Jeff Patterson said of Petto in his nomination letter to the Jennings Foundation: "Peter brings a kindness, energy, enthusiasm and professionalism to his work that I have not seen replicated...he is the type of teacher every principal and superintendent is thrilled to have as a member of their district team."



Lakewood High School math teacher Peter Petto

Lakewood City Academy

Class Of 2017



1st Row, left to right: Nicole Collins, Taryn Prah, Victoria Kirkland, Jazz Burgess, Asia Blackshear, Elyssa Baesel, DeAnna Satullo, Brianna Massimiani, Cassidy Pfeiffer; 2nd Row left to right: Brian Tod Miller, Charles Johnson, Kameron Bednarz, Tanner Byrd, Eddie Dennis, Austin Little  
Not Pictured: Jafar Fadhel, Nathan Smith

Oh, What A Night!

Sing And Serve A Success

by Regina Westlake

Lakewood Music Boosters held our first Sing & Serve May 19th at Around the Corner. The evening was a lot of fun while raising money for our music programs K-12. Our servers for the evening were music teachers Matt Fitz, Aaron Waryk, Lisa Richards, John Blasko, Clinton Steinbrunner, Peter Hampton and LHS principal Keith Ahearn. Many karaoke songs were performed thanks to Mike Whitkofski and the students enjoyed hearing and singing with their teachers. The chance raffle had over 30 items to win. We also had tips jar wars with Mozart beating Beethoven and The Rolling Stones beating the Beatles. We had a buffet dinner available as well as a limited menu. The room filled up fast so next year we hope to have a larger venue. Thank you to all who attended and helped make the evening a huge success.

A special thanks to the people

and companies that donated for our chance raffle: African Safari Wildlife Park, Akron Symphony, Cathy Livingston (Girl Scout Cookies), Chipotle, Cleveland Cavaliers, Cleveland Gladiators, Cleveland Metroparks, Cleveland Orchestra, Educator's Music, Guitar Center N. Olmsted, Brian Logan(Beach glass necklace), Portraits by Patrice, Improv Comedy Club, Julie Tabaj(Tabaj tough Tshirts), Lake Erie Crushers, Lolly the Trolley, Memphis Kiddie Park, Music Box Supper Club, Pickwick and Frolic, Rettig Music, Revelations, Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, Royalton Music, Sacred Hour, Skyzone, Subway, Clint Steinbrunner(LRMB pillow), Swings and Things, Tomorrow's A Hair Salon, Western Reserve Historical Society, and Great Lakes Theatre. Hope all our raffle winners enjoy their items.

Keep an eye out for Lakewood Music Boosters at the 4th of July parade!

LAKEWOOD SUMMER MELTDOWN

SATURDAY, JULY 8, 2017

presented by

Street Festival 4-7:30 p.m.

(Detroit Avenue closed between Elmwood & Marlowe)

1-Mile Kids Fun Run

6 p.m. Start Time

- \$12 Registration
- Includes t-shirt

Meltdown 5K

7 p.m. Start Time

- \$23 (Pre-Registration)
- \$28 (Day-of Registration)
- Includes t-shirt

Street Party

4-10 p.m.

- 60+ Street Vendors
- Musical entertainment, food vendors & beer!

Visit [LakewoodAlive.org/Meltdown](http://LakewoodAlive.org/Meltdown) to register online.

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Celebrating Over 10 Years of Community Discussion at: [www.lakewoodobserver.com](http://www.lakewoodobserver.com)

Schools

# What Does West Shore Mean To Me?

by Max Hamilton

I first became aware of the West Shore Career-Technical District from a fellow classmate in my math class who had told me tales of the Project Lead the Way Class with such great detail and interest - I knew I had to be a part of it. At the end of sophomore year, I had to make a decision about my future education in high school. I visited West Shore and saw a construction job site, where kids close to my age were building a garage. It left me feeling wonder and excitement. So, I enrolled in West Shore Construction Trades.

Junior year was the most turbulent year of my high school career. My day began with an hour and a half of AP Chemistry. But this rigorous academic beginning was contrasted by the end of my day, with several periods of construction. I was nervous about coming to Lakewood. I was afraid I would not make friends and that the experience would not live up to expectation. However, It quickly became my favorite part of the day. We were granted the opportunity to build the storage garage by the football field. And we became great friends very quickly. At that point, West Shore meant the better half of my day. It made sitting through class bearable. It also meant fraternity - the ability to work hand-in-hand with my best friends. Bonds that definitely will not perish. When it became clear that I did not wish to pursue an academic career after high school, West Shore taught me to follow my own path.

During that summer, one night while lying in bed contemplating life, I came to a great dilemma. Growing up in Bay Village, I was always told that I would go to college. I was in tough place because my heart was not there. But, I had a flashback to one of the first days in construction, where Mr. Dow said that not everyone had to go to college. So, I decided to enlist in the United States Air Force, as a firefighter. Though such a choice felt very daunting, my experience



Max Hamilton (far right in white shirt) and his Construction Trades “brothers.”

in the West Shore gave me the confidence to accept who I am and pursue an opportunity that will shape the rest of my life.

As senior year began, I decided to focus on enjoying my time in school. Everyone always says high school is the best years of your life and if you blink you'll miss it. Senior year has been the most enjoyable year of high school. As a class, we have built 14 structures, which at times is hard to believe. But, I built them with my best friends - my brothers. Teachers always ask us to work in groups. In the West Shore, we work in groups where everyone ACTUALLY contributes. Imagine that! And because I have had the privilege to be in the presence of an outstanding group of classmates and teachers, I am the student that I am.

Mr. Martin and Mr. Bluhm, are the best teaching aides anyone could ask for. They helped us solve problems, and more importantly, avoid the wrath of Mr. Dow when we made the same mistake, for the third time.

Mr. Dow, with his considerable knowledge of construction, was able to teach us without missing a beat. Explaining in different ways so that everyone was able to understand and achieve. West Shore means a teaching staff that is not only dedicated to making sure that everyone learns, but, leaving an experience that is memora-

ble, delightful and inspirational.

It also means an administrative staff that only wants to see you succeed. They understand what it means to empower a student to be confident and to put them on the right path to achieve.

What does West Shore ultimately mean to me? It's an experience where individualism and education combine to help us discover who we really are. It's an experience which is commonly disregarded in federal mandates of the stereotypical academic education. It's an

experience where you meet great people. So as we celebrate our accomplishments today, it is important to remember, that it is not just the skills we have learned, but the relationships we have built that will impact us for the rest of our lives.

Max Hamilton is a recent West Shore Career-Technical District and Bay Village High School graduate. This article was Max's speech given on Career Passport Day for West Shore graduates.

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Sports

Lakewood Man Making Big Impact In Cleveland Sports

by Mike Deneen

The world is often described in terms of the “haves” and the “have nots.” In the realm of Cleveland area high school sports, there is also a third category. The “haves”; the “have nots”; and then the Senate League. The conference is comprised entirely of Cleveland Municipal Schools. Despite the presence of a few high profile programs like Glenville football, most of these schools are in a constant struggle to overcome financial and historical hurdles to success. Small rosters, lack of facilities, outdated equipment, and meager alumni support are among the challenges they face.

Despite those odds, one Lakewood man decided to accept the Athletic Director position at John Marshall High School, located just two and half miles south of Lakewood High on West 140th Street. Joe Gilbert, a 29-year teacher in the district, answered the call in 2015. “I have long thought Marshall was a ‘sleeping giant,’” says Gilbert, who previously served as AD at Riverside Elementary in Cleveland. Gilbert, known for his easy smile and positive attitude, has tackled the job with the enthusiasm of a street-corner preacher. Every day of the week he is busy doing something for the program...whether attending games, meeting with local businesses, or contacting other schools

to schedule games.

Located in West Park, historically one of Cleveland’s best neighborhoods, the school had decades of athletic success before a downturn in recent decades. The Lawyers won state championships in boy’s cross country in 1960 and 1964. The school’s wrestling program, under the direction of longtime head coach Gene Gibbons, won the state championship in 1961. One of Gibbons’ disciples, Howard Ferguson, went on to build the wrestling dynasty at St. Edward. In more recent times, Marshall won the boys track and field state title in 1991 and 1992. They also had the consistently strongest football program in the Senate League during the 1980s and early 1990s.

The program had eroded so badly that Gilbert knew he needed to change the entire culture. “We want to be different,” says Gilbert, who is instilling a sense of hard work and the will to excel. “I do not compare to Senate Schools. I want more.” His lofty goals were immediately challenged by the harsh realities of Senate League athletics. His largest immediate problem was (and remains) funding. The program is hampered by a shoestring budget assigned by the school district. Unlike most private or suburban schools, there was a lack of alumni, community, and parent involvement. Attendance at events was very low, and there were no

booster groups to raise additional funds.

Despite the obstacles, Gilbert has had many off-field accomplishments since his arrival. He hired many new coaches, reached out to the local business community to promote the school, and has seen the launch of a booster club. He’s working with parents and alumni to further strengthen the team’s attendance and funding.

Major capital improvements are driving a lot of the new energy around the program. Similar to many parts of the LHS building, John Marshall was razed and rebuilt in the past few years. The new athletic facilities include a sparkling new gym, a weight room, and even a practice court. These facilities boosted basketball attendance last year, and have given the kids on the team something to be excited about. Earlier this month another major capital upgrade started. The Cleveland Browns came to campus on June 6 for the groundbreaking of a new football field.

The former John Marshall stadium was once a hub of neighborhood activity. Not only did it host Friday night Lawyer games, but it hosted many other sports and schools. St. Ignatius football coach Chuck Kyle, one of many dignitaries at the groundbreaking, played many home games on the old field while he was a student at St. Ignatius. “I still have dreams about playing games here,” he recalled before the ceremony. Gilbert expects the new field to become a magnet for community activity just as the old one was. There are plans for soccer, track, and football among other things.

The Lawyers are also making strides in competition since Gilbert’s arrival. The wrestling program won the City Championship this past season, as did the girls tennis team. The



Lakewood resident Joe Gilbert (center), poses with John Marshall football coach Terrance Cleggett at the June 6 football field groundbreaking.

school finished second in the Senate League in soccer and golf, and the softball team made it to the Senate League title game at Cleveland State.

Another part of the program’s elevated goals under Gilbert has been more aggressive nonconference scheduling. For example, the boys hoops team played at both St. Edward and St. Ignatius last season. St. Edward and Lakewood hoops are both traveling to John Marshall’s new gym this upcoming season. Gilbert is especially excited about the Rangers’ visit. He would like to build a rivalry with Lakewood High School, particularly in football. John Marshall’s football team, which has over 50 players working out this offseason, has been steadily improving under Head Coach Terrance Cleggett. Gilbert believes that his team would be a good matchup for the Rangers, and could become an annual tradition.

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Community Recreation And Education Commission Opening

by Mitchell Robida

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

Mr. Ott has served on several commissions such as the softball commission, and the adult athletic commission before being appointed to the C.R.E.C. His steady guidance, leadership, commitment and service will be greatly missed as well as his vast historical and institutional knowledge of the Lakewood Recreation Department. After serving with us for over 30 years, it truly is the end of an era.

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

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

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

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

**Mitchell Robida is Program Coordinator for the Lakewood City Schools Community Recreation & Education Department.**



Lakewood Cares

Little Free Libraries In Lakewood:  
Nine And Counting

by Matt Kuhns

Little Free Libraries have spread to at least nine locations in Lakewood, and tens of thousands more, worldwide. It seems that awareness of these micro-libraries is still catching up, though.

When a friend of Dr. John Mumma mentioned seeing him outside by his postbox one day, while passing Mumma's home on Hilliard, the doctor immediately recognized the error. "I said 'that's not a postbox,'" he recalls as an example of the ongoing task of explaining a Little Free Library. "Some people are incredulous" at the concept, he adds.

The concept of the Little Free Library (LFL) is ultimately simple: a small public shelter, where people borrow or donate books, for free. Yet it's a surprisingly recent idea. Todd Bol built the original Little Free Library in Wisconsin just eight years ago. Noelle Champagne and her husband installed the first in Lakewood, outside their home on Parkway, a few years later. But a majority of the local LFLs have arrived within the past 18 months.

Little Free Libraries can be easy to overlook, perhaps especially in Lakewood. The Kenny family installed theirs on Elbur more than three years ago, but like most LFLs it's a modest wood structure with a shingled roof. In a city like ours, with substantial variety among the housing stock, the typical Little Free Library blends in well even without trying.

Despite this, not one of Lakewood's Little Free Libraries is neglected, according to owners. Even the new library on Cliffdale—brought to Lakewood from its old home in Seat-



Edgewater Little Free Library

tle about one month ago—has local patrons. "Our best customer is John next door who is four," says one of its owners. "He comes just about every day."

Many of the local Little Free Libraries appear to be popular with children. Garfield Middle School has one of its own, and Garfield students also take great interest in Tony Neuhoﬀ's library, south of the school on Grace. Dr. Mumma says that students at Harding are a significant audience for his library.

The libraries have plenty of adult fans, also. Champagne says that over the years a number of people have driven specifically to check out her Parkway library, one of two in



Cliffdale Little Free Library, with children's books on the "first floor" and adults' books on the "second."

Lakewood listed at [littlefreelibrary.org](http://littlefreelibrary.org). North Coast Health set up the other one, outside of its offices on Detroit, in hopes of stimulating curiosity about them and the services they provide. "It has actually done that" very effectively, says Mary Ludwig.

Most of Lakewood's Little Free Libraries, though, are unlisted and operated solely as hobbies. Nearly all have some sort of family connection; someone may have been first exposed to a Little Free Library through a relative who owns or lives near one, and nearly every LFL in Lakewood was built by or with a close family member.

The library on Lincoln appears to summarize most of the movement's themes of family, volunteerism and person-to-person networks. The owner's daughter in Maryland owns a Little Free Library too, and her son lives on the same street as one in Lakewood. She says that he "was good enough to surprise me with one" of her own last Christmas, which he built himself.

Though very close to the Parkway library, Lincoln's has already found its own community, too. The owner says that while she had no children's books for her library at first, users have supplied the need by themselves; "Now I have quite a few and I don't know where they have come from."

Lakewood's Little Free Libraries

- 13455 Parkway
- Probably the city's oldest; its owners are moving soon but the library will remain with their home's new occupants
- 13114 Detroit
- Designed to match Garfield School
- 1081 Cliffdale



Grace Ave Little Free Library; owner Tony Neuhoﬀ changes the exterior decorative scene seasonally.

Just-arrived from Seattle; online at [ourlittlefreelibrary.org](http://ourlittlefreelibrary.org)

- 1500 Grace Ave
- Seasonal decorations change four times per year
- 16110 Detroit
- North Coast Health
- 1767 Lincoln
- 16906 Hilliard
- 15524 Edgewater
- 1554 Elbur Ave



The Lincoln Little Free Library was custom designed to match its owner's house.

Join Easter Seals  
'Walk With Me' Event And  
Put Hope Within Reach For  
People With Disabilities

by Melissa Kocher

Easter Seals Northern Ohio is offering individuals, corporate teams, organizations, and families an opportunity to discover the joy of helping others by participating in a non-competitive 5K walk to benefit people with disabilities.

The 15th Annual Easter Seals Walk With Me event is scheduled for Saturday, July 8, 2017 at 9 a.m. at the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo & RainForest. Participants will not only enjoy a family-friendly walk but also full-day admission to the Zoo, children's activities, a celebration picnic luncheon and entertainment.

Each participant or team will be paired with an Easter Seals Honorary Ambassador, someone who has directly benefited from the local Easter Seals programs. Participants will have the

opportunity to meet the clients and learn how Easter Seals has changed their lives.

Easter Seals strives to impact the community through the services and programs offered to people with disabilities. Programs such as speech and language therapy, homecare, and equipment loan offer individuals the opportunity to become more self-sufficient and enhance their quality of life. Proceeds from the walk will help Easter Seals expand programs for people with disabilities.

Easter Seals is proud to have the support of CVS Health and MassMutual for this year's event. To take the first step toward putting hope within reach for people with disabilities register online at [www.walkwithme.org/cleveland](http://www.walkwithme.org/cleveland) or call Easter Seals at 440.838.0990, ext. 104.



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Lakewood Cares

LakewoodAlive’s Volunteer-Driven Blossoms Program Blooms In Downtown Lakewood

by Matt Bixenstine

Stroll along Detroit Avenue through Downtown Lakewood these days and you can’t help but notice an additional splash of color and greenery enhancing the district’s vibrancy.

Now in its 11th year, LakewoodAlive’s Blossoms Program has resulted in the addition of 54 flower boxes for 2017 – the most boxes yet – stretching east-to-west along Detroit Avenue from the Westerly Apartments to Cerny Shoes. Geraniums and impatiens dot this urban landscape, creating a more appealing commercial district.

The Blossoms Program is designed to help Downtown Lakewood merchants make their storefronts more inviting and attractive. LakewoodAlive partners annually with Lakewood Garden Center to provide an opportunity for merchants to purchase professionally-planted Earth Box planters with flowers appropriate for the sun/shade needs of each location.

“We’re thrilled to have the Blossoms Program return for an 11th consecutive year,” said Ian Andrews, Executive Director for LakewoodAlive. “This volunteer-driven beautification service offered to Downtown Lakewood merchants is consistent with LakewoodAlive’s mission to foster and sustain vibrant neighborhoods in Lakewood. And we can’t say enough



54 flower boxes have been placed throughout the downtown district by volunteers.

about the team of volunteers who make this program possible.”

Longtime LakewoodAlive volunteer Kathy Haber – a 38-year resident of Lakewood – has coordinated the Blossoms Program since 2007. What started as hanging baskets that proved difficult to water has evolved into flower boxes featuring built-in water reservoirs significantly reducing watering requirements.

Haber’s team of 15 volunteers waters the flower boxes three times per

week throughout the summer. Each volunteer is responsible for watering a section of flower boxes and bringing water from home in jugs.

With assistance from Lakewood Garden Center owner Paul Bilyk, who coordinates the Blossoms Program with a grower, the materials were dropped off at the Lakewood City Center Plaza on June 2. There, Haber was joined by fellow volunteers to distribute completed flower boxes to program participants.

“We have a wonderful community, and I love being a part of making it the best it can be,” Haber said. “I feel that we are a community of neighbors helping others, great schools and a strongly woven group of very diverse folks who all just want the best for our families. That is why I volunteer as much as I do...and of course, if I stay home I would have to clean my house!”

The success of the Blossoms Program has enticed several merchants outside the downtown district to purchase flower boxes on their own. Meanwhile, many longtime anchor businesses in Downtown Lakewood have faithfully participated in the program for many years.

For more information regarding the Blossoms Program, visit [LakewoodAlive.org](http://LakewoodAlive.org) or contact the LakewoodAlive office at 216-521-0655.



Volunteers water the flower boxes three times per week throughout the summer.

Moo-ving On Over For The Chick-Fil-A Cow At CWRRC Bay Days 5 & 1-Mile Runs

by Mark Brinich

Cleveland West Road Runners are holding the 43rd running of the Bay Days 5-Mile Run and 1-mile kids run at Bay Village High School on the Fourth of July at 8:30 a.m. **Chick-Fil-A of North Olmsted** has agreed to be the title sponsor of the 1-mile kids run. They will be donating breakfast for up to 200 kids run participants after their race, and a free breakfast entrée coupon to all 5-mile runners. We will be keeping the Chick-Fil-A Cow busy by greeting people at race day registration, starting the kids’ race, and greeting runners at the finish line (hopefully it won’t be a 90 degree day for the cow). Additionally, **Mitchell’s Ice Cream** will be giving \$5 gift cards to the first 3 finishers in each age group for both the 5-mile and 1-mile races this year.

For the seventh straight year the first 500 entrants into the 5-mile race will receive a Brooks high tech t-shirt. **Second Sole of Lakewood** will also be supplying gift certificates to the overall, masters, and grand-masters winners in the 5-mile.

Other sponsors include **Bay Pediatric Dentistry**, **Nova Care Rehabilitation**, and **Nooma Electrolyte Hydration**. Thanks to the

**Bay Kiwanis** for once again helping us publicize the race, and to the **Bay High School Key Club** for supplying volunteers to shepherd the 1-milers to the starting line and around crucial corners throughout the race. Chip Timing will be provided by **Greater Cleveland X-C**.

**Day of race registration** will begin at 7:15 a.m. at Bay High School 29230 Wolf Road, Bay Village, OH 44140.

**On-line registration** can be completed at: [CleWestRunningClub.org](http://CleWestRunningClub.org).

**Mail in registration** forms are

available at the web site, and must be received by July 1st.

Pre-registration and packet pickup will be held at Second Sole Lakewood. **Please note that Second Sole of Lakewood has moved to 18636 Detroit Rd. Lakewood, OH 44116.**

**Dates and times are:**

Saturday, July 1st from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Sunday, July 2nd from 1 to 4 p.m.

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Entertainment

# Wonderful Horrible Fest

by Buzz Kompier

Were you at Horrible Fest this year? No? Well, you probably should've been, since supposedly it was the last one. While I don't believe that for a second, there's always the possibility. Lots of Lakewood bands and personalities were featured, hence why it's appearing here in your community newspaper. Once again, I was there, and here's what I saw.

Thursday night (which they supposedly weren't gonna do this year), which wasn't technically a part of Horrible Fest but a "pre-party." I had thought the triumphant reunion of Brainwashed Youth (original lineup!) would probably be the main event, but they played first. Dumb punk. They were too good at playing. I wanted sloppier. Mourning A BLKstar, a band that I had heard was revelatory, played next. I did not feel that they were revelatory. After them was the band I was really there to see, Perverts Again. Maybe the best P.A. set I've seen yet? They played Billy Joel's "My Life," which was as good as seeing Shitbox Jimmy play "Fox On The Run" earlier in the month. Real Regular closed out the evening with their signature dumb punk (man, a lot of dumb punk bands at this show except for that second group). They did that terrible '90s song "I want to get away, I want to flyyyyyy away." It sucked, which probably means it was what they wanted.

Night one-- like the previous night, taking place at Now That's Class, just down the street from Lakewood at 114th and Detroit-- was probably the part of the fest I had been least excited about beforehand. Don't know why, just wasn't feeling it. I accidentally got there an hour early (for some reason, I thought they weren't gonna run on punk time. I was wrong.). Fortunately, I took that time to converse with the door guy about how great his bands are, as well as picking up the debut tape from Weed Whacker (who had played outside at the backyard barbecue, along with Dime Disguise (or maybe Lido Lounge, or maybe whatever other alliterative name they've changed to), but I missed because I didn't feel like getting there that early). Mr. California kicked things off by playing his latest hit "French Kiss." Then he had a request for an encore. He played "French Kiss" again. A chant of "one more time!"

rose up amongst the crowd. He played "French Kiss" again.

The event proper started with Prostitutes. I'm not really into electronic music all that much so I hung out and talked to the door guy some more. I decided to actually support the music community and so I actually paid attention while Empty Beings played. They were alright. From what I could tell, sort of a mix of post-punk and hardcore. They weren't exactly my cup of tea (maybe I just wasn't in the right mood), but I have some friends who would've been all over it. Following the Beings was Lacerate, another local band who people seem to love and I just can't get into whatsoever. Oh well. They had a lot of people in the crowd who seemed to love them, so I guess that's what matters. Toxic State's own La Misma played next. They were pretty good, though they seemed to have some issues with the sound guy and I thought they played too long. Maybe I'm just a jerk. I think Kaleidoscope played next. They were pretty good and I enjoyed their set, though I had heard that they were visionary or something live. They weren't, but they were still good. Their new record ain't bad, either. Their singer/guitarist ran into some kind of technical problem. The same thing happened last year when Fried Egg played. Probably had something to do with that Feel It label. Closing out the night was Warthog, who were, again, decent. High energy, good songs. All you could ask for, really. I was just disappointed because I heard the bass player doing the riff from "Tonight I'm Gonna Rock You Tonight" and really hoped they were gonna play it. Oh well. They did do a Motörhead cover, though!

Before night two could occur, the matinee show had to occur. This year, it took place at Sidetracks Café, which is either in Lakewood or right outside it; I'm terrible with geography. Pretty cool space. I'd like to see more shows there. Despite almost having a hard time with the same door person who almost gave me a hard time last year, I enjoyed it quite a bit. Brand new punk/noise?! I don't know band Street Gurgler played. They were really good. I wasn't sure what to expect (so they've got one of the singers

from Brainwashed California, the guy from Rubber Mate, Mr. California...), but I look forward to hopefully hearing more from them in the future. I think Know So was next. They were solid. Much like their sibling band Perverts Again two days previously, it might have been the best set I've seen from them yet. Wait, no. I've seen Know So since then at the Euclid Tavern, I think that might've been their best show. Anyway, they were real good. Check them out. I had really hoped that The Roobydocks would play next and I could go back to bed for a while before the night show, but unfortunately they were on last. Dianetics played next. They were good. I had listened to their tapes on their Bandcamp before and wasn't that impressed, but live they were good. I think after them was Birch Boys (more on them later), who played some rippin' rock 'n' roll, dude. They did a Motörhead cover, too. I'm sensing a trend here. D.O.G. were up next. They were alright, but not really my thing either. Finally, The Roobydocks played, and it might've been the sloppiest performance I've seen by them yet. That is to say, it was really good. I didn't like that John didn't do the monologue in "Never Going Stop," but apart from that, they're a band you should see.

Finally (or not finally, really), night two came around (back at NTC). I think Bulsch kicked things off. They had abandoned their red turtlenecks for beekeeper uniforms this evening. I know I'm saying this a lot, but I think it might've been their best performance yet. My associate and I discussed this following the performance and agreed. Magic City was next, and they're fitting in quite well with the grand scheme of Cleveland bands. Special points for Paul continually interrupting Julia by starting the song and Julia going off about "why's this cute guy [saxophone noise guy Dylan The Magnificent] just sitting in the corner?" Something weird happened at the end of their set where the bass got loud for no real reason, but other than that a solid performance. They've got a new live tape out that I should probably get around to picking up at some point. After them was Lumpy Records all-stars BB Eye, featuring Lumpy himself! I thought he was

playing a keyboard, but nope, it turns out he was playing an honest-to-god xylophone. Speaking as someone who wasn't all that impressed with their 7", I thought they were really good. I bought their tape and proceeded to not be all that impressed with it. But hey, if you get the chance, they're really good live! The main attraction for me this year was Janitor Scum & The Scums, who put out one of my absolute favorite records of 2016. And they did not disappoint. They were just amazing. They were so good that I actually went and stood by the stage instead of lurking around the back like the poser I am. They closed with "City Hobgoblins," which prompted this review from an unnamed local scenester: "I f\*\*king love The Fall." I like The Fall, but man, I really really like Janitor Scum. Buy their record. I was told a few days later that they had t-shirts for sale, which I didn't hear about but I'm super disappointed I missed out on that. Hey Janitor Scums, if you read this, please send me a shirt. I left after them. I've seen Hank Wood & The Hammerheads before. They weren't gonna measure up to Janitor Scum, I already knew.

For some terrible reason (Cruelster were gonna play), I got myself up at 6 in the morning the following day and headed back over to catch a bunch of people who were not happy to see someone as sober as myself and what was dubbed "Birch Boys play the hard rock and heavy metal hits of their youth" by someone else there. Cruelster drummer Kid Gone Crazy, the member of the group who was most against playing at 6 in the morning was the only member of the band to show up, and was promptly fired from the group that evening for his malfeasance. I went home and went back to bed.

Overall, solid year. I bought t-shirts for Cruelster and Perverts Again (neither of whom played the fest proper) and would've bought a Janitor Scum shirt if I'd heard about it. Oh yeah, I guess I bought a BB Eye tape too. Everything else I can't remember. Hey, next year will be even better, right, guys? Right?

*Buzz Kompier writes about music for the thing you're probably reading currently. Tell him he's wrong at vaguelythreatening@gmail.com.*



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Forum

# Police Brutality Should Have No Place In Lakewood

by Tim Collingwood

In November of last year, Sabrina Robinson's daughter was visiting the Madison Branch of the Lakewood library to hang out after school and probably get some studying done. However, that did not end up happening as she eventually left the library with a broken jaw that a doctor at the Cleveland Clinic had to reset. Between her entrance and leaving the library for the hospital, she was assaulted by Officer Kevin Jones whose excessive use of force

led to her injury. The Robinson family has filed a lawsuit against the Lakewood Police Department for civil rights violation and abusive excessive use of force tactics against their daughter. The City recently released a statement stating what the Police Department believes happened, and that the City does train its officers in de-escalation techniques, crisis intervention, and "proper use of force." The City is also looking into it, as is City Councilperson, Dan O'Malley, who is investigating

the issue more closely. However, seeing the video on cleveland.com, one clearly wonders about the adequacy of Officer Jones' training in learning de-escalation techniques as he escalated a situation that left bodily harm on an individual Lakewood citizen. One clearly wonders how adequately Lakewood police officers are trained in de-escalation and whether the model which they are following is current and whether it might need to be improved upon.

According to the City's statement, Officer Jones is still on the Lakewood police force. I personally believe that because he violated the civil rights of Sabrina Robinson's daughter and abused his public service by using excessive force that he should not be employed by the Lakewood Police Department or any police department, and that his termination be immediate.

I don't feel safe knowing that a public servant is not treating every single citizen with respect by discriminating against a citizen on account of her skin color and using brute force to remove her from a public place that so many of us in Lakewood frequent. It's been months and I stand in solidarity with the Robinson family who feel less safe because their daughter's aggressor is still on the job, claiming to protect and serve.

I ask for Officer Jones' immediate removal from the police force, and demand that police brutality has no place in Lakewood and anywhere else. I will feel safer knowing that the Robinson family will feel safer with Officer Jones off the streets.

*Tim Collingwood is a Lakewood resident who has written blogs for Tumblr and TCM, and was the Akron Classic Movie Examiner. He would like to write about issues pertaining to social justice and how they are affecting the Lakewood community. He believes in the power of citizen journalism.*

## National Politics Imitates Lakewood's Artful Dodging

by Bonnie Sikes

President Trump and his personal lawyer have taken a page out of the Summers/Butler playbook. Lakewood citizen Brian Essi has requested documents from the city. Some documents have been released by the city, others have not. The courts have instructed the city to release all the documents. The city continues to stone-wall Mr. Essi stating that his records request was "too broad" and thus too unwieldy for compliance, yet the mayor says, "I have nothing to hide." On the national level President Trump's personal lawyer, Michael Cohen refused to cooperate with the

House and Senate investigations. Mr. Cohen called the requests "overly broad and not capable of being answered." Mr. Cohen went on to say, "I have nothing to hide." In both situations there are public documents that could shed light on a controversial matter. When documents are not released, one wonders what is being kept from public scrutiny. Three branches of government exist to provide checks and balances on each other. Congress should speak up when the President defies the judicial branch. On the national level it was the legislative branch that called for an independent investigation.

Lakewood citizens are questioning why the documents are not being released and they want to know what facts the documents contain. Voters rely on their elected representatives (City Council) to represent their views and to advocate for them. Our seven local council members should take a page from the US Senate and the House of Representatives and demand an independent investigation as well as the release of the requested documents as instructed by the courts. Then and only then will the voters know why the city sold Lakewood Hospital. **SILENCE IS NOT AN OPTION. LIBERATE THE DOCUMENTS.**

## Movie Review Of "The Zookeeper's Wife"

by Bob Rittenhouse

"The Zookeeper's Wife" is a complex World War II film with much tragedy, unselfish bravery, and care for war victims as well as ongoing love for zoo animals, and a persistent belief in the future. This 126 minute film occurs at one of the largest and best European zoos, Warsaw Zoo, in 1930s Poland. The movie is based on the non-fiction book, "The Zookeeper's Wife" by Diane Ackerman. The story originates from diaries of wife, Antonina Zabinski, whose 1968 book, was entitled, "People and Animals." The movie, directed by Niki Caro, a New Zealand director, producer, and screenwriter, ("Whale Rider," 2002, and "McFarland USA" with Kevin Costner), unfolds with the Nazi German Blitzkrieg invasion of Poland on September 1, 1939. On September 17, 1939, Red Army Russian troops invaded Poland from the East, and Poland ceased to exist as a nation state. Some of the bombs during the invasion fell in the Warsaw Zoo which terrorizes the Zookeeper and Superintendent of Warsaw parks, Dr. Jan Zabinski, (Johan Heldenbergh, "The Confessions," 2016), his wife, Antonina Zabinski, (Jessica Chastain, soap opera "Dark Shadows," "Tree of Life" with Brad Pitt), their son, Ryszard Zabinski, (actors Tim Radford, Val Maloku), zoo staff, and visitors, injuring and killing some of the animals. Soon, the villain, a Dr. Lutz Heck (Daniel Bruhl, "Bourne Ultimatum"), head of the Berlin Zoo and an SS officer (SS stands for Schutzstaffel), arrives, saying that the Germans are

taking over the Warsaw Zoo. The SS was the Nazi German special forces group controlling concentration camps, where some 5.5 - 6 million Jews and others were murdered. Some animals are taken to Germany, some have gotten loose, and some are portrayed as being killed. Among animals portrayed as being killed are an eagle shot by Heck, and a young camel which follows Antonina doing her zoo rounds. By November, 1940, Nazi German authorities have forced 400,000 Warsaw Jews into a 1.3 square mile Ghetto in the city. It is suggested to Lutz Heck the idea of setting up of a hog farm at the Zoo to supply meat, and to collect garbage from the ghetto to feed them. Jan and Antonina manage, by using the garbage truck, and other means, to hide escaping Jews from the Ghetto at the Zoo. Throughout much of the war, they save some 300 or so. Only 2 women smuggled to a safe house are recognized and killed. Lutz is infatuated with Antonina, but she remains faithful to Jan. On Passover eve, April 19, 1943, continued fighting by Jewish guerillas in the Ghetto aggravates the Germans to send thousands of troops to quash the rebellion, and to burn and destroy the Ghetto. Miraculously, the Zabinskis have been able to conceal many Jews. Different scenes show close calls such as Heck hearing a noise while he is talking to Antonina. In a confrontation, Heck tried to get the son, Ryszard, to reveal things. As Heck leaves the zoo, he hears the son shout through a window - "Hitler is Kaput!"

In one sad scene, Heck grabs up the son and threatens to shoot him with Antonina nearby, and a shot is heard. In another morbid scene, someone questions the snow falling, but Antonina notes the flakes are ashes from the burning Ghetto. Later, Jan joins with the partisans in fighting the Germans, is wounded, and imprisoned. Some estimates indicate a population of 400,000 persons imprisoned within the Ghetto confines. Some 300,000 are killed by bullets and/or the gas chambers, and 92,000 by disease and hunger. Eventually, the Zoo gets closed. Antonina, with her son and new daughter, join the mass of refugees fleeing the war. The ending of the movie is somewhat unlike many typical Hollywood movie endings. Recommended for older youth and on up.



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# Lakewood Living

## Knits, Knots, Stripes And Dots

*by Paula Reed*

If you’ve driven by 17409 Detroit Avenue across from St. James Church recently, you may have noticed a new shop, Knits Knots Stripes & Dots and wondered what it’s all about. Owner Beth Kiraly-Bratko spent many years working at Closets consignment shop, and finally decided it was time to follow her dream and open her own children’s resale boutique. Beth says, “I love kids, I love clothes, and I love Lakewood.” Beth is a Lakewood High graduate who lives in Lakewood with her husband, Brad Bratko. They have three children, so Beth is naturally up-to-date on current trends and styles in kid’s clothes. Putting the shop together was a labor of love for Beth, her husband, mom and step-dad. The four worked in concert to renovate the space, making it the appealing store it is today.

Children outgrow things so fast that many of their items are barely used, so Knits Knots Stripes & Dots stocks a large collection of quality items. The store is not technically a consignment shop-- Beth buys outright, although she will accept larger, more expensive items such as furniture, gliders and even communion dresses for consignment.



Owner Beth Kiraly-Bratko in her newly opened store.

Beth’s stock includes clothing-- size newborn to junior, toys, games, puzzles, books, baby items, strollers, pack & plays, bumbos, activity seats, etc. The shop’s policy requires clothing to be freshly laundered, toys to be clean and in working order, including batteries if they are necessary for operation. She accepts all brands, saying, “If it’s cute, we’ll take it!”

Clothing in stock will change with the seasons, just like merchandise in

a department store. There is a regular Sale section as items cycle through.

Beth will work in cooperation with local Lakewood donation centers at the end of each season, and will offer to donate for customers items that she is unable to take into her inventory.

Beth is committed to offering fine children’s goods at a great value. She looks forward to serving the needs of Lakewood’s children’s resale shoppers, and being kind to the planet by recycling gently used items.

You can reach Beth at 216-767-5872. You can also find the store on Facebook: knitsknotsstripes&dots, on Instagram at knitsknots3, and coming soon on Twitter. All of the shop’s guidelines and a photo gallery are available on the website: [www.knitsknotsstripesdots.com](http://www.knitsknotsstripesdots.com).

Whether you want to buy or sell children’s items, or just browse, Beth looks forward to welcoming you to Knits Knots Stripes & Dots!

## Tips For Designing Your Flower Garden Beds

*by Edgar Banzhaf*

Nothing complements Lakewood’s beautiful homes more than a beautiful flower garden bed. Designing a beautiful flower garden bed may seem overwhelming but it is easier than you think! There are so many factors to consider. But there are a few rules of thumb (or should we say, green thumb!) to follow for every garden. Follow the tips below to get your flower garden blooming in no time.

First, pick your garden design style. Are you going for an English or cottage-style design? A Japanese garden style? Perhaps a zen garden design or an eco-friendly garden? There are many different garden styles to choose from. Pick the one that best complements the style and feel of your home.

Next, it is time to select your plants, and there are a number of critical elements to consider before you rush out to the nearest home and garden center.

First, you’ll need to think about plant height. Most gardens have a combination of taller and shorter plants, but where you place them in the garden depends on where your garden is located on your property. For example, if your garden is an island in the middle of your backyard, you’ll want to install the tallest plants in the middle. If your garden is located along the front of your home, you’ll want the tallest plants to go in the back. You’ll also want your tallest plants in the back of any garden that is on a slope.

Next, you’ll need to think about each flower’s shade requirements. Will your garden receive full sun all day long? Full shade? Or, partial sun or partial shade? Will some flowers receive shade from taller flowers? Different flowers have different sun and shade requirements and that information can be found on the flower tag or by conducting a quick search on the Internet. For example, if you like begonias, enter the search terms “begonias shade or sun” into your search. Choosing the plants

with the sun and shade requirements to match the location of your garden is key to helping your garden thrive.

Blooming times are also important considerations if you want a colorful garden during more than one season. Choose a combination of flowers with different blooming times, so that you have plants and flowers that bloom in the spring, different ones that bloom in the summer, and more that bloom in the fall.

What about colors? This is where we can go back to basics - the color wheel! Flowers and plants of the same color hue always have a powerful impact. But if you want to mix things up, you can also pick flowers in colors that are immediately next to each other on the color wheel OR directly across from one another on the color wheel. Another consideration? The color of your home, or your deck, or any structure adjacent to the location of your garden. For example, if your garden lies along the front of your house, and your house is a neutral or pale color, bright reds, pinks and blues will provide a nice contrast. If your house is painted in a bright color, perhaps you’ll want to go with more toned down hues for a nice color contrast.

What about the edges of your garden? Another nice complement to your garden is to add a border. Pavers, stones or rocks, railroad ties, landscaping timbers, wood blocks or bricks can all be used to create a border for your garden, and will also keep your grass from encroaching your garden. Some of these border options are wallet-friendly, too.

Last but not least, don’t forget to prep your garden before planting by weeding and cleaning out dead grass and plants, and to mulch your garden and water it regularly.

Follow these tips and you’ll have a beautiful garden in no time. Happy gardening!

## From The Archives Of The Lakewood Historical Society A Look Back At Charles A. Foster Swimmng Pool



*by Jess Yenni, Curator at Lakewood Historical Society*

The Lakewood Historical Society would like to wish you a wonderful first day of summer! The beginning of June was chilly in 1959, but temperatures reached the 80s by the end

of the month. Charles A. Foster Swimming Pool had many visitors that year, and swimmers can still enjoy taking a dip there on warm summer days. Photograph courtesy of the Special Collections at Michael Schwartz Library, Cleveland State University.



Lakewood Living

LakewoodAlive To Host

“Knowing Your Home: Stripping & Refinishing Woodwork Safely” Workshop On July 13

by Matt Bixenstine

When it comes to restoring the woodwork within your home, you likely have a vision for how you want the finished product to look. But how do you go about converting that vision into reality?

LakewoodAlive will host

“Knowing Your Home: Stripping & Refinishing Woodwork Safely” on Thursday, July 13, from 7 to 9 p.m. at Sherwin-Williams’ Lakewood location (14711 Madison Avenue) The 10th workshop of 2017 for this popular home maintenance educational program will focus on the proper steps for

stripping woodwork, as well as how to refinish wood to achieve the look you want in your home.

Led by Sherwin-Williams, this workshop will equip attendees with best practices for achieving the look you want with woodwork, while learning to work safely and efficiently.

Whether tackling a project for your antique credenza or the wood mouldings and window sills within your home, you will discover products and techniques for obtaining your desired result.

Attendees are encouraged to bring photos and questions to pose to this workshop’s experts in order to obtain solutions for their woodwork projects.

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

LakewoodAlive Announces Summer Meltdown Bike Raffle

by Matt Bixenstine

The Lakewood Summer Meltdown sponsored by Melt Bar & Grilled doesn’t return to Downtown Lakewood until July 8, yet it’s not too early to get ready for this highly-anticipated community event.

LakewoodAlive is proud to announce the Summer Meltdown Bike Raffle presented by Beat Cycles. This raffle offers contestants an opportunity to win one of two Charge Grater commuter bicycles valued collectively at more than \$2,000.

Bike enthusiasts are invited to visit summer-meltdown-bike-affle.eventbrite.com to secure raffle tickets in advance for two separate drawings (for both female and male bike models) now through July 7. Tickets will also be available for purchase at Beat Cycles (15608 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood) starting Tuesday, June 20. Look for the bikes to be on display in Beat Cycles’ storefront window.

tive Director. “Fittingly, the bicycles being raffled reflect an urban commuter style conducive to riding in Lakewood.”

One of the region’s most highly-anticipated street parties, the Summer Meltdown draws nearly 10,000 attendees from across Northeast Ohio to the heart of Lakewood. This fixture on our city’s summer calendar takes place on Detroit Avenue between Marlowe and Elmwood, offering seemingly endless recreation and celebration opportunities. These include the Meltdown 5K presented by Cleveland Clinic Lakewood, the 1 Mile Kids Fun Run presented by Lakewood Family YMCA, the Gary K. Bish Memorial Beer Garden presented by First Federal Lakewood, a street festival, live music, food vendors, outdoor activities, games and more.

For more information regarding the Lakewood Summer Meltdown, please visit LakewoodAlive.org/Meltdown.



LakewoodAlive is proud to announce the Summer Meltdown Bike Raffle presented by Beat Cycles.

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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.

Raffle tickets are priced at 1 for \$10 or 3 for \$25.

Tickets will be available during the Summer Meltdown, which takes place from 4 to 10 p.m. on Saturday, July 8. The raffle drawing will be held at 9:30 p.m. on the main stage in the Gary K. Bish Memorial Beer Garden presented by First Federal Lakewood. Contestants need not be present to win, and both winners will also receive the opportunity to visit Beat Cycles for a complimentary bike helmet.

Beat Cycles has generously donated two Charge Grater commuter bicycles to serve as raffle prizes. Charge’s award-winning Grater series of urban bicycles features lightweight aluminum frames and reliable parts for riding in any weather. Designed for the everyday cyclists, these versatile bikes also sport puncture-resistant tires and anti-rust chains to help you keep maintenance to a minimum. Visit Beat Cycles for more information.

“Lakewood is renowned as a bicycle-friendly city, and we are thrilled to partner with Beat Cycles to offer the Summer Meltdown Bike Raffle,” said Ian Andrews, LakewoodAlive Execu-

Raffle Note: Bikes cannot be swapped for different sizes. Other restrictions apply.

**The Lakewood Summer Meltdown is generously supported by the following sponsors:**

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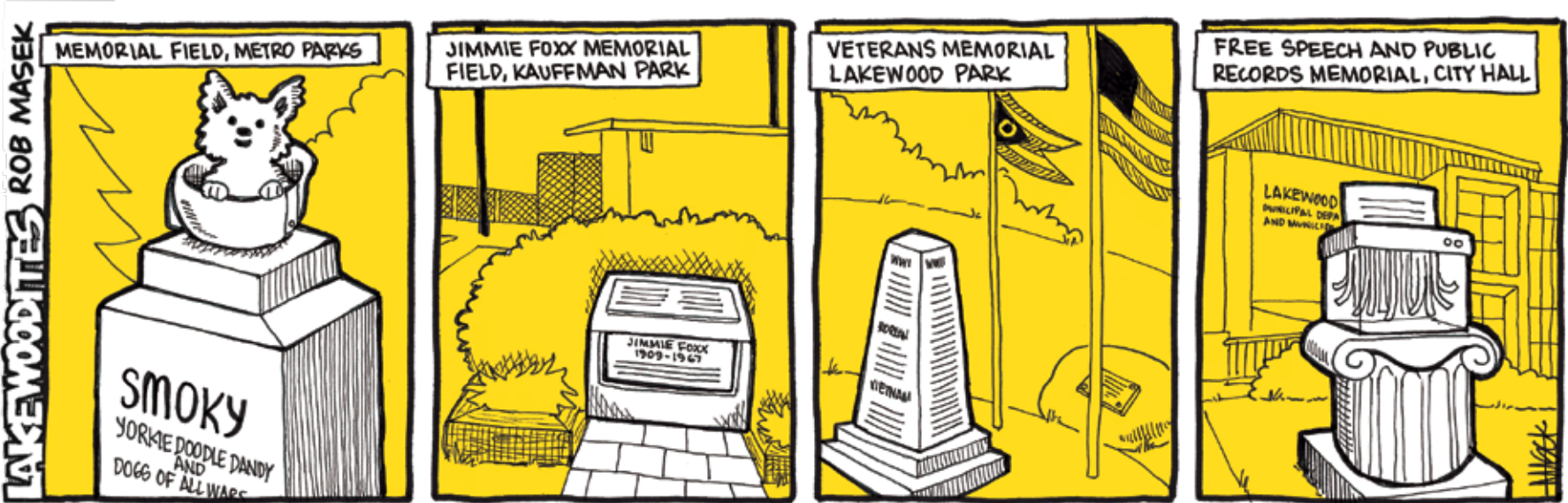
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