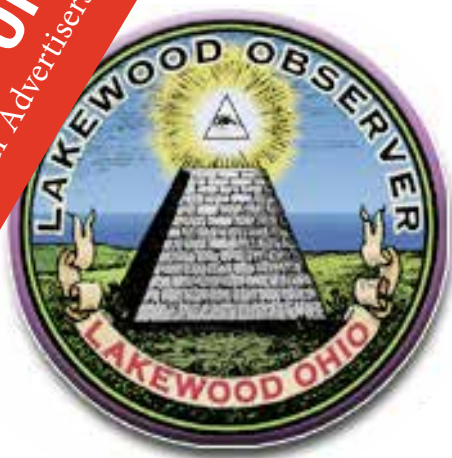


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“The actions of one person can destroy what it took hundreds of people years to build.” James Come

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Volume 14, Issue 09, May 2, 2018

Courts Grant Restraining Order To Stop Demolition Of Hospital

by Jim O'Bryan

As we went to press word came in that the Cuyahoga Court of Appeals has granted a restrain-

ing order on the demolition of the Lakewood Hospital and/or the clearing of the Lakewood Hospital property.

In what was called a “bold move,” members of the Lakewood Hospital Lawsuit filed the motion, feeling that they had no other choice with the City pushing ahead with plans to tear down Lakewood Hospital for plans that were announced on the Lakewood Observer website weeks ago.

What has been called by everyone, including members of City Hall, a flawed process to liquidate Lakewood Hospital was put on hold, while the court case(s) are being decided in the Court of Appeals.

It should be noted that this will not stop City Council from considering what to do with the

land should it make it through the courts, but it does raise red flags, that this fight is not over.

Please check out the Lakewood Observer Observation Deck for the actual court records, and other documents related to this story.

Friends Of Lakewood Library Summer Bag Book Sale

by Lisa Calfee

Summer's coming, and the 'Super' Friends of LPL are here just in the nick of time to help you prepare for those sunny days spent relaxing by Foster pool or sitting in your favorite shady spot on the front porch with all the books and magazines you'll need thanks to their Summer Bag Book Sale.

The Members Only Summer Book Sale preview (not a bag sale) is Thursday, May 17, 2018 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. You can join the Friends at the door for as little as three dollars to participate. The Big Better Books in the lower level lobby will be half price on Thursday night.

On Saturday, May 19, 2018, the Friends' Summer Bag Book Sale will be from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Fill a large grocery bag to the brim with regularly priced merchandise for only three dollars! The Big



Better Books in the lobby and the books in the Better Book Room will all be half price.

We would like to thank our donors, the generous citizens of Lakewood, for the large amount of materials they donate to the library. The diversity of subject matter reflects the diversity of our amazing community. This, in turn, provides us with a fascinating selection of best-selling authors, classics, poetry, cookbooks, children's books, gardening guides, romances, self-help books and magazines. There are also CDs for music lovers and VHS tapes of popular movie titles for sale.

Both sales take place in the Main Library Lower Level Friends' Book Sale Area. Only cash and checks are accepted.

Lakewood Municipal Court Awarded \$40,532 By Supreme Court of Ohio

by Jim O'Bryan

The Supreme Court of Ohio recently announced their Technology Awards and Grants and Lakewood Municipal Court was high on the list. The Lakewood Muni Court was awarded \$40,532.67 dollars for X-Ray Scanning Equipment and Weapons Detection Systems.

Funds for this grant are made available under the Ohio Courts Technology Initiative. The initiative was established to facilitate the exchange of information and warehousing of data by and between Ohio courts and other justice system partners through the creation of an Ohio Courts Network, to deliver tech-

nology goods and services to courts, operate the Commission on Technology and the Courts, and to aid in the orderly adoption and comprehensive use of technology in Ohio courts.

This award will save Lakewood residents over \$40,000 in funds being sought to continue to upgrade the equipment recently added at City Hall to keep everyone in the court room safe and secure. Judge Carroll has dedicated himself this year to making the courts safer. A big thank you to Judge Carroll and crew for applying for these funds and getting them.

Back By Popular Demand!

by Norine Prim

History Uncorked was first introduced by the Lakewood Historical Society in May 2017, as a fun fundraiser. Participants formed teams, brought wine to Lakewood's own Nicholson House, tasted all the wines, and voted for their favorites. The winners won numerous bottles of wine to take home with them.

Many of those who attended the event requested another competition. In response, the Historical Society has scheduled the second annual wine tasting fundraiser, History Uncorked, for May 17, 2018.

To participate in History Uncorked, simply put together a team of 1, 2, or 3 people. Purchase 3 identical bottles of Chardonnay wine. Order tickets from the



Lakewood Historical Society at lakewoodhistory.org or call 216-221-7343. Tickets are \$50 each, with a \$5 rebate for Historical Society Members. The wine tasting will take place at the Nicholson House, 13335 Detroit Ave., on Thursday, May 17, 7:00-9:30pm.

One bottle of wine from each team will be opened for tasting and voting. The remaining unopened bottles of wine will be taken home by

the teams gathering the most votes for their wines. Competitors will have the opportunity to purchase tickets for a 50/50 raffle, enjoy gourmet hors d'oeuvres, and listen to live jazz on the open porch.

\$100 Sponsorships are also available for those wishing to further support the programs and the on-going mission of the Lakewood Historical Society. Call 216-221-7343 for more information.

LakewoodAlive To Host “Embracing Diversity” Community Forum On May 23

by Matt Bixenstine

The benefits arising from societal diversity are well-documented. Research shows being exposed to people who are different from us broadens our horizons, enhances our creativity and even makes us happier. But how exactly can we succeed with cultivating a more diverse community in Lakewood?

LakewoodAlive, a non-profit community development organization, announces it will host a community forum – entitled Embracing Diversity: Fostering Equity and Inclusion in Lakewood – from 7 to 8:30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 23, at

Lakewood Public Library (15425 Detroit Avenue in Downtown Lakewood). Co-hosted by the Lakewood Community Relations Advisory Commission, this community conversation will

offer insightful dialogue regarding how we as Lakewoodites can further our commitment to embracing and celebrating diversity within our city.

continued on page 5

LEAF Heirloom Plant Sale

by Margaret Brinich

Spring is finally here and you're ready to get those plants in the ground! Well we can help get your garden off to a strong start at LEAF Community's Annual Heirloom Plant Sale. The plant sale will include several local seedling vendors as well as additional local food and craft vendors. Generously hosted once again

by Lakewood Garden Center, this event is truly one-stop-shopping for all of your garden (and Mother's Day gifting) needs!

Vendors Include:
Ridge Bridge Farm: tomato and veggie starts
Community Greenhouse Partners: veggie starts

continued on page 8

Hot Off The Deck

Lakewood Man Who Lived A Full Life And Put His Family First

by Linda Furukawa

A Lakewood man who lived a full life and put his family first.

Jim Yuujiro Furukawa, age 91, born in Hanford, CA on Sept 12, 1926 and a longtime resident of Lakewood, OH passed away April 27,2018.

Being of Japanese descent, Jim’s family was interned in the camps during World War II while he served in the US Army. He attended Fenn College and was a tool and dye designer for GE. Jim worked two jobs until he was 70 yrs old to ensure all his children received a college education. He enjoyed bowling, photography, playing cards with friends and stained glass.

Most of all,he enjoyed spending quality time with his family, especially sitting outside watching his grand kids and great grand kids play. Memorial service will be held at 10am on Saturday, May 5, 2018 at Gethsemane Lutheran Church, 14560



Madison Ave., Lakewood, OH 44107. Committal with military honors will take place at Ohio Western Reserve National Cemetery at a later date. Memorial contributions may be made in Jim’s name to Cleveland JACL Scholarship Fund or to Gethsemane Lutheran Church. To leave a special message online for the family, visit website www.schermesserfh.com.

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OBSERVATIONS FROM THE DECK!



If you stop by the Deck everyday, you got a sneak peek of the new MELT! Page 12

Thread Title	Author	Posts	Reads	Date
TRO Granted By Courts	Jim O'Bryan	9	664	Mon Apr 30
Bullock's Lakewood - Supporter		9	736	Mon Apr 30
The City Took A Total Bath On The Deal	Mark Kindt	0	92	Mon Apr 30
Losing Lakewood Hospital - Online Document Archive	Mark Kindt	28	1033	Mon Apr 30
Redevelopment FAQ - DEBUNKED	Mark Kindt	30	1129	Mon Apr 30
Library Wars	Bill Call	2	329	Mon Apr 30
Foundation Decides Name, Now Looking for Board Members	bentleymike	2	417	Mon Apr 30
Property Tax Reappraisals Coming Soon	Bridget Conant	2	340	Sun Apr 29
Is The City Misleading Us About The Carnegie Deal?	Bill Call	8	684	Sun Apr 29
More Bullock BS In Your Mailbox	Jim O'Bryan	4	420	Sun Apr 29
Bold Move By Lakewood Taxpayers to Protect Hospital from Demolition	Mark Kindt	6	611	Sat Apr 28
Fauna - In and around Lakewood.	Jim O'Bryan	123	22602	Sat Apr 28
New Bar/Restaurant errrrrr Beer Garden - Hottest Rumor In Town		5	457	Fri Apr 27
Are We So Sure That...	Jim O'Bryan	0	250	Fri Apr 27
Carnegie Our Best Choice?	Bridget Conant	15	873	Thu Apr 26
State Has No Copy of an Enterprise Zone Application	Bill Call	6	297	Thu Apr 26
Cleve Councilman Charged - Lakewood Next?	Bridget Conant			5

THE LAKEWOOD OBSERVER

STILL BANNED AT CITY HALL

Your Independent Source for Lakewood News & Opinion

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City

A Day In The Shadow Of A True Representation Of Character: My Day At The Statehouse With Rep. Antonio

by Elizabeth Halko

I once read that the way in which you treat someone who can do little for you is a true representation of your character. Right now, I can do relatively little for State Representative Nickie Antonio—I cannot vote, I don’t have any substantial amount of money to give to her campaign, I cannot help much with political matters. But these facts did not seem to matter to her. Let me tell you a story...

I’m a high school student, a passionately curious one at that, who found herself on the phone with Rep. Antonio in the fall of my sophomore year for the sake of a U.S. History project on women’s rights. I assumed (as most would) that Rep. Antonio would answer my interview questions, we would never speak again, and perhaps one day I’d see her on the news and think, “Hey! I interviewed her for that one U.S. history project!” and that would be that.

But this is not where the story ends. Before I hung up, she asked me if I’d ever want to come visit the Statehouse to see what goes on there, and I candidly responded that I would most definitely be interested. Our conversation ended there. I then sat on my bedroom floor in a vague silence for a moment before I processed the holy-crap-she-just-invited-me-to-the-statehouse-and-I-must-have-not-sounded-like-an-idiot-on-the-phone line of thought that was percolating in my brain after I hung up. People don’t just get to do that kind of thing, so I arranged a day to go. I knew virtually nothing about politics, and that in and of itself was a phenomenal reason to make my way to Columbus. And so I went—it was fascinating. It was fascinating enough for me to ask Rep. Antonio about twenty questions, and she patiently answered all of them. It



was fascinating enough for me to ask if I could come again someday, and she told me that I was always welcome. It was fascinating enough for me to ask if she knew of anything I could do that summer in relation to politics, and she found an internship for me. I asked so much of her, and she asked so little of me.

I knew, and still know, that she

did not have to do any of those things for me. She didn’t have to answer all of my emails, she didn’t have to give up her time to listen to my questions, she didn’t have to let me follow her around the Statehouse. Yet, she voluntarily did all of those things on multiple occasions, even though I could offer so little in return. This I believe to be a true representation of character, and character I believe to be a true indication of quality leadership. Sure, leaders need to be “smart,” and “assertive,” and “eloquent”—all of those traits we generally associate with some of history’s greatest leaders. That’s all bright and dandy, but most of us can probably agree that such traits suddenly lose their value if, at the leader’s core, they are just there for the money, or the prestige, or the power, or they’re narcissistic, or they’re arrogant, or they disregard the best interests of their constituents. What makes a leader truly worthy is the purity of their intent and the strength of their character.

Rep. Antonio gave her time to me because she wanted to, not because she had to. She did so much for me, even

though I could do so little for her. This I believe to be a true representation of her character. You and I may not agree with every single thing she’s ever voted for or supported, and that’s to be expected, but what matters significantly more than that one bill you wish she didn’t vote for is the fact that she is willing to do what she can to better the lives of those she represents—even those who can do nothing for her.

In my short existence on this planet, I have lost an awful lot of faith in people, specifically those who hold positions of power. I have learned to question people’s motives. I have learned to expect disappointment from many. I have learned to question their character. But I have yet to question the motives of Rep. Antonio. She has yet to let me down. I have yet to question her character. And for these reasons I have a great deal of respect for her; I feel honored to know her and to learn from her. With that, Rep. Antonio is running for Senate District 23, and I believe it is safe to say that if she is elected to serve, it will be in good, honest, and truly caring hands.

Liberty Gives Update On Board Of Ed Property Plans

by Christine Gordillo

Liberty Development Co. Development Director Dru Siley provided an update on the company’s plans for the Board of Education Warren Road properties at the Board’s meeting on April 23. The presentation included a preliminary rendering of a redeveloped 1456 Warren Road building, the former Recreation Department home that will be the future home of the Board offices.

Although Liberty has not formally closed on the properties yet, Siley noted that two significant steps have

been completed or nearly completed: the approval of historic preservation status by the City of Lakewood for the 1456 building (built in 1879 as East Rockport School) and rezoning the properties to commercial status (City Council to consider at its next meeting).

To accommodate the space needs of the Central Office staff, the East Rockport building will be enlarged from 6,000 square feet to approximately 9,800 square feet with a 2-story addition to the south of the building. The connector walkway between

the 1456 and 1470 buildings will be removed to allow for construction of the addition.

The renderings of the exterior and interior of 1456 show a mix of the historic with the modern with lots of tall windows, high ceilings and exposed brick to give it an open and airy feeling.

Siley predicted that work will begin late this summer with a projected finish date of Fall 2019. During the period of construction, the Board operations will continue in the current space at 1470 Warren Road.



Celebrate Cinco De Mayo

Friday, May 4, 2018 * 3:00-4:30 p.m.

Get a jump start on Cinco de Mayo and celebrate a day early! Enjoy listening to a Mariachi band with complimentary chips & salsa and margaritas.

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Lakewood Public Library

Calendar Of Events

compiled by Elaine Rosenberger

Saturday, May 5, 2018

Film - “Mr. Smith Goes to Washington” (1939)

Directed by Frank Capra

Idealistic Jefferson Smith (James Stewart) is thrust into the spotlight as a United States Senator despite a total lack of political clout. He is shocked by the corruption among the high-ranking officials and takes on a personal mission to expose them despite the risk to his own career.

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

Sunday, May 6, 2018

Concert - Judy Crawford

Vocalist Judy Crawford will perform highlights from Rodgers and Hammerstein’s musical repertoire. Crawford has entertained audiences for years with her vocal tributes to classic entertainers.

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

Tuesday, May 8, 2018

Talk - Staying Independent through Aging

Presentation by Peggy Lee-Tocco
The sixth in our six part series on aging. Previous registration required.

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

Tuesday, May 8, 2018

Meditation Series

Presented by Nadine “Ddeani” Feighan

The second in our two-part series. Meditation is shown to reduce anxiety and stress, leading to balanced living and a healthier life. Ddeani Feighan has studied meditation and energetic medicine for the past ten years. She is a Reiki Master and a Registered Polarity Practitioner.

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

Wednesday, May 9, 2018

Literature Series - To Ban a Mockingbird in 2018

Presented by Barbara Parr

“To Kill a Mockingbird” is a masterpiece of American literature that speaks to our current time as poignantly as it did in 1960. This four part course is presented by Barbara Parr, an instructor with Case Western Reserve University’s Laura and Alvin Siegal Lifelong Learning Program. Please read the first fifty pages for the first class. Registration is required. Register online at lifelonglearningcleveland.org or call (216) 226-8275, ext. 127.

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

Thursday, May 10, 2018

Author Event - “A Photographer’s Guide to Ohio”

by Ian Adams

With 3,600 buildings on the National Register of Historic Places, more than 120 state parks and nature preserves, and the world’s largest Amish community, Ohio has endless photographic subjects. Ian Adams shows how to capture Ohio’s beauty. Accompanied by regional maps, each entry includes GPS locations, related websites and historical facts, as well as detailed suggestions for capturing the best images. Books will be available for sale and signing at this event.

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

Thursday, May 10, 2018

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 “Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI” by David Grann.

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

Saturday, May 12, 2018

Talk - How to Become Fiscally Fit

Presentation by Michael Zawatsky

Taking control of one’s finances may seem like a pipe dream, but by creating a budget and making financial goals, creating a financial blueprint becomes an attainable goal. Learn the basic principles of cash management and identify potential roadblocks to your financial success. Zawatsky is a Financial Advisor who has been helping clients meet their financial goals for over twenty-five years.

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

Saturday, May 12, 2018

Film - Alfred Hitchcock Presents (TV) (1955)

Directed by Alfred Hitchcock

Presented by Terry Meehan

By 1955, Alfred Hitchcock had completed dozens of films, and in each one, he made his signature cameo appearance. Most people, however, first heard his voice on October 2, 1955 when he introduced the premier broadcast of his legendary TV series. We will view three of his favorite episodes, including one he directed himself, “Lamb to the Slaughter” starring Barbara Bel Geddes. The other two are “Right Kind of House” and “The Glass Eye.” Terry Meehan continues his series on Hitchcock in the Fifties Part 2, introducing each presentation with an original video program followed by audience reaction and a lively discussion.

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

Sunday, May 13, 2018

Concert - Qwik Sil-ver

Since its inception eleven years ago, Qwik Sil-ver has been rocking Northeast Ohio. Combine a soulful guitar, tight rhythm section, horns (yes horns), and the sweet sultry voice of band leader Saam Cabot and you have the Qwik Sil-ver experience. Covering a diverse range of artists — B.B. King, The Marshall Tucker Band, Janis Joplin, Bob Dylan, Cyndi Lauper, Stevie Ray Vaughn, Al Green, Rolling Stones — every performance is a unique high energy show.

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

Tuesday, May 15, 2018

Talk - Mental Health in Cleveland

Presentation by National Alliance on Mental Illness

The topic of mental illness tends to carry a heavy stigma. Those who struggle are often afraid to seek help for fear of judgment or isolation. The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) is the largest mental health organization in the nation. A representative from NAMI Greater Cleveland joins us to speak to the truth behind mental illness and disenfranchised groups.

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

Children & Youth Events

compiled by Eric Knapp

Wednesday, May 9, 2018

Meet Local Author/Illustrator: Michael Samulak

For you and your 2 to 8 year old child

Meet and enjoy a story time with the author of A Wonderful Day and A is for Africa. Registration required.

10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. in the Main Library Activity Room.

Saturday, May 12, 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 Multipurpose Room.

Sunday, May 13, 2018

Happily Ever Crafter

For students in sixth through twelfth grade

Make a new project each month while learning fun new skills. Registration required.

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

Monday, May 14, 2018, - Monday, August 6, 2018

Libraries Rock! Summer Reading Club Starts

For children birth through Twelfth Grade

Make your way through 30 books, 30 chapters, or 30 hours of reading and collect stamps and prizes along the way! Finishers win a book! Sign up to learn more.

At the Main and Madison Branch Libraries.

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May Is Mental Health Awareness Month

by Amy Kloss

When it comes to mental health, we can do better. As a nation, we need more awareness, more treatment and more funding to promote mental health. What we don't need is more stigma surrounding mental illness.

During the month of May, Lakewood Public Library will be offering several programs to promote mental health awareness. On Tuesday, May 15, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium, a representative from the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) will be addressing the 2018 theme for Mental Health Awareness Month: CureStigma. Millions of Americans live with a mental illness, but negative attitudes surround the diagnosis and treatment of the mentally ill. When people feel shamed or judged, this stigma can prevent them from seeking support or treatment. NAMI's mission is to humanize the



misunderstood, highly stigmatized topic of mental illness by showing that it's possible – and common – to live well with a mental health condition. The presentation at Lakewood Public Library will offer the opportunity to ask questions and get information about mental health and the mental health community.

On Tuesday, May 22, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium, Lakewood Public Library will screen a documentary that originally premiered at the Sundance Film Festival in 2016. "Resilience: the Biology of Stress & the Science of Hope" explores the toxic stress caused by abuse or neglect during childhood. Childhood trauma increases the risk of disease, prison time, homelessness and early death for its victims, but experts are beginning to identify the effects of toxic stress and to offer solutions. Following the movie, a representative from Recovery Resources will be available to discuss mental health issues with the audience.

If self-care is on your agenda during Mental Health Month, you can explore meditation in a session presented by Nadine Feighan on Tuesday, May 8, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room. Meditation can reduce anxiety and stress and lead to a healthier state of mental well-being.

Join us at Lakewood Public Library during the month of May to promote improvements in mental health services and end the stigma attached to mental illness.

Lakewood Public Library Summer Reading Club Starts

by Eric Knapp

Libraries Rock! Music of all kinds is the theme of summer reading this year, so dance your way to either the Main or Madison Branch libraries to sign up for Summer Reading Club! Starting Monday, May 14, children ages birth through fifth grade can sign up to be a part of "Libraries Rock!"

Sixth through twelfth graders have their own reading club, "This Party Rocks!" Participants will gather stamps and prizes as they go, and a special reward awaits those who complete thirty hours, thirty books, or thirty chapters of reading by Monday, August 6.

The fun doesn't end there, either. Arts and crafts abound! Any child with a parent can stop by Monday through Thursday, June 11 to July 26, anytime between 11:30 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. and pick up a musical craft to do together. Our music-inspired craft changes each week!

While finishing your reading



record is quite an accomplishment, we've got an encore you won't want to miss! Children and their families will celebrate the end of Summer Reading Club Party at Madison Park on Wednesday, August 8, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Fun, games, and prizes await! Teens will have their own party Friday, August 10, from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Main Library. Help us make 2018 our best summer yet. Get rockin'!

To register, stop by our Main or Madison Branch Summer Reading Club Desk, starting May 14.

LakewoodAlive To Host "Embracing Diversity" Community Forum On May 23

continued from page 1

Both the general public and members of the media are invited to attend this free forum as the community seeks to better understand the complexities surrounding the concepts of diversity, equity and inclusion as they pertain to race, ethnicity, gender and sexual orientation. The discussion will delve into best practices for identifying our own biases, serving as a change agent for achieving greater diversity and promoting the creation of an even more inclusive community.

Moderator Tameka L. Taylor, Ph.D., who serves as President of Compass Consulting Services and previously spent 14 years occupying a leadership role at The Diversity Center of Northeast Ohio, will oversee a distinguished group of panelists for an informative discussion. The final 30 minutes will be devoted to panelists

fielding questions from the audience.

The panelists participating in this community forum include:

Murat Gurer, Vice President, Board of Trustees, International Community Council

Gabrielle Jackson, Member, Lakewood Community Relations Advisory Commission

Jay Tamilio, Student, Lakewood High School

Samantha Walters, Founder, She Collective

LakewoodAlive hosts community forums pertaining to topics relevant to Lakewood citizens. For more information regarding the "Embracing Diversity: Fostering Equity and Inclusion in Lakewood" community forum on May 23, please visit LakewoodAlive.org/CommunityForums or contact the LakewoodAlive office at 216-521-0655.



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Lakewood Schools

District Earns Best Music Ed Community Award

by Christine Gordillo

For the second consecutive year, Lakewood City Schools has been honored with the Best Communities for Music Education designation from The NAMM Foundation for its outstanding commitment to music education. Only 4% of districts across the nation were selected for the prestigious award.

The Best Communities Music Education designation is awarded to districts that demonstrate outstanding achievement in efforts to provide music access and education to all students. To qualify for the Best Communities designation, the District answered detailed questions about funding, graduation requirements, music class participation, instruction time, facilities, support for the music program, and community music-making programs.

“We are blessed with a community that values the importance of music education and supports our efforts to provide the highest level of instruction to our students. I am proud of our dedicated and talented teachers, who work to instill an appreciation of music in all our students and challenge our best musicians to reach new levels,” said Superintendent Jeff Patterson.

This award recognizes that Lakewood City Schools is leading the way with music learning opportunities as outlined in the new federal educa-

tion legislation, the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The legislation, signed into law in December 2015, and awaiting state implementation designates music and the arts as important elements of well-rounded education for all children.

Research into music education continues to demonstrate educational/cognitive and social skill benefits for children who make music. In a series of landmark studies by scientists and researchers at Northwestern University a link was found between students in community music programs and life-long academic success.

The Lakewood City School District offers music education from kindergarten through 12th grade. Instrumental instruction begins in 5th grade. Middle school offerings include classroom band, orchestra, and choir with extracurricular opportunities in all three such as Strolling Strings and Jazz Band.

The high school boasts of five orchestras, four choirs, three bands, and classes in music theory, music history, pop music and keyboard. In addition, our high school extracurricular ensembles provide numerous opportunities for our students to enhance their musical experience through groups such as the Lakewood Ranger Marching Band, The Lakewood Project, Chamber Choir, Jazz Band, just to name a few.

The District’s middle school and high school ensembles routinely score Superior and Excellent ratings at adjudicated competitions. High school students are regularly named to regional and state honors ensembles. Lakewood High has been represented in national honor orchestras for the last five out of six years and Lakewood High Orchestra Director Beth Hankins was one of 10 Grammy Music Educator national finalists in 2017. Our Music Boosters provide thousands of dollars in scholarships for

private lessons each year. “Both of our children have had more opportunity and better support in their musical pursuits than we could have ever imagined. The teachers stand up for the value of music education, and that creates an atmosphere in which kids excel: they see that people care,” said parent Michael Gill. “When our kids have had the opportunity to go beyond the school’s programs, their teachers have always been there to support them.”

Golf Outing To Benefit LHS Golf And Basketball Teams

by Christine Gordillo

The Lakewood High golf team and boys' basketball program will host a golf outing fundraiser on Saturday, June 9 from 2-7 pm at Cherokee Hills GC at Coppertop in Valley City.

The registration fee includes a 4-person scramble, 18 holes with cart, lunch, dinner, hole-in-one contest, on course skill shots, and skins game. There is a dinner-only option for \$30.

The silent auction after the com-

pletion of play during dinner includes such great items as a foursome of golf at Red Tail CC, one-week in a South Carolina condo,

a foursome of golf at Columbia Hills CC, and many others.

If you register for both the June 9 outing and the Lakewood Rangers Education Foundation golf outing on July 20 at Sweetbriar Golf Club, you save \$40! Visit www.lakewoodrangers.com/events for more information.



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For more info, contact Maddy at juniorsailing@edgewateryacht.club or (216) 389-0508
Registration applications for Junior Programs at: www.eycweb.com



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Celebrating Over 10 Years of Community Discussion at: www.lakewoodobserver.com

Lakewood Schools

Garfield & Harding Mock Trial Teams Excel In State Competition

by Christine Gordillo

Congratulations to the Garfield and Harding Middle School Mock Trial teams, who on April 20 earned top ratings at the statewide Middle School Mock Trial State Showcase sponsored by the Ohio Center for Law-Related Education held in Columbus. Both Garfield 7th grade teams and the Harding 7th grade team earned the highest Superior rating and Harding’s 8th grade team narrowly missed the top rating and earned an Outstanding rating.

Both schools had many of their students earn Best Attorney and Best Witness awards. For Garfield, 7th graders Sophie Boyer and Maddie Oldfield won Best Attorney awards, while Mason Ivinskis and Sarah Scott won Best Witness awards. Earning individual honors for Harding were 7th graders Lydia Kress and Alex Hodson and 8th grader Julia Shields for Best Attorney, as well as 7th graders Luke Sweeney and Rhiannon Riker and 8th graders Amal Elhachdani and Joey Daso for Best Witness.

The competition, which included 38 middle school teams going to trial against each other over a three-day period at the Ohio Supreme Court



The mock trial teams from Harding & Garfield outside the Ohio Supreme Court building in Columbus.

Building, is based on a work of fiction. This year’s book was "The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle" by Avi. The legal teams prepared for the trial of Rhode Island v. Charlotte Doyle. The case was set in the 1800s and disputed a 13-year-old girl's innocence in the murder of first mate Hollybrass on a ship where a mutiny was planned against the captain.

Each team was divided into Defense and Prosecution squads, with students taking on the roles of attorneys, witnesses, and bailiff/timers. Each squad presented its case in trial against

another Ohio middle school, in front of actual attorneys and judges who rated the teams on case understanding, professional demeanor, oratory skills, and an understanding of trial technique and courtroom procedure.

The Harding teams were selected for participation through a playoff in the classroom, where judges and attorneys from the community presided over the mock Mock Trials. Teams were then narrowed down and chosen. In some cases, whole teams moved forward, while other witnesses had to change lawyers or even change to a new witness!

Dan Smith’s entire 7th grade ELA class, who together comprised either Garfield Purple or Garfield Gold, worked extremely hard over the last five

weeks and all participated in Columbus. Mr. Smith’s wife Peggy Ferraro, an attorney, served as legal consultant to Garfield’s teams and devoted two days both to work with students in class and to attend the trials in Columbus.

Garfield team members:

7th grade: Cayleigh Austin, Charlotte Beno, Layla Black, Sophia Boyer, Audrey Carson, Ellie Clark, Kay Coleman, Tyler DiLoreto, Casey Funk, Monet Gee, Sydney Hampton, Grace Hart, Jacqueline Hudak, Samantha Hudak, Mason Ivinskis, Jill King, Eli Ladue, Bella Lara, Kylie Lenzer, Abigail Marsh, Maggie McGann, Jane McGinley, Griffin Norris, Maddie Oldfield, Luke Schuldt, Sarah Scott, Evie Woolfolk, Omar Zayed.

Adviser: Dan Smith

Harding team members:

7th grade: Lydia Kress, Jonas Evans, Clare Morrissey, Luke Sweeney, Rhiannon Riker, Maddy Rybak, Alexandra Hodson, Sophia Monteiro, Alexandra Horton, Fia Masek, and Grace Lamparyk.

8th grade: Isabella Fallon, Lewis Fetting, Joseph Daso, Amanda Chanter, Sam Stallbaum, Miles Watts, Mia Condosta, Julia Shields, Elena Calleri, Leila Abderrazzaq, Amal Elhachdani and Julia Kavc.

Adviser: Sonja Kreps

LHS Boys Win 38th Annual Kiwanis Ranger Relays

by Mike Deneen

The LHS boys track and field team finished first in the 36th Annual Kiwanis Ranger Relays, held on April 13th at First Federal Lakewood Stadium. Lakewood finished with 80 team points, edging out Berea-Midpark with 78 points. Rocky River and North Royalton finished third and fourth with 74 and 72 points, respectively. LHS junior Tyler Hannah led the Ranger effort by winning the 110 meter hurdles, anchoring the winning distance medley relay team, and leading the first-place high jump relay team. The LHS girls finished fifth in the event, with senior Abby LaForm taking second place in the 3200 meter run.

The boys team got off to a good start in the field events, where they won the high jump medley. Hannah finished first among all individual competitors, jumping six feet two inches. Senior teammates Jay Boyd and Austin Mahar completed the winning trio, earning ten team points for the Rangers. The Rangers earned six more points in the shot put relays, where sophomore Justin Steiner and juniors Austin Allender and Keegan Freer finished third.

The highlight of the event happened on the track, where the Rangers won the boys 800 sprint medley in thrilling fashion. Lakewood edged out North Royalton and Cleveland Central Catholic with a come-from-behind victory. Hannah, who anchored the team, overtook his opponents in the final leg to win by two-tenths of a second. In fact, the margin between first

and third place was only one-quarter of a second. The photo finish electrified the crowd and the entire LHS team, which ran over to congratulate Hannah. Earlier, Hannah dominated the 110 meter hurdles race to take first place. Each of these first place finishes earned ten more points toward the Rangers overall team score.

Senior Joe Burtzlaff finished second in the 3200 meter run, winning 8 more team points for LHS. The Ranger boys took a pair of third place finishes in the 4x800 and 4x1600 relay runs, each providing six points toward the team score.

On the girls side, North Royalton won the overall team competition with 100 points. St. Joseph Academy finished second with 94 points, followed by Rocky River with 80. Lakewood’s fifth place finish included a second place finish by senior Abby LaForm in the 3200 meter run. The Ranger girls took third place in the distance medley. In field events, sophomore Christina Auck, sophomore Esther Dolatowski, and freshman Gina Marjanovic took third place in the shot put relay.

Both the LHS boys and girls teams return to action on Wednesday, April 18 at 4:30 pm at First Federal Lakewood Stadium. They will both face conference rival Westlake in a dual competition. Their final home meet will be Wednesday, April 25th at FFL Stadium against Midview at 4:30pm. The final home meet will be Senior Night, where this year’s seniors and their families will be recognized for their contributions to the program.

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Lakewood Cares

New Medical School Curriculum Project Wins Major Grant For Teamwork Training

by Jim Phillips

As the Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine at Cleveland prepares to launch a groundbreaking experiment in training the primary care physician of the future, endorsement of the project has come in the form of a major grant to train faculty in improved teamwork teaching practices.

The two-year, \$299,272 award from the New York-based Josiah Macy Jr. Foundation is one of only three board grants bestowed by the foundation in 2017. Founded in 1930, Macy is the only national foundation dedicated to improving the training of health professionals.

“We are excited to be recognized by the Macy Foundation for the work we are doing,” said Heritage College, Cleveland, Dean Isaac Kirstein, D.O. “This is a great opportunity to align education and care delivery. The award will allow us to develop new models of training physicians while enhancing patient care.”

The Heritage College was awarded the grant to augment its Transformative Care Continuum, an accelerated demonstration project designed to meet the growing need for primary care physicians and to provide the best care for patients. The program, which would allow students who committed to careers in family medicine to complete medical school in as little as three years rather than the traditional four, will launch with a cohort of eight medical students this fall. The work surrounding the development of TCC has earned the college membership in the American Medical Association’s prestigious Accelerating Change in Medical Education Consortium.

Through the Transformative Care Continuum, created jointly by the Heritage College and Cleveland Clinic, each of the eight participating students will be embedded into an interprofessional health care team at one of two Cleveland Clinic sites – Cleveland Clinic Family Health Cen-

ter, Lakewood, or Cleveland Clinic Akron General – within their first days of medical school. The students will progress at that same clinical site through to graduation, residency and board certification, with Cleveland Clinic anticipating hiring successful graduates to serve as physician leaders within its system.

To make this work, members of each interprofessional team must be able not only to function as a tightly knit medical unit, but to teach medical students to work effectively with the team as well. The Macy grant will support a project, titled “Transforming the High Functioning Care Team into an Interprofessional Education Team,” that will equip team members – including pharmacists, nurses, allied staff and family medicine faculty – to do this by training them in better teaching practices, including improved assessment and feedback.

Heading up development of the program is TCC Director Leanne

Chrisman-Khawam, M.D., M.Ed., an assistant professor of social medicine at the Heritage College, Cleveland. Kirstein noted that “a key innovation recognized by this award is that we are flipping the concept of interprofessional education on its head. Rather than figuring out how students from different health professions can learn together, Dr. Chrisman-Khawam will create a program to train pharmacists, psychologists, nurses and social workers to be effective faculty and teach medical students right at the point of care.”

The grant will allow the TCC to offer students intense interprofessional training focused on cultivating leadership, care coordination and team-based work. It will turn interprofessional caregivers into interprofessional educators who can effectively teach students how to work together in teams and complete innovative population health projects, with an ultimate goal of improving patient care. Those students will then go on to become interprofessional educators for upcoming medical students.

“TCC students will have an opportunity to engage with interprofessionals at the point of service as well as in the communities they serve, bringing health innovations to patients where they are,” Chrisman-Khawam said.

Volunteers Needed For LCAC’s Spring Cleaning Supplies Distribution

by Celia Dorsch

Lakewood Charitable Assistance Corporation is once again in need of lots of helping hands. On Saturday, May 12th beginning at 9:00am, LCAC will sort and deliver bags, jam packed with cleaning supplies, to 250 family households and senior residents in need.

As temperatures start to climb, folks become anxious to wash off winter’s dirt and grime. Many households

struggle when it comes to spring cleaning because necessary supplies are expensive, and not covered by WIC.

YOU can make a difference for your neighbors in need by joining LCAC’s Spring Cleaning distribution. By donating just two hours of your time, you can help 250 Lakewood homes sparkle and shine!

Join LCAC’s volunteer board members on Saturday, May 12th to

help sort and deliver cleaning supplies to Lakewood residences. All ages are welcome at LCAC events! We are grateful for the many volunteers who come to support our holiday food distributions in November and December. Once the weather turns nice, our volunteer numbers drop significantly. We hope to see many friends return this spring.

Thanks for putting May 12th on your calendar. LCAC’s Spring Cleaning Distribution event will begin at 9am in the rear parking lot of the Masonic Temple off Andrews Ave.

Come, rain or shine! Gathering with neighbors to help friends in Lakewood is what community is all about.

Please check our website - www.LCAC.info, or our Facebook page - (Lakewood Charitable Assistance Corporation) for more details.

LEAF Heirloom Plant Sale

continued from page 1

Fallen Angel: baked goods
Bay Branch Farms
Victoria Herbruck: flowers
Grainman: grains, syrup, honey, and more local foods

Little Lakewood Pasta Company: fresh handmade pasta

Bee Basic: handmade skin friendly products


Sign-ups for Cleveland Crops and CityFresh CSA shares will be available that day as well as LEAF Community merchandise at the LEAF table.

The LEAF Heirloom Plant Sale takes place on Saturday, May 12 from 2-5 p.m. at the Lakewood Garden Center, 13230 Detroit Ave.

LHS Barnstormers Present "1776" May 3-5

by Christine Gordillo

The Lakewood High School Barnstormers Drama Club will perform its spring musical, "1776", on three successive evenings from May 3-5. The show begins at 7:30 pm in the Civic Auditorium each night. Tickets to see this story about our country's Founding Fathers are \$8 in advance and \$10 at the door. Tickets can be purchased in advance by calling the LHS Bookroom at 216-529-4047 or stopping by during school hours.



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Elections 2018

Democrats Vote For Central Committee Members May 8th

by Kristine Pagsuyoin

Lakewood Democrats may soon be getting a knock on the door or a phone call from a fellow Democrat and neighbor vying for their vote in the upcoming elections for the Cuyahoga County Democratic Party Central Committee. On May 8th, Democrats running for Lakewood Precinct Leader will be on the ballot, and this year, a record number of fresh faces are competing for these elected party positions.

The Central Committee is the governing body of the Cuyahoga County Democratic Party. Every four years, Democrats elect precinct leaders (precinct leaders make up the Central Committee) to represent their voice and precinct to the County Party. They inform local voters on important issues and often serve as a link to elected officials as well as to Democrats running for office. Any registered Democrat may run for the Central Committee to represent the precinct in which they live; thus, they are elected by other registered Democrats living in their precinct. Lakewood has 37 precincts.

This year, a new crop of candidates is running for the Central Committee in response to the current political landscape. Too many of the current precinct leaders haven't gone out into their neighborhoods to connect with other Democrats. Subsequently, many Lakewood Democrats are unaware of the structure of the party, the importance of the Central Committee, or who their precinct leader is.



Back Row (Left): Kate McCarthy, Glenn Campbell, Steve Norris, Brad Presutto, Bonnie Sikes, Kathleen Dann, Christine McConnell, Jeanne Mackay. Front Row (Left): Trudy Hutchinson, Kathy Reynolds, Lain Pierce, Emily Christescu, Kathleen Curran, Barbara Bingle, Debra Sweeney.

That is why it is so encouraging to hear many of the candidates running for the Central Committee say they want to connect with their fellow voters and help more Democrats get elected. Glenn Campbell, candidate for 2D says, "We need to turn out the votes of every Democrat in our neighborhoods, in every single election, to make Ohio much purpler and even blue again in statewide elections." Or, Brad Presutto running in 2H, "Our last election in Lakewood only had a 21% turnout. I want to help energize my neighborhood to help raise the turnout in Lakewood to help Democrats win statewide elections."

Almost every precinct in Lakewood has a candidate running for the Central Committee. You may recognize some of the candidates as neighbors—many are first-time candidates and new-

comers to political campaigns. Greg Murray, candidate in 2F, has been active in Lakewood politics this last year as a strong voice opposed to Breed Specific Legislation, and Steven Norris, running in precinct 1G, was inspired after local workers lost the fight for the \$15 per hour minimum wage.

Laura Rodriquez-Carbone, candidate in 1B, is a newcomer who has become very involved within Lakewood over the last year, "As a party, we need to keep our history in mind, and look for ways to actively continue to spread Democratic values of compassion, fairness, hope, and inclusion locally says Laura. "Getting people involved and connected to cohesive networks will strengthen the party and position us to win local, state and national elections." Some candidates are long-time politi-

cos like former school board member Debra Sweeney, candidate for 2E, or Councilwoman Meghan George who is running in 3H.

Overall, this group of candidates is diverse and all are activists in their own right. They believe they can make a difference to help energize voters and make the Democratic Party stronger. Kathy Dann, candidate in 2A, is a teacher who believes having a bigger voice in the party can help education in Ohio. She says, "I want to put the democracy back into the Democratic Party so that we can make sure our children get a great education and are safe at school."

Please vote on May 8th (Early Voting started April 10th) for the following group of exceptional candidates running for the Central Committee: Laura Rodriguez-Carbone 1B, Teresa M. Schleicher 1D (write in her name), Kathleen A. Curran 1F, Steven Norris 1G, Catherine (Kate) A. McCarthy 1I, Kathleen Dann 2A, Evan Filipek 2B, Michael G. Cook Jr 2C, Glenn R. Campbell 2D, Debra Sweeney 2E, Gregory Murray 2F, Bonnie Sikes 2G, Bradley A. Presutto 2H, Jeanne N. Mackay 3A, Trudy Hutchinson 3C, Assadulla (Assad) Khan Khaishgi 3F, Brian M. Taubman 3G, Councilwoman Meghan F. George 3H, Christine S. McConnell 3I, Kathleen M. Reynolds 4B, Barbara L. Bingle 4D, Lain Pierce 4E, John Kyle Moyer 4G, Emily Christescu 4H, and Eric Deamer 4J.

Visit the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections website to check to see what precinct you live in and find your voting location. Remember, vote on May 8th or earlier and consider voting for one of these hard-working candidates trying to make a difference in Lakewood. As Trudy Hutchinson who is running in 3C says, "I'm running because Lakewood is a community that cares about the future. My goal is to connect more voters to this positive message." Or, Emily Christescu, candidate running in 4H, who captures the spirit of many in this group of candidates when she explains, "I'm excited about this opportunity to connect with my neighbors and make a difference in our community. It's energizing to meet others who are engaged, concerned about the issues affecting us, and committed to fulfilling their duty as citizens by voting."

Skindell Fought For Honest, Transparent Accountable Government, Bullock Didn't

by Steve Gannis

Lakewood's Ohio State Senator Mike Skindell tried to save Lakewood hospital and keep it open. Lakewood city councilman Tom Bullock voted twice, as a Lakewood Hospital Trustee, then as a Lakewood councilman, to close it - destroying your hospital which many thousands of people in Lakewood and surrounding areas need.

Cleveland Clinic still had at least 12 more years on its lease, renting the hospital from Lakewood, which owned

it. Why was Bullock in such a hurry to close it, going along with Cleveland Clinic's plan to close it when it opened its new Avon hospital? Cleveland Clinic owns Lutheran Hospital at West 25th and Franklin Avenue, a poorer neighborhood than Lakewood. It is not closing. So what is the real reason Bullock closed Lakewood Hospital?

Some Lakewood politicians like Bullock, claimed Lakewood Hospital was losing money as an excuse to close it, either lied, or if true, were responsible for

creating financial problems for Lakewood Hospital, either intentionally as a sneaky, dishonest plot to close it for Cleveland Clinic, or due to their incompetence.

May 8 is the primary election for Ohio State Representative district 13, which includes Lakewood. Skindell and Bullock are running against each other in that election. Why elect a politician who closed your hospital, especially under such suspicious circumstances, when you can elect one who tried to save it?

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Lakewood Is Art

After Visiting 80 Countries, Why Did I Return To Lakewood?

by Michael Estwanik

After graduating from St. Ignatius and Boston College, working in 80 countries as a corporate event planner, living in San Francisco, Lake Tahoe, NYC, and Telluride, I returned to my hometown of Lakewood six months ago to form a new non-profit, "American Songbook Concerts". When people ask, "Why Cleveland?" I am quick to offer, "Are you kidding? Cleveland is our country's best kept secret! And it is a mecca for artists." This mission of our "American Songbook Concerts" is to celebrate the American Songbook, to preserve this musical treasury, and to foster it for future generations through concerts and

educational workshops. We define the American Songbook as any song with both a recognizable melody and meaningful lyrics written by Americans, from the past as well as contemporary, and of any genre (e.g. standards, Broadway, rock 'n roll, folk, gospel, film, jazz, country, rhythm & blues, patriotic, spiritual, etc.) Our first concert will be held on Mother's Day "Songs for Mothers and Those They Love" at 4PM at Pilgrim Church, 2592 West 14th Street, in the Tremont neighborhood. We have planned it for 4PM, and it will last only 1 ½ hours, so it won't interfere with church, brunch, or dinner.

The show will be performed by four of northeast Ohio's most talented musi-

cal theatre performers: Rob Albrecht, Natalie Blalock, Meg Martinez, and Shane Patrick O'Neill. Making a special appearance will be the celebrated Ms. Pat Harris. Music director is Baldwin Wallace's Sara Smith and I conceived, wrote, and directed the show. The audience will hear songs by George and Ira Gershwin, Rodgers & Hammerstein, Crosby Stills Nash & Young, Carole King, Irving Berlin, Tom Waits, Harold Arlen, Yip Harburg, Simon & Garfunkel, Stephen Sondheim, Bob Dylan, and many more. There will be an art exhibit with works for sale of local artists, both adult and youth, of works depicting mothers or music, curated by Lakewood artist Victoria Higgins. A reception at the church will follow. Pre-sale prices: only \$25 general admission and \$20 for youth under 18; tickets at Brown Paper Tickets <https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/3387380> Tickets at the door will be more expensive!

I often have to explain the importance of our American Songbook. America's greatest cultural export is not our films, tv shows, literature, art, nor plays. It is our songs. The entire world knows our songs. It is how they learn to speak English. Yet no American college I know of offers a course in The History of the American Songbook. History of American Art, Theatre, Architecture...yes. But our songbooks are totally overlooked.

Producing concerts is nothing new to me. In New York City, I served as board president of MAC (Manhattan Association of Cabarets) and produced the annual awards show with such stars as Liza Minelli, Bobby Short, Barbara Cook, Lily Tomlin, etc. I founded The American Songbook Project, which brought Broadway, folk, jazz, and cabaret singers into NYC schools from Harlem kindergartens to Juilliard. In Telluride, I produced eleven concerts starring Liz Callaway, Marilyn Maye, Andrea (the original Annie) McArdle, etc. I also worked as a dee-jay with a weekly "American Songbook Show" with themes such as "Songs for Peace," "Songs of Spring," and tributes to the Gershwins, Rodgers & Hammerstein & Hart, Stephen Sondheim, Folk Songs, etc. I am hoping to find a local radio station here to continue that.

Whenever I speak to neighbors about this Mother's Day concert and upcoming shows I am met with such great enthusiasm. If you would like to support us, visit <https://www.youcaring.com/americansongbookconcertsclevelandohmay132018-1148920> or email michaelsongbook@gmail.com

Leonard Bernstein once said 'This will be our reply to violence: to make music more intensely, more beautifully, more devotedly than ever before.' So that is what we will be doing.

Sale On The Grounds

by Heidi Murray

Members of the Lakewood Historical Society have been busy preparing for their annual public sale. For over 30 years the society has held the Sale on the Grounds. This years sale is May 4, 5, & 6. Is it an antiques and collectibles shop? A vintage clothing and jewelry store? An estate sale? An art gallery? A garage sale? Sale on the Grounds is all of the above!

The Historic Nicholson House, located across from St. Edward's High School, is filled to the brim with antiques, collectibles, decorative and personal items; tents throughout the yard offer a huge selection of kitchen and craft items, toys, games & sporting goods, tools & electronics, and lawn, garden & picnic items.

Items start at just one dollar and there is something for every-

one--from mason jars and wooden spoons to vintage barware, teapots, artwork, jewelry and furniture. Set aside plenty of time to shop as not only is the Nicholson House filled, so is a 20' x 70' tent and several smaller tents covering the grounds. This is the perfect place to outfit a new house or apartment or find a special vintage piece to add to your collection. Our great deals get even better on Sunday, when everything except the Antiques Room is half-price. Even gamblers don't wait till Sunday, though—they won't risk it.

Friday May 4th is dedicated to the Preview Party, a ticketed event from 7-9 p.m. For \$20 you have the opportunity to beat the crowds and shop early with a limited number of people while enjoying appetizers and beer & wine poured by Rozi's.

continued on page 14



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Lakewood Is Art

...And That's Real:

Reviews Of Recent Releases By Local Bands, Pt. 69

by Buzz Kompier

Disclaimer: Record reviews are a tricky business. It's one thing to enjoy music, but to pick out what you like (or dislike) 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.

Archie & The Bunkers - Play The Damned - In The Red Recordings - 4 songs - 7", download

Obviously, The Damned rule, so you know right off the bat with this one that all the songs on it are gonna be good. I guess the way to review a covers record when the band being covered is one you already know you like is to determine whether the interpreters did a good job with it. And I have to hand it to the Archies, they did. Side A, with "See Her Tonight" (which is misspelled, it's supposed to be "Tonight," these guys must be posers) and "Problem Child" is decent, though does make me think, "I should listen to the real Damned after this." Side B, containing "Suicide" and "Sick Of This And That" is the winner here, I'd say. Both energetic, reverent takes on the tunes. I know how much these guys (particularly Cullen) love The Damned, so I wouldn't expect any less than them giving it their best. My biggest whine here is I don't really think the brothers O'Connor themselves live these lyrics, so the believability gets called into question. I don't believe either of them have ever stolen a car, for example (this also comes up again when you look at the cover photo, which just comes across as being super forced). But then, on the other hand, you look at the original "Suicide" and you have to consider that neither Dave, nor Scabies, nor the Captain have killed themselves as of the last time I checked, so maybe that's neither here nor there. I mean, these guys played with The Damned. I don't mean opened for them, I mean went to their soundcheck and did "Suicide" with them. That's gotta count for something. A fun one for the fans. 3.5/5

(intheredrecords.com; download available via midheaven.com)

X_X - Not Now No Way - My Mind's Eye - 2 songs - 7"

I think this is the first X_X single in something like 38 years, and it also functions as a memorial record to the late Mike Hudson. X Pagans X do a surprisingly good take on "Not Now No Way" on the A side here. I'm one of those people who doesn't really get the point of putting Pagans covers on your records. I mean, sure, do it live if you want, but do you honestly feel like there's a need for you to make your own version? That said, I think these guys do a good job. It's energetic, it's chaotic, they make it their own. Towards the

end, the chorus turns into "Not now, Mike's dead." The Hudson tribute continues on the flip, with John Morton's own "Karma Bank." This one kicks off with them playing "Sonic Reducer," which is definitely an F.U. to someone. Then the real tune kicks in and it's a real punk ripper. There's some psychedelic guitar action, some all over the place backing vocals...it's guitarapalooza, really; there's three guitars on here. As there should be. The record as a whole is probably the most "punk" moment yet of the reunited X Blank X. I actually like it better than the LP. Plus, the liner notes contain John D

Morton's honest remembrance of Mike Hudson, which is probably (along with the record itself) the most accurate, the most touching, and, I'll say it, the best tribute to Mike you're likely to get. 4/5

(release date May 5, at which point it will probably be available at mymindseye.bigcartel.com)

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

Beck Center Brings Smiles To The Stage With Annie

by Beth Kretschmar

Beck Center Youth Theater presents the final production of their 2017–2018 season, "Annie," May 11–20, 2018 in the Mackey Theater. Show times are 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 3 p.m. Sundays. TA special student matinee will take place at 10 a.m. on Thursday, October 17. Tickets are now on sale by calling 216.521.2540 x10 or visiting beckcenter.org

With equal measures of pluck and positivity, little orphan Annie charms everyone's hearts despite a next-to-nothing start in 1930s New York City. She is determined to find her parents who left her on the doorstep of an orphanage run by the cruel Miss Hannigan. In adventure after fun-filled adventure, Annie foils Miss Hannigan's evil plans... and befriends President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. She finds a new home and family in billionaire, Oliver Warbucks, and a lovable mutt named Sandy. Based on "Little Orphan Annie," this popular musical includes song favorites such as "It's the Hard Knock Life" and "Tomorrow."


With a cast of 55 Beck Center students ages 7 to 19, this family-friendly production is directed by Jonathan Kronenberger, Associate Director of Theater Education. "In the over 40 years since the musical "Annie" has been around, this is the first time

our Youth Theater has presented the show!" remarked Kronenberger. "So it is a lot of fun to experience the students enjoying, as well as learning from, this perfect and timeless theater classic." This production is musically directed by Heidi Herczeg and choreographed by Katie Zarecki.


Tickets are \$12 for Adults/Seniors and \$10 for Children (18 and under), and may be purchased online at beck-center.org or by calling 216.521.2540 x10. Discounted group rates are available and can be scheduled by calling

Customer Service Manager Rennie Tisdale at 216.521.2450 x28.

Beck Center is located at 17801 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood. Free onsite parking is available. This production of "Annie" is presented by special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). The 2017–2018 Youth Theater season is presented by the Mort and Iris November Philanthropic Fund, and is made possible by the support of Cuyahoga County residents through Cuyahoga Arts and Culture and the Ohio Arts Council.



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We Sneak In The Back Door At Melt For A Peek And Talk With Cleveland Restaurant Royalty, Matt Fish

by Jim O'Bryan

Perhaps no single business or restaurant has done more for building the Lakewood brand and our name as a destination for food and entertainment than Matt Fish's Melt Restaurant.

Not only is it the go-to place in the city with its unique menu, but Matt Fish and his team are just promotional machines. From the moment Matt put his twist on Melted Cheese in what was Bud's White Door, it has become the darling of the Food Network, Cooking Network, Playboy Magazine, Esquire Magazine, Cleveland Magazine, TV, Radio and on and on and on.



From the sign that was above the Detroit Theater for 60 years to important posters, photos, and memorabilia from decades of events.



The entry way, and dining room, featuring more great art, lighting and hundreds of amazing pieces of memorabilia from concerts, stars, and posters from the past. Including a signed Guy Fieri, from "Diners, Drive-Ins, and Dives" on the cooking channel poster from his visit to Melt. Which was the first of many visits by the cooking channel. See all the photos online!



The man, the business owner, the legend, now sporting a full head of hair. Matt Fish at the back door.

Whenever I have a friend or client stopping in Lakewood, no matter where they are from they always have one request, "Can we go to Melt?" As I mentioned it has become a nationwide obsession, and the crown jewel in Foodwood. For decades it was Pier W and their upscale dining, (see article next page) but now Melt is the one.

Matt was just added to the very prestigious group of Cleveland Culinary Royalty this year by Noelle Celeste's "Cleveland Eats" publication. And it is well deserved.

Starting from a small but new idea in a tiny bar, he quickly expanded next door, and has reluctantly expanded the concept to 13 locations. I say reluctantly because when he first opened he had no desire to do anything but grow and get better in Lakewood. But anything this good with this amount of press brings on imitators and wannabees. So Matt bit the bullet, and has taken this award-winning concept on the road.

Never one to rest on his laurels, this rock drummer turned chef with wife and soon to be mother Jessica on his arm has increased not just the number of stores but even dabbles in publishing. Recently he entered the book world with artist/publisher Jake Kelly/Publishing 1984, creating a must-have coffee table book with longtime poster and former Lakewoodite artist John Greiner. The best seller is called, "Sandwich Anarchy;" it was featured last year as a must-buy Christmas gift for anyone who loves Melt, or great graphics.

Which brings us to why we are

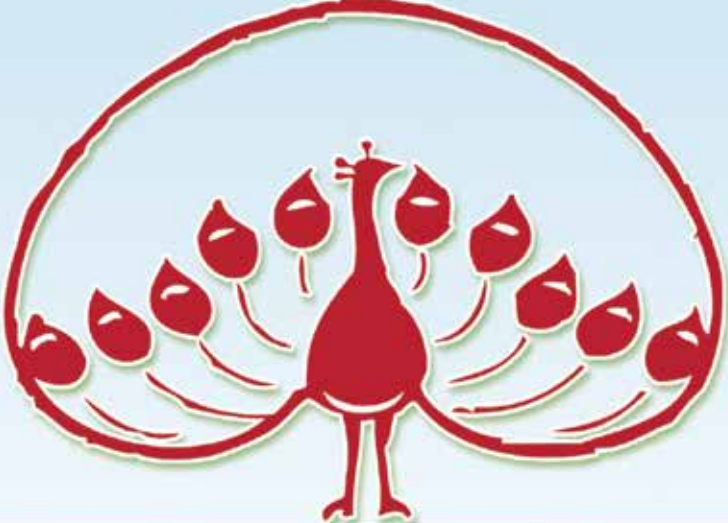
writing this piece. Taking a breath, and sitting in the restaurant, Matt decided it was time to go back to the beginning, the original Melt Restaurant in the heart of Lakewood, a city and community he loves. "When we started this we never thought it would get this big. It blew up. Before we knew it, there were long waits for tables, and then people trying to copy our menu. So I started the other Melts, which now feature 13 places you can get Melt sandwiches including Jacob's Field and Cedar Point. I kind of got sidetracked." He shook his head as he looked back over the past 10 years. "So I came back to Lakewood, and built a better kitchen, nicer bathrooms, and a better plan. I really did it for the community that gave it the start, and my staff and friends." Seating has not increased, but it features a better kitchen and a nicer layout for the customers. Which should make the "entire experience nicer for staff and patrons."

Matt promises to continue to serve the food we have all come to love. I then walked in the back door with my camera to take a sneak peek while the build-out was happening.

It will be open again this Friday.
Melt is at:
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Lakewood Is FoodWood!

Lakewood's Best Kept Secret...

by Michael Hoffman

One of Lakewood’s Best Kept Secrets has to be lunch at Pier W!

Everyone knows that Pier W is a destination for that special occasion. And should know that Sunday brunch can only be equaled on a cruise ship for variety. It's the most romantic place to dine, according to Cleveland Magazine and others. The happy hour is exceptional, but few people think about it as a great place for lunch.

Lunch at Pier W brings you the same great views, service and exceptional food, at a much smaller price. This makes it a great place to stop by, relax, entertain clients and friends while having a very special time for all.

For this lunch we arrived around 1pm, hoping to avoid any rush and getting a window seat. But there were enough people left from the early seating relaxing and enjoying a cocktail or dessert filling the lower deck. The



Pier W’s amazing dining room. Repeatedly voted the most romantic in town and here is why!



The view of Lake Erie and Cleveland during the day at lunch.



But the view at night is just amazing!



If you want us to pay, include a copy of your bill! If we print your review, we buy your meal!



hostess reminded us that “it is best to make a reservation for a window seat” and that we were welcome to wait in the bar, and one should open shortly. As this meal was more about lunch, and talking with friends than the view, we said any seat would do. She still found us a nice seat in the upper section with a spectacular view of the lake, and away from the crowd so we could talk.

The meal started off with Pier W’s Lobster Bisque, which is one of the best variations on that classic in the area. It was fol-

lowed by an entree special of Cod over linguine with a garlic, basil, and roasted tomato cream sauce. It was a huge portion for lunch, beautifully plated. Braised Angus Beef Pierogis with Caramelized Cippolini Jus were succulent and bursting with flavor. And my favorite Lake Erie Walleye and Vegetables, in a light tempura batter, with Fresh Ginger Ailoi, and Panzu. The bisque is amazing, perfect texture with tender lobster bits, one friend spoke about how the best Lobster Bisque she ever had was... that conversation soon ended as she took sip after sip of Pier W’s version.

All of the items were fabulous, and lived up to the view and the amazing



The Braised Angus Beef Pierogis which are actually an appetizer.



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Lakewood Living

Lakewood Native Madelyn “Mattie” Liston Receives National Honor From GE

by Timothy Liston

The last time I wrote about my oldest daughter Madelyn Liston ("Mattie") in these pages, she was 18 years old and had just signed a National Letter of Intent to accept an athletic scholarship at Ohio University. That was over eight years ago. She subsequently spent four years as the net-minder for the OU's Women's Soccer squad, then graduated and began her career.

This time I'll skip the part about how Mattie smashed every meaningful goalkeeping record at OU, and how those GK records may never be broken. You can look it up. And I'll skip the part about how she also earned a B.S. degree from OU's Engineering Technology and Management program. And how Mattie began her career in GE's Operations Management Leadership Program (OMLP) a little over three years ago. And how she quickly became a shooting star and protégé for one of GE's top "lean manufacturing" gurus, and travels the country and beyond.

No, instead I'm writing only



Lakewood's Mattie Liston poses next to a gas turbine. Mattie has spent considerable time assisting at one of GE's Power division facilities in Greenville, SC.

about Mattie's most recent accolade. Last March 8th, International Women's Day, Mattie was the recipient of one of only eight awards bestowed by GE -- the annual "Stay Lean to Go Fast!" award. This is no mere partici-

pation ribbon. Tens of thousands of GE women corporate-wide were eligible for this honor. It's the real deal, and GE had this to say....

"Mattie recently embraced a challenging new role in the pilot for a Lean Training program. She weathered changes in both the scope of her work and location of the role over the past six months (the role was originally with GE Corporate and has switched to Power). She is acting as a support for the US executive lean leaders and does a tremendous amount of groundwork to ensure lean and VSM events run smoothly. Her work ensures that sites can utilize lean resource efficiently and helps guide teams to reach aggressive lean targets of 50% inventory and 50% lead time reductions. Mattie exemplifies what it means to stay lean to go fast and applying her new skills to benefit multiple GE Power sites and Lean leaders."

GE waded through over 500 nominations before honoring Mattie with this award. The award was announced and promoted corporate-wide, and of course within Mattie "home" division – Current by GE – which added....

"A very special shout out and congratulations to Current's own Mattie Liston for receiving the award for the GE belief, "Stay Lean to Go Fast!" She received this award for embracing her challenging new role in the pilot for a Lean Training program and applying those new skills to benefit multiple sites and Lean leaders."

It would appear that Mattie has a VERY promising career in front of her. As manufacturing (hopefully) begins to enjoy a renaissance in this country, we're going to need many more people with Mattie's special skills, steady presence and solid work ethic. Plus where better to learn the ins, outs, ups and downs of corporate life than GE.

Way to go (again) Mattie!

Timothy Liston and his lovely wife Dawn have lived in Lakewood for almost 33 years. They are the proud parents of two talented daughters.

Tim's Automotive, A New Auto Repair Shop In Lakewood

by Bill Call

When Barry Buick closed after nearly 65 years in business, auto technician Tim Skettle was out of a job. Skettle started at Barry in 1984 and was quite content to stay until retirement. Over the years he considered going out on his own but he liked where he worked and the cost of opening a full service repair shop seemed out of reach. The sudden closure of Barry Buick forced him to make a decision.

Many auto dealers were eager to hire an automotive technician with 33 years of experience who is ASE certified in mechanical and electrical service so Skettle was not concerned about finding a job. However, the more he thought about it the more he liked the idea of being his own boss and being in control of his own life.

But the cost of opening a new shop still seemed out of reach. Where would he rent space in Lakewood? Where would he find the cash to buy

the necessary equipment? Would his customers stick by him? What about the first crucial months when expenses were high and income was low?

A chance conversation with Brian Toth of G.T. Brothers Automotive provided a solution. Toth offered to rent one his bays to Skettle. Toth and Skettle would share overhead and share shop costs. Sharing expenses would lower costs for both G. T. Brothers Automotive and Tim's Automotive.

Their combined years of experience will offer added value to the customers of both Tim's Automotive and G. T. Brothers Automotive. So, the sad closure of a long established business offers the opportunity for a new business and a new concept in the automotive business.

Tim's Automotive is located at 15501 Madison Avenue. Call Tim at 216-956-4105 or the business number at 216-226-5993. He specializes in GM vehicles but can service most makes and models.

Sale On The Grounds

continued from page 10

Reservations are required for the Preview Party; you may make them online at lakewoodhistory.org, or by mailing a check to The Lakewood Historical Society, 14710 Lake Avenue, Lakewood 44107. For questions or more information, call 216-221-7343.

Saturday May 5th at 9 a.m. the public sale opens and runs through 3 p.m.

Sunday, May 6th, hours are noon to 3 p.m.

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LakewoodAlive

Five Key Takeaways From LakewoodAlive’s “Knowing Your Home: Step Repair & Replacement” Workshop

by Matt Bixenstine

A gathering of nearly 40 attendees took a big step towards upgrading their porch steps on Saturday, April 14, when they attended LakewoodAlive’s latest home maintenance workshop.

Led by Mike Quinn of Cleveland Lumber Company, “Knowing Your Home: Step Repair & Replacement” featured an insightful presentation covering everything you need to know about repairing or replacing your home’s exterior steps. Mike’s knowledge and wit made the presentation equal parts informative and entertaining to homeowners in attendance.

Now in its fifth year, LakewoodAlive’s “Knowing Your Home” workshop series draws hundreds of attendees annually to learn home maintenance best practices. Our workshop series is generously supported by: Citizens Bank, City of Lakewood, Cleveland Lumber Company, First Federal Lakewood, Remax Beyond 2000 and Third Federal Savings & Loan.

If you happened to miss this particular workshop, we’ve got you covered. Here are five key takeaways from “Knowing Your Home: Step Repair & Replacement.”

1. Understand what you’re getting yourself into

Not all step projects are created equal. Whereas a moderate step project might entail a minor repair job that can be completed over a weekend, an advanced step replacement could require a total rebuild that necessitates removing your old steps and installing a new set. The lat-



ter type of project, of course, would take significantly longer to complete. By understanding the scope of your step project, you can better plan both your time and your budget.

2. Take preventative measures through common step maintenance

It’s recommend to follow a yearly maintenance checklist to promote the longevity of your steps. Common step maintenance tasks include cleaning your steps (power washing or sanding), as well as finishing your steps with paint or stain. As you prepare to paint or stain your steps, it’s worthwhile to assess areas of concern, such as protruding nails or screws, loose boards and debris caught between boards.

3. Consider upgrading step components

As you prepare to undertake a moderate step repair project, now is the time to consider replacing and upgrading step components before investing your time and effort into a repair. Inspect stringers, treads and

risers for rotting, splitting or overworn boards. Measure to replace boards, if necessary. Consider replacing handrails and/or spindles that are worn or bowing, or upgrade to a different profile handrail that improves the safety and aesthetics of your steps.

4. Be on the lookout for red flags

There are various reasons you would need to pursue a total step replacement. These include if your steps have deteriorated to the point of being beyond repair, if your boards

have become unsafe, if you have a need for wider steps or to incorporate a platform to your home’s entrance, or if common step maintenance techniques (sanding, staining and painting) are no longer sufficient. Should any of these reasons apply to your steps, then it’s likely time for a step replacement.

5. Know the factors impacting your project

When contemplating an advanced step replacement project, there are various factors to consider. The nature of your project may depend on how your steps are into incorporated into your home’s porch (placed underneath your porch or affixed to the front face of your porch). Your project budget may dictate whether certain updates – such as premium treads, spindles and handrails – are feasible. Additionally, it’s possible that your project is driven out of necessity due to a recent citation or home inspection. By understanding which factors impact your project, you can better grasp the scope of your particular project.



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