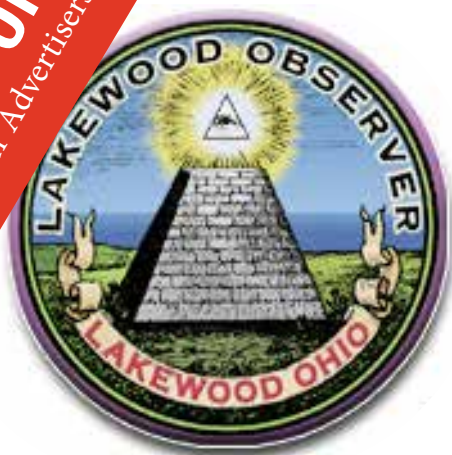


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Volume 13, Issue 13, July 5, 2017

Lakewood Chamber Of Commerce Announces 2017 Award Recipients

by Valerie Mechenbier

The Lakewood Chamber of Commerce has announced the recipients of their 2017 Outstanding New Member, Business Person of the Year, and Small Business of the Year awards.

Ms. Amy Collins, co-owner and co-founder of Lakewood Dish Dash, a business that organizes restaurant & specialty food shop walking tours in Lakewood, has been selected as the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce Outstanding New Member for

2017. Ms. Collins has served on the Taste of Lakewood committee as the Chamber's restaurant liaison for the past several years and has been instrumental in securing food vendors for the event. In 2016 Amy joined the Holiday Bid & Buy Online Auction committee and helped obtain a record number of donated items for the Chamber's annual online event that features Lakewood businesses and promotes buying local during the holiday season. The Taste of Lakewood and the Holiday Bid & Buy



First Federal of Lakewood Pres. & CEO, Thomas Fraser

Online Auction are the Chamber's two largest community events and two most impor-

tant fundraisers, and Amy Collins has actively worked to grow both to record numbers. The Outstanding New Member award was presented to Amy by the Chamber's 2016 Outstanding New Member, Mr. Frank Scalish, owner of Scalish Construction.

Mr. Thomas Fraser, President & CEO of First Federal Lakewood, is the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce 2017 Business Person of the Year. Tom is a recognized

leader and active advocate for Lakewood. Both personally and professionally, he is strongly invested in his hometown. As President of First Federal Lakewood, a corporate citizen since 1935 and one of the city's largest employers, Tom recognizes the importance of the bank's leadership and support of the Lakewood community and has developed relation-

continued on page 4

Bullock Announces Run For Re-Election To Continue Positive Changes Seen In Lakewood Today

by Ryan Puente

July 5, 2017 - Noting that Lakewood is "a great community that's only getting better," Councilperson Tom Bullock said today he is running for re-election to continue the positive changes seen in the city today.

"It's been an honor to serve Lakewood on Council since 2008. In that time, our community has experienced many wonderful changes. Lakewood is not just on the right track—we're flourishing!" said Bullock. "I'm running for City Council to keep this momentum going, to keep these positives changes going, and to make Lakewood the best we can be."

Bullock said the aspect of the job he finds most rewarding is to listen to residents'



The Bullock Family.

ideas for improving the city and bringing them forward to City Council for formal consideration.

"Many of the wonderful improvements we've seen started with a conversation among neighbors at Root Café or with a citizen speaking to

me at a Council meeting," said Bullock. "Lakewood is blessed with talented residents who share their know-how, and our entire community has benefited from this partnership."

Bullock said that by partnering with residents, he has

continued on page 10

LREF Celebrates Purple & Gold On August 19: Gala Tix On Sale

by Robin Suttell

Get ready to honor, support and celebrate Lakewood City School's unique student programming -- and the fundraising entity behind it -- Lakewood Rangers Education Foundation -- on Saturday, August 19.

Put on your favorite cocktail attire and join LREF,

alumni, civic and business leaders and other engaged Lakewood residents at an elegant, and fun, evening in support of the opportunities that support Lakewood's world-class public education at the Purple & Gold Gala, 7 p.m., at Lakewood High School.

Attendees also will celebrate the completion of the

school district's impressive construction program and be among the first to tour the high school's new performing arts and physical education wing. They'll also enjoy an open bar, international cuisine, silent and live auctions. The live auction will feature WTAM's Mike Snyder as emcee and auc-

continued on page 15

Meghan F. George For Lakewood City Council At-Large

by Meghan George

I am a candidate for Lakewood City Council At Large, and as a lifelong Lakewood resident, I know that safety is and always will be Lakewood residents' most important concern. Therefore I am pleased to announce the endorsement of my candidacy by the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 25, representing Lakewood Police Officers. I believe our safety forces need to be provided the tools and training to allow them to perform their jobs to the best of their ability and I strongly support fully funding these departments.

I believe that my unique background and experience can bring a new positive, transparent and independent energy to the City of Lakewood. We need elected officials who understand Lakewood values and who will listen to Lakewood residents' concerns. As a third generation resident and Wyandotte Avenue home owner, I feel I can bring fresh, new perspectives to City Council. I attended St. Luke (K-8) grade school and then went on to Lakewood High School. I obtained a degree from Ohio State University and a teaching license from Cleveland State where



Meghan F. George

I am currently pursuing my Master's Degree. In my current role, I serve as an Account Executive at a large Cleveland based company where I am responsible for a large book of business. As my business profession has taken me to various cities throughout the country I have become more appreciative of all the amenities Lakewood provides its residents. We are very fortunate to live in a place that values libraries, parks and recreation and that is seen through the various funding projects such as the enhancement of the library a few years ago and the more recent Solstice Steps at Lakewood Park.

Although we have seen

continued on page 11

Lakewood Observer

From The Deck

HOT OFF THE DECK!

Topic	Author	# Responses	Views	Last Responder
public right...city record?	D.Anderson	81	8026	Mark Kindt
Dem Club June 29, guest Mayor Mike Summers	mjkuhns	17	391	P.Watula
Eagle Update -	Jim O'Bryan	0	103	
Look Who Spearheaded ER Campaign That Mised Vulnerable Seniors	Brian Essi	6	726	O'Bryan
Hospital Site Development	dl meckes	23	1729	Allen
Kevin Butler-Mystery Man Behind Fitz!'s Fake Newspaper	L. Allen	17	2514	Allen
Fun Facts About Lakewood	Jim O'Bryan	29	2076	O'Bryan
Warehouse Fire Closes Franklin Last Night		4	693	meckes
Civic Leaders Looking For Skeltons		4	577	Allen
Bad Opioids On The Streets! ALERT		6	1228	Harkness
THEY ARE BACK!	Jim O'Bryan	3	436	
Free Outdoor Shakespeare in Lakewood Park - June 24 and July 29	Pedaci	2	273	Pedaci
Tom Bullock Launches Comedy Career	Michael Deneen	4	981	Deneen
Where Did A Post Go - Missing?		6	606	O'Bryan

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Upcoming Submission Deadline

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From The Statehouse

Rep. Antonio Says “No” To State Budget That Ignores Hard-Working Ohioans While Prioritizing The Wealthiest 1%

by Nickie Antonio

This week in Columbus, State Representative Nickie Antonio voted “no” on House Bill 49, the state’s biennial budget. Amid a more than \$1 billion financial shortfall, Ohio’s legislative Republicans passed their state budget, leaving Gov. John Kasich less than 48 hours to review it before the start of the new fiscal year.

“This budget is chock-full of the same old recycled and ill-conceived tax shifting policies that we’ve seen time after time. In fact, we’ve seen these policies proposed in the last 3 budgets

from this administration,” said Rep. Nickie J. Antonio.

To shore up the state’s deteriorating financial outlook, Republican lawmakers raided numerous special funds, ended local grant programs, delayed payment of certain bills and counted on a glowing economic forecast the next two years – though Ohio spent the last 54 months trailing the nation’s job growth.

Republicans also propped up the state’s ledger by taking \$35 million in local community funding used to fight opioid addiction.

“Ohio is at the epicenter of this crisis, leading the nation in opioid and heroin overdoses and deaths. By shifting money away from our local communities, we will only allow those numbers to further increase. Local law enforcement cannot be expected to respond to the opioid epidemic if we take away the meager resources they have today and then expect a successful outcome tomorrow,” said Representative Antonio. “I fear this measure within the budget will only create a more disastrous outcome in communities across Ohio, and taking away

local government funds will ultimately result in forcing tax increases or cutting back our law enforcement during this critical time.”

Another devastating part of the budget includes the Republican initiative to lock working people out of expanded Medicaid healthcare coverage. If federal approval is granted for the Medicaid lockout, the state estimates at least 700,000 people would lose healthcare.

“Quite frankly, this budget passed by Republicans will restrict access to healthcare for veterans, single mothers, and other hard working low-income people. We know that restricting access to care has never made anyone safer, healthier or more financially stable, and it won’t start now. We cannot cut ourselves to prosperity,” said Rep. Antonio.

Senator Michael Skindell Comments On State Budget Vote

by Tony DiMenna

Last week, State Senator Michael J. Skindell (D-Lakewood) voted “No” on Amended Substitute House Bill 49, known as the state’s biennial operating budget. Among many concerns, Senator Skindell cited the disinvestment in people and communities and the continuation of tax loopholes for corporations and the wealthy as areas where the bill fell short.

“The evidence is clear that there is no Ohio miracle but rather an Ohio calamity,” said Senator Skindell. “The LLC tax loophole created in 2013 and expanded in 2015 has created a massive fiscal hole. This year alone, the budget hole stands at \$840 million dollars, and is apparently growing. Ohio’s finances are shrinking. The current imbalance is comparable to the imbalance we faced earlier this decade, largely caused by the 2005 tax giveaway.”

During the budget debate, Senator Skindell advocated for greater state investment in need-based financial aid for college students, quality childcare programs, K-12 education, public transportation and senior programs like Meals-On-Wheels. Senator Skindell noted that past disinvestment in higher education has made Ohio one of the most costly places for students to go to college. He also expressed concern that many schools in the 23rd Senate District would experience a cut in state funding under the budget bill.

Continuing cuts and diversions from local government funding also prevented Senator Skindell from supporting House Bill 49.

“Recent state budgets have not provided the Local Government Fund with the stable and predictable funding source they need to be able to provide critical services to their communities,”

said Senator Skindell. “State action has resulted in extraordinary cuts to the revenues collected by our counties, cities, and townships. Meanwhile, the ability of county and city officials to pay for services with locally raised taxes have been hampered.

“In the simplest of terms, the budget we are asked to vote on today offers short-sighted, short-term solutions for long-term problems, such as the lack of meaningful investment in working families, lack of meaningful investment in our communities, and lack of meaningful investment to increase the opportunities of all Ohioans. Once more, the wealthy and big business will fare far better than working families under this budget.”

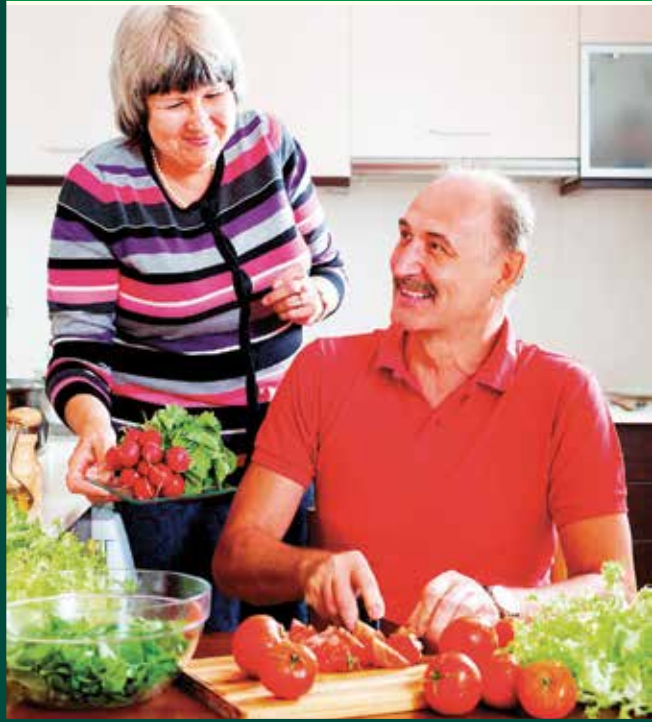
The bill will now move to Conference Committee to reconcile the differences between the House and the Senate.

During the months-long budget process, House Democratic lawmakers called on Republicans to come together on economic and tax reforms that would put \$200 million in real money against opioid addiction while walking back six years of tax-shifting that has seen Ohio trail the nation in job creation and shift to poverty-wage jobs. Democrats also said the state could better attract new businesses and good-paying jobs by rebuilding local communities and prioritizing education funding for every student to earn the skills they need to compete.

As this crippling budget heads to Governor Kasich’s desk for his signature by July 1, Representative Antonio is urging the governor to do what is right for Ohioans by vetoing the Medicaid expansion freeze and the shifting of Local Government Funds to the state.

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The Lakewood Division Of Aging Is Throwing The Party Of The Summer: The Annual Senior Picnic

by Barry Wemyss

The sun is shining, the weather is warm, the lake breezes are fresh. That means that it is party-time for the Lakewood Division of Aging. On Friday, July 21st at 10 a.m. we will rendezvous at the lovely Kiwanis Pavilion at Lakewood Park. In addition to a scrumptious box lunch, we will be gathering for games, fellowship with friends, and some great summertime music, provided by a DJ, complements of Troy Entertainment. While there, you will have plenty of time to stretch your legs on the paved walking paths. Walk along the lake shoreline path to see a beau-

tiful view of the fabulous Cleveland skyline. Make your way over to see one of Lakewood's newest attractions: the Solstice Seps. You will be impressed. You can bask in the sun, or simply enjoy a cool drink while

relaxing in the shade. Whatever your preferences, you will find it at the Senior Picnic.

Please call the Division of Aging Activities Office at 216-529-5005 with questions or to make your reserva-

tion. The suggested donation for this fun day in the park is \$4. Transportation is available for Lakewood seniors who have need of it. Don't be a party pooper; we look forward to seeing you at the park.

LCC 2017 Award Recipients

continued from page 1

ships with many local organizations that make Lakewood a unique and thriving city. As President of First Federal Lakewood, Tom is also a strong proponent of the value that local businesses have in the community. From working directly with other business owners on community building activities to providing resources and access to bank professionals, Tom ensures that First Federal Lakewood is an active partner in the Lakewood business community and is a key player in helping our business community thrive. Under Tom's leadership, the bank that he used to walk past on his way to St. Edward High School has grown to be the largest depositor-owned community bank headquartered in Ohio with assets of \$1.6 billion. The Business Person of the Year award was presented to Tom by the Chamber's 2016 Business Person of the Year, Ms. Lucinda Einhouse, President of Beck Center for the Arts.

GV Art + Design has been named the 2017 Lakewood Chamber of Commerce Small Business of the Year in the inaugural year of the award. GV Art + Design is a creative boutique specializing in original artwork and design including print and web design, logos, photography, original one-of-a-kind Etch A Sketch art and apparel. From day one GV Art + Design Apparel has been getting local and National attention: from SportsCenter, TNT, MLB Network and Jimmy Kimmel, to the front pages of Yahoo, ESPN, NBA.com and Sports Illustrated. In 2009, they started the "Cleveland That I Love" campaign which has become more than just apparel but a statement of Cleveland pride. Through their work with professional athletes and teams throughout the country, GV Apparel is now featured in professional team shops and carried in dozens of stores throughout Northeast Ohio. In August of 2014 they opened up a retail studio on Detroit Avenue, in 2015 they opened a second store in Downtown Willoughby, and in 2016 the GV team purchased the former Rose & Sons Antiques building in Lakewood, opening their new store and studio space in February of 2017. GV Art + Design has become a regional destination for the hottest Cleveland apparel and artwork, drawing visits from top Cleveland athletes and celebrities. They have attracted a loyal social media following (over 44,000 on Instagram alone) – GV fans who anxiously await the next t-shirt design, often released within hours of memorable moments in Cleveland sports.

The Lakewood Chamber of Commerce presented these awards and honored their Past Presidents and

long-term members at their Annual Awards Luncheon on June 23rd at Vosh Lakewood.

About the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce

Serving the greater Lakewood community for over 100 years, the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce is the leading membership organization for the advocacy and advancement of business interests. Comprised of more than 325 member businesses and individuals, the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce has a long history of advocating on behalf of businesses owners by providing group purchasing programs for products and services, advocating for changes in legislation or regulation, offering affordable marketing & promotional opportunities, and providing educational seminars, networking events, and monthly meetings for small businesses to connect with and learn from each other. (www.lakewoodchamber.org)



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Lakewood Public Library

Calendar Of Events

compiled by Elaine Rosenberger

Thursday, July 6

Author Event - “What is a Schizophrenic Supposed to Look Like?” by Lori Roachat

Lori Roachat describes how she overcame difficult life challenges as a person with schizophrenia, and she shares her experiences with others who face similar challenges. Books will be available for sale and signing at the event.

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

Friday, July 7

Front Porch Concert Series

Bring a lawn chair or blanket and enjoy fantastic music with friends and neighbors in the heart of Downtown Lakewood. Tonight we welcome Carlos Jones.

Main Library Front Porch

Saturday, July 8

Film - “Interstellar” (2014) directed by Christopher Nolan

In the not-so-distant future, nature is waging war on humanity. Cooper (Matthew McConaughey), a former NASA pilot and engineer, is guided to a top-secret, underground NASA facility where Professor Brand (Michael Caine), a renowned physicist, has been working to find a new planet capable of sustaining human life.

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

Sunday, July 9

Concert - Jody, John, and George

Every couple of months, Jody Getz, John Lucic and George Lee each bring a new song for their trio to learn. Recently, Lee chose a 1960s Jimi Hendrix rock song, Lucic chose a Bull Moose Jackson big band novelty tune and Getz chose a slick CeeLo Green pop song. Part rock, blues, folk, standard, jazz, original and pop music, it’s difficult to say what kind of music they play, but it sure is a lot of fun.

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

Monday, July 10

Documentary - “One Way Astronaut” (2014)

Directed by Peter Tetteroo and Kai Dieho

Stephan, Sara, Henri and Beatriz are four people who, like tens of thousands of applicants from all over the world, answered an advertisement for people who’d like to visit Mars. There’s only one catch: this mission is one-way only. The documentary portrays aspiring astronauts from around the world and the billionaire founder of Mars One, Bas Lansdorp.

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

Tuesday, July 11

Author Event - “A Void the Size of the World” by Rachele Alpine

Presented by Beck Center for the Arts

Rhylee didn’t mean to kiss her sister’s boyfriend. At least, not the first time. But it doesn’t matter, because her sister, Abby, caught them together, ran into the dark woods behind their house...and never came home. How do you face the guilt of wishing a person gone...when they actually disappear? Books will be available for sale and signing at the event.

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

Wednesday, July 12

Talk - “Mars Missions and Discoveries”

Presentation by Jim Simek

Beginning in the late twentieth century, probes sent from Earth have allowed us to learn a great deal about Mars, including its geology and potential for supporting human life. In this presentation, Jim Simek, a building management specialist at NASA, will cover past missions to Mars, including landers, as well as satellites orbiting Mars, rovers and new discoveries.

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

Thursday, July 13

Author Event “Sun, Sand, Murder” by John Keyse-Walker

As a Special Constable, Teddy Creque is the only police presence on the remote, sun-drenched island of Anegada. When Teddy receives a call about a dead man on the beach, he is shocked to discover biologist Paul Kelliher has been killed by a single shot to the head. And when he tries to inform Kelliher’s nearest kin, Teddy makes an even more surprising discovery: there’s no record that Paul Kelliher ever existed. Books will be available for sale and signing at the event.

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

Friday, July 14

Front Porch Concert Series

Bring a lawn chair or blanket and enjoy fantastic music with friends and neighbors in the heart of Downtown Lakewood. Tonight we welcome Cats on Holiday.

Main Library Front Porch

Saturday, July 15

Film - “Easy Virtue” (2008) directed by Stephan Elliott

Presented by Barbara Steffek-Hill

The son of an English landed gentry family, John Whittaker (Ben Barnes) delivers shock waves when he brings home his American car racing bride Larita (Jessica Biel). Larita incurs the wrath of drama queen mother-in-law Veronica Whittaker (Kristin Scott Thomas). The only one in Larita’s corner is father-in-law Mr. Whittaker (Colin Firth), a veteran tormented by his service in the Great War. 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, July 16

Concert - Chris Vance Quartet

Longtime Lakewood musician Chris Vance leads an all-star quartet as they play on existing melodies and rhythms with the goal of creating something new together. Using their unique interpretation of a wide selection of the jazz repertoire, as well as their own compositions, Vance and other Cleveland greats will fill the afternoon with excitement.

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

Tuesday, July 18

Workshop – Genealogy

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

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

Tuesday, July 18

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 “Olive Kitteridge” by Elizabeth Strout.

7:00 p.m. Main Library Meeting Room

Wednesdays, July 19

Talk - “Exploring Mars” Part I

Presentation by Dr. Geoffrey Landis

In this two-part series, NASA scientist Dr. Geoffrey Landis will discuss the history of exploring Mars with telescopes, space probes and rovers, what we have learned about the red planet (and what we have yet to learn) and the possibilities of future human missions to explore and settle Mars.

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

Children & Youth Events

compiled by Eric Knapp

Saturday, July 8

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.

Tuesday, July 11

Afternoon at the Movies: “The Aristocats”

For the whole family

Movies shown on the Library’s big screen. Free and open to the public. Remember: No food or drink in the Library. No registration required.

1:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium.

Friday, July 14

Magical Menagerie Jr. Video Game Creation

For youth entering first through third grade

Learn to use Scratch as we make a cool fantasy video game. Registration required.

2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. in the Madison Branch Auditorium.

Friday, July 14

The Hullaballoon Show

For the whole family

This show is filled with silly magic, storytelling, comedy, music, audience participation and eye-popping balloon props. Free and open to the public. No registration required.

3:00 p.m. in the Main Library First Floor Multipurpose Room.

Sunday, July 16

Lakewood LEGO® League

For youth in kindergarten through fifth grade (caregivers welcome)

Use LPL’s collection of Lego® Bricks and your own imagination to create fabulous new structures and designs each month. No registration, but numbered tickets will be given out first-come, first-served.

6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. in the Main Library Activity Room.

Tuesday, July 18

LEGO® Minions

For youth entering first through fourth grade

Build a Minion mosaic with Lego® Bricks4Kidz® style. Registration required.

3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. in the Main Library First Floor Multipurpose Room.

Tuesday, July 18

Afternoon at the Movies: “Chicken Little”

For the whole family

Movies shown on the Library’s big screen. Free and open to the public. Remember: No food or drink in the Library. No registration required.

1:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium.

Lakewood Public Library

Mars Adventures

by Hiam Jawhari

Scientists have always wondered about the possibility of life on other planets. However, to consider any planet habitable, three factors are necessary: a temperature between zero and forty degrees Celsius, water, and oxygen. With the help of rovers and satellites, scientists now believe the red planet, Mars, may have the answer. Mars and Earth have approximately the same land mass. In addition, there are signs of ice on Mars. NASA is working hard to see if there is any chance of life on our red neighbor.

Our Library will help you explore by providing a collection of movies - some funny and some serious - and speakers who will shed some light on this matter. On Saturday, July 8 at 6 p.m. join us for the film “Interstellar” (2014). NASA asks Cooper (Matthew McConaughey) and other scientists to go on a mission into a wormhole to find a new home on another planet. Cooper has to choose between saving humanity and risking his family, or staying behind. On Monday, July 10 at 6:30 p.m. we will show the documentary “One Way Astronaut” (2014). Four people are willing to go to Mars on a one-way trip and never return to see their loved ones.

On Wednesday, July 12 at 7 p.m. Jim Simek will present “Mars Mission and Discoveries.” Simek joined NASA in 1977 and served in the U.S Air Force as a Radio Maintenance Technician.

Simek will help us learn more about the geology and possibility of living on the red planet, Mars. On Wednesdays, July 19 and 26 at 7 p.m., Dr. Geoffrey Landis will present "Exploring Mars." Landis is a scientist from the NASA Glenn Research Center who works on developing advanced technologies for exploring space. He was a member of the Rover team on the Mars pathfinder mission.

Drug And Alcohol Abuse Is Killing Americans

by Amy Kloss

Ohio is in the midst of a deadly epidemic. Overdoses are the leading cause of death for Americans under 50, and Ohio leads the nation in opioid overdose deaths. Are we doing enough to stop it?

Dr. Jamile Wakim Fleming, a physician at the Cleveland Clinic and professor at Case Western Reserve University, is doing her part to educate people about the dangers of drugs and alcohol. Join her in the Main Library Auditorium on Thursday, July 20 at 7:00 p.m. as she presents her book, "How the Birds Stop Singing: Stories of Drug and Alcohol Abuse as Told to a Doctor."

Dr. Fleming, whose career has focused on the prevention and treatment of illnesses that affect the liver,

On Saturday, July 22 at 6 p.m. the Library will show the film “Conquest of Space” (1955). In this film, an American-led team of International astronauts leave their space station on the first mission to Mars. On Monday, July 24 at 6:30 p.m. we will show Sam Klemke’s “Time Machine” (2015). In 1977, Sam Klemke began obsessively documenting his entire life on film. That same year, NASA launched the Voyager Space

Craft into deep space. Voyager was carrying the "Golden Record," a portrait of humanity that would attempt to explain humanity were it to meet any extraterrestrials along the way. This film presents Sam's journey and NASA's "Golden Record" side by side, offering a glimpse of one man's life and one nation's self-reflection.

All of the above programs take place in the Main Library Auditorium.

is passionate about keeping teens from using any form of addictive substance. She has seen an alarming increase in liver issues among young people, and says that 30 percent of cases on her floor at the Cleveland Clinic are alcohol or drug abuse related.

“How the Birds Stop Singing” grew out of her desire to educate people about the devastating effects of drugs and alcohol. She and her co-authors interviewed survivors of drug addic-

The Wonderful World Of Bubbles

by Marge Foley

What do you get if you remove the Crocs from your feet, dip the shoes in a bucket of soapy water, and blow? You get bubbles! If this idea has never occurred to you, you are not alone. But it has occurred to The Bubble Lady, Sue Durante. Sue searches her home for everyday household items that become the tools for producing remarkable frothy creations. A piece of rope, a mesh strawberry basket, and the plastic holder from a 6 pack of soda are among the numerous objects that enable The Bubble Lady to construct magnificent balloons of soap. Come

tion about what drew them to use drugs or alcohol and the negative effects these substances had on their lives. In addition to personal stories, the book gives detailed information about the effects of drugs on the human body.

Join Dr. Wakim Fleming at the Lakewood Public Library on July 20 to hear her stories and advice on rein-ing in our deadly epidemic. Books will be available for sale and signing at the event.

Library Fun For Minecraft Fans

by Nicka Petruccio

Is your child a Minecraft fan? I bet they are. Minecraft is a crazy-creative cube world where adventure abounds, architecture arises, and the only limit is your own imagination. A gameworld randomized for every player and fully customizable. It looks simple but Minecraft can become fairly complex for those brave enough to plumb its depths. If the youngsters in your family are total blockheads, have explored every crevice of the Overworld, the Nether and the End, confronted the Ender Dragon and lived to tell about it, if they're true

Minecraft Explorers then come join us for six weeks of Minecraft themed crafts, games and other activities.

Minecraft Explorers is for kids entering 3rd through 5th grade and will be held Thursdays from July 13 to August 17, 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. in the Lakewood Public Library Multipurpose room. Registration is required and space is limited so please call the Lakewood Public Library Children's & Youth Services Area at (216) 226-8275 ext. 140 to sign up.

Nicka Petruccio is a librarian at the Lakewood Public Library in the Children & Youth Services Department.



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For Ages 4 And Up

The Green Golly Project's “Green Golly And Her Golden Flute”

by Julie Strunk

Friday, July 7, 2017

3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Main Library Multipurpose Room

The mission of The Green Golly Project is to encourage children, parents and teachers to study and practice music as an empowering and vital building block in the development of a child's intellect. The Green Golly Project's illustrated storybook, "Green Golly and Her Golden Flute" by Keith Torgan was published in fall 2013 and received the Parents' Choice Gold Award and the Family Choice Award.

This live performance introduces the Green Golly and her friends in a masterful production of the award-winning book. The performance is a gateway through which children can enter into the magical world of the Green Golly and experience classical



The Green Golly Project will bring stories to life at Lakewood Public Library on Friday, July 7 from 3:30-4:30 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room.

music and the flute. Enjoy this performance featuring Keith Torgan and flutist and co-founder of The Green Golly Project, Barbara Siesel. To learn more about The Green Golly Project, visit www.greengolly.com.

Schools

Moving Back To Lakewood Meant Moving Back To Great Schools!

by April Crone

My husband and I live at the West End of Lakewood with our three children -- a daughter at Lakewood High School, a son at Harding Middle School, and a daughter at Horace Mann Ele-

mentary School. Our two older children started out at Lakewood City Schools but we soon moved to Tiffin, Ohio for my husband's job. We missed the wonderful community spirit Lakewood has to offer, and we especially missed the

schools! Moving back has been a joy and so important to our family.

For us, the teachers make all the difference. Lakewood's teachers at every level have a deep commitment to the success of their students. They get to know each

student, determine their strengths and weaknesses, and find the best ways to motivate them and help them succeed. Lakewood's teachers take things to the next level, and our children have learned so much through their careful, thoughtful instruction.

Our youngest daughter started Lakewood City Schools in the first grade, and her teacher made the transition very easy, especially the social aspect of starting in a new school. Our son started in middle school, where his teachers committed their own time before and after school to hold many social clubs -- chess, Minecraft, photography, H2O -- that made it easy for him to make new friends. Our eldest daughter has taken full advantage of the excellent music programs at the high school, and it has meant the world to her that she doesn't have to be an athlete to feel that she is a valued member of the student body.

The past year and a half has been a challenge for our family, as I have faced numerous treatments for an aggressive form of breast cancer. With my husband still commuting to his job in Tiffin and me going through treatment, it has been so important to us that our children feel safe and secure at school. Teachers and administrators have been sensitive to their social and academic needs and have helped our children to excel academically during this difficult time.

We are so grateful for all that the Lakewood City Schools have to offer. They are a vital part of what makes Lakewood such a vibrant community. We are excited to see how our children will continue to succeed, and we thank Lakewood's teachers for all they do for our kids!

Sincerely,
April Crone



The performing Arts and Physical Education wing of Lakewood High School is nearly finished! Great work Lakewood! Come to Lakewood High School August 20, 2017 and check out what we have built as a community dedicated to education.

District Hires Two New Admins

by Christine Gordillo

The Lakewood Board of Education at its May 19 meeting approved the hiring of two new administrators, who will both begin their positions on Aug. 1, 2017. Swanton (Ohio) Local School District Superintendent Jeffrey Schlade has been named the new Director of Human Resources and Oberlin City Schools Director of Pupil Services Elizabeth Rogel has been named a Coordinator of Student Services.

Schlade will replace Deb Cahoon, who is retiring. Rogel will take the position held by Elizabeth Kimmel, who has accepted a position with

another school district to lead its Student Services department.

Schlade comes to Lakewood with extensive and varied experience as a school administrator. Prior to leading the 1,300-student Swanton district for the past five years, he spent 15 years in the Napoleon Area City School District, where he was Assistant Principal then Principal at Napoleon High School. He began his educational career as a teacher of marketing education in the Massillon City School District.

Schlade was one of 28 superintendents selected to participate in the Buckeye Associations of School Administrators' Ohio School Leadership Institute in the 2014-2015 school year. Schlade earned his bachelor's degree in Marketing Education from Bowling Green State University and his master's in Educational Administration from Ashland University.

"I'm looking forward to the challenge of picking up where Dr. Cahoon leaves off; continuing to recruit and attract world-class talent to Lakewood's world-class school district," Schlade said. "It is our employee groups, our people, that make everything we do possible."

Rogel brings a wealth of special education experience to her new coordinator role. For the past decade she has directed Oberlin's special education programs and also served as the district's Facility Civic Engagement Coordinator, Transition Coordinator



Liz Rogel

and District Wellness Champion.

Before going to Oberlin, Rogel was a Special Education Supervisor for Strongsville City Schools, overseeing grades 6-12. She has also worked as a special education teacher for Cleveland Metropolitan School District, Cleveland Heights/University Heights School District and the Positive Education Program. Rogel earned her bachelor's degree from Ohio State University and her master's in Special Education from Kent State University.

"I am thrilled to be joining an excellent team of educators in Lakewood Schools. I look forward to getting to know the students, families, and staff in the upcoming year," Rogel said.



Jeff Schlade

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Schools

Caution: Road Work Ahead

by Kathryn Callentine

Anyone who has driven in North-east Ohio knows the ever-altering encounters between potholes and orange barrels. Yes, Clevelanders, sometimes we weave through both at the same time! Driving along, this was the picture that formed in my head as a woman on the radio advised me, “You can prepare the road for your child or you can prepare your child for the road.” It was a beautiful day in the Metroparks and my personal road looked smooth and clear. All I had to worry about was a few bicyclists. Even the deer were behaving. Still, I reflected on the proverbial message and thought, “Which way is the ‘right’ way to go?”

As a parent, an educator, and a mature adult (meaning I’m not that young anymore!), I have struggled to balance out these options. I have also witnessed a rising struggle among other parents to do the same, resulting in precarious and at times scary results. Honestly, it concerns me.

At a very young age, my own son displayed symptoms of anxiety and depression. His behaviors might have been confusing or unrecognizable to most parents. However, with my professional background and personal mental health history, I held prior knowledge. Some of the things my husband and I were seeing included an inability to make decisions, an unwillingness to be separated from us including going to school, and a sad-

ness that sometimes looked more like downright crankiness. As parents, it was heartbreaking.

This kind of experience including emotional and school issues may set mothers and fathers on opposing sides. This in turn results in marital and overall family stress. The majority of the time this is how it goes:

Moms tend to line up on one side and say, “Ok, let’s clear this road and open a straight express lane for my kid to get from point ‘A’ to point ‘Z.’” Meanwhile, Dads often move to the opposite side and proclaim, “Hey, life is tough. So, let’s get this kid prepared to handle whatever life is going to throw at him. No excuses!”

And..., let the fighting begin!

In reality, both approaches are needed, but success lies in when and how to do each. In our family’s case, we chose to prepare our child for the road. This included counseling at an early age which did not work (only years later did counseling prove beneficial) and holistic therapy through a chiropractor involving diet which yielded only moderate results. That left us with seeking medical advice on the use of psychotropics. I don’t know any parent who wouldn’t struggle with the decision to try medication. Our society has made amazing advances in understanding how the brain works, but we still have such a long way to go. Children’s bodies are in a constant state of growing, so medication is, in my opinion, a matter

of educated trial and error. However, that doesn’t mean that meds are bad. On the contrary! If a child has diabetes, it would be neglectful not to administer insulin as needed. In our case it took a referral from a pediatrician to a psychiatrist and within a year we had an effective dosage and plan. I would be remiss to say that was all we did to prepare our son. During this time and still to this day we have been active in our church and local community. We taught our son who and whose he is. We taught him how to pray and how to serve others even when he didn’t feel like it. This was a vital part of prepping our boy for the road ahead.

But, the journey was still bumpy and we found that along the way intervention was necessary. Now it was time to look at the road. About three years into our adventure we chose to seek help through the Lakewood City Schools using something called a 504 plan. A 504 plan does not include goals like an IEP (individual education plan), but it does provide accommodations. These accommodations smooth out the educational road and provide bridges for crossing deep crevices. For example, our son had social anxiety, so the 504 plan stated that a teacher would assign a peer or group to partner with on projects. This small thing made a big difference! In the end, it took a combination of approaches to achieve success. By success, I do not mean a certain GPA or tangible achievement. Oh, how we love our awards and trophies in this country! I mean a child who knows himself, likes who he is becoming, and sees a bright future on the horizon.

So why am I concerned? As I mentioned earlier, it was heart wrenching to see our child suffer. As parents, we can get a little crazy when we see our children hurt or hurting. From my vantage, there are a growing number of adults today who mistakenly believe that society should be able to create and maintain smooth, yes even perfect, roads that never even produce a speed bump. Oh boy! That is just not realistic and it is having dire consequences on today’s public servants and society’s youth.

Human and health service people today are facing a burden they were never equipped to endure. In fact, I would argue that they can’t meet these unrealistic expectations. Police are tasked with consequencing those who break the law. They aren’t being “mean.” They have a job to do. If they catch a kid vandalizing or stealing property, it’s the parent’s job to address the issue with the child, not blame law enforcement. Likewise, teachers have the duty to educate students on both academics and responsibility. Did you know that the number one reason employers justify firing employees is worker tardiness and absenteeism? Even if that isn’t the fundamental reason for termination, it is the easiest means. That’s why if students are tardy to school, consequences are essential to teaching the life skill of punctuality.

I have a personal saying. “Pay now or pay later.” We parents, teachers and community members are partners in education. When children are younger, it’s often easier on adults to put off consequences. This usually occurs under the guise of kindness and could be why everyone gets a trophy today. However, in actuality, it simply gives birth to enablement in a negative way. Instead of becoming empowered, children come to expect an external locus of control to “feed” them success. As adults, we know that life is full of detours, roadblocks and yes, sometimes accidents. So, when you don’t pay now the price goes up later. What do I mean by this? If you always succeed- pass the class, get the award, are told you are exceptional-- how are you prepared for failure?

You are not.
Nor do you have the skills to cope.
The price just went up.

I encourage parents and community to consider what it means to prepare today’s youth for the road ahead. We should not fear failure or pain, as it often results in shaping who we are and leads us to success. Winston Churchill said, “Success is not final, failure is not fatal; it is courage to continue that counts.” For most of us out there, being a parent is the most challenging thing we’ll ever do. Remember, with the right roadmap, anything is possible.

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Lakewood Is Art

Beck Center Brings The “City Of Angels” To Lakewood

by Pat Miller

Beck Center for the Arts is pleased to present “City of Angels,” winner of 6 Tony Awards³ including Best Musical and Best Original Score. This acclaimed film noir musical runs July 7 through August 13, 2017 in the Mackey Theater. Show times are 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, and 3 p.m. Sundays. Tickets are now on sale.

“City of Angels” features music by Cy Coleman, lyrics by David Zippel, and book by Larry Gelbart. With two plots running simultaneously, this ingenious musical skillfully weaves the real world and the “reel” world into one unforgettable adventure. When Stine embarks to faithfully adapt his novel into a screenplay, he discovers the difficulty of maintaining his artistic integrity against Hollywood movie moguls. As the line separating fantasy from reality is blurred, Stine must find a way to produce a happy ending! *Variety* raves “a spoof with a serious side...looks like a dream and plays like a hoot, letting a knockout cast loose on knockabout comedy.”

Beck Center’s Artistic Director Scott Spence returns to direct an exceptionally talented cast of 32 actors. Jamie Koeth stars as Stine, a novelist turned screenwriter. He is joined by Rob Albrecht as Stone, the private detective in Stine’s novel. “City of Angels” was among my first Broadway experiences, and it set the bar high! There is something for everyone...jazz, vocalese, classic film, mystery, and even screwball comedy,” remarked Spence. “I am excited for audiences to experience this musical, which does not come around enough.” Koeth and Sonia Perez appear courtesy of the Actors’ Equity Association (AEA). This production is musically directed by Larry Goodpaster and choreographed by Martín Céspedes.

A Pre-Show Talk discussing the musical and its creation will take place with Bill Rudman, Artistic Director of The Musical Theater Project, at 2 p.m. on Sunday, July 23.

Tickets are \$31 for adults, \$27 for seniors (65 and older), and \$12 for students with a valid I.D. A \$3 service fee per ticket will be applied at time of purchase. Preview Night on Thursday, July 6 is \$10 with general admission seating. Group discounts are available for parties of four or more. Purchase tickets online at beckcenter.org or call Customer Service at 216.521.2540 x10. Beck Center for the Arts is located at 17801 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood, just ten minutes west of downtown Cleveland. Free onsite parking is available.

This production of “City of Angels” is presented through special arrangement with Tams-Whitmark Music Library, Inc. It is generously sponsored by the John P. Murphy Foundation, and the residents of Cuyahoga County through Cuyahoga Arts and Culture and the Ohio Arts Council.

Yikes:

Reviews Of Recent Releases By Local Bands, Pt. 50

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.

Magic City - Magic City - Blow Blood Records - 4 songs - 7", download

Magic City, along with The Roobydocks and Heavenly Queen, was one of my favorite new bands of 2016. This is their debut vinyl offering. “Free” is a great late-’70s style punk rocker with wah-wah’d out guitar and great energy. I know that’s reviewer-type garbage to say it has “great energy,” but it really does. I’m just stupid and can’t think of a better way to say that. “Oogha Boogha” is a somewhat slower hard rock tune— indie rock fans may listen to the drumming and go “hey, that sounds familiar.” Just kidding, indie rock fans probably won’t listen to this. “Kay” on the flip is another solid hard rock/punk song, followed by “Monster,” which features some great saxophone squawking as a bonus to the already solid song. Though all four songs on this are pretty good, I think “Monster” and “Free” are really the essential tracks. Lyrically, it might not be quite what you expect from the members of the band— there’s no aliens or babbling like you might expect when hearing that there’s a Darvocet and a Bad Noid in this band—but that’s because the vocalist (I assume she writes the lyrics, too, but I’m probably wrong) wasn’t in either of those bands, and in fact has never been in any band before. Nevertheless, Julia does a great job at doing her own thing. I really wish they’d re-press their cassette, or put it on LP or something, but this 7” is quite a fine substitute. 4.3/5

(blowbloodrecords.bigcartel.com for the tape, blowbloodrecords.bandcamp.com to download)

Perverts Again - My Accident - Total Punk Records - 2 songs - 7"

I think the wait for the new Perverts Again record has been entirely too long. So was it worth it? I’d say so. The two songs here, “My Accident” and “My Embarrassment,” are sort of thematically linked, as the titles imply, in that they’re both about situations you really wouldn’t wanna find yourself in. “My Accident” is about a visit to the doctor that goes wrong and “My Embarrassment” is about a visit to the car wash that goes wrong. Of the two, I’d pick “My Embarrassment” as the winner. The vocal delivery on the second verse is, quite frankly, outstanding. Musically, both tunes are the weird mid-tempo punk that you know and love from the kids who brought you Cruelster, and I think Perverts Again may be the only band who can use slowed down/sped up vocals and not have it annoy me. Word on the street is that the Pervs will have another LP out by the year’s end, so this’ll do quite well to tide you over ‘til then. This record is the kind of thing that makes you laugh uncomfortably. Recommended. 4.44/5

(sold out from floridasdying.com, try feelitrecordshop.com or an area record store)

The Roobydocks - Blow Blood Cassingle - Blow Blood Records - 2 songs - Cassette, download

If you were worried that The Roobydocks used all their good songs on their “Reliant Robin” 7”, they’re back already to prove you very wrong. “Norbit” is, by my best guess, the origin story of The Roobydocks’ sibling band Bulsch— eat my words and eat my dust indeed. Though both tracks here are killer, it’s “Never Going Stop” that really wins me over. Special points for the monologue, which might be the funniest Roobydocks moment so far. “What on earth made you think I was going stop? Seriously...” Also, something about the musical backing at that part reminds me that the original concept for this group was to be a country band. Not sure why I thought of that. The Roobydocks have proven themselves again to be one of my favorite bands going right now. The band (not sure if it’s just the main two again or the full band is on this one) is really tight (the production accentuates this, while still being lower-fi than the previous release, but still really good...ah, you’ll figure it out), and John might write the most misanthropic lyrics I’ve heard on a Cleveland record since the Flyin’ Trichecos LP (see, for example, “making people hate me is the way I like to live”). Just with a lot less cocaine. As with their previous releases, if you like punk rock, this band is one that you should know and love. 4.8/5

(blowbloodrecords.bigcartel.com for the tape, blowbloodrecords.bandcamp.com to download)

Weed Whacker - Weed Whacker - self-released - 5 songs - Cassette, download

This is the debut release from Weed Whacker, Cleveland’s premier self-described “yardcore” band. Personally, I would say that their music is a mix of hardcore and thrash more than just straight hardcore, but what do I know. Where does the “yard” part come in? Well, all their songs are about landscaping. “It’s over, now you blow away. The whacker, something that don’t f*ing play.” And, “How can you think you’re a man, I noticed you don’t have a tan. He don’t even fish. I think he’s a b*tch.”

continued on page 12



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Lakewood Cares

Lakewood Soccer Association:
Saturday Soccer Registration

by John Hueter

The registration deadline is coming up soon for the fall season of Lakewood Soccer Association's Saturday Soccer program.

The deadline is Monday, July 31st. Registration cost is \$50 for the fall season. LSA still will take registrations after the July 31st deadline, but they are subject to a \$20 late fee.

There are a few ways to sign up. Visit the "Saturday" page of LSA's website, www.lakewood-soccer.com, and you can sign up with a credit card

online. You also can print a registration form from the website and mail it to us, or you can stop at the Madison branch of the Lakewood Public Library from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, July 15th and July 22nd to register in person. (Payments at the in-person registration must be made by check or cash.)

LSA's eight-week season of games starts Saturday, August 26. Games are played at Memorial Field in the Metroparks on Saturday mornings at four time slots: 8:30 a.m., 9:45 a.m., 11 a.m. and noon. Schedules are posted

on the website about a week before the season begins.

Registration is open to players age 4-14. Nearly 600 kids of all ability levels played on 45 co-ed teams, coached by parent volunteers, during the fall season. LSA has run a recreational soccer program for more than 30 years.

For those who register for the fall season, team assignments will be emailed during the week of August 14th. Team practices and league-wide foot-skills - U5 and U6 FUNDamentals and U7-U14 foot-skills will begin the



week of August 21st.

If you have questions, please visit www.lakewood-soccer.com.



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Bullock Announces Run For
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Changes Seen In Lakewood Today

continued from page 1

accomplished a lot over the his nearly ten years of service. His major areas of focus have been to:

- increase neighborhood quality through parks improvements, home remodeling, improved housing inspections, sidewalk repair, and stronger nuisance ordinances;
- improve storefronts and create vibrant commercial corridors through sidewalk dining, street festivals, addi-

tional benches, safer pedestrian crossings, and—increasingly—public art;

- increase street tree plantings, recycling, farmers markets, urban gardening, cycling infrastructure, and championing sustainable practices at city hall; and
- maintain and improve fiscal strength by passing budgets that spend less than the City collects.

Bullock pointed to Lakewood's red-hot housing market as a measure of the city's positive momentum.

"We've turned the corner on perception and housing tastes going back a generation that viewed inner ring suburbs as starter-home communities," said Bullock. "Lakewood today is a highly-desired community; people want to be here, live here, own a home here, retire here. It's wonderful."

The second important point is that Lakewood's success is good for Lakewood families.



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"Our housing market is among the most desired in the region," he noted. "We're attracting young families and retaining retiring residents. Lakewood is a community for everyone."

In addition, Bullock notes, five-year trends in Multiple Listing Service, a database used widely by the real estate industry, show very strong growth in sales and property values.

"The median price of a Lakewood one- or two-family home has increased 50.9 percent from 2012 to 2017. That's a growth rate a lot of investors would be envious of," said Bullock. "On top of that, days on market has halved in the same period."

What is the significance of these housing statistics? Bullock said there are at least two important conclusions to draw.


"Many families don't own much in the way of stocks on Wall Street. Their home is their biggest investment," noted Bullock. "Increasing Lakewood property values means that for many families, their economic future is getting stronger."

There are benefits for residents who rent, too, said Bullock.

"Housing quality is poised to improve in rental properties as well, since landlords will have an easier time getting financing to make improvements," he said.

Bullock, the most senior member of Council, has more than 20 years of professional experience in government and public service.


Bullock said he offers voters a proven record of neighborhood service, hard work, and openness to resident initiatives.



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"In me, you know you will be getting a dedicated public servant. You will find no one more committed, no one harder-working, and no one more determined to make Lakewood the best it can be," said Bullock.

Bullock said he is as energized as ever to work for the community.

"If re-elected, I will work every day to improve city government, our neighborhoods, parks, and the community as a whole," said Bullock.

This November, Lakewood voters will choose the occupants of all three Council at-Large seats and two Board of Education seats. The offices of mayor, four ward councilpersons, three other Board of Education seats, and municipal judge are not up for election until 2019.

Lakewood Cares

Carlos Jones Concert, Summer Meltdown Highlight Big Weekend In Downtown Lakewood

by Matt Bixenstine

If you're seeking a fun-filled weekend of free community events in Downtown Lakewood, then you've come to the right place.

LakewoodAlive kicks off its 2017 events season by hosting a "double-header" during the weekend of July 7-8. Local reggae star Carlos Jones takes the stage at Lakewood Public Library at 7 p.m. on Friday, July 7, to start the 2017 Front Porch Concert Series. The fun continues on Saturday, July 8, when the Lakewood Summer Meltdown takes place from 4 to 10 p.m. in Downtown Lakewood.

The Front Porch Concert Series, sponsored by Bentley Wealth Management of Raymond James, features free, live music on the front porch of Lakewood Public Library (15425 Detroit Avenue) in Downtown

Lakewood from 7 to 9 p.m. for 11 consecutive Fridays. The series, which aims to provide a family-friendly summer entertainment option, runs through September 15.

Week 1 of the series brings to the stage Carlos Jones, a key figure within the Cleveland reggae scene for nearly 40 years. Specializing in a brand of roots reggae first popularized by Bob Marley, he has toured extensively for decades, gaining a large and loyal following of reggae enthusiasts. Visit LakewoodAlive.org/FrontPorchConcerts to learn more.

The Summer Meltdown, sponsored by Melt Bar & Grilled, serves as one of the region's most anticipated street parties, drawing attendees from across Northeast Ohio to the heart of our city. This celebration of summer takes place in Downtown

Lakewood between Marlowe and Elmwood Avenues.

A "something for everyone" event, the Summer Meltdown offers seemingly endless recreation and celebration opportunities, including a 5K race, 1 Mile Kids Fun Run, bike raffle, street festival, beer garden, live music, food vendors, outdoor activities and more. Visit LakewoodAlive.org/Meltdown to learn more.

"We're thrilled to be able to offer this action-packed weekend, and grateful to the many incredible volunteers and sponsors who help make our community events possible," said Ian Andrews, Executive Director of LakewoodAlive. "Our Front Porch Concert Series and Lakewood Summer Meltdown both showcase a level of community vibrancy that's quintessential Lakewood."

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Meghan F. George For Lakewood City Council At-Large

continued from page 1

positive changes in the City, we are still faced with many challenges. As an older inner ring suburb we have unique needs and we need leaders who are creative in addressing them. These include public safety, infrastructure, housing and enhanced senior services. I am committed to ensuring the highest level of City services while exploring cost saving measures as we work through the closing of Lakewood Hospital.

We also need to enforce our building codes to be sure that the recent increase in housing values continues for generations to come. Most of the homes in our City are more than a hundred years old. We have different challenges than newer suburbs with newer homes so we must enforce the building codes already in place. Additionally, we also need to continue to attract new residents to Lakewood. With the 2020 census looming, we need to be sure that we stay above 50,000 residents as that is the threshold for the level of funding we receive from

the Federal Government. We have had great progress over the years in the Rockport Square Development and McKinley Place. If elected, I will continue to pursue new opportunities as well as opportunities that enhance our beautiful historical homes. We cannot forget that we are the "City of Homes" and that we must restore these unique beautiful structures whenever possible.

Over the past few years we have been faced with challenges that require new perspectives. I believe that my unique qualifications and background are what set me apart from the other candidates. I am committed to Lakewood past, present and future and will work hard to gain your support. Our community deserves top notch representatives and I want to carry on that Lakewood tradition of excellence and I ask for your vote this November to do so.

Learn more via Facebook at Meghan F. George for Lakewood City Council or visit my website at www.meghangeorge.com.

The Front Porch Concert Series is generously supported by the following sponsors:

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Business News



Healthmarkets Grand Opening!

by Carl Lishing

Choosing insurance is hard, we can help! Healthmarkets is now open in Lakewood at 16506 Detroit Ave.

Health insurance is complicated, we make it easy to understand. We serve Medicare beneficiaries and small business owners along with individuals & families that need to purchase their own health insurance.

Having the right health insurance for your needs and budget is very important. We take the time to get to know each of our clients and help them build layers of protection that address their health, life, disability, and long-term care insurance needs.

By representing hundreds of carriers, we can impartially shop plans and find the most appropriate solution based on each client's needs

and budget. The good news for consumers is there is no charge for our service!

Come join Carl Lishing and Michael Fitzpatrick to celebrate the grand opening on Wednesday July 12th from 3 p.m. until 7 p.m. The mayor and some Chamber of Commerce members will be present for a ribbon cutting ceremony at 4 p.m. Refreshments and snacks will be served!

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Local Webshow Weirdos Open A New “Boo-tique”

by Janet Jawhari-Harmon

Creepy Cleveland natives Janet and James, AKA Janet Decay and Grimm Gorri have opened a curiosity/ resale shop on 13349 Madison Avenue called The Mummy And The Monkey's Thrift Crypt. It is named after the couple's successful webshow, The Mummy and The Monkey, in order to continue a local tradition that spans over fifty years! Influenced by Cleveland TV greats like: Ghoualdi, Superhost, Big Chuck & Lil' John, as well as nationally syndicated shows such as: Elvira, and Mystery Science Theatre 3000, they strive to deliver wacky comedy bits and screen cheesy B-movies.

This Die-namic duo has haunted the scene at horror conventions as celebrity guests and performers. The Thrift Crypt shop reflects their love of strange and unusual gift items, from unique art, to retro toys, and everything in between. Walking up to their front window you can see, on a mid-century television, Cleveland nostalgia videos such as Big Chuck and Lil' John, or Ghoualdi. Many have commented on their eye-popping window displays.



Our store window displays are always changing, like a demented Macy's.

More info can be found on <http://www.TheMummyAndTheMonkey.com>

Usually open Wednesday through Saturday, call or message to verify.

Rhythm & Grace Did It Again

by Cree Criado

Uptown Lakewood's very own ballroom and Latin dance studio did it again!

For the second consecutive year, Rhythm & Grace Ballroom Dance Studio won Top Ballroom Dance Studio for adults on Cleveland's Hotlist! Up against over 25 other dance studios, students, friends and family, and the community voted Rhythm & Grace into the lead and they never lost it!

According to Angel & Cree Criado, "It is always a joy when our family-owned, one-instructor studio, comes out on top against some huge studios

that have been around for years! We thank everyone who voted for us and we will continue to try and provide the same great services that earn us your support!"

And according to the "tips" left by students on the Hotlist, great services are exactly what Angel & Cree offer. Hotlist tips mention everything from how beautiful the studio is, to the love and knowledge the Criados have, and ends with their genuine care for their students!

If you haven't checked Rhythm & Grace out, maybe you should! Heck, they are the BEST!!!!

Yikes: Reviews Of Recent Releases By Local Bands, Pt. 50

continued from page 9

Someone who knows more about metal and stuff than I do says that they need more guitar solos. Overall, a solid five tunes (five and a half if you wanna count "Intro" as its own track) add up to a solid demo. It's not exactly my thing, but it's not bad nonetheless. Bonus points to the group for allegedly recording this on Mr. California's 4-track and even more bonus points for the packaging, which in addition to the box having fake grass glued to it also includes a lyric

sheet styled to look like a weed whacker manual. That's pretty cool. 3.3/5

(weedwhackercrew.bandcamp.com to download, go see the band live or try an area store for a tape)

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

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Entertainment

Movie Review Of “King Arthur”

by Bob Rittenhouse

The movie, “King Arthur: Legend of the Sword” is a 2017 adventure re-imagining tales of the legendary British King Arthur of the late 400s to early 500s AD, who defended Britain against invading Saxons. While some of the legends and folklore stories of a King Arthur, in part, originate in an 1100s AD literature, “History of the Kings of Britain” by Geoffrey of Monmouth, this film is not a documentary of true events.

This 136 minute film, directed by Guy Ritchie (former husband of Madonna, Sherlock Holmes films, “Man from U.N.C.L.E.”) does not include some other legendary traditional elements such as King Arthur’s wife, Guinevere, the wizard, Merlin, the Knight Lancelot, and the Round Table Knights. The basic plot involves an evil treacherous brother, Vortigern, (Jude Law, Dr. Watson from “Sherlock Holmes” with Robert Downey Jr.) who covets his brother, King Uther Pendragon, (Eric Bana, The Finest Hours, Star Trek) King of Britain’s throne. King Pendragon had just won a battle against Mordred, an evil warlock and his armies sieging Camelot, who was attempting to allow imaging-wielding wizards to control mankind. Vortigern tries to seize power.

In a movie lacking romance, evil Vortigern even kills his own wife to get sea witches to summon an evil demon, who kills Uther’s wife. The evil demon then slays King Uther Pendragon who is turned to stone to prevent Vortigern from getting his sword. Vortigern, the new king, rules his brother’s former kingdom with an iron fist. Meanwhile, in a story reminiscent of Moses abandoned in a basket on the Nile River, King Pendragon’s baby son, the future King Arthur, (Charlie Hunnan , “Lost City of Z,” TV’s “Sons of Anarchy”) was placed on a boat in a river, probably the Thames,

and ended up in Londinium (London). He is rescued and raised by some ladies of the night, and eventually grows into a very strong man who helps to protect them. Through a series of adventures and trials, he outcompeted others of his age to easily pull out the magic sword, Excalibur, from a large stone indicating that he also now possesses unusual powers. However, this becomes a dangerous opportunity for him since he does not understand its power. He collapses due to being frightened of its powers. In a dungeon, he is met by Vortigern, now the king, who is looking for the young man who could pull out the sword. Vortigern coveted Excalibur’s power to increase his power, but could not pull out the sword himself.

In the meantime, a woman assistant to Merlin, who in another story is a wizard and advisor to King Arthur, appears. She is called The Mage, (Astrid Berges-Frisbey, “Pirates of the Caribbean,” “Alaska”) which means a magician wizard. She meets with Sir Bedivere, (Djimon Hounsou, “Fast and Furious” films) a former King Pendragon general and leader in the resistance to King Vortigern. With The Mage’s help, two of Sir Bedivere’s men rescue young future King Arthur. They take him to their hideout, and again, when he touches the sword, Excalibur, he refuses to help the resistance and collapses. Through The Mage, young King Arthur is taken to the “Blacklands” where it is revealed that Merlin has wiped out the tower of the evil warlock, Mordred. It is also shown that the now evil King Vortigern has persuaded Mordred to turn against mankind.

The young Arthur begins with the resistance to attack King Vortigern forces. In a series of reverse defeats, the capture of The Mage, and other events, evil King Vortigern succeeds in turning the tables his way. Young Arthur, feeling beaten and incompetent, throws

the sword, Excalibur into a lake. Luckily, the Lady of the Lake returns the sword to Arthur, and shows the future misery of the kingdom’s people if Vortigern continues as king.

At one point, Arthur is nearly forced to surrender himself and Excalibur in trade for The Mage’s life. When released, The Mage creates a giant snake which kills many of Vortigern’s men. Vortigern kills his own daughter to become a new fierce demon knight. In a battle with this new evil super demon, Arthur almost loses, but a vision about his father’s death helps his victory. In the end of the movie, one of the scenes shows a partially built Round Table

which may indicate more future King Arthur films.

This movie is a reflection of legends of the early part of King Arthur’s life. As with many civilizations, cultures, institutions, corporations, and individuals including ourselves, the folklores, legends, mythologies, and embellishments are often so much mixed in with facts and truths, it is hard to know where lies, partial truths, unbiased facts, and truth occur. A June 2017 National Geographic magazine article, “Why We Lie,” discussed these complex ever present issues. This movie is recommended for older youth and on up.

Comedy At Barrio With Bill Squire



The crowd looks on from the outdoor patio at a recent comedy night.

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Forum

Bravo Zulu To Mr. Collingwood And Ms. Sikes

by Bob Soltys

Tom Collingwood’s letter calling for Lakewood Police officer Kevin Jones’ immediate termination was right on point, highlighting the lack of leadership in Lakewood PD and in this City, which instead of doing the right thing is concerned about covering its derriere.

As someone who served in law enforcement in Indiana years ago, however, I wouldn’t call Mr. Jones or his boss Tim Malley public servants, as their behavior and that of the City causes one to fairly wonder whether they “get it” and what “service” they

are providing.

Let’s keep in mind that when one of Lakewood’s “finest” - Detective Tom McLaughlin - played ‘Lola’ on his computer while a transgender individual awaited questioning a couple of years ago, Mr. Malley felt a reprimand and sensitivity training were sufficient “discipline.” Malley’s lack of leadership is apparent almost daily as one sees Lakewood Police vehicles trespassing in the Toledo Edison property by the Giant Eagle on Bunts Road, in the Cove Church and Belle Apartment parking lots, and other private property in the name of the almighty dollar derived

from speeding tickets and fines assessed by a Municipal Court Judge who suffers the misperception that his job description includes returning money to the City.

Ms. Sikes rightly points out the City’s failure or refusal to do the right thing vis a vis repeated and incompletely fulfilled document requests. While she expresses optimism that Lakewood voters can rely on their elected council members, her suggestion that the council should call for independent investigation - and Mr. Collingwood’s call for officer Jones’ termination - don’t go far enough.

It’s time to pass the baton to

someone with a bigger bat. The FBI investigates civil rights violations by those acting under color of authority. It’s codified at 18 United States Code section 242. You can write - or send a copy of this article to: Special Agent in Charge Stephen D. Anthony, Federal Bureau of Investigation, 1501 Lakeside Avenue, Cleveland OH 44114.

While we wait for the results of the investigation, some of the council members who apparently tolerate the City’s shenanigans and the failure of leadership in the Police Department are up for election this November. Let’s also remember singer Kinky Friedman’s advice: “Don’t re-elect nobody.”

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Re: Police Brutality Should Have No Place In Lakewood

by John Mazzei

Police Brutality Should Have No Place In Lakewood by Tim Collingwood, only tells part of the story. 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. This is a biased summary of the events that took place.

The following is a web link to an article that details the situation with

video of the altercation: <https://www.clevescene.com/scene-and-heard/archives/2017/06/08/lakewood-police-respond-to-moms-lawsuit-against-officer-who-broke-her-daughters-jaw>. The officer was wrong, was administratively punished, no criminal charges filed and the city will probably lose the civil case.

Lakewood’s Public Library System has rules of conduct for patrons. If they violate these rules they can be asked or in this case forced to leave. Please remember that Sabrina Robinson’s 17 year old daughter violated these rules to begin with, that is what set this

chain of events in motion. Such removals are not uncommon. This is why off duty Lakewood Police Officers are paid to work security in the libraries. Officer Jones did use excessive force, his 40 hour suspension is evidence of that. If Sabrina Robinson’s daughter hadn’t violated library policy and / or complied with the order to leave there wouldn’t have been an incident. She is not an innocent in this situation.

All I’m asking for is to tell the whole story. Don’t lay out fodder in an attempt to increase the pay out from the civil suit. But, that is just my opinion.



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Lakewood Living

Secretary Of State Candidate To Speak On Voting Rights:

Lakewood Democrats Welcome Kathleen Clyde To July 13 Summer Supper

by Erik Meinhardt

State Representative Kathleen Clyde (D-Kent) will headline the Lakewood Democratic Club's Summer Supper, July 13 at VOSH. Clyde is a prominent voting-rights advocate, and candidate for Ohio Secretary of State.

"From gerrymandering to equal pay, Rep. Clyde is constantly fighting for ordinary people's rights," says club president Grant Mackay. "In both the Ohio House and in major court cases, she's on the front line of battles for fairness and democracy. Her experi-

ences should make for an inspiring evening."

The Summer Supper takes place at VOSH Lakewood, 1414 Riverside Drive, from 6 to 9 p.m. on Thursday, July 13. Tickets for the evening begin at \$50 per person, and include dinner and one drink ticket.

The annual event helps fund the Democratic Club's programs for the year, and is open to all. Tickets may be purchased at lakewooddemocrats.com/supper, or by mailing a check to the Lakewood Democratic Club at PO Box 771263, Lakewood, OH 44107.

For more information, contact lkwdohdemclub@gmail.com.

Erik Meinhardt is 2nd VP of the Lakewood Democratic Club.



Ohio Secretary of State Candidate and State Representative, Kathleen Clyde

From The Archives Of The Lakewood Historical Society

Anonymous Summer Fun



by Jess Yenni, Curator at Lakewood Historical Society

Playing in the sunshine is an important part of growing up, and this young lady's childhood was no exception. Sadly, any information about who she was has been lost with time. If you think you can identify her, please contact us at curator@lakewoodhistory.org.



LREF Celebrates Purple & Gold On August 19: Gala Tix On Sale

continued from page 1

tioneer Brooks Ames. Keep an eye on LREF's social media channels for sneak peeks for some terrific auction items.

Young alumni and young professionals are invited to show their support and have fun while doing it at the Crash the Gala, held the same night, beginning at 9:30 pm, in LHS' new Black Box Theater. They'll enjoy beer from local breweries like Sibling Revelry and Brick & Barrel and have the chance to win a "liquor cabinet" raffle basket.

Both Purple & Gold Gala and Crash the Gala attendees will mingle together in the theater at 9:30 and dance until midnight at the spirited after party.

Individual tickets to the Gala are \$125, while individual patron tickets are \$500. Crash the Gala tickets are \$50. Advance registration is necessary for both parties. Tickets will not be sold the night of the events. Complimentary valet parking is available with the Gala tickets.

All proceeds from the evening benefit LREF's support of the schools through funding all or in part such programs (only a small sampling) as:

- Scholarships for graduating seniors
- Middle school awards
- Instrument rent-to-own and loaner programs at all levels
- Private lesson music scholarships
- LHS Model UN
- LHS Academic Challenge
- Teacher grants
- Full-time College Now counselor at LHS

For more information, or to purchase tickets, visit lakewoodrangers.com/purple-gold-gala-2017 or call 216.529.4033. Tickets sales end on August 5.

Robin Suttell, Purple & Gold Gala Communications Chair, has lived in Lakewood for the past 22 years. Her son, Evan, a recent LHS grad benefitted directly from LREF program funding throughout his K-12 experience in Lakewood City Schools.

2017

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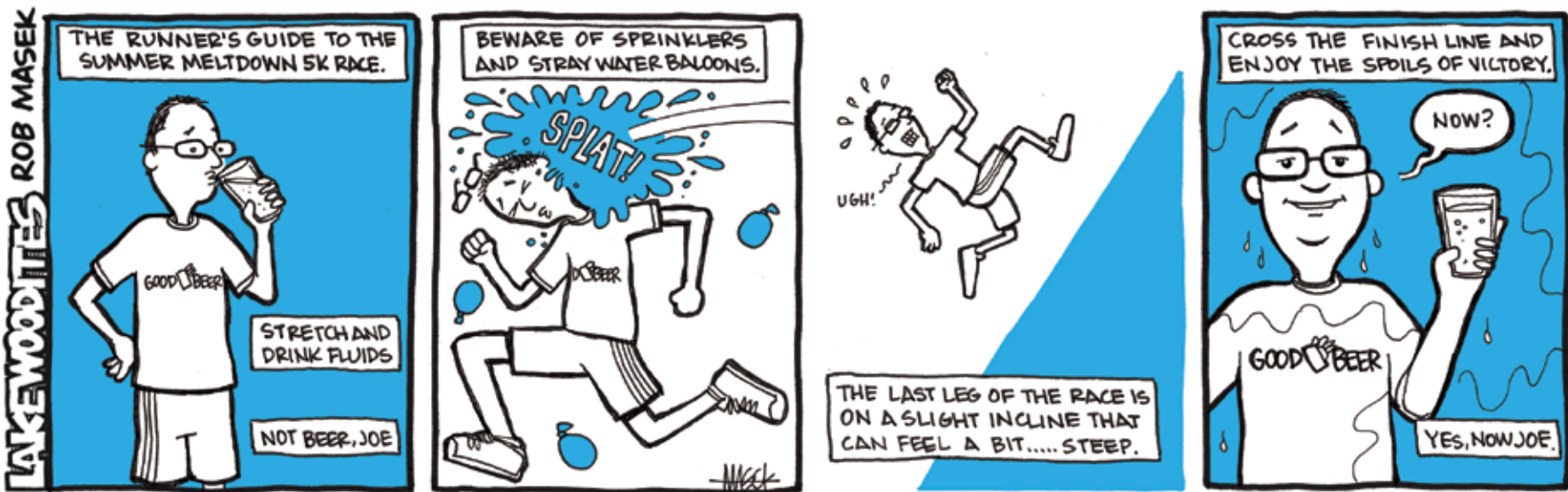
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