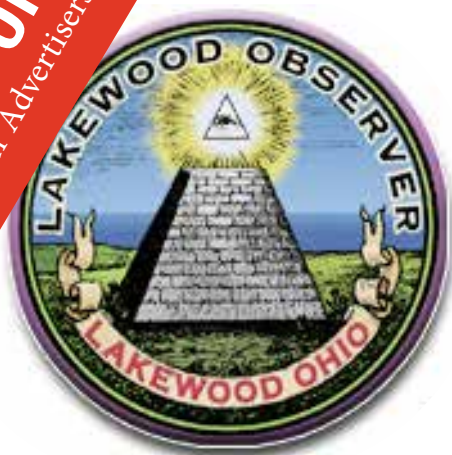


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# THE LAKEWOOD OBSERVER

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Volume 14, Issue 05, March 7, 2018

## Court Dismisses Skindell vs Madigan Lawsuit

by Jim O'Bryan

This past week the courts dismissed the case of Michael Skindell vs Madigan (City of Lakewood.) The Court of Appeals ruled the matter settled at the ballot box, the Ohio Supreme Court elected to not review that decision, with two justices dissenting.

The courts never saw, nor figured in various potential election law violations that included improperly labeled campaign literature, campaigning from City Hall while using city owned equipment, and false statements.

There is still another lawsuit against the City of Lakewood for

public documents the courts have repeatedly ordered the City to make public. The City continues to refuse to produce them.

Meanwhile the City of Lakewood released a highly political article on the city's website turning the spotlight on Senator Mike Skindell, attacking him for filing the action to enforce Ohio's open meetings law in an effort to protect citizens that he represents. Decisions were made during these closed meetings that resulted in the loss of hospital services in Lakewood, the loss of more than a thousand jobs and the loss of tax revenues-- all justifiable rea-

sons to pursue the enforcement of open meetings law violations.

While the article mentions costs to the city, it neglects to mention some of the other reasons why the City chose to hire outside legal services. It also neglects to mention that they could have made the minutes of the meetings public and/or released the documents which are the focal point of other lawsuits, which could have saved the city even more legal fees.

Many saw the piece as a PR move in response to Judge Patrick Carroll's recent comments that the city is wasting time and money on litigation

having to do with "Charlie."

This is a clarified version of a story that appeared in print and online. As is the practice of the Lakewood Observer since

day one, it runs in the same place as the original story. We also updated the Lakewood Rangers story, as the game has now been played.

## H2O's Breakfast With The Bunny!

by Bridget Jablonski

It's the time of year where many are yearning for warm weather and signs of springtime. While the spring weather may be unpredictable, you can rest assured that rain or shine, the Easter bunny is coming! The Saturday before Easter is the date for H2O's Breakfast with the Bunny event that you don't want to miss. On the morning of March 24th, the Lakewood Women's Pavilion at Lakewood Park will be decked out for the bunny's magical appearance.

High School students practice real life skills while serving up food for this well-known event. The pancake breakfast will include pancakes, sausage, fruit, and beverage. Also on hand for a pleasant pick me up will be coffee donated by the Root Cafe. This is all available at the reasonable price of \$10 per adult, and \$5 per child. Raffle baskets will be showcased for your chance to win some fabulous prizes, and tickets are only \$1 each, or 6 for \$5. Hopefully, after enjoying breakfast, your little ones won't be too



Delia Jablonski enjoying the event in 2017.

shy to pose for a picture with the bunny. Breakfast with the Bunny is generously sponsored this year by Kelly Payne of Howard Hanna. All proceeds benefit Lakewood's unique service learning program, Help to Others. Seating times are at 8:30, 9:45, 11:00, and 12:00. Reservations are required by March 21st, as this tends to be a sell-out event. So choose your seating time, and get your tickets at [www.thelakewoodfoundation.org/h2o](http://www.thelakewoodfoundation.org/h2o) today!

## LakewoodAlive's Superheroes Unite Draws Sellout Crowd For Good Time

by Matt Bixenstine

Like a scene straight out of a Stan Lee comic book, throngs of spirited superheroes descended upon Downtown Lakewood, sporting capes, courage and commitment to community vibrancy.

LakewoodAlive hosted Loving Lakewood: Superheroes Unite presented by Cleveland Property Management Group on Saturday night, February 24, at the Lakewood Masonic Temple, drawing a sellout crowd of 225 heroes

and heroines. Proceeds from this fundraising event will support LakewoodAlive's programming as we strive to foster and sustain vibrant neighborhoods in Lakewood.

Guests entering the Lakewood Masonic Temple's ballroom were treated to a transformation of the historic building's interior into a superhuman world marked by Gotham-esque cityscapes, poster-sized comic book covers, colorful uplighting and a stage backdrop depicting



Photo by Jen Hearn Photography

superhero silhouettes. A two-dimensional photo booth featuring the Cleveland skyline enabled guests to scale buildings for Spiderman-like photo opportunities.

As they enjoyed "Superman's Cape" cocktails and tasty hors d'oeuvres courtesy of Karen King Catering, Superheroes Unite Attendees danced to superhero-inspired music spun by DJ Byron. A t-shirt press operated by OnPoint produced "Not All Heroes Wear Capes" shirts, while a magician and caricature artist provided additional entertainment options.

During the Superheroes Unite program, honorary capes were awarded to five individuals in recognition of their exemplary service to LakewoodAlive and the Lakewood community:

Cindy Friedmann  
Alix Kaufmann

## Eagles Top Rangers To Advance in OHSA A Tournament

by Mike Deneen

St. Edward defeated Lakewood 59-45 Wednesday night in an OHSA A district semifinal game held at Strongsville High School. The victory moves the Eagles into Saturday's district championship game, which will be held at the CSU Wolstein Center at 7pm. It also ends a historic season for Lakewood, which won the Southwestern Conference Championship and entered this game riding a 19 game winning streak.

Ranger senior Jacob Sala opened the scoring with a pair of free throws 35 seconds into the game to put Lakewood up 2-0. The Eagles then went on a nine point run to take a 9-2 midway through the first quarter. The lead was 18-9 at the end of the period, as St. Edward



Photo by Jacob Chibowski

used a press defense to disrupt the Rangers. "They turned us over a bunch of times in the first half," Ranger head coach Alex Cammock said after the game. "We haven't seen pressure like that since the first game." That first game was the season opener against St. Edward at LHS. The Rangers were further hampered Wednesday night by foul trouble, as junior Tim Smith picked up three fouls midway through

**continued on page 9**

**continued on page 14**

## School And Clinic Officials Celebrate New Medical Clinic



Photo by Brian Fox

From left: Supt. Jeff Patterson, Board President Edward Favre, Dr. Genevive Falconi, Health Careers students Xander Gerakis and Millenia Duncan and Dr. James Hekman



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**BIGGER BETTER HAPPY HOUR 4 -7 P.M.**

## OBSERVATIONS FROM THE DECK!



Fire at 12520 Arlis sends 8 to Local Hospitals

Thread Title	Author	Posts	Reads	Date
High Comedy	Mark Kindt	24	1367	Mon Mar 05
Lakewood: Carjacking Capital of Ohio	Michael Deneen	2	415	Mon Mar 05
Early Morning Fire In Lakewood Sends 8 To Local Hospitals	Jim O'Bryan	0	306	Mon Mar 0
PROACTIVE DECEIT! Bullock, O'Leary & Butler Continue To Conceal What They Told Court Was "Laid Bare"	Brian Essi	10	326	Mon Mar 05
Nothing Will Bring Back The Hospital, But We Can Bring Back Honest Government - Together	Jim O'Bryan	3	432	Mon Mar 05
Rangers Advance in OHSAA Tournament; St. Edward Rematch is Next	Jim O'Bryan	1	383	Sun Mar 04
Have Bullock and O'Leary Bought Their Guns Yet?	Brian Essi	6	780	Sat Mar 03
Lakewood Mayor Calls Out Bullock as "Cheap Shot Rove/Republican"	Brian Essi	7	832	Fri Mar 02
Trinity Lutheran	Michael Loje	49	3193	Thu Mar 01
LAID BARE: Caught in MORE LIES, Butler Says "As Yet, We Have No Records" RE: Rape & Kidnapping After 150 Days	Brian Essi	1	368	Thu Mar 01
City Using Official Website to Campaign for Bullock	Bridget Conant	7	677	Wed Feb 28
Build LKWD Trolls, Fake Personas, Impersonators Mirror Russian Meddlers' Tactics	Brian Essi	10	1259	Wed Feb 28
NEWS FLASH! Bullock Buddy, JAY CARSON, Closed Mouthed on His Campaign Against Open Govt in House District 13	Brian Essi	22	1237	Wed Feb 28
Free Speech Still Welcomed Here	Jim O'Bryan	5	487	Tue Feb 27
LPD Employee Stayed on Job While Charged Despite Rape Indictment				



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The mission of the Lakewood Observer is to attract, articulate, and amplify civic intelligence and community good will in the city of Lakewood and beyond.

**Become an Observer!**

As a product of citizen journalism, The Lakewood Observer is looking for people, ages 3-100, to get involved in the paper and the city. We are looking for volunteer writers, photographers, designers, and illustrators to help with the production of the paper. It does not matter if you are a professional or amateur, our editorial staff will be glad to help you through the process. Register to our website Member Center where you can submit stories, press releases, letters to the editor, photos. No need to register to post online calendar or classified ads.

Upcoming Submission Deadline

Publish Date

March 16, 2018

March 21, 2018


March 30, 2018


April 4, 2018

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



City

Senators Skindell And Tavares

# Introduce Assault Weapons Ban

by Michael Skindell

This past week, Senator Michael Skindell (D–Lakewood) and Senator Charleta B. Tavares (D-Columbus) introduced Senate Bill 260, which would establish an assault weapons ban throughout Ohio.

The legislation specifically makes it a felony of the fifth degree for possessing or acquiring an assault weapon. Under the bill, an “assault weapon” is an automatic firearm or semi-automatic firearm capable of accepting a

detachable magazine with the capacity of accepting ten or more cartridges and a semi-automatic firearm with a fixed magazine with the capacity of accepting ten or more cartridges. The legislation models Senate Bill 18 introduced in 2013 and co-sponsored by Senators Skindell and Tavares.

“The recent, sorrowful events in Florida and Nevada and so many more places teach us why it is important to ban weapons that are meant for waging war,” said Senator Skindell.

“While we cannot stop every act of suffering inflicted upon the public, it is our responsibility to limit access to these assault weapons. Until better national standards are enacted to regulate the sale of these dangerous assault weapons, Ohio should have its own regulations to protect the public.”

“Assault weapons were designed to be used by trained members of the military to kill people. These weapons, unfortunately, are killing innocent children and adults by people who want to murder, maim and terrorize large masses of people in public spaces,” stated Senator Tavares.

Once banned under federal law between 1994 and 2004, assault weapons are now easy to obtain. Research

has demonstrated that during the national ban period the number of attacks and deaths fell significantly compared to the previous ten years. (Rampage Nation, 2016, Klevares, Louis, University of Massachusetts at Boston.) After the assault weapon ban ended in 2004, the number of attacks and deaths shot up.

The legislation will also require the Office of the Ohio Attorney General to manage a registration database, through which it shall issue permits for the purchase of firearms and track the purchase of firearms and ammunition. In addition, it will require Ohio retailers to report all sales of firearms and ammunition to the Attorney General.

## Senator Skindell Statement On Dismissed Case And City’s Political Attacks On Him

by State Senator Michael Skindell

In response to the article posted on the taxpayer funded website onelakewood.com pertaining to Senator Skindell’s action to enforce Ohio’s open meetings law, Senator Skindell provides the following statement:

“One of Ohio’s goals in governing as set forth in law is that public business is to be open and transparent. Lakewood officials used at least twelve “Executive Session” meetings closed to the public, to close Lakewood Hospital and steer a contract to deliver health care and to steer remaining hospital assets valued upwards to \$120 million to the Cleveland Clinic Foundation and another private foundation. Lakewood’s taxpayers had an interest in these assets. The closure resulted in the loss of hospital services in Lakewood, overcrowding at Fairview Hospital, the loss of more than 1,000 good paying jobs and the loss of tax revenues to the city.

The open meetings law action was not meritless. In the Court of

Appeals and at the Ohio Supreme Court, there were dissenting judges who believe that the action be heard. The Court of Appeals and the Ohio Supreme Court never addressed the issue of whether the city violated Ohio’s open meetings law.

Contrary to what the politically motivated city article states, I fought to protect citizen rights and taxpayer’s assets. I am concerned that the city is using taxpayer money to post this article in an attempt to advance a particular candidate for State Representative in violation of Ohio Revised Code Section 9.03. This provision of the law prohibits government from using any public funds to support or oppose any candidate for public office.

As to the cost paid by the city for defending a simple open meetings action, I question why the city paid high sums to contracted outside legal counsel when Lakewood pays salaries in the City’s law department of \$350,000, including more than \$110,000 to the Law Director.”

## School Crisis Response And Grief Support Program Available To Local Schools

by Laurie Henrichsen

Tragic events such as the recent mass shooting at a Florida high school are difficult for anyone to comprehend and process. Locally and across the country, we collectively mourn the loss of life every time such a senseless tragedy occurs. In addition, our own sorrow, fear and despair can be heightened as we watch and hear about the plight of grieving students, teachers and the affected community on the nightly news.

Following such a crisis, expert on-site support frequently plays an instrumental role in helping faculty, staff members and students navigate the painful experiences of trauma, grief and loss. Locally, the bereavement center at Hospice of the Western Reserve – now called Western Reserve Grief Services - has offered a Crisis



Response Program to provide immediate, on-site crisis response to deaths in the school communities of Northern Ohio for more than 15 years.

The program has been utilized by the Cleveland Metropolitan School District and many others. The services are available to any school system in the nonprofit agency’s service area. Trained bereavement professionals are available to provide on-site response. A single phone call from the school is

**continued on page 7**



# Easter Eggstravaganza

## Saturday, March 24, 2018

Join us for complimentary Easter activities:

**Skilled Nursing Facility**  
10:00-10:30 a.m. - EGG HUNT

**Assisted Living,**  
3rd floor activity room  
10:30-11:30 a.m. - EASTER BUNNY and refreshments. Bring your camera for selfies with the Easter Bunny!

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# Lakewood Public Library

## Calendar Of Events

compiled by Elaine Rosenberger

Thursday, March 8, 2018

Friends' Spring Book Sale Preview

Members-only book sale preview. Memberships may be purchased at the door for as little as \$3.00.

6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Main Library Friends Book Sale Room

Non-Fiction Book Club

Come and join the conversation during our newest book club. There are sure to be serious and thought-provoking discussions about many subjects inspired by these non-fiction works. Tonight we will discuss "Destiny of the Republic: A Tale of Madness, Medicine and the Murder of a President" by Candice Millard.

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

Saturday, March 10, 2018

Friends' Spring Book Sale

The Friends of Lakewood Public Library host the Friends' Spring Book Sale.

9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the Main Library Friends Book Sale Room

Talk - How to Navigate Medicare Presentation by John Avon

Navigating the world of Medicare can be a daunting task for the average consumer. This program takes you through the Ohio Senior Health Insurance Information Program (OSHIIIP) called Medicare 101. Learn about Original Medicare, Medicare Supplements and Medicare Advantage Plans. Increase your understanding of the "Donut Hole" and other Part D prescription coverage rules and learn how to utilize Medicare enrollment periods. John Avon is a Medicare specialist with Aetna Insurance Company.

11:00 a.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

"To Catch a Thief" (1955) Directed by Alfred Hitchcock

Presented by Terry Meehan

By the middle of the 1950s, Alfred Hitchcock had established himself as one of the world's foremost filmmakers. As he began the second half of the decade, he decided to add the new medium of television to his list of accomplishments. Terry Meehan's new series, Hitchcock in the Fifties, Part 2, follows the Master of Suspense as he continues his incredibly creative journey through the decade. We begin with a romantic thriller that features two of his favorite leading actors, Cary Grant and Grace Kelly. John Robie (Grant) is a retired jewel thief and Frances Stevens (Kelly) is a tourist on the Riviera who likes to accessorize with big-ticket baubles. Meehan will introduce each film with an original video presentation, followed by audience reaction and a lively discussion.

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

Sunday, March 11, 2018

Concert - The Squirrel Hillbillies

From deep within the urban forest of Pittsburgh's East End, the Squirrel Hillbillies often emerge to share their eclectic mix of folk, country and blues. Ravidly social and clawingly

curious, they relish opportunities to interact with diverse audiences. The duo has been writing, arranging and performing original music together since 2010. Through a collaborative, nonlinear songwriting process, partners Jenny Wolsk and Gary Crouth draw from personal experiences, third-hand stories and vivid imaginations to craft songs that are unpredictable and quirky, yet widely accessible.

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

Tuesday, March 13, 2018

Talk - Introduction to Talking to Your Parents about Aging

Presentation by Peggy Lee-Tocco

When loved ones begin the aging process, difficult conversations often arise. Learn how to bring up all the things you want and need to know to make sure your loved ones are taken care of now and in the future. Peggy Lee-Tocco is the Director Provider and Community Resources liaison at Home Instead Senior Care which has provided individualized in-home care and enhanced the lives of seniors and their families since 1994. Home Instead Senior Care has provided care for nearly 1,700 seniors in Cleveland and the surrounding suburbs.

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

Thursday, March 15, 2018

Live Stream of Matthew Desmond Event at Playhouse Square

Pulitzer Prize-winning author, Matthew Desmond, is discussing his book, "Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City," at Playhouse Square as part of Cleveland's One Community Reads. Lakewood Public Library will be live streaming the event in our Main Library Auditorium.

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

Thursday, March 15, 2018

Booked for Murder: Reader's Choice

If you share a passion for mystery, join the group each month to discuss your favorites and selections made by group members. Tonight we will discuss: "Where Are the Children?" by Mary Higgins Clark.

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

Saturday, March 17, 2018

"The Bribe" (1949) Directed by Robert Z. Leonard

Presented by Barbara Steffek-Hill

On the flight to a Central American island, Federal agent Rigby (Robert Taylor) and fellow passenger Carwood (Vincent Price) strike up a conversation. Rigby's mission is to find American citizens "Tug" Hintten (John Hodiak) and wife Elizabeth (Ava Gardner), suspects in the theft of aircraft engines. It's not long before J. J. Bealer (Charles Laughton) shadows the agent. J.J. shows his hand and dangles ten thousand dollars if Rigby agrees to leave the island of Carlotta. Rigby declines. In the meantime, he and Elizabeth have become lovers. J.J. won't quit. He ups the ante to twelve thousand. Rigby won't bite. J.J. takes a different tack and plays his ace. 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, March 18, 2018

Concert - Anne E. DeChant

"Now there's a woman with fire in her belly," a Cleveland Plain Dealer writes of Anne E. DeChant. DeChant is an award-winning Nashville recording artist originally from Cleveland where she was a five-time Singer-Songwriter of the Year. She has played venues ranging from the Clinton White House to such storied listening rooms as Nashville's Bluebird Café. DeChant began her career, which now spans more than twenty years, as the dynamic lead singer for the folk-rock band, Odd Girl Out. Since going solo in 1997, she has released eight critically acclaimed studio albums, including her most recent The Sun Coming In.

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

Tuesday, March 20, 2018

Documentary - "Care" (2016) Directed by Deirdre Fishel

As average life expectancy increases and the baby boomer generation surpasses retirement age, the topic of elder care is increasingly relevant. More people are living longer lives and depend on care and support from others. How do we as a society care for our growing population of elders? Can we continue to lead fulfilling lives in our old age, and at what cost? Care exposes the imperfect world of home care and the humanity of those who support it. Through personal stories of both patients and care workers, delve into the world of senior living with its faults and triumphs.

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

Tuesday, March 20, 2018

Knit & Lit Book Club

Come share your passion for great literature and show off your knitting, crocheting, counted cross-stich, embroidery and quilting works-in-progress. Tonight we will discuss "Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis" by J. D. Vance.

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

## Children & Youth Events

compiled by Eric Knapp

Saturday, March 10, 2018

Tail Waggin' Tutors, For school-age children

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

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

Mondays, March 12 – April 23, 2018

Art Explosion, For students in fifth through eighth grade

Learn about different artists and styles in this six-week program. Registration required.

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

Wednesday, March 14, 2018

Taking Earth's Temperature, For students in second - fifth grade

Use our infrared thermometer to learn all about temperature in a fun way. Registration required.

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



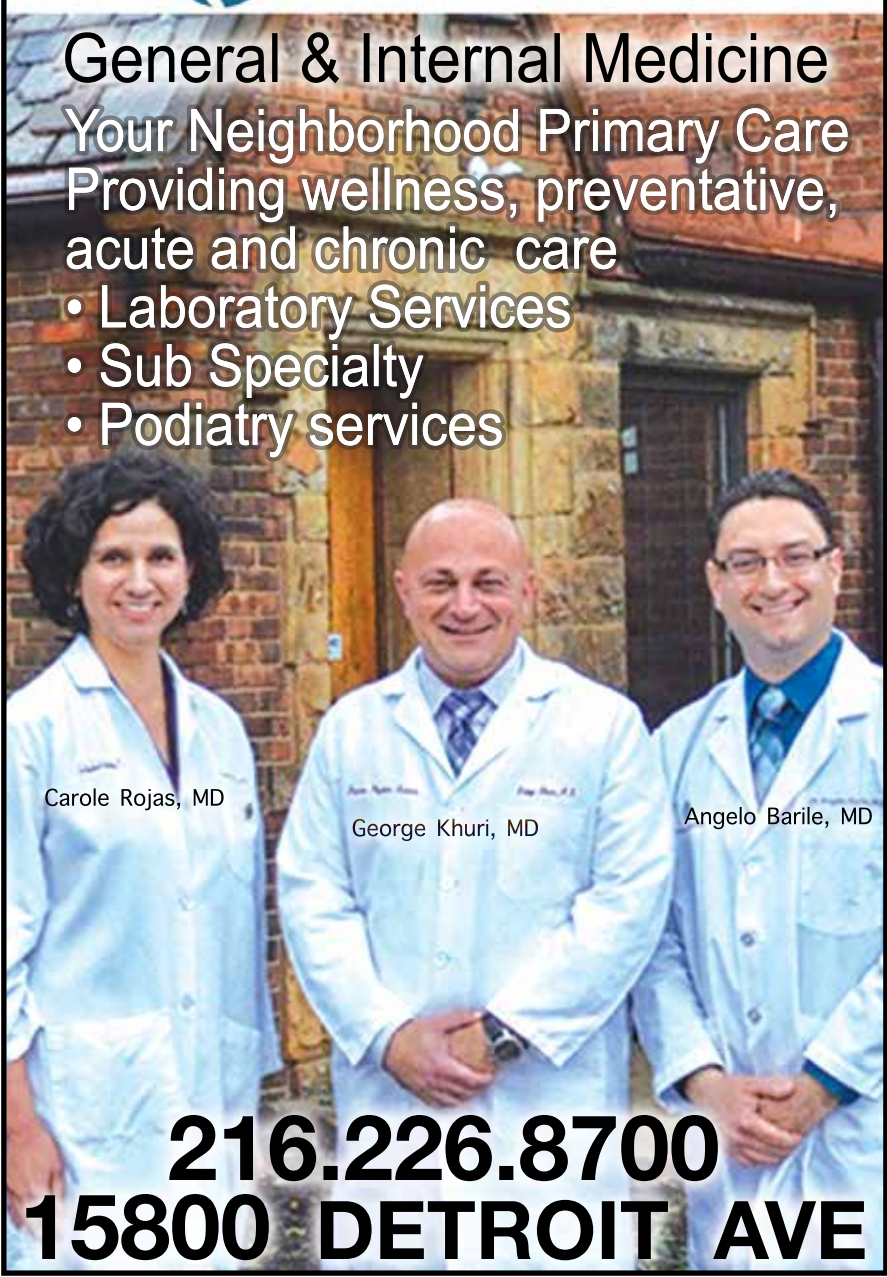
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# Lakewood Public Library

## Meet Author/Cyclist Mark J. Looney

by Elaine Rosenberger

Cyclist Mark J. Looney will discuss his latest book, "A Path through Ohio: A Bicycle Journal" in his Meet the Author appearance at the Lakewood Public Library's Main Auditorium on Thursday, March 22, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

A thirty-five year veteran cyclist, Looney rode across the United States in 1983. In "A Path through Ohio," Looney cycles across Ohio via the Ohio to Erie Trail, a newly formed bicycle trail which links Lake Erie in the north with the Ohio River to the south.



Looney cycled across Ohio on the Ohio to Erie trail.

details necessary for any intermediate or long distance ride.

Looney's talk takes place in the Main Library Auditorium. Admission is free and open to all. Books will be available for sale and signing at this event.

## Space Is The Place: NASA@MyLibrary Programs

by Eric Knapp

Engage and inspire your child's interest in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) through special programs made possible by funding through a NASA@MyLibrary grant. Registration required. Space is limited. Register online at <http://www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.org/event-age-group/youth-programs/> or call (216) 226-8275, ext. 140.



ultraviolet-sensitive beads to create your own astronaut... then point our special ultraviolet flashlights at them and see what happens! Wednesday, March 28, 2018, from 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. in the Main Library First Floor Multipurpose Room.

Jump to Jupiter – For students in 1st – 3rd grade. The Solar System is really... really BIG. See just how big as we literally jump to each planet, learning about each along the way. Afterwards, “walk on the moon” in front of our special green screen. Wednesday, April 11, 2018, from 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. in the Main Library First Floor Multipurpose Room.

Shifting Shadows – For students in 1st – 3rd grade. The sun gives us light... but it also creates shadows. Come learn about light and darkness through science experiments and art projects based on your own shadows! Wednesday, April 25, 2018, from 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. in the Main Library First Floor Multipurpose Room.

Space Tower Engineering Challenge – For students in 2nd – 5th grade. Are you a master builder? We've got a challenge for you! In this exciting engineering program, you will learn about structures and team up with others to build the tallest tower possible out of materials provided by the Library. Wednesday, May 2, 2018, from 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. in the Main Library First Floor Multipurpose Room.



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DATE	WORKSHOP	TIME	LOCATION
MAR 8	Creating a Sound Investment	7-9pm	Bottlehouse Brewery
MAR 15	All About Fireplaces	7-9pm	The Hearth Shop 27303 Center Ridge Rd, Westlake, OH
APR 14	Step Repair & Replacement	10-12 noon	Cleveland Lumber
APR 19	Air Conditioning (for Steam or Hot Water Heat Homes)	7-8:30 PM	Slife Heating & Cooling
APR 26	How to Contract a Repair	7 -8:30 pm	Lakewood Public Library
MAY 10	Plaster Repair & Replacement	7-9pm	Sherwin-Williams
MAY 17	Home Maintenance	7 -8:30 pm	Lakewood Public Library
JUN 14	Exterior Prep & Paint	7-9pm	Sherwin-Williams
JUL 19	Hands-On Window Repair	7-9pm	Lakewood Hardware
JUL 28	Generators 101	10-12 noon	Cleveland Lumber
SEP 20	Electrical 101	7-9pm	Clock Electric (1624 Coutant)
SEP 22	Weatherization Basics	10-12 noon	Cleveland Lumber
OCT 18	How to Stock Your Tool Box	7-9pm	Lakewood Hardware
OCT 25	Plumbing 101	7-9pm	Clock Electric (1624 Coutant)

In lieu of charging for these events, we are asking for participants to either consider making a donation to LakewoodAlive or bringing cans of food or non-perishable items for the Lakewood Community Services Center. We appreciate your support.

**For more information, visit [LakewoodAlive.org](http://LakewoodAlive.org) or call 216.521.0655.**

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# City News And Politics

## Mike Skindell Has Helped Build Lakewood Into What It Is Today



Brad Presutto with Michael Skindell

by Bradley Presutto

As I sit back and evaluate why my family chose Lakewood as our home, I can see what drew me to this community were often things that Mike Skindell promoted or helped create as a result of his representation of Lakewood.

We are a dog family. Other than the discriminatory dog law, the community of Lakewood is great for dog lovers. We have 5 children, so they love seeing all the dogs in the neighborhood and being able to visit a leash free dog park to really get active with them. Mike Skindell helped bring the dog park to Lakewood when he was on City Council.

Also while on City Council, Skindell worked to preserve several historical buildings and architecture. Lakewood’s character and sense of place are central to the walkable landscape that so many residents and visitors praise.

In 1999/2000, Skindell sponsored the domestic partnership benefits ordinance. It was unprecedented at that time to fight for equality for the LGBTQ community. He took that passion for this cause to the General Assembly too! He joined the state legislature in 2003 and has sponsored or co-sponsored The Fairness Act in every session of the General Assembly.

Mike is also a fighter for the working class. He was on the front line against SB5 in 2011 and continues the fight against the “right to work” for less. He’s a firm supporter of a \$15/hr minimum wage on the journey to a living wage. And that doesn’t mean women get paid eighty percent of that—Mike is committed to pay equity to close the wage gap.

Mike has been fighting for gun safety for several years too. In 2013, Mike and Charleta B Tavares cosponsored SB18 that would have banned assault weapons in the state of Ohio. This year, Tavares and Skindell introduced another assault weapons ban under SB260. He has not only received but earned an “F” rating from the Buckeye Firearms Association.

Mike has worked constantly to make Lakewood and the surrounding area a safe, welcoming city that based its values on equality and fighting for the working class. I am proud to be a resident of Lakewood for 13 years, and I am proud to be supporting Michael J. Skindell for State Representative for District 13.

Bradley A Presutto is a 13 year Lakewood resident currently running for Lakewood 2H Member of County Central Committee for the Cuyahoga County Democratic Party.

## Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur Endorses Tom Bullock For State Representative

by Ryan Puente

U.S. Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur announced her endorsement of Tom Bullock in the open race to represent House District 13.

“Tom Bullock has earned the support of his fellow citizens and of so many respected organizations because of his experience, integrity and leadership over the years.

We need a proven fighter like Tom who can get things done for our communities. Tom Bullock will be the strong voice we need in Columbus,” Congresswoman Kaptur said.

Bullock has served on Lakewood City Council for ten years. During that time, he has played an important role in making Lakewood strong: property values are increasing, business is growing, and the community is attracting young families, transforming its parks, and delivering high-quality services. He said he is running for state representative to continue strengthening communities and apply his ability to get things done to the entire 13th District.

“Cities are the engines of Ohio’s economy. By making them stronger, we’ll improve the entire state. But the state legislature in recent years has hurt our communities through severe cuts, encroachments upon home rule, and underinvestment in public transit and education,” Bullock said. “And now there’s word of major new attacks on workers in the form of “right-to-work” proposals, which is the wrong way to go. It will be through investing in workers and cities that Greater Cleveland and Ohio regain our historic leadership in innovation. That’s the path forward to a growing economy, thriving communities, and more opportunities for everyone.”

“I’m very proud to have earned the trust and confidence of Congresswoman Kaptur. She’s been delivering results for Ohioans for decades. I aspire to follow her example in working effec-



Congresswoman Kaptur with Tom Bullock

tively to solve long-term problems and help Ohio grow new industries. Like her, I will put working families first and work hard to grow jobs and improve opportunities in Ohio,” Bullock added.

Bullock is also endorsed by the Cuyahoga County Democratic Party, Cleveland Building & Construction Trades Council, Cleveland Stonewall Democrats, Cleveland City Council President Kevin J. Kelley and Cleveland City Councilman Kerry McCormack, Lakewood Mayor Mike Summers, Lakewood Council President Sam O’Leary, Ward 15 residents Chris Ronayne and Jan Roller, and many others. House District 13 encompasses the cities of Lakewood and Linndale, all of Cleveland Wards 11 and 15, and parts of Cleveland Wards 3, 14 and 16.



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# Lakewood Schools

## Into The Woods At Harding

by Lydia Kress:

Being in Harding Middle School's drama club has been an amazing experience! It gives young, aspiring actors a chance to light up the stage with their talents and receive hands-on theater experience. I couldn't be happier to be a participant of the magic!

This year's musical, Into the Woods Jr., was sort of like a shorter, condensed version of the original musical. This adapted version, with music and lyrics written by Stephen Sondheim, was based on the book by James Lapine. Our show was directed by the amazing Brittany Gaul and her assistant director from Lakewood High School, Rylie Elswick. The musical focuses on the lives and wishes of many different characters, all of which are told by a narrator. There's the baker and his wife, who wish to have a child, with every effort made leading to another disappointment. There's Cinderella, who wishes to attend the King's festival, but is denied by her cruel step-mother and two step-sisters. There's Little Red Riding Hood, tasked with taking bread and wine to her grandmother, who has fallen ill. There's Jack, whose mother sends him off to sell their cow, and Jack's best friend, Milky White. Other characters include the Witch, Rapunzel and her Prince, Cinderella's Prince and his Steward, the Mysterious Man, the Wolf, and a charming ensemble who help to tell the story. Their stories intertwine, mixing together to create one fascinating adventure complete with action, drama, and laughter.

I am in seventh grade at the middle school. This is my third show and second musical while this is at HMS. This time around, I was cast as Cinderella. I was absolutely thrilled to find my name on the cast list, and I couldn't have asked for a role I wanted more! I am so proud of my fellow members, who all did a stunning job on stage. In the weeks leading up to the day of the show, you become very close with cast and crew members and develop a special kind of trust, almost like a family. In the beginning, we were a bunch of middle schoolers stumbling through music and mumbling through lines, but after less than two months of rehearsing, we were able to put on a



The baker and his wife agree that working together is better.

successful show full of charm and liveliness!

by Julia Kompier:

In this production I was in the ensemble, and although I did not get the biggest role, it was still a lovely experience. I loved how in the start we only knew a few of the fellow cast members but at the end when it was showtime we knew, and were almost family with the whole cast. What is truly amazing was how so many people learned all of their lines in such a short amount of time.

It was great to watch all of the fairytales intertwine. In Into The Woods we had Little Red Riding Hood and The Big Bad Wolf, we also had Cinderella, Rapunzel and their princes, then we had Jack and the Beanstalk, along with Milky White and his mother. To tie all of these stories together we had the baker and the baker's wife who had to go into the woods and meet each of these characters in the process...

What made this show truly amazing was how everyone helped like Felix's (who plays Rapunzel's Prince) dad, who helped make the swords for the shoe fitting scene, and the singing scene "Agony"--which was just an amazing scene, sung by Cinderella's and Rapunzel's princes. If all the acting and singing was not enough, there were also dances, like in the song "Hello Little Girl" which made the scenes very enjoyable.

There were so many people that

made this show what it was, even if you didn't directly see them or hear them, like the stage crew who helped paint the sets and make the posters, and who ran onto the stage and changed sets during the show. There were also the ones who helped choreograph and direct. Rylie Elswick and Sasha Strong helped with the choreography and Brittany Gaul

directed with help from Rylie as well. In the end, this show was fabulous, even though in the process there were a few bumps, the whole cast and crew were able to pull it off and make the whole event great!

Lydia Kress and Julia Kompier are seventh graders at Harding Middle School.

## LHS Students Join With Students Across The Country Protesting Gun Violence



Over 100 students from Lakewood High School walked out at the same time thousands of students from across America were walking out of their schools in a show of solidarity and protest with the students from Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland Florida.



Media from all over showed up.



Hard not to be proud of our students.

## School Crisis Response And Grief Support Program continued from page 3

all it takes to mobilize resources. In a typical year, trained grief and trauma support specialists from the organization deliver immediate on-site crisis support to 1,000 students and 250 adults.

"School personnel spend a good amount of time with the children, so in some respects, they become a second family," Snyder Cowan said. "Their response in times of grief and loss can be extremely comforting and helpful to students.

In coordination with the school, trained and experienced bereavement professionals are available to lead classroom, small or large group student discussions, hold informational meetings with parents, provide individualized sessions during a crisis response and offer guidance to teachers and staff. Follow-up services such as memorial activities, small support

group interventions and educational programs are available as needed. Proactive services are also offered, including crisis response planning.

The program is one of the ways the nonprofit agency extends its expertise in end-of-life care and bereavement support to the community at large. Hospice of the Western Reserve is grateful for the financial support of individuals and other organizations, such as the Ridgecliff Foundation, for making the Grief Services for Schools Program possible. For more information on how you can ensure these important services are available for students, teachers, parents and school staff, contact Bonnie Robbins at 216.383.5258 or BRobbins@hospicewr.org. School administrators interested learning more are encouraged to visit the website: [hospicewr.org/griefand-loss](http://hospicewr.org/griefand-loss), or call 216.486.6287.

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Lakewood Schools

District Staff Spotlights:

Diemert & Flannery

by Christine Gordillo

Each month the Lakewood City Schools selects two staff members nominated by their peers to honor as Staff Spotlight winners. This month, Grant Elementary Health Aide Melissa Diemert and Roosevelt Elementary Intervention Specialist Caroline Flannery are honored:

**MELISSA DIEMERT**

Tending to the daily health needs of a school full of children takes someone both caring and competent and Grant Elementary health aide Melissa Diemert has both qualities in spades. A former dietician before joining the District two years ago, Diemert brings her penchant for spreading kindness and championing service to the many roles she takes on at Grant.

Besides the typical visits for upset tummies or skinned knees, Diemert handles the needs of students with complex health care plans such as diabetes or Cystic Fibrosis that require medications, monitoring, documentation and two-way communication with families. “Parent communication and building that relationship is so important” to knowing how to tend to a child’s needs, Diemert says.

The kindness Diemert shows her young health center visitors extends to the jobs she takes on outside the health center such as the Safety Patrol group she leads and the Shoe-Tie Club

she started to celebrate kindergarteners and first graders’ mastery of the tricky task. She also strives to instill a commitment to service in the students she interacts with, whether it’s with the professional attitude she expects from her Safety Patrol members or in the assistance she gives to the Kiwanis K-Kids Club at Horace Mann.

“I encourage my Patrol kids to be kind and model students and that it’s important to give back to their community,” says Diemert, who serves as a mentor for Refugee Response in her free time.

She is proud to be part of the District’s group of health aides, led by District Nurse Katy Corrigan. “We have a lot of compassion and we want to best take care of these kids,” Diemert says.

Grant Principal Kait Turner sums up Diemert’s impact: “Grant Elementary School, Lakewood City Schools and the Lakewood community would not be the same without Melissa.”

**CAROLINE FLANNERY**

Roosevelt Elementary Intervention Specialist Caroline Flannery’s mission is simple: teach children to read. For 22 years she has been doing just that by not only giving her students the literacy skills needed, but showing them compassion and care as well.

Flannery’s nominator, fellow



Grant Health Aide Melissa Diemert.



Roosevelt Intervention Specialist Caroline Flannery.

Intervention Specialist Anna Zeller, says it’s Flannery’s “true and heartfelt commitment to her students” that makes her standout. “She is always encouraging them to persevere and celebrates their successes, no matter how big or small,” Zeller says.

Flannery uses the time she has with her students to form meaningful connections that allow her to see when a student may have an emotional issue that could hold him or her back from learning. “She always notices when someone needs something,” Zeller says of Flannery. It is the trust Flannery has earned with her students that allow them to speak up when something is bothering them.

Her greatest joy as a teacher comes from when she sees students who started out as struggling readers

pick up a book on their own and start to read. “I love watching them grow and progress and see how far they’ve come,” she said.

Flannery sees her role at Roosevelt much like a case manager, making sure all a student’s needs are met so that he or she can succeed. She is grateful that her fellow staff members see themselves as part of the cause as well. “Everyone considers the students as our students together,” Flannery says. Everyone has the attitude of “how can we help him or her.”

For Flannery, help comes in her own special way.

Says Zeller: “She gives them a voice and she sees the potential in each of her students. Her warm and genuine smile welcomes her students every day.”

Multiple Filmmaking Programs Offered For Lakewood Kids And Teens

by Eric Swinderman

Lakewood Young Filmmakers Academy is a nonprofit arts organization dedicated to inspiring and empowering youth through the cinematic arts. LYFA offers multiple programs for kids and teens to express themselves using filmmaking as the catalyst. Students learn about filmmaking in a fun and safe environment with like-minded individuals at the Lakewood studio located at 15022 Madison Avenue. All classes and programs are taught and supervised by award-winning industry professionals.

The following programs are now accepting new applicants!

**8 Week Film School**

This is a comprehensive film studies program specifically designed for kids and teens ages 10-17. Movies are an important part of our lives and more and more kids are becoming interested in how they are made. LYFA’s eight week program is designed to give your child a crash course in how to create professional movies from start to finish. From screenwriting to lighting and sound, to camera work to editing, LYFA’s award winning instructors will guide your child through the creative process and onto a journey of artistic expression using the cinematic arts. Subjects included are FILM HISTORY & APPRECIATION, SCREENWRITING, DIRECTING AND CINEMATOGRAPHY, EDITING and MORE!



**Kids Summer Filmmaking Bootcamp**

The Lakewood Young Filmmakers Academy Summer Camp is a two-week filmmaking boot camp in which the students will write, shoot and edit a real film from start to finish with the help of award winning industry professionals and counselors. The camp culminates in a Red Carpet Premiere of their film at The Capitol Theatre where their movie will be seen by a packed house of filmmakers, media, fans, friends and family.

Space is limited for this program. Enroll TODAY to ensure that your child secures their spot in this ONE OF A KIND program not found anywhere else in northeast Ohio.

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**continued on page 12**

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# Sports

# Ex-Twinsburg Teacher To Head Ranger Football

*by Christine Gordillo*

The Lakewood Board of Education last month approved the hiring of Twinsburg teacher Thomas Thome as a new member of the Lakewood High School Social Studies Department and the school's next head football coach.

Thome, who has over 10 years of teaching and coaching experience, stressed that he is a teacher first and a coach second. His enthusiasm and energy for teaching, on and off the field, was apparent throughout the interview process.

“As a team, we want to help create well-rounded student athletes that are prepared for success in life not just the

football field,” Thome said. “Academic excellence, community involvement and personal growth are just as important to the success of any athletic team.”

Thome's hiring will help preserve the Social Studies Department's strong elective course offerings and allow it to expand its Government class to junior level in addition to senior year to help students meet the state graduation requirements.

Thome, who replaces former Head Coach Tom Hannan, comes to Lakewood with a variety of educational and coaching experiences. After a year of teaching and coaching at Western Reserve Academy in Hudson, he spent

five years at Lucas High School in rural Richland County as a teacher and varsity assistant football coach, including as the defensive coordinator. His students consistently earned the top state graduation test scores in the county, including 100% passage rate in 2011.

“We miss Tom. He helped make our programs better and five years later we are still benefiting from the impact he had,” said Lucas Head Coach Scott Spitler of his former assistant. “The kids flock to him because of his enthusiasm, which is what will lead to an immediate influence on whatever program he takes over.”

The Nordonia grad returned to Northeast Ohio in 2012 to teach at Twinsburg. After a one-year assistant coaching stint for a Division 1 Regional runner-up Stow-Monroe Falls team, which finished 13-1 during the 2015 campaign, he became Twinsburg's defensive coordinator. Thome has also served as head coach of a Twinsburg's girls' track & field team

“Coach Thome possesses a great understanding of the game, and more importantly has the positive, energetic



Thomas Thome

personality that our student-athletes will respond to,” said Lakewood Athletic Director Sean Jackson. “Those attributes coupled with the fact that he’s eager to move and become a visible part of the Lakewood community, and makes his Social Studies classroom his first priority were what really made him the unanimous favorite of the selection committee members.”\

# Eagles Top Rangers To Advance

continued from page 1

the period. Lakewood was already without junior Zion Kolodynski-Darby, who missed the game due to injury.

Eagle sophomore Montorie Foster opened the second quarter with a five point scoring spree, stretching the lead to 23-9. He would score four more points midway through the quarter, making the score 29-11 with 4:36 remaining in the first half. The game was on the verge of becoming a blowout, but the Rangers were able to outscore St. Edward 7-4 before the half, cutting the lead to 33-18 at the break.

Ranger senior Liam Doup opened the second half scoring with a three pointer in the opening minute, ener-




photo by Jacob Chabowski

*LO's Sports Editor Mike Deneen stops by the St. Ed's broadcast booth.*

son, will study and play basketball at Notre Dame College next season.

Jacob Sala led all scorers in the game with 16 points; Diop had 10 for the Rangers. Foster, Huffman, and sophomore Devontae Blanton each had 13 points for the Eagles. Terry, who missed the first matchup against Lakewood due to injury, had 10 points for the Eagles.



In his post game comments, Eagle head coach Eric Flannery credited the Rangers for slowing the pace of the game. "We wanted to play fast, they wanted to play slow" he said. He also commended the Rangers man-to-man defensive schemes early in the game, which helped the Rangers to force nine first half turnovers. Flannery and the Eagles, who look like a strong contender for the state title, will play for the district championship on Saturday against the winner of Thursday night's St. Ignatius/Medina game at Strongsville High School.

After the game, Cammock praised his entire senior class. "They are seven leaders that came together as a team," he said. "They deserve all the good that has come to them." Cammock's squad had a tremendous season, christening the new LHS gym with a 22-3 record and a conference championship. In the words of Coach Cammock, "What a fantastic frickin' year!"



photo by Jacob Chabowski

gizing the Ranger crowd and cutting the lead to 12. Eagle sophomore Grant Huffman responded, hitting a pair of baskets to stretch the lead to 17 early in the third quarter. Smith, who returned to the game after sitting out much of the first half with foul trouble, scored five points in the third quarter to lead the Rangers. However, each time they cut into the lead, the Eagles would respond. Junior Meechie Terry and senior Michael Dowell each hit key three pointers in the period that kept the lead in double digits. The Eagles led 46-30 at the end of the third quarter.

Senior Jabrell Boyd hit a runner early in the fourth quarter, and Diop hit another three pointer to make the score 48-35 with over five minutes remaining. Huffman responded with a three pointer for the Eagles at the 4:14 mark that dampened the Rangers comeback hopes. The teams played evenly for the next few minutes, with St. Edward maintaining a lead of around 15. Both teams emptied their benches in the final minute. Ranger fans gave a tremendous ovation to the senior class, particularly Jacob Sala. Sala, the team's leading scorer this sea-

# Dive In To Lakewood Rec's Unique Egg Hunt

*by Matt Demaline*

Grab your bathing suits, towels, baskets and goggles for Lakewood Recreation's annual Underwater Egg Hunt. This year's event will be held Saturday, March 31 at the Lakewood High School Pool beginning at 10:00am.

Children are split up into age groups for the hunt. All children ages 6 and under must be accompanied by an adult in the pool; no separate registration fee is required for the adults accompanying younger children. Eggs can be redeemed for prizes after the hunt.

Don't be fooled by the name; not all the eggs sink. Approximately half of the 600 eggs float at the surface. The other 300 or so eggs are spread out on the pool bottom, varying in depth from 3.5 feet deep to 9 feet deep. There are a variety of activities in the pool for



Photo by Nancy Pizir

*Lakewood Rec's Underwater Egg Hunt  
to be held Saturday, March 31.*

the children to participate in when not diving for eggs. There are pool toys out for the little ones, water basketball and, always a favorite, the high dive.

Pre-register and save - \$5 registration available only through March 29. If not pre-registered, admission fee is \$7 at the door. Registration is available online at [www.lakewoodrecreation.com](http://www.lakewoodrecreation.com). We look forward to seeing everyone for this year's hunt.



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<b>Ext. Cheese/Spec. Topp</b>	\$1.50	\$2.00	\$2.50	\$3.50

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# Lakewood Cares

## HOLY WEEK AND EASTER AT TRINITY CATHEDRAL

### PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 25

8 a.m. Early Eucharist  
9 a.m. Mostly Jazz Mass  
11:15 a.m. Choral Eucharist

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28

6 p.m. Tenebrae Service  
Music by Victoria and Bairstow  
The Trinity Chamber Singers

### MAUNDY THURSDAY, MARCH 29

12:10 p.m. Eucharist & Healing Service  
6 p.m. Contemplative Service & Eucharist  
7 p.m. Potluck Dinner

### GOOD FRIDAY, MARCH 30

12 p.m. Solemn Liturgy  
1 p.m. Good Friday Blues & Lamentations  
Music by the Gateway Band  
7:30 p.m. Good Friday Concert *Passio* by Arvo Pärt  
The Trinity Cathedral Choir, soloists and instruments  
Todd Wilson, conductor

### EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 1

6 a.m. The Great Vigil of Easter  
9 a.m. Festival Contemporary Eucharist  
Music by the Gateway Band  
10:10 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt for children grades prek-5  
11:15 a.m. Festival Choral Eucharist  
Music by Hancock, Bach, Billings and Widor  
The Trinity Cathedral Choir with brass and timpani

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## 3rd Annual "Marge Madness" Basketball Tournament Fundraiser For St. Joseph Academy

by Kathy Daniels

In conjunction with St. Joseph Academy, the Daniels-Green family is having their 3rd annual "Marge Madness" basketball tournament to raise funds for the Maggie Daniels Memorial Scholarship. The tournament will be held on March 25th at St. Joseph Academy on Rocky River Dr., Cleveland. The tournament will be 3-on-3 format basketball games. There will be a raffle and silent auction. A social hour Saturday evening, 5-8:30 pm, will be held at the Masthead Brewing Company.

Maggie was born and raised in Lakewood. She attended Magnificat HS. She went on to get her teaching degree from Notre Dame College. All through these years Maggie played basketball. Maggie then relocated to Hickory, NC, where she became an English Literature teacher and basketball coach. After five years in the Newton-Conover school system. She was one week shy of getting her degree when she taken from us in a violent crime.

Tournament website: [www.margemadness.org](http://www.margemadness.org).

## Swim-a-Thon To Benefit Two Organizations

by Lynn Donaldson

Special Spaces and scholarships for the new aquatic therapy program at the Cleveland Clinic Children's Center for Autism in Rocky River will be the beneficiaries of support from the eighth annual Swim-a-Thon on March 4 at the Rocky River Recreation Center indoor pools from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.

Participants are invited to swim, aqua jog or water walk. Those wishing to make a donation to either organization should contact Harlan Radford, event coordinator, at [harlanrjr@yahoo.com](mailto:harlanrjr@yahoo.com) or (440) 376-5180. The recreation facility is located at 21012 Hilliard Blvd.

There will be free refreshments

and certified lifeguards on duty.

Special Spaces is a non-profit organization that gives children with life-threatening medical conditions a dream bedroom makeover.

The aquatic therapy scholarship program will benefit the families of children who attend the autism center who demonstrate financial need. Community West Foundation will manage the grant process.

Additional information is available by contacting Mr. Radford or Amy Klima, Rocky River civic center aquatics manager, at [aklima@rrcity.com](mailto:aklima@rrcity.com) or (440) 895-2591.

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Forum Page

# There's Trouble Brewing On Quail St - Part 1

by John Lutz

It has been said that "The trouble with trouble is, it starts out as fun." Many of us know too well the reality of this statement through our own experiences with trouble. We often overlook the long term consequences for short term profit and pleasure.

This is exactly what is occurring on Quail St in Birdtown. The Lakewood Brew Works is currently in construction, scheduled to be open sometime later this year. As would be expected, the presentation was upbeat, upscale, and promising to a struggling economic reality in the Birdtown Area. The bar was spun as the next great step forward for the renaissance of the area. It would bring jobs, and money, and it would be a tourist destination for Northeast Ohio. Wow, this sounds like a winner, a no-brainer. And that is exactly what it is, a no-brainer. Not much thought was put into the effect of the location of this new bar, in respect

to a church and a school being on the opposite corners of their location.

Two years ago, at the Lakewood City Planning Commission meetings, our church, as well as many caring citizens, spoke up about the reality of putting a bar so deep into the residential community here in Birdtown. (Look up "Another Birdbath in Birdtown" for more information)

The bar will be located within 50 feet of our church, and within 75 feet of Harrison Elementary School. It is interesting to note that the state allows Public Institutions, such as schools, churches, libraries, and townships, to object to the issuance of a liquor license if they are within 500 feet of the bar. This bar will only be a hop away, instead of a hop-skip and a jump.

While several of our citizens have spoken and attempted to address some concerns, the project continues on and is expanding already. The bar has been granted a 1500 square foot addition for an outdoor two-story deck. Nothing could go wrong there, I mean there won't be any noise issues at all in the middle of this residential neighborhood where the bar is.

Have all the issues been worked out? What are the issues? The biggest and most important issue is actually the location of where the bar is. All other concerns resonate from that premise.

**Let's examine Issue #1: Traffic Flow and Increase**

There will be an increased amount of traffic from those who will be frequenting the bar.

That traffic will be brought deeper into the residential neighborhood. Not just on Quail, but the surrounding streets, such as Plover, Robin, and Dowd. Since the bar is planning on opening at 4:00PM during the week, this will present a traffic flow problem for many who

are returning home from work. How about the children who live in this community, who will be playing outside, riding their bikes, jumping curbs on their skateboards (Okay, I know they shouldn't do this, but they do, right?). Let's put on our thinking caps again, do you suppose that there will be an increase of those who have been drinking before driving? I'm not even saying that they are drunk, but scientific studies have shown that reflex skills and abilities are diminished with the use of alcohol and drugs in the system.

**2. There will be an increase amount of vending and delivery trucks.**

This will present a problem because the delivery trucks will be unable to park in the bar parking lot because it would never make the turn, especially with residents from the neighborhood's parked cars directly across from the parking lot entrance. So this means the delivery trucks will have to sit in the street and block any traffic from going down that part of the street because the street will be totally blocked until the delivery truck leaves. We have also been informed that deliveries are supposed to take place during non-school hours. What does that mean? A food or beverage delivery company is going to make special arrangements for this establishment? Does that mean all deliveries will be made before 7:00/7:30 in the morn-

ing before early care? Or after 5:00PM when aftercare is over?

Well this is where you have to use your brain, NO! They will be like every other bar or restaurant who gets their deliveries during the day. So this one is just to appease those who don't want to face the facts that large delivery trucks and beer trucks are going to be regularly driving right past the school when the young children are there and maybe even playing outside. You see, Quail St has some restrictions on which direction you can go during certain times of the day. You cannot go further south onto Quail after Thrush during school hours, thus requiring the delivery trucks to take another side street, go down to Plover, and come back up Quail and park in front of the bar to unload. The large trucks are probably not going to be able to turn off Thrush to get to Quail, in fact, with the parking situation in Birdtown being so congested, those trucks will have to go down to Plover because it will be too tight of a turn for them to make.

This is a bad location for this bar!

**Let's Examine Issue #3: Parking**

The city zoning ordinances require the bar to have somewhere around 35-37 parking spots for the capacity that they have proposed to be attempting to serve. The parking lot as it sits has 22 parking spots. They are build-

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# Lakewood Is Art

## There's Trouble Brewing On Quail St - Part 1

continued from page 11

ing the two-tiered deck where the old garage and concrete pad were so they won't be able to add that space to count in their total. Let's put our thinking caps on again and use some common sense. There is a parking lot behind the stores on Madison, there is a parking lot at Harrison Elementary School, and there is parking on the street. Well, human nature says that we choose the path that is easiest and closest. That means the street parking will become even more congested and limited. So the many people who rent apartments and houses in the area will have to park their cars either further down or on another street and walk. Now that doesn't seem very fair to the residents who live here on Quail St, does it?

Does that present any safety issues for the residents of this community? I mean, you have to find nearly 13-15 more parking spots. Quail can only handle approximately 20-22 cars parked on the street anyway. The residents won't be allowed to park in Harrison Elementary School, and they will be forced out of their needed spots close to where they live.

And what if they use Harrison? How will that affect the evening events that go on at Harrison often. There are special meetings, such

as Lakewood PTA meetings, open houses, basketball and other sporting events, school board meetings, etc. What happens to those who need to go to those meetings? Where do they get to park? There isn't enough parking now for when some of those larger events take place.

What will the parking lot look like after those who have frequented the bar leave for the night? Have you seen what happens at other bars in Lakewood? Ask those who have to clean up the outside of the building and sidewalks the next morning. The taxpayers of Lakewood have spent a great deal of their hard-earned money to create a better environment for the kids to grow and learn. It doesn't seem like it would be good stewardship of the investment to let that happen.

This is a bad location for the bar! There are other issues that I think the no-brainer tag could be applied to. So stay tuned as we try to bring a little common sense back to the public arena, where it isn't always about politics and profits, but it is about doing the right thing when there is opportunity to do it.

This is a bad location for the bar! Stay tuned! There's more to come.

*John Lutz is Pastor of the North-Coast Baptist Church in Lakewood, Ohio.*

## Beck Center Teen Theater Presents "The Laramie Project"

by Beth Kretschmar

Beck Center Teen Theater continues their 2017–2018 season with "The Laramie Project," March 2–11 in the Studio Theater. Show times are 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, and 3 p.m. Sundays. A student matinee will take place at 10 a.m. on Thursday, March 8. Tickets are on sale now at 216.521.2540 x10 or [beckcenter.org](http://beckcenter.org). "The Laramie Project" contains strong language and adult content.

Twenty years ago, a twenty-one-year-old student at the University of Wyoming was kidnapped, severely beaten, and left tied to a fence in rural Laramie, Wyoming. Matthew Shepard died several days later—the victim of this assault because he was gay. Moisés Kaufman and fellow members of the Tectonic Theater Project visited Laramie conducting more than 200 interviews with the people of the town. This breathtaking collage explores the depths to which humanity can sink and the heights of compassion of which we are capable.

"It is stunning how much is still significant, if not even more relevant than ever," remarked Beck's Associate Director of Youth Theater Education Jonathan Kronenberger. "And the chance to see it presented by teenagers brings a whole



new level of meaning and resonance to the story." With a cast of 15 Beck Center students ages 13 to 18, this pertinent piece is directed by Becca Ciamacco. "With this year being the 20th anniversary of Matthews's death, and the current political climate, it was important to revisit 'The Laramie Project,'" said Ciamacco. "I was a teen actor during Beck's production of this show 10 years ago, and this time around it is a very different production. Ours is a true reflection of the teens that are on stage, and how they relate to Matthew's story in their lives today."

A post-performance Talk-Back focusing on the various themes within the play will take place in partnership with the LGBT Community Center of Greater Cleveland on Saturday, March 10, 2018.

Tickets are \$12 for Adults/Seniors and \$10 for Children (18 and under), and may be purchased online at [beckcenter.org](http://beckcenter.org) or by calling 216.521.2540 x10. Discounted group rates, and student matinee tickets for classes, are available and can be scheduled by calling Customer Service Manager Rennie Tisdale at 216.521.2450 x28. The remainder of the Youth Theater season also includes "Annie," May 11–20, 2018.

## Multiple Filmmaking Programs Offered For Lakewood Kids And Teens

continued from page 8

Lakewood Young Filmmakers Film Festival

The Lakewood Young Filmmakers Film Festival was specifically created to inspire young filmmakers ages 7-17 to express themselves through the cinematic arts. LYFFF wants to be the national leader in promoting the work of young artists from all walks of life. Top prize is a \$5,000 filmmaking grant!!

The Lakewood Young Filmmakers Film Festival is now accepting submissions in the following categories:

Feature Length (45-90 mins)  
Ages 7-10

Short Film (under 45 mins) Ages 7-10

Feature Length (45-90 mins)  
Ages 11-14

Short Film (under 45 mins) Ages 11-14

Feature Length (45-90 mins)  
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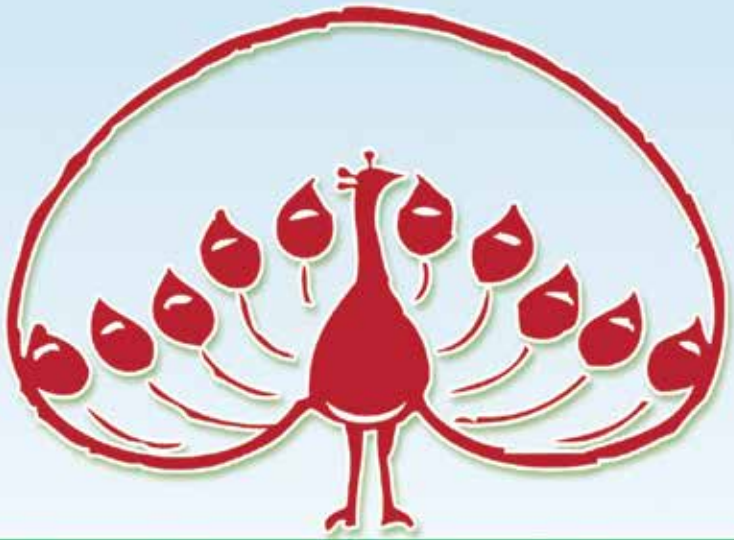
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## Lakewood, No It’s Foodwood!

by Jim O’Bryan

In the past couple years Lakewood has become a destination for good food, dining and entertainment experiences. This year we will be partnering with Foodwood© on a series of articles about Lakewood restaurants, bars and nightspots from an insider perspective. We have seen many lists of “the Best of” and noticed-- even been upset-- that some of the best places we know were not included. “How could they possibly ignore...?”

So with the help of professionals in the food and entertainment business we will take a look at menus, dining rooms and kitchens, give background to help you learn more about your favorite spots, learn even more about how and why they happened, and who and what history moulds not just who they are, but their signature dishes. This will be an interesting ride, we promise you.

Along the way we are inviting everyone to send in suggestions of their favorite places in and around Lakewood, and even write some reviews yourself. All will make it to our new Foodwood section on the website, but if we publish your review in the LO Print edition, we will pay for that meal, and you will get two Lakewood/ Foodwood T-Shirts. How is that for a deal!

To submit a review online, go to the Member Center section of the Lakewood Observer website, sign-in, click on “Submit New Story”, and make sure you choose “Foodwood” as the category for where your story should be.

Thank you to all and thank you to every owner, cook, server and busser.

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# Lakewood Living And Lifestyle

## The Lakewood Public Library Shows You How

by Sarah McKinsey

Have you ever wondered how to tackle a task and wished you had something more interactive than written instructions or a YouTube video? The Lakewood Public Library's upcoming How-to Series will try to answer some of these burning questions. Over the span of six months, from March to August 2018, the library will have a series of presentations that cover everything from couponing and composting to dream interpretation.

The first presentation is on Saturday, March 10, 2018 at 11:00 a.m. in the Main Library Basement Auditorium. Visiting presenter John Avon, a Medicare specialist, will discuss how to navigate Medicare. With health care constantly changing, it is important to educate yourself and understand all the ins and outs. This presentation will explain how you can stay informed.

In April, Joe the Coupon Guy will explain the smart, savvy ways you can coupon, saving money on everything from gas to smartphone plans to travel. In May, financial advisor Michael Zawatsky will discuss how to become fiscally fit, using budgets, financial goals, and a financial blueprint to gain control of your finances. Nathan Rutz from Rust Belt Riders will visit the library in June to



Presenter Ryan Sheldon, owner of the shop Beat Cycles

demonstrate how to compost, enriching your soil and helping to keep food waste out of landfills. July will see Ryan Sheldon on the Main Library Front Porch to cover the basics on bike repair, a great resource in this city of bikers.

Finally, the last How-to presentation is on Saturday, August 11, 2018 at 11:00 a.m. in the Main Library Basement Auditorium. Presenter Cindy Summer, a holistic consultant, will discuss how to interpret your dreams. You will learn how to analyze symbolism and common themes in dreams, which can often help solve problems in your everyday life.

So if you're wondering "how?" about any of these topics, come on out, and these experts will show you what you need to know.

## LakewoodAlive's Superheroes Unite Draws Sellout Crowd For Good Time

continued from page 1

Cindy Marx  
Rev. Mark Thomas  
Shawn Warren

The Superhuman Costume Contest saw Batmans, Captain Americas and Clark Kent lookalikes pitted against one another competing for the titles of "Most Creative Conqueror," "Most Authentic Ace" and "Most Gallant Group." Other guests devised less traditional yet equally impressive costumes, dressing as a "Reflector" mirror, a "Nonprofit Unicorn," "Underdog" and "Quailman" from the 1990s TV show Doug.

### Winners of the Superhuman Costume Contest were:

**Most Creative Conquerors** – Rev. Mark Thomas (Reflector) and Cindy Costello (Tax Woman)

**Most Authentic Aces** – Frank Scalish (The Joker) and Liz Spahr (Powerpuff Girl)

**Most Gallant Group** – Jarrell & Andrea McAlister (Beast Boy & Raven)

A surprise visit from pizza-toting Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles – some riding into the Lakewood Masonic Temple's ballroom on skateboards – culminated a supremely heroic evening.

LakewoodAlive thanks the many volunteers who contributed their time and talents to this fundraising event, especially the following members of the Superheroes Unite Committee for their tireless efforts: Julie Warren (chair), Michael Bentley, Connie Bielawski, Sarah Chahy, Will Costello, Jeff Davis, Kelly Florian, Jim Hayes, Madeline Hayes, Alix Kaufmann, Brittany O'Connor, Blaire Skinner, Darren Toms, Missy Toms and Shawn Warren.



"Our incredible team of volunteers, led by Julie Warren, proved instrumental in making Superheroes Unite a successful fundraising event for our organization," said Ian Andrews, Executive Director of LakewoodAlive. "From sponsors to volunteers to Superheroes Unite attendees, we really can't say enough about the tremendous support we receive from our community."

### About LakewoodAlive

Not all heroes wear capes. At LakewoodAlive we don't possess superhuman powers, yet we strive to serve a heroic role in the lives of Lakewood residents in need through our Housing Outreach Program. Our villain is anything that stands in the way of community vibrancy. The 5.5 square miles comprising Lakewood is our Gotham City, and we take our duties very seriously. In the immortal words of Wolverine, we aim to be "the best there is at what we do."

continued on page 15



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# LakewoodAlive

## Dana Paul Bringing Unique Housing Option To Lakewood’s Edanola Avenue

by Matt Bixenstine

Builder Dana Paul is at it again, bringing unique housing stock to Lakewood.

Not long removed from the successful completion of a beautiful new home in the historic Scenic Park Neighborhood, the Lakewood resident and friend of LakewoodAlive has a fresh project underway less than a half-mile from Scenic Street.

Led by Paul, Prairie Stone purchased the land at 1383 Edanola Avenue last year after being selected to build a new single-family home on the property as part of the City of Lakewood’s 21st Century Housing initiative, which promotes housing stock diversity. The home will incorporate a first level that is ADA accessible thanks to features like a first-floor master suite, wheelchair accessibility and the ability to install an entrance ramp.

“The idea is to provide a housing option that’s universally designed, meaning the first floor can be adaptable to the occupants,” said Paul, also a member of the LakewoodAlive Housing Outreach Program’s all-star volunteer group known as the ‘A Team.’ “This home can suit a lot of different family makeups and appeal to a wide range of folks.”

Since breaking ground in November, Paul has worked diligently employing his trademark craftsman

building style that emphasizes hand-crafted quality and keen attention to detail. The home’s frame has risen and plumbing work has commenced.

Situated on an irregular lot with easy walkability to numerous amenities, the Edanola home will offer just under 1,800 square feet of living space with four bedrooms and five bathrooms (three full and two half). It is expected to be completed and listed for sale by this fall.

The downstairs level will feature a spacious master bedroom with en-suite bathroom, a separate half-bathroom, hardwood floors and an open-living concept for the kitchen, dining room and living room. The washing machine and dryer will be placed on this level.

The upstairs level will include a “mini-master bedroom” with en-suite bathroom, an additional full bathroom and two more bedrooms, one of which offers a view of Lake Erie in the distance.

Other unique features of Paul’s latest project will include:

- A finished basement with an additional half-bathroom.
- A garage door that is eight feet tall in order to accommodate a wheelchair van.
- Kitchen modifications, including to the sink and kitchen island, to allow for better wheelchair accessibility.

For Paul, the Edanola House



Builder Dana Paul shows off the first level of his Edanola House Project.

Project represents an opportunity to construct a home that could someday accommodate a family that otherwise might have needed to move outside of Lakewood. Furthermore, it is a chance for him to capitalize on a prime location.

“I was drawn to this project because of the opportunity to construct a home that follows the

Universal Design guidelines, and also because this location offers easy walkable access to the Metroparks, public transportation, restaurants and other local amenities,” said Paul.

LakewoodAlive will provide further updates regarding Paul’s Edanola House Project in the coming months.

## LakewoodAlive Unveils “Knowing Your Home” Schedule For 2018

by Matt Bixenstine

There’s no better time than now to take proper care of your home, your most important investment, and LakewoodAlive is here to help you every step of the way.

LakewoodAlive announces the schedule for the 2018 edition of “Knowing Your Home,” an educational series focused on sustainability and home maintenance best practices empowering homeowners to tackle necessary repairs and improvements. Orchestrated by LakewoodAlive’s Housing Outreach Program, this series is designed to benefit a wide range of homeowners:

- Those considering a home DIY project
- Those planning to hire a contractor
- Those simply interested in better understanding how their home works

The fifth year of this popular home maintenance program features a collection of 14 workshops taking place from March through October led by experts within the industry. These workshops will cover a wide range of topics designed to educate homeowners regarding improvements and best practices for their homes. The best part? Each workshop is open to the public and free to attend.

The 2018 season commences with “Knowing Your Home: Creating A Sound Investment” on Thursday, March 8, from 7 to 9 p.m. at The Bottlehouse Brewery Lakewood. This kickoff workshop consists of a panel discussion addressing the process for tackling major home improvement

projects. Panelists will share wisdom and insights to make the construction process more streamlined and effective, saving you time and money.

One week later the series continues with “Knowing Your Home: All About Fireplaces” taking place on Thursday, March 15, from 7 to 9 p.m. at The Hearth Shop. New to the Knowing Your Home lineup, “All About Fireplaces” seeks to address everything you need to know about your home’s fireplace, including safety, maintenance and upgrade options.

The remainder of the 2018 Knowing Your Home series features a dozen additional workshops covering a wide variety of home maintenance topics. Each workshop is held at a unique location around the community. Most are presentation format and those that can be held on location aim to offer a hands-on feel, providing homeowners step-by-step direction on how to complete specific repairs.

“We are thrilled to announce our 2018 season of Knowing Your Home workshops,” said Allison Urbanek, LakewoodAlive’s Housing Outreach Director. “Our workshop series is near and dear to us at LakewoodAlive, having grown considerably over the course of more than 50 workshops hosted during the last four years. We truly hope this free series is able to provide something useful for every Lakewood homeowner.”

Cut Out Our Guide For Reference on Page 5

## LakewoodAlive’s Superheroes Unite Draws Sellout Crowd For Good Time

continued from page 14

“Loving Lakewood: Superheroes Unite” was generously supported by the following sponsors:

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