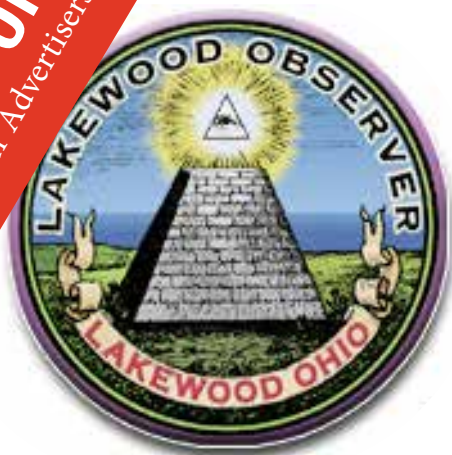


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Volume 14, Issue 21, November 7, 2018

2018 MID-TERM ELECTION RESULTS

by Margaret Brinich

During a highly contentious, expensive mid-term election cycle, here in Lakewood, our representation at the Ohio Statehouse remains full of familiar faces. In the State Senate, District 23, Nicki Antonio defeated her Republican opponent Steve Flores 65% to 35%. Similarly, Democrat Michael Skindell dominated Republican Jay Carson 78% to

22% in their race for State Representative in District 13.

At the federal level, Lakewood's representative for the 9th District in the House of Representatives remains Marcy Kaptur (Dem) as she defeated Republican Steven Kraus. Sherrod Brown also held onto his Senate seat over challenger Jim Renacci.

Other heavily watched

state-wide offices including Governor/Luitenant Governor, Attorney General, Secretary of State, Auditor, and Treasurer all went to the Republican candidates.

At the very localest of levels there were also four precincts in Lakewood with Sunday Liquor Sales on the ballot - all four were approved.

First Annual End Hunger In Lakewood Day November 10

Lakewood's culinary community comes together to help feed the hungry

by Trish Rooney

On Saturday November 10, 2018, 34 Lakewood restaurants and food retailers will donate 10% of their day's food sales

to benefit the work Lakewood Community Services Center (LCSC) does to alleviate hunger for over 6,500 Lakewood residents every year. Spearheaded by Matt Fish, owner and founder of Melt Bar and Grilled, this community-wide effort will make a

huge impact on the amount of healthy food LCSC can provide to those in need.

"I am honored to be part of this amazing restaurant community," says Fish. "Learning

continued on page 13

Downtown Lakewood To Host Small Business Weekend Nov. 23-25

by Matt Bixenstine

Small businesses serve as the lifeblood of our community, ensuring our neighborhoods remain vibrant and our local economy remains strong. Here's your chance to celebrate the many wonderful small businesses in our city.

The Downtown Lakewood Business Alliance (DLBA), a merchant association of LakewoodAlive, and the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce announce Small Business Weekend in Downtown Lakewood taking place Friday, November 23

through Sunday, November 25. Throughout this holiday weekend, shoppers can enjoy special offers and sales at small businesses throughout Lakewood's downtown district (Detroit Avenue from Bunts Road to Arthur Avenue) and beyond.

Small Business Saturday kicks off with Breakfast with Santa, which returns to Downtown Lakewood on Saturday, November 24, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon when Jolly Saint Nick visits O'Neill Healthcare Lakewood. Presented by DLBA, this popular holiday tradition consists of "Selfies with Santa" photo opportunities (bring your own camera), a seated breakfast (pancakes, eggs and sausage) and a children's activity room featuring opportunities to write letters to the North Pole. Please visit LakewoodAlive.org/Santa to learn more and secure your tickets.

Holiday shopping merri-ment will peak on Saturday, November 24, from 1 to 4 p.m. when Santa Claus strolls Detroit Avenue, stopping in



Turkey delivery day.

tantly, an army of hundreds of volunteers.

LCAC partners with Lakewood City Schools, Lakewood Community Service Center, and Lakewood Division of Aging for referrals based on identified need.

continued on page 13

30th Anniversary Of LCAC = More Than 150,000 Turkeys Delivered!

by Celia Dorsch

Lakewood Charitable Assistance Corporation has been dedicated to alleviating hunger at the holiday season for 30 years. In 1988, a small board of dedicated volunteers formalized LCAC as a nonprofit organization. Since that time, LCAC has delivered more than 150,000 frozen turkeys, along with bagloads of canned goods, perishable and non-perishable items to Lakewood families and seniors in need. LCAC is able to provide enough food for families to host traditional holiday celebrations because of the generosity of its many donors, sponsors and most impor-

Lakewood Observer From Scary To Merry!



photo by Mary Breiner



The Doll House on Spring Garden took top prize in the Lakewood Observer Halloween Throw Down! More photos on page 2, 8 and 9. Up next, Ho-Ho-Ho Lakewood Observer's Winter Holiday Decorating Contest! Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanza, Festivus and more!



New Ornaments Selling Fast At Hixson's: Spider Webs, And Hixson's Miniature

The Christmas Spider

by Debra O'Bryan

Yes, that's correct. The Christmas Spider. Who knew? Mr. Christmas aka Bill Hixson, that's who. Every year I learn from Bill some new lore of Christmas and how it's celebrated throughout the world. Bill has just printed a new book describing just that. He documents how traditions started and their meaning from St.

Nicholas to candles, wreaths, and even spiders and their glorious webs.

Apparently long ago on Christmas Eve in Poland, a poor woodcutter and his family had a Christmas tree, but not the means to decorate it. With heavy hearts, they retired to bed to dream of the

continued on page 9

Hot Off The Deck



photo by Jim O'Bryan

Number 1 in People's Choice, 2076 Waterbury, (\$20 Beer Engine, \$20 Root Cafe)



photo by Jim O'Bryan

4th Place Judged, 2nd Place People's Choice, Rotted Spirits - 1433 Spring Garden - Winning (\$20 Beer Engine, \$20 West End Tavern AND \$20 Melt)

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF COWETA COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA

DANIEL L. ALBRIGHT, vs JOLENA B. BORCHERT,
Plaintiff Defendant.

TO: Jolena B. Borchert

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

You are hereby notified that the above-styled action seeking domestication of foreign decree was filed against you in the Superior Court of Coweta County, Georgia on the 6th day of June, 2018, and that by reason of an Order for Service of Summons by Publication entered by the Court on the 23rd day of August, 2018, you are hereby commanded and required to file with the Clerk of said Court and serve upon Megan E. Wallin, Plaintiffs attorney, whose address is 5 East Broad Street, Newnan, Georgia 30263, an answer to the Complaint within sixty (60) days from the day of 16th day of October, 2018.
WITNESSETH the Honorable Dennis Blackmon of said court this 3rd day of October, 2018 Clerk, Superior Court of Coweta County

Megan E. Wallin,
Attorney for Plaintiff
Thompson, Wallin & Cunningham, LLC
5 East Broad Street
Newnan, Georgia 30263
Phone: 770.683.2468

OBSERVATIONS FROM THE DECK!

Thread Title	Author	Posts	Reads	Date
Halloween Contest! \$300 in Prizes!	Jim O'Bryan	0	291	Sun Oct 14
Lkwd Mom & Son Dance Sat. 10/20!	Amy Lardi	0	281	Fri Oct 12
Dead Body Found In Car East of Lakewood Park	Jim O'Bryan	0	1620	Mon Oct 15
The Last Gadfly	Mark Kindt	12	520	Mon Oct 15
Is the Three Arches Foundation A Political Action Committee?	Bill Call	0	84	Mon Oct 15
Pedestrian Hit By Train - Updated	Jim O'Bryan	2	1032	Mon Oct 15
Jay Carson yard sign	Dan Alaimo	12	555	Mon Oct 15
Scarecrows Uptown On Madison Ave		0	94	Mon Oct 15
Free Spay/Neuter Day	Missy Limkemann	2	170	Sun Oct 14
Trinity Church What Does City Hall Know?		10	748	Sun Oct 14
Neath the cover of October skies	Jim O'Bryan	4	268	Fri Oct 12
Cerny Shoes Closing	Bret Callentine	3	446	Fri Oct 12
2 Car Accident Ends Up In Storefronts And Closes Detroit Ave.	Jim O'Bryan	3	4547	Wed Oct 10



THE
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Upcoming Submission Deadline

November 16, 2018
November 30, 2018

Publish Date

November 21, 2018
December 5, 2018

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14900 Detroit Avenue, Suite 205, Lakewood, OH 44107

The Lakewood Observer
is powered by AGS's:



PUBLISHER	EDITOR IN CHIEF	ASSOCIATE EDITOR	ADVERTISING
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PRODUCTION - A Graphic Solution, Inc.

ILLUSTRATIONS - Rob Masek, Jim O'Bryan

PHOTOGRAPHY - Mary Briener, Brittan Brindler, A.Nancy Cintron, Celia Dorsch, Syndie Eardly, Christine Gordillo, and Jim O'Bryan, Jessica Schiele

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MONDAY - FRIDAY 11:30A.M. - 2:30 A.M.
BIGGER BETTER HAPPY HOUR 4 - 7 P.M.

City

Chances Are You Are Recycling Incorrectly

by Denis DeVito

There has been so much attention paid in the media lately to recycling. It seems that most Lakewood residents are more confused than ever on what is to be recycled and what is not. As a 20 year employee of the Lakewood Refuse and Recycling Department, I see firsthand every day that many folks are very conscientious when it comes to their recycling, but just do not know what the guidelines are.

I could talk about how to dispose of everything from cell phones, tires to computers, but you can go to cuyahogarecycles.org or OneLakewood.com for that information. I want to concentrate on what goes in your recycling can and what does not. All it takes is one item that does not belong in the can and the entire load is contaminated. Here is a simple rule, "If in doubt, leave it out." The main items that are recyclable are as follows: 1. Paper and cardboard. Paper is the most recycled material in the country. Paper should be placed loose in the cart. If you must use bags to hold your recycling, choose brown bags instead of plastic. Recycling centers DO NOT want plastic bags. Flatten cardboard. If at all

possible, all cardboard should be broken down and placed in the cart. 2. Metal and aluminum cans. All metal and aluminum cans such as pop, beer, soup, tuna and pet food cans should be EMP-TIED, RINSED and then recycled. 3. Recyclable glass refers to food and beverage bottles and jars of any color. Again, it must be EMPTIED and RINSED. 4. Cartons, including milk, juice, soup/broth and wine cartons. I cannot stress how important it is to EMPTY and RINSE all recyclable items. Believe it or not, that pretty much covers what should be in your Lakewood recycling cart.

Now here are some very important DON'TS. Do not place plastic bags, mesh food bags and plastic film in your cart. Bags and film get tangled in the sorting machines at the recycling facilities and cause major problems for the recycling process. Do not place scrap metal, car parts, wire and electrical cord in the carts. Styrofoam is probably the biggest contaminate that ends up in the Lakewood recycling carts. Not only should it not be in the carts, but if you place a TV box on the tree lawn with the Styrofoam in it, the box will be collected as trash. Break up the Styrofoam and

place it in the trash cart or take it up to the Lakewood Recycle Center. Ceramic or heat resistant glass such as dishware and ovenware, mirrors and window glass, light bulbs, cell phones, empty paint and aerosol cans, empty motor oil and antifreeze jugs, plastic cups and utensils and durable plastic toys DO NOT BELONG IN THE RECYCLING CART. Small appliances of any sort and all wood items DO NOT go in the recycling cans as well.

Just because these items I have listed above do not belong in the Lakewood recycling cart does not mean that they cannot be recycled. Many items can be brought to the recycling center on Berea Rd. and disposed of properly. Again, OneLakewood.com or cuyahogarecycles.org are great sources for information for all sorts of recyclable and non-recyclable items and materials.

As all of us Lakewood residents are aware, Lakewood is the home to approximately 50,000 residents in a about a seven mile radius. That is a lot of folks in a small area and on trash collection day it can be quite a challenge, especially since most of the toters and carts are picked up with an automated truck. Here are some very important steps that can aid in the collection of trash and recycling immensely.

First, your carts MUST be accessible. Most of the carts are collected by an automated truck and the truck must have adequate space to reach your cart. If you live on a non-parking side of the street there usually is

not an issue. Place the cart no further than 3 feet from the curb with the lid opening facing the street. If you have multiple carts on the tree lawn, leave at least 6 inches between the carts. This allows for the automated arm to grab it securely without knocking down the remaining carts. Do not place carts behind trees or more than 3 feet from the curb. Second, if you live on the side of the street where cars are parked, that presents some serious issues. The best scenario is to place your cart in the driveway so no parked car can obstruct the automated collection process. If the driveway is not an option, place your cart on each side of the driveway in the street, right against the curb. This way a parked car cannot block your cart. There are obviously exceptions to these rules in a city as congested as Lakewood, but these are some simple guidelines to follow.

Since there are many dead-end, one-way and very busy streets in Lakewood, all carts are not picked up by the automated truck. These exceptions have to be retrieved by a refuse worker, dragged to the rear of the truck, and dumped into the truck using a tipping mechanism. This is a very labor-intensive process. To avoid unnecessary labor, if your trash can and especially your recycling cart are not very full, wait till the following week to set it out, especially in the winter months. Please keep in mind that you DO NOT have to put your carts out every week.

continued on page 6

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Lakewood Public Library

Calendar Of Events

compiled by Elaine Rosenberger

Wednesday, November 7, 2018

Veteran’s Voices

Presentation by Northeast Ohio Veterans Affairs Healthcare System

Each year thousands of individuals are stationed around the world under active military duty. The return to civilian life is not always smooth and can be greatly impacted by the effects of service-connected disabilities. From benefit claims to healthcare, veterans are eligible for a wide range of services. Join us to hear from veterans who have received services provided by the Northeast Ohio Veterans Affairs Healthcare System. Focusing on treating the whole veteran through health promotion and disease prevention, the Northeast Ohio VA Healthcare System provides comprehensive, seamless health care and social services for 111,901 Veterans across Northeast Ohio.

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

Thursday, November 8, 2018

Author Event - “Captain Blue on the Blue Blazes: The First Solo Thru-Hike of Ohio’s 1,444 Mile Buckeye Trail” Book by Andy Niekamp

When four-time Appalachian Trail Hiker, Andy “Captain Blue” Niekamp decided to hike Ohio’s Buckeye Trail, he took on the challenge of his life. On this eighty-eight day adventure, Niekamp found things he didn’t know he had: a Buckeye Trail family who assisted and encouraged him; a home state rich with scenic beauty and history; and the physical, mental and emotional stamina to travel Ohio alone and on foot. Books will be available for sale and signing at this event.

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

Non-Fiction Book Club

Come and join the conversation with 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 “Unbroken: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience, and Redemption” by Laura Hillenbrand.

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

Saturday, November 10, 2018

Film - “Barbarosa” (1982) Directed by Fred Schepisi

Presented by Terry Meehan

This film typifies the dry spell that the Western movie experienced during the first half of the decade. Influential film critic Pauline Kael praised it as “spirited and satisfying,” but the box-office take left the studio’s saddlebags all but empty. Barbarosa (Willie Nelson) is an infamous outlaw who rides across Texas robbing everyone in his path. He comes across a hapless farm boy named Karl (Gary Busey) who wants to throw in with him. Terry Meehan continues his series on Westerns of the 1980s, introducing each film with an original video, followed by audience reaction and a lively discussion.

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

Children & Youth Events

compiled by Eric Knapp

Saturday, November 10

LEGO® Family Challenge

For children in kindergarten — fifth grade (and their families)

Team up or go solo building something special for our community display, then hop over to our Tallest Tower and Racetrack challenges. Registration required.

2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room.

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.

Saturday, November 17,

Party Pals Animal Show, For the whole family

See turtles, frogs, ferrets, bunnies, chinchillas, geckos, doves and more! No registration required. Free and open to public.

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

Sunday, November 11, 2018

Concert - The Singing Angels Special Veterans Day Performance

The Singing Angels, founded in 1964, is a non-profit dedicated to youth development through the highest level of artistic achievement in the performing arts. The mission is to engage youth from all communities in quality music and performing arts education that teaches teamwork, builds confidence, and provides a foundation for life. In honor of veterans in Lakewood and the rest of the country The Singing Angels will perform patriotic favorites including “Battle Hymn of the Republic”, “God Bless America” and the “Armed Forces Salute”. After the Veterans Day Ceremony at Lakewood Park this music will continue Lakewood’s day of remembrance.

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

Tuesday, November 13, 2018

Documentary - “Free CeCe!” (2016)

Directed by Jacqueline Gares

Presented by the American Civil Liberties Union

CeCe McDonald is an African American bi transgender woman. In 2011, McDonald was attacked, and, during the altercation, her attacker was killed. After a forceful interrogation, she was unable to enter a plea for self-defense and was sentenced to forty-one months in a male penitentiary. This injustice sparked a multitude of activists, media personality and celebrity outrage and catalyzed a movement to free CeCe. As a person of color and an LGBT individual, CeCe’s story could easily be the story of so many others who face daily discrimination and violence. Her story presents as a symptom of the prison industrial complex and accentuates the voices that call for its dismantling. A representative from the ACLU will join us to further discuss LGBTQ+ rights.

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

Wednesday, November 14, 2018

Lakewood Historical Society - Jesse James: The Last Rebel of the Civil War, Presentation by Mel Maurer

Jesse James was an early celebrity for all the wrong reasons. Was he a true folk hero, an American Robin Hood? Or was he a ruthless criminal, killer who served only his own interests? Mel Maurer will cover James’ life from his baptism under fire as a Confederate guerrilla to his assassination as a wanted outlaw.

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

Thursday, November 15, 2018

League of Women Voters Case Western Reserve Forum

Chronic Pain in the Post-Opioid Era

Moderated by Brie Zeltner, Plain Dealer

Join the community discussion on chronic pain in the post-opioid era.

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

Thursday, November 15, 2018

Booked for Murder Book Club

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 “Mr. Penumbra’s 24-Hour Bookstore: A Novel” by Robin Sloan.

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

Saturday, November 17, 2018

Film - “Memento” (2000) Directed by Christopher Nolan

Lenny Shelby (Guy Pearce) has extreme short term-memory loss since suffering a severe head injury as a result of the break-in that killed his wife. On the hunt for his wife’s murderer, Lenny keeps track of people and places by constantly writing notes to himself and taking Polaroid pictures. Ever-present Teddy (Joe Pantoliano) was the cop assigned to the case. Under the guise of helping him, Teddy feeds Lenny false clues as to the killer’s identity. 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, November 18, 2018

Concert - Blu Monsoon

Cleveland’s very own contemporary jazz trio will be performing a selection of original music, jazz standards and modern covers. Blu Monsoon’s latest single “Low Tide” can be heard on Cleveland’s WNWV 107.3 The Wave. We hope you’ll be blown away by this monsoon.

Lakewood Recreation



Basketball registration is now open for adult men’s weekday and women’s Sunday 4 x 4 leagues.

Team registration deadline is November 16th.

Men’s leagues begin December 3rd.

Women’s league begins January 6th.

More info at:
www.lakewoodrecreation.com



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Lakewood Public Library

LEGO® Family Challenge

by Eric Knapp

For youth in K–5th grade and their families.

The Library has a new LEGO® challenge for you and your family! This year’s special build will be a community effort as everyone who attends will get a chance to build their own unique marble maze out of LEGO® bricks and share their mazes with each other. Feel free to keep on building in free play and add your creations to our

display table. More activities await as kids can also race against other kids and the clock when trying to build the tallest tower, or race a custom-made car against other kids on our racetrack ramp. Families are encouraged to work together, but kids can work solo as well.

To join in the fun, please stop in to register, or call (216) 226-8275, ext. 140. This program takes place Saturday, November 10, 2018, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room.



Party Pals Animal Show

by Marge Foley

Bring the whole family to the Lakewood Public Library for a fun program filled with live animals! See turtles, frogs, ferrets, bunnies, chinchillas, geckos, doves and more at

this educational show. Party Pals Animal Show will take place in the Multipurpose Room on the first floor of the Main Library in the Children’s and Youth Services area on Saturday, November 17, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

Financial Help For Veterans Is Available



by Amy Kloss

Getting old can be a challenge. For military veterans with limited income, the challenges can be overwhelming. However, a program to help with the cost of assisted living known as Aid and Attendance Benefit is available to qualifying veterans, their surviving spouses and dependent children.

On Tuesday, November 20, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium, Rich Rompala of Senior Veterans Administration Services of Ohio will explain the application, selection and implementation process for Aid and Attendance Benefit. His presentation will explain the qualifications for aid, including military service, age and disability, assets and income and medical expenses.

Since 1951, the Aid and Attendance benefit has been helping veterans

over the age of 65 who require assistance with the activities of daily living. Although there are income requirements that must be met, this benefit never needs to be repaid and is tax free. Aid and Attendance is paid by Veterans Affairs to veterans, veteran spouses or surviving spouses, in addition to a veteran's basic pension. Find out more on November 20 at Lakewood Public Main Library.

A Special Veteran’s Day Performance By The Singing Angels

by Lisa Calfee

The Singing Angels is a Cleveland institution that has been bringing together some of the most beautiful young voices in Ohio since 1964. The group will be performing at Lakewood Public Library in celebration of Veteran’s Day and the millions of men and women who have served our nation. The concert takes place on Sunday, November 11, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. in the Main Library Lower Level Auditorium.

The hour long show will feature patriotic favorites such as the Battle Hymn of the Republic, God Bless America and the Armed Forces Salute to honor the sacrifices of our fellow Americans.

Honoring our Veterans is just one

example from an impressive list of charitable efforts that have become an integral part of the Singing Angels organization. Their benefit performances and community outreach activities raise money and goods for hunger centers, hospitals, the Salvation Army, public schools, relief efforts and food drives. Their voices bring cheer to many, including residents of nursing homes and senior centers.

This special concert with the Singing Angels is part of our Sunday with the Friends programming. The Friends of Lakewood Library is a small group of volunteers who provide funding for events such as these with the proceeds from their ever-popular and always affordable book sales.



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Lakewood Schools

Staff Spotlight Honorees:

Dawn Katona & Kris Kantor

by Christine Gordillo

DAWN KATONA

Emerson Elementary School 2nd grade teacher Dawn Katona spreads joy everywhere she goes. She infuses her classroom with it, she sparks it in her colleagues, and she shares it with every student she meets.

“Dawn’s heart walks outside of herself,” says fellow Emerson teacher and Dawn’s nominator, Mary McCool Berry. “The joy she graciously shares is contagious.”

Dawn’s positive outlook on life, love of teaching, and can-do attitude helps create a joyful and nurturing environment at Emerson and affects everyone from students to co-workers to families. She serves on the PBIS committee that strives to create a positive and respectful school culture among the students and she heads up the staff



Dawn Katona

social committee that brings Emerson colleagues together every month to laugh and share over breakfast and at end-of-year celebrations. She also heads up outreach efforts for families



Kris Kantor

and staff during times of crisis, organizing meals, collecting cash donations and even arranging for bills to be paid.

“Compassion is Dawn’s most noteworthy attribute,” says Mary. “She models positive communication by treating each person with respect, kindness and appreciation.”

Katona, who has been with the District for 20 years, attributes her peppy personality to her equally joyful mother, who also was an educator. It has allowed her to see the beauty in every child and find reason to praise often. It is the basis of her teaching philosophy.

“I recognize in all the kids the need to feel happiness in order to learn,” says Dawn. “I want (my classroom) to be a joyful place to be. If they don’t love being here, then they won’t want to learn.”

Compliments to her students such as “you are a rock star!” and “you are amazing!” are the norm. She even spreads joy to her students’ parents as she makes sure to periodically send them a quick email sharing a positive comment about their child.

Mary says Emerson wouldn’t be the special place it is without Dawn: “She imparts joy every day and creates a culture of kindness that permeates an entire school.”

KRIS KANTOR

Kris Kantor spent many years prior to becoming a Lakewood City Schools

custodian running his own carpet-cleaning business – “back-breaking work” he says. It’s that perspective of knowing how grueling and relentless life can be for a small business owner that now makes him just happy to report to work every day as Hayes Elementary School’s head custodian.

Kris, a 1989 LHS graduate, joined Lakewood City Schools in 2015 as a substitute cleaner and has served as Hayes’ assistant custodian and then a brief stint as head custodian at Emerson in 2016 before returning to Hayes. He has legions of fans at both schools.

Kris has high standards for himself that translate into a gleaming school and staff members who know they can count on him for anything. It is obvious he takes pride in his school building operating efficiently and looking spotless. And living in the Hayes neighborhood is extra incentive for Kris to keep the grounds maintained.

“I think of the school as my second home,” Kris says. “You want to make it welcoming to your guests and I have guests every day.”

Besides his exemplary work ethic and standards, it is the relationship-building Kris fosters with the students that led Principal Sandy Powers to nominate Kris for Staff Spotlight.

“Just watch Kris walk down the halls and you will see the interaction between him and the students,” Principal Powers says.

“I love getting to know the kids,” Kris says. “It brings joy to my day.”

Recently, Kris took his interest in the students to a new level when he initiated Kids with Kantor. He solicited building kits from Home Depot and brought 14 fifth-graders together after school to build the small planters. With hammers provided by Lakewood Hardware and a few parents as helpers, Kris managed to teach the students about the satisfaction of building something with your own hands.

His intention is to repeat Kids with Kantor each month with a different grade level. And with a viral Facebook post sharing photos of the first Kids with Kantor, Kris now has a legion of fans in the community as well.

District Seeks To Fill Seat On Financial Advisory Committee

by Christine Gordillo

The Lakewood Board of Education is seeking applicants to fill a position on its Financial Advisory Committee (FAC), which is dedicated to the District’s finances. Applicants must be Lakewood residents.

Duties of the committee include reviewing the annual state audit, conducting pre- and post-audit meetings, sharing business and financial “best practices” information, and reviewing the treasurer’s five-year forecast. The committee meets on a quarterly or as needed basis. The FAC was created by the Board of Education in May 2013.

The position is a result of a term expiring on December 31, 2018. This is a voluntary appointment for a three-

year term beginning January 1, 2019. Robert Torok, whose term is expiring, intends to apply for the position.

Board members expect the committee members to work in a “cooperative, collaborative and consensus-driven manner.” Applicants for the position are expected to have strong experience in areas of finance or audit experience, especially CPAs, CFOs, CEOs, or bankers.

Qualified and interested citizens are asked to submit a letter of interest and experience to Edward Favre, Board of Education President, 1470 Warren Road, Lakewood, Ohio 44107. Letters must be received no later than December 1, 2018.

Chances Are You Are Recycling Incorrectly

continued from page 3

On a related note, one of the most common complaints I hear from Lakewood residents is that they are very frustrated with neighbors putting trash out on the wrong day. As a resident of Lakewood myself, it really bothers me when trash is out on the tree lawn when it is not pick-up day. Please be courteous to your fellow Lakewoodites and abide by the trash regulations. Trash/recycling/yard waste should be put out no earlier than 6:30pm the day before your pick-up date. Let’s keep Lakewood beautiful!

Once again, Lakewood is a very

vibrant and congested city, which makes quite a challenge for the fine men and women of the Refuse and Recycling Department. We collect trash, recycling, yard waste, and perform many other duties daily, regardless of the severe north coast weather. We are proud to serve the fine residents of Lakewood and appreciate it if you can do your best to make our job easier. For more information on trash and recycling in the city of Lakewood you can go to Cuyahogarecycling.org, OneLakewood.com, or call the Lakewood Refuse and Recycling Department at 216 252 4322.

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Lakewood Schools

LHS Students Lead Diversity Workshop

by Christine Gordillo

While most of our students enjoyed October 12 as a welcome day off from school for the traditional NEOEA Day, more than 15 Lakewood High School students spent their day leading an anti-bullying workshop that focused on students embracing each other's diversity.

The dozen LHS facilitators were trained to be workshop facilitators a week earlier by the Cleveland Leadership Center and Dare2Care. At the October 12 workshop, they put their training to the test as they facilitated small group discussions and activities with students from a mix of nine public and private schools from across Northeast Ohio.

The Dare2Care workshop is a component of the Look Up To Cleveland (LookUp) program of the Cleveland Leadership Center. LookUp is a civic education and leadership development program that teaches high school students about their community, local social and economic issues, and helps them appreciate diversity.

The student facilitators led their peers in examining themselves,

their relationships and their school communities in order to eventually develop a plan to reduce bullying in their schools. Each school also had educators and administrators receive training on how they can lead anti-bullying efforts among their colleagues and support students. The LHS group was led by Chris Brookholt, English teacher and the adviser for the school's Club Identity.

"Each of the LHS students that participated in the all day diversity workshop felt empowered and energized upon our return from the event," said Brookholt. "We talked about the power of putting forth the effort to have serious conversations with people about things that matter, but most importantly about taking the time to get to know people that might appear very different from ourselves and appreciating the stories they have to tell," he continued. "This is the third group of students I've helped lead through this workshop, and each group leaves transformed and more confident that their voices and actions can instill change in today's sometimes troubling world."



First Ring Leadership participants (from left): Will Holden, Christopher Brown, Aziza Mohamed, Ava Clause and Autumn Cruz.

LHS Juniors Participating In First Ring Leadership Academy

by Christine Gordillo

On October 19, five Lakewood High students and teacher mentors Gray Cooper and Aimee Guzowski traveled to the Wolstein Center in downtown Cleveland for the first session of the First Ring Student Leadership Academy, which is part of the First Ring Schools Collaborative. Participating for Lakewood are juniors, Christopher Brown, Ava Clause, Autumn Cruz, Will Holden, and Aziza Mohamed.

The academy focuses on building community awareness and leadership through Youth Participatory Action Research, a research methodology that empowers youth by focusing on the issues important to them and by emphasizing student-adult collaboration in developing solutions. Participating students from each First Ring high school select an issue at their school and conduct research on its causes and possible solutions, guided by adult mentors from their district who are also participating in the adult First Ring Leadership Academy.

At the first session, each district's team of student leaders selected an issue at their school to investigate and try to help solve. Working in pairs and guided by their teacher mentors, students analyzed the causes and effects of the issue. Lakewood has chosen "The Dynamics of Healthy Romantic Relationships" as its topic.

At the second session, to be held December 14 at Tri-C's Metro campus, student leaders and their mentors will learn about different forms of data collection used in action research. Teams will develop a research plan for investigating their chosen issue and will create the tools they will need to gather their data.

Student leaders will be regularly asked to complete assignments between sessions and, before the third session and with the guidance of their mentors, will use the tools they developed to gather data on their chosen issue. Teams will bring their data to the third session, to be held February 15 at Baldwin-Wallace University, where they will learn to analyze their results. With their mentors, student leaders will review their results to identify causes, effects and possible solutions. Teams will learn how to develop action plans for sharing their results and recommending solutions.

At their final session on May 17, the students will present their results and recommendations to the First Ring superintendents.

After the first session, mentor and teacher Gray Cooper had only good things to say: "Aimee Guzowski and I witness this Lakewood City Schools' group of young leaders in action. They are thoughtful. They are wise. They are motivated. If the future belongs to them, the future looks bright."

Lakewood Recreation

Basketball registration is now open for boys and girls youth leagues.

Youth registration deadline is December 2nd.

Games played on Saturdays with season beginning January 5th.

Current physical and copy of birth certificate required at time of registration.

More info: www.lakewoodrecreation.com



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Lakewood Observer Halloween Winners

Lakewood Observer Contest Halloween Throw Down 2018

by Jim O'Bryan

Lakewoodites love fun, and getting up for events, hollidays, and parties. The Halloween Throw Down tries to reward those going out of their way to make Lakewood streets more fun, colorful and different.

Prizes were provided by Woodstock BBQ, Melt, India Garden, West End Tavern, Namaste, Root and Beer Engine, and over 130 homes were suggested for the contest. With the help of Councilman Dan O'Malley, Ian Andrews (Director of LakewoodAlive), Kim Walcheck (Lakewood Community Interest Forum on FB, Dan Alaimo (Lakewood Observer, Deck) Deb O'Bryan (publisher Lakewood Observer, Inc.), and interested bystander Stephen Davis we found some winners.

Also people voted, fast and heavy over the course of 24 hours and they came up with a clear "People's Choice"

winner, and "People's Choice" second place which could be considered the biggest winner of all, with 4th place in judged, 2nd place in PC!

Cannon, remained street leader in points, followed by Lewis Drive, then Spring Garden. It should be noted that Lewis and Cannon had 3 in the top ten, while Spring Garden had only 2. Better luck next time.

Best Costumes were won by... and Trick-or-Treaters by Britain Bindler. Both won \$20.00 from Melt for their efforts!

Thank you to all that took part, especially the advertisers, sponsors, voters, judges, and of course a huge thank you to all of the homes and home owners that took the time to decorate.

Up next, Lakewood Observer 3rd Annual Winter Holiday Decorating Contest. With awards for Christmas, Hannukah, Kwanza, and winter!



photo by Jim O'Bryan

7th Place is number 15, with 33 out of a possible 60 - Inflatable Graveyard - 1661 Lewis Drive (\$30 Beer Engine)



photo by Jim O'Bryan

2nd Place, Judged - Pirate's Treasure - 17613 Cannon - Winning \$40 (\$20 Melt, \$20 West End Tavern)



photo by Jim O'Bryan

3rd Place Judged - Skeleton Picnic - 1329 Webb/Cannon - Winning (\$20 India Garden, \$20 Beer Engine)



photo by Jim O'Bryan

4th Place Judged, 2nd Place People's Choice, Rotted Spirits - 1433 Spring Garden - Winning (\$20 Beer Engine, \$20 West End Tavern AND \$20 Melt)



The Christmas Spider ornaments.

The Christmas Spider

continued from page 1

day ahead. When they awoke the family was delighted to see that Angels had sent Spiders to cover the tree with shiny silver webs! Throughout the Ukraine and Poland it is still celebrated by placing a silver spider web on the tree.

I, for one am going to start the

tradition in my house. The web ornaments at Hixson's are gorgeous, and the silver and glass beaded spider can also be worn as a pin throughout the year. Great gift idea.

As Bill always says, "Hixson's doesn't sell Stuff, Hixson's sells Memories."

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Lakewood Observer Halloween Winners



Number 1 in Judged entries, *The Doll House* - 1485 Spring Garden Winning-\$60 (\$40 Woodstock, \$20 Melt)

Best Costume/Trick-or-Treaters



Best Costume came from Jessica Schiele with *Gaurdians of Transportation* (\$20 from Melt) Trick-or-Treaters came from Brittan Brindler of a group that came to her door. She wins (\$20 from India Garden)



Tied for 7th in Judged Voting - *The Graveyard*, 1473 Mars Avenue. (\$20 Melt)

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The promotional Annual Percentage Yield (APY=2.53%) is accurate as of 9/20/2018. Minimum balance to open and earn the promotional APY is \$10,000. Deposit limited to \$1,000,000 per household. The promotional APY is locked for 365 days. After 365 days, the variable interest rate is subject to change and will be determined by the interest rate being offered on the Select Money Market Account. These interest rates are subject to change without notice. The Select Money Market account tiered interest rates in effect as of 9/20/18 are as follows: .01-\$9,999.99 the APY is 0.05%; \$10,000-\$24,999.99 the APY is 0.15%; \$25,000-\$49,999.99 the APY is 0.25%; \$50,000-\$99,999.99 the APY is 0.35%; \$100,000 or more the APY is 0.45%. If the account is closed before the 365 days, a \$50 fee may be assessed. The minimum average daily balance is \$10,000 to avoid a \$10 monthly service fee. No more than a total of 6 preauthorized telephone, ACH, check, POS or Internet transactions may be made from this account per month. Fees could reduce earnings on this account. The promotional APY is valid only for new money not currently on deposit with First Federal Lakewood. Other restrictions may apply. Contact a branch representative for full details. Offer expires December 31, 2018.

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

Lakewood Cares

Lakewood’s Centering Space Retreat House Celebrates 15 Years Of Service

by Syndie Eardly

Centering Space, a non-profit retreat house and prayer center located on the grounds of Lakewood Catholic Academy, celebrated its 15th anniversary on November 1 with an Open House and memorial prayer service.

Founded by a consortium of religious organizations and lay people under the auspices of the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine, the ministry opened its doors in 2003 in a century home next to Lakewood Park that once housed the Catholic diocesan priests who served the sisters’ motherhouse – also once located on the property.

“The original mission behind Centering Space was to create a house of discernment for religious vocations,” said Sr. Carol Kandiko, a Sister of Charity of St. Augustine, one of the founding members and current co-director of the ministry. “But even as we firmed up plans for its launch, the founding team realized the emphasis on vowed



The century home that houses Centering Space sits on the lakefront property next to Lakewood Park.

religious was being supplanted by a vibrant and committed lay spiritual community. After much consideration and prayer, the focus shifted to a house of prayer and discernment for anyone

seeking to discover the presence of God in the challenges and blessings of life.”

The ministry has kept to that mission through the years, offering weekly 1-hour meditative prayer services every Tuesday and Wednesday evenings from 7 – 8 p.m., and Wednesday afternoons from 1:30 – 2:30 p.m., as well as a variety of programs each month.

“The weekly gathering for prayer, meditation and reflection, to this day is the very heart of the ministry,” said Syndie Eardly, chair of the Centering Space Board of Advisors. “It is led each week by a different prayer leader and offers a welcoming environment to people of all faiths and belief systems to open to the movement of the Spirit in their lives.”

Through the years, Centering Space has opened its doors to many different spiritual practices, from Dances of Universal Peace and the creation of mandalas, to praying with various art forms and music, including drumming. Individuals regularly participate in one-on-one spiritual direction and attend self-directed retreats in the welcoming quiet of the house and the grounds. Individual programs have explored Taize Prayer, experienced the universe with Brian Swimme and discussed the wisdom of hundreds of educators, mystics and poets, such as Teilhard de Chardin, Hildegard von Bingen, Richard Rohr, Ilia Delio and Rumi.

“What has contributed to our success as a ministry through years is that we have continuously opened and adapted to the changing needs of the spiritual seekers who attend our programs,” said Betsy Nero, co-director of Centering Space. “Most importantly, we strive to create an environment that is respectful of everyone’s views and interpretations of their own personal spiritual experience.”

Although weekly prayer does not require registration, participants can view and register for other programs throughout the month at www.centeringspace.org. Some of the programs require a fee, although no one is ever turned away for lack of means, while others ask only for a donation.

“What we have learned through

the years, is that Centering Space is more than its programs,” said Kandiko. “Individuals who attend prayer or a program become part of the community itself. There is a commitment to hospitality on our part and a sense of deep acceptance that bring people back again and again to experience the profound peace of this place, as well as an opportunity to explore their deepest spiritual questions.”

Centering Space was originally managed by a team of sisters and laity called a Core Circle. But in 2015, the leadership made the decision to seek broader input for the future of its mission by creating an independent board. Established in 2016, the Board of Advisors offers oversight for the ministry in the areas of finance, fundraising, marketing and public relations, and programming.

The order of Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine was established in the United States in 1851. Over the past 170 years, the sisters founded dozens of educational and health care ministries, including establishing hospitals in Canton and Cleveland, as well as Columbia, South Carolina.

Centering Space is located at 14812 Lake Ave. in Lakewood next to Lakewood Park. For more information, visit www.centeringspace.org.

About Centering Space

Centering Space is a ministry of the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine, located in a spacious century home in Lakewood, Ohio, on the shores of Lake Erie. The organization hosts weekly prayer, monthly meditation opportunities, retreats and a host of programs throughout the year focused on spirituality, mediation and prayer. Centering Space strives to enable ordinary people from any background to discover the presence of God in their lives through quiet attention to the voice of the Spirit. Visit us at 14812 Lake Ave., Lakewood, OH 44197. You can view our programs at www.centeringspace.org. For more information, contact us at (216) 228.7451.

College Club West November 7 General Meeting Features Lake Erie Shipwrecks

by Paula Deal

The College Club West General Meeting is November 7 at 7:00 p.m. at the Don Umerley Center. Guest speaker Kevin Magee will be discussing Lake Erie Shipwrecks. The public is welcome to attend. College Club West offers women living on the west side

of Cleveland with four-year degrees and registered nurses opportunities to learn, socialize & participate in fun, meaningful activities. Check the calendar page for upcoming activities. More information at <http://www.collegeclubwest.org>, collegeclubwest@gmail.com, or Facebook.

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Lakewood Is Art

Show Review: Cruelster / Lumpy & The Dumpers / Citric Dummies

by Buzz Kompier

Typically, I do not do show reviews, but I decided to make a special exception for this particular show.

I arrived too late to see Bad Noids, because in an unexpected turn of events, apparently things did start promptly at 10 PM. Citric Dummies, who are from Minneapolis, were pretty good. Very Minneapolis-sounding, but I have their records (which feature wonderful artwork from local artist Nathan Ward) and know that they don't care who they sound like, so I'll say no more. It was an entertaining set, though. Good songs and good stage banter. I liked when half the crowd left after a joke about "this is the last song." It wasn't the last song. The sound was actually pretty good the whole night, likely due to Paul Mac at the board.

Lumpy & The Dumpers, for whom this show was their second to last, were very good as well. Their records are pretty decent but live they were especially good. I suspect, though I'm just an idiot journalist so what do I know, that the fact that it was one of their last shows, made them really deliver. Kind of a "better make it a good one because these people won't see it again" thing, ya know? They did all the hits except for "Huff My Sack" and they got a good crowd singalong going during "I Was A Teenage Bozo."

Too many fireworks, though. This isn't the band's fault by any means. I do think it's pretty stupid. More on this in the following paragraph.

Obviously, the main draw for me, noted Cruelster fan, was the return of Cruelster. Lead vocalist Yes Yes has recently returned to the States from China, where he was studying wind turbines or something, I never quite figured it out, and lead drummer Kid Gone Crazy was briefly back in town from Australia, where he's probably already in at least three bands with that guy from Ausmuteants. A very special show indeed. Cruelster were really at the top of their game, I thought. I saw their "farewell" show last year and while of course I thought it was great (even though they did not honor my request to play "Crisis In Local Government Pt. II"), they were very, very sloppy and unpracticed. Not so here. They played the hits, they played some from the new record, they played all you could ever desire. At some point, unfortunately, I guess someone stole the mic cable or something ("Give him back the string," said Piss from the stage, which apparently did not lead to the string being returned) and Yes Yes had to take Runt's microphone for the rest of the performance, but aside from that all was well. Back to the fireworks for a minute: it's stupid. Nathan really hit the nail on the head when he was saying, "Oh, it's so cool! It's like the '90s! We're like 9 Shocks!" I'm not actually here to blab about how people who set off fireworks at Cleveland punk shows are complete morons, however, so I'll stop here. Cruelster finished their set with a song that sounded very familiar, though I couldn't place it. I'm pretty sure it was a cover and not one of their songs, but I don't know. Then, Lumpy & The Dumpers came back up and the assembled supergroup played what I was told was a Misfits cover.

In summation, what a night! Cruelster alone had one of the best sets I've seen all year (tied probably only with Nick Lowe), but the other two bands were also pretty great. Wholly a very good show. If you missed it, you have no excuse.

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GALLERY LIFE

November 8
Good Goat Gallery, 17012 Madison Ave. 440.799.0675
Folk-Noir Duo, Charming Disaster,
Returns To the good goat gallery November 8th



by A. Nancy Cintron

Folk-noir duo Charming Disaster ("Playfully macabre"- Cleveland Scene Magazine) returns to the good goat gallery on Thursday, Nov 8 on their "Bride of Frankenstein Tour! Doors open at 6 p.m. with a few pre-show activities including a special sneak peek preview of the upcoming art show "Je Suis Amélie", an homage to the dreamer & do-gooder, (which officially opens Saturday, November 10th 6 - 10 p.m.). There will also be a tarot card reading by psychic/medium/Shaman-Joy Wedmedyk, traveling gnome photo booth with photographer Stacie Gerrity, gnome portraits by Jeff Ritchie (of Fred Paints), miniature macabre portraits by Angela Oster, and finally dark poetry by writer Nicole Hennessy. Music will begin around 8 p.m. Tickets are limited and can be purchased on the event page of thegoodgoatgallery.com \$10 advance, or \$12 at the door.

Check out the hauntingly beautiful music of Charming Disaster here: charmingdisaster.com/music

For more information: visit the-goodgoatgallery.com or email nancy@thegoodgoatgallery.com

"Charming Disaster sound like

the music that Pugsley and Wednesday Addams might have made after listening to the Decemberists, Squeeze and some Chopin." - YES! Weekly

About Charming Disaster:

Brooklyn, NY based musical duo Charming Disaster was formed in 2012 by singer/songwriters Ellia Bisker and Jeff Morris. Inspired by the gothic humor of Edward Gorey and Tim Burton, the noir storytelling of Raymond Chandler, the murder ballads of the Americana tradition, and the dramatic flair of the cabaret, they write songs that tell stories, combining vocal harmonies and clever lyrics with ukulele, guitar, and virtuosic foot percussion to explore dark narratives and characters with a playful sensibility. In their critically acclaimed albums Love, Crime & Other Trouble (2015) and Cautionary Tales (2017), they have explored themes like love, death, crime, ancient mythology, and the paranormal. Their song "Ghost Story" was featured on the hit podcast Welcome to Night Vale, and they have toured around the United States, playing bars, clubs, museums, and the occasional historic cemetery.

Listen: charmingdisaster.com/music

November 10 - 17
Good Goat Gallery, 17012 Madison Ave. 440.799.0675
"Je Suis Amélie," An Homage To The Dreamer And Do-Gooder

by A. Nancy Cintron

"Je suis Amélie" is an homage to the dreamer & do-gooder, Amélie Poulain. Show opens Saturday November 10th. Artists' reception will be from 6 to 11 p.m. It will only run for one week through Saturday, November 17th.

Hours for the show:

Opening night, Saturday, November 10th: 6 to 10 p.m.

Monday, November 12th through Saturday, November 17th: 1 to 6 p.m.

Also open by appointment.

Participating artists:

Ana Luisa Sanchez, A. Nancy Cintron, Angela Oster, Cat Swartz, Darrelle Centuori, Domenico Scalisi of Nobu Happy Spooky, Jeff Ritchie of Fred Paints, Laura D'Alessandro, Lindsay Parker, Lisa Snellings of Poppet Planet, Mallorie Freeman, Matthew Roby of Pickled Circus, Meredith Hahn, Natalie Willie, Ronda Borgen, Sam Crow of Sam's Curious Creatures, Sean Jason Kelly, Stacie Hancher



Gerrity, Valency Genis, and more TBA.

*There will be a private preview of the show on Thursday, November 8th with a concert by the folk-noir duo: Charming Disaster. They are traveling in from NYC on their Bride of Frankenstein Tour. If you would like to attend, tickets are \$10 in advance or \$12 at the door. Proceeds go to the band

Business News

Lakewood Chamber Of Commerce/NOACC Chamber Bright Star Awards

by Lauren Small

The Chamber Bright Stars for 2018 were recognized on Thursday, October 25th at the semi-annual Chamber Leadership meeting and tenth annual Chamber Bright Star Awards presentation of the Northern Ohio Area Chambers of Commerce (NOACC) at Pinstripes in Orange Village.

Over 40 chambers of commerce across northern Ohio nominated a person from their chamber as their “Bright Star,” to recognize a chamber member who has “made a significant impact on the chamber through membership, retention, sponsorship, economic development, operations

and/or education.” Each Bright Star is an active chamber member for no less than two years and is likely to be an unsung hero or a dedicated behind-the-scenes volunteer.

Ms. Carol Barrett of Carol Lynn’s Salon Plus and the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce Bright Star 2018, accepted her plaque and trophy from Tony Gallo, NOACC Chairman and President of the Lorain County Chamber at the presentation. Carol Barrett is an esteemed business owner and has worked tirelessly to create a vibrant merchant association in her neighborhood. Carol sits on the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce Board and was

the recipient of the 2018 Outstanding Member Award.

These volunteers represent a wide range of involvement with their respective chambers, some having been a member and or officer or committee chairman for 20+ years and some being newly involved but each of whom has given freely of his/her time, work-

ing hard for their chambers without any expectations.

Tony Gallo, NOACC Chairman said “A chamber’s success is due in great part to the support from its volunteers. They are the true cheerleaders of our organizations and deserve our praise and appreciation regularly.”

All the Bright Star photos and information from previous years is available at www.noacc.org/bright-photos.html. A link to the photos and video from this year’s event are posted on the www.noacc.org website.

Retirement Of Cleveland Metroparks Veteran

by Rick Tyler

Cleveland Metroparks Procurement Director and veteran Ronald Drew Ciancutti was in the employee of Cleveland Metroparks for more than 35 years, serving 4 appointing judges, 12 members of the board and 3 executive directors. He will retire December 1, 2018 at the age of 57.

Ron served on more than a dozen committees within the company including his leadership on the Benefits Study Team, the Position Evaluation Task Force, and the Fuel Conservation Committee and accumulated numerous honors during his tenure including but not limited to The National Purchasing Association “Excellence in Procurement Award” in 1999, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018, The “Governor’s Recognition Award” for Minority Business Innovations in 2001, and Special Recognition Awards from OPRA and PMAC for his Governmental Purchasing Manual (which has been copied by more than 250 public agencies since 1991). He was also awarded the 2014 GFOA Award for Public Finance Innovations.

As an intern, Ron categorized, located and mapped all of the natural gas wells within the park district acreage which led to grant funding for the “Ohio Orphan Well Plugging Program” and went on to serve as a draftsman and instrument man in the Engineering Department, an assistant park manager at the South Chagrin Reservation, a Senior Buyer in the Treasury Department, and a project coordinator for the construction of the Nature-Tracks display vehicle.

Ron went on to become the Park District’s first complete tuition reimbursement candidate to graduate with his Master’s Degree (with honors) in Business from Baldwin Wallace University in 1993 and then served the Park District as Purchasing Manager for more than 24 years renovating the division by creating new methods and procedures such as usage of consortiums, simplification through form creation and decentralization through staff empowerment, all designed to provide and successfully maintain a continuous, uninterrupted flow of goods and services.

During that term Ron acted as project manager completing multi-million dollar projects well below budget estimates including the underground storage tank removal program from 1992 – 2012 and the above ground storage tank installation program from 1993 – 2010 and his leadership in contract negotiations saved millions of dollars in utility costs throughout his tenure.

Ron was finally advanced to the position of Director of Procurement in 2013 and continued to work with and mentor the new management team including helping with their implementation of the new accounting system until his retirement on December 1, 2018.

Ron and his wife Cynthia live in Lakewood where they raised five children and now enjoy the visits of 14 grandchildren. Ron is a published author with two books to his credit and a monthly column. He plays drums in the church band and consults with a private firm regarding management practices on a free-lance basis.

We've Got Our Veterans' Backs

by Anthony Lima

It is no surprise that many military veterans face a variety of health issues resulting from physical, emotional and/or psychological concerns. Veterans Day provides the perfect opportunity to show those veterans the appreciation and gratitude they deserve. That’s why Lakewood’s Gold-In-Touch Massage is offering half off full body relaxation massages to veterans throughout the month of December.

“There are approximately 70,000 veterans living in Cuyahoga County and research in both massage and military publications indicates massage therapy results in significant reduction in both emotional and physical pain for veterans,” says Anthony Lima, LMT. “Massage is extremely beneficial in reducing tension and irritability, as well as physical aches and pains.”

Among the many benefits of massage are the following:

- increasing the flow** of blood and lymph through the body which helps with cell-building and energy formation
- softening hard muscle** and tissue by increasing blood supply to affected areas, along with joint movement and stretching

stimulating the nervous system resulting in the release of endorphins, hormones and neurotransmitters

and relaxing the mind by creating the physiological feeling of well-being and comfort

During the month of December veterans can receive an hour-long massage for only \$30 (regularly \$60) in private, comfortable massage rooms at the Gold-In-Touch studios on the 5th floor of the INA Building at 14701 Detroit Ave. “This offers a truly caring way to show our appreciation to veterans during the holiday season and give them the thanks they deserve,” adds Lima of Gold-In-Touch.

Massage times and dates must be booked in advance and are based on availability. To schedule please call (216) 704-0794 or email GITmassage@hotmail.com today.

This special massage offer for veterans is being made possible by the support of Kowit & Company Real Estate Group. The company owns and/or operates many commercial properties throughout Greater Cleveland and the nation, including Lakewood’s INA and Bailey buildings, as well as the new Center North luxury apartments in the former Lakewood Center North building.

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Lakewood Forum

Once Upon A Time Lakewood Government Actually Did Care About Providing Health Care For The Less Fortunate Among Us

by Edward Graham

By 1986 the City of Lakewood had long owned and operated Lakewood Hospital. It was managed by an eighteen-member Board of Trustees. The Board was headed by the City's Mayor who served as its President. The City's Health Director and the Chairman of City Council's Hospital Committee were also members of the Board. The other fifteen members were appointed by the Mayor with the approval of City Council. At least eight of those fifteen members were required to be resident electors of the City of Lakewood.

Then on June 26, 1987 the City entered into a longterm lease agreement with Lakewood Hospital Association, a non-profit corporation created for that specific purpose, that took control of the operation of the hospital. Later on, an amendment to that lease was made

on December 23, 1996 that included the requirement for the hospital "to provide residents of the City from facilities located within the City acute care medical/surgical services (including for children and adolescents), obstetrical/ gynecological services, 24 hour a day emergency room providing trauma services, intensive care services and rescue squad/paramedic services." That provision required that for Lakewood residents' medical services would be given "without regard to their ability to pay."

Then, starting in 2015, came the mayor's crooked rigged deal with the Cleveland Clinic that makes no provision for indigent care for Lakewood residents. The mayor was not concerned that the Clinic deal shows no regard for the less fortunate among us by providing health care for the those

unable to pay. Rather, what did concern the mayor was that the Master Plan with the Clinic include a provision that the hospital building could no longer be used as a hospital because he wanted to insure that the Clinic would make money from its facility built on the other side of Belle Avenue. Wouldn't a person think that a mayor would be more concerned with the less fortunate in his city by whom he is elected to serve rather than a rich corporation from another city? Especially when you consider the number of aged living on fixed incomes residing within walking distance of our stolen hospital. As far as the mayor is concerned, getting to a hospital facility outside the city limits is their problem.

While having concern that the Clinic make a profit, the Mayor Summers has made no provision for helping

our citizens who are transported by Lakewood EMS to the alleged emergency room now on Belle Avenue only to find out that they really need an actual hospital emergency department. Such unfortunate citizens wind up incurring the expense of a second ambulance transport to an actual hospital outside the city to get the needed emergency care. That could cost \$800.00 or more. When confronted with that issue during one of the rigged public indoctrination sessions to rationalize the unneeded closing of the City's perfectly good and viable hospital, the mayor indicated that the City would help persons burdened with duplicate emergency transportation. Unfortunately, those poor citizens who got stuck with hundred of dollars in extra emergency transport costs would turn blue if they are holding their breath waiting for City help.

30th Anniversary Of LCAC = More Than 150,000 Turkeys Delivered!

continued from page 1

Over the course of a year, LCAC's board reaches out to the community to raise a minimum of \$25,000 needed to purchase food supplies for 600+ households. LCAC has remained true to its origins of an all-volunteer board, which assumes any administrative costs, assuring that 100% of all donations go directly toward hunger relief.

"It takes a village," and Lakewood is a village that's all heart. Words fail in adequately describing the outpouring of community support at LCAC's holiday events. Students at public and parochial schools collect non-perishables weeks ahead. On the Friday eve of "turkey day," volunteers begin arriving at the Masonic Temple at 9:30 am to sort the non-perishable items. At 6:00 that evening, more volunteers form a packing line to bag the sorted food.

Things really start hopping at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday when the "turkey truck" arrives with all the turkeys and fresh/frozen items. Hundreds of volunteers of all ages organize to bag and prep all the food items for delivery. By 10:30 a.m., a caravan of cars is lined

up to deliver the food to hundreds of Lakewood homes.

Want to get involved? Help is needed at LCAC's upcoming event. No need to pre-register, just come when you can. This is a great activity for all ages.

Lakewood Masonic Temple - 15300 Detroit Ave.

Friday, November 16th – 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. – food donations are collected and sorted. 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. – non-perishable food bags are filled.

Saturday, November 17th – 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. – perishable food is bagged and items are prepped to deliver. 10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. – food baskets delivered to 300 Lakewood households.

Event is held regardless of weather, so dress to stay warm and dry.

Lakewood Charitable Assistance Corp. is a non-profit, all-volunteer organization, dedicated to improving the quality of life of Lakewood's families in need. For more information, or to make a monetary donation, visit us at www.LCAC.info or check out our Lakewood Charitable Assistance Corp. Facebook page.

First Annual End Hunger in Lakewood Day November 10

continued from page 1

that 14% of Lakewood's population lives at or below the poverty line and relies on receiving emergency food came as a shock and compelled me to reach out to my colleagues to help in any way we can." The response from the community for this first-ever event has been incredible, but not surprising according to Trish Rooney, LCSC's executive director. "In the 10 years I have had the privilege of heading the organization, one thing has been clear: Lakewood is a community that is committed to taking care of its own." The number of individuals and families who need food support spiked in 2009 as a direct result of the recession. That number has remained steady ever since with between 1,800 – 2,000 Lakewood residents receiving free emergency food at LCSC every month. "We are fortunate to receive county funding for food, support from United Way of Greater Cleveland and help from local retailers, individuals and churches who regularly donate to us," says Rooney.

"But this outpouring of support from the culinary community will allow us to purchase fresh fruit and vegetables, which are critical to the health and well being of the members of the community who rely on us for food."

You can help by dining at one – or more - of the participating locations (list attached) on Saturday, November 10th.

Participating Locations

Aladdin's Eatery, Around the Corner, Barrio, Blackbird Baking Company, Cleveland Vegan, Deagan's Kitchen & Bar, Dewey's Pizza, Fear's Confections, Forage Public House, Georgetown, Greek Village Grille, Gray Dog Diner, Harlow's Pizza, Harry Buffalo, Humble Wine Bar, Ice Cream Joy, India Garden, Italian Creations, Little Lakewood Pasta Company, LBM, Mad Mac's, Mahall's 20 Lanes, Malley's Chocolates*, Melt Bar and Grilled, Rood Food & Pie, Salt+, Sarita a Restaurant, SouperMarket, Sweet Amelia's, Taco Tonto, Thai Thai, The Root Café, Vosh, West End Tavern*, Woodstock BBQ, Yuzu*

Lakewood, No It's Foodwood!

by Jim O'Bryan

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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Plain	\$7.00	\$8.50	\$11.00	\$12.00
1 Item	\$7.50	\$9.25	\$12.00	\$13.50
2 Items	\$8.00	\$10.00	\$13.00	\$15.00
3 Items	\$8.50	\$10.75	\$14.00	\$16.50
4 Items	\$9.00	\$11.50	\$15.00	\$18.00
Deluxe	\$9.50	\$12.25	\$16.00	\$19.50
Extra Items	\$0.50	\$0.75	\$1.00	\$1.50
Ext. Cheese/Spec. Topp	\$1.50	\$2.00	\$2.50	\$3.50

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Lakewood Living

The Rockport Miracles-Part 2 Episode 7: "Acts Of God And Other Excuses"

Fiction by Scott MacGregor

We who reside on the Great Lakes are a tough bunch. Tougher than we get credit for. Every last one of us have been taught respect for the natural world by the powerful lake storms we've lived through. Perhaps that's why we were too slow to realize something UNnatural was happening to Rockport in January 1970.

Something unnatural was definitely screwing with us on the day after the horrific firestorm that killed 14 people and destroyed a third of Rockport. We awoke that morning to find our wounded city shrouded in dense fog and sniped by an ill wind that turned everyone it touched into a goofball. I had been standing in front of Wren Matthew's vandalized house talking with two policemen when a lukewarm wind came through and coated all of us with that 'tingle' feeling of electricity. It caused me to suddenly become argumentative with the two cops. In fact, they were on the verge of thumping me when their car radios started to crackle with calls for help. Pushing me aside, the policemen sped off in their vehicles not realizing the witching wind had also 'tetched' them. Instead of responding to their calls, one of the cops plowed his patrol car through the front window of his mother-in-law's house and the other cop drove to Manners Restaurant and emptied his service revolver into their giant plaster statue of Big Boy.



Reports of errant behaviors streamed in from all corners of Rockport. Bus drivers made their stops but wouldn't let people on or off their buses. A bank president threw piles of cash onto a main thoroughfare that resulted in car crashes and fist fights. Alcoholics set their favorite bars on fire, and the Flying Owego Brothers threw "Donald Duct" off the roof of their heating and cooling company to chants of "Sic Semper Tyrannis!" Nasty neighbors turned nice and nice neighbors turned nasty. Dogs barked supportively as their walkers peed on tree lawns and citizens of all ages began dancing in the streets. The wind had no discernible effect on cats.

Ill winds that affect human behavior are rare, but not unheard of. They are found all over the world. Members of Rockport's large European community were quick to describe the ill winds that swirl around their home countries. The most notorious of these phenomena is an alpine wind known as the "Foehn" (pronounced "fern") that causes the Swiss and Italians to behave like Norwegians and Hungarians.

Meanwhile, as Rockport went mad, I had to run for my life across several backyards on three sidestreets to evade capture by Wren Mathews' psychotic neighbors. By the time I'd eluded them, the adverse effects of the foehn had left me. Still a mile walk from my home, I needed to lay low and get off the streets so I decided to return to Rockport Camera. After all, I did owe Lester Brown, the owner, an apology. He had correctly identified the snow angel on Wren's Polaroid which I cynically dissed him for. It turned out that he'd been correct and I wanted him to know it.

Unfortunately for Lester, the foehn winds had infected him as he swept storm debris away from the front of his store. By the time I'd returned, he'd already ruined dozens of unprocessed rolls of film that contained many of his customers' Christmas snapshots. When I found him on the floor behind his counter, my first thought was that he'd been robbed. I ran outside to flag down a cop and that's when I saw the

dark clouds and purple lightning in the northern sky, just like the night before. The sight upset me so much that I threw up my breakfast on somebody's Plymouth Barracuda. Just then, the city's emergency sirens began to blare all over Rockport. I was scared to death.

I ran back into the camera store and dragged Lester Brown (who was still delirious) by his plaid flannel shirt into his stockroom. I created a neat little bunker by piling cartons of film, darkroom supplies and Japanese cameras all around us. Just as Lester began to regain his senses, we heard the store's display windows explode as savage winds ripped into the building.

While Lester prayed on his rosary (I had no idea he was Catholic), an important debate began inside the fallout shelters, basements, root cellars and crawlspaces all over Rockport. Were these murderous storms acts of God or could we place blame somewhere else, like on a politician or a scraggly band of refugees?

"Why is Mother Nature attacking us?" I wondered aloud. Lester Brown suddenly sprang up like a jack-in-the-box and said, "Attack?...Attack?... Hmmm..." I could tell that one of his lectures was about to unfurl itself. Lester was a legend in his own mind and a self-proclaimed authority on a myriad of subjects. He was known to bore the paint right off a house. In all fairness, however, his dimensional knowledge of Rockport's history was solid and without peer. His ancestors were among the original pigeon eaters that farmed the land that became Rockport and the town's oldest stone structure is a chicken coop that once belonged to his great, great grandfather (or so the plaque says).

"Roycroft," Lester blurted in a deliberate tone with his beady eyes aglow, "this is Roycroft's handiwork!" I uncurled from a fetal position, and leaned back against a case of Kodachrome. "What?" I asked. "Who's Roycroft? What d'ya mean, 'his handiwork'?"

"Believe me," said Lester, "If I'm right, you don't want to know."

Next: Part 3: Episode 1: "The Past Is Prologue"

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Catch up on previous episodes at: <http://lakewoodobserver.com/download-issues/>

Downtown Lakewood To Host Small Business Weekend Nov. 23-25

continued from page 1

local businesses within the downtown district to greet shoppers and merchants.

Small Business Weekend in Downtown Lakewood coincides with Small Business Saturday, a nationally-recognized day to celebrate and support small businesses and

all they do for their communities. Shoppers are encouraged to visit the Small Business Weekend Facebook event frequently for updates regarding the many special deals that will be available in Downtown Lakewood throughout the weekend.

For more information regarding Small Business Weekend in Downtown Lakewood taking place November 23 - 25, please contact LakewoodAlive at 216-521-0655.

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LakewoodAlive

Breakfast With Santa Returns To Downtown Lakewood On Nov. 24

by Matt Bixenstine

Santa Claus is indeed coming to town, and it's sooner than you think. Breakfast with Santa returns to Downtown Lakewood on Saturday, November 24, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon when Jolly Saint Nick himself visits O'Neill Healthcare Lakewood (Assisted Living Building - 1381 Bunts Road).

Presented by the Downtown Lakewood Business Alliance, a merchant association of LakewoodAlive, this popular holiday tradition consists of "Selfies with Santa" photo opportunities (bring your own camera), a seated breakfast (pancakes, eggs and sausage) and a children's activity room featuring opportunities to write letters to the North Pole.

This fun-filled, family-friendly event is open to all ages and is antici-

pated to sell out quickly. Tickets for both seatings (9 and 10:30 a.m.) of Breakfast with Santa are on sale now and can be purchased by visiting LakewoodAlive.org/Santa. General admission tickets are \$12; tickets for children aged 3 to 8 are \$7; and tickets for children aged two and under are free. Please note that highchairs and booster seats will not be available.

Breakfast with Santa coincides with Small Business Saturday, a nationally-recognized day to celebrate and support small businesses and all they do for their communities. Upon finishing breakfast, attendees are encouraged to visit the wide variety of independent shops and restaurants throughout Downtown Lakewood.

Proceeds from Breakfast with Santa benefit the Downtown Lakewood Business Alliance, a merchant association striving to ensure Downtown Lakewood remains one of the region's top destinations for dining, shopping and entertainment.

For more information regarding Breakfast with Santa on November 24, please visit LakewoodAlive.org/Santa or contact LakewoodAlive at 216-521-0655.



Breakfast with Santa returns to Downtown Lakewood on Saturday, November 24.



Light Up Lakewood 2018 To Spread Holiday Cheer On December 1

by Matt Bixenstine

It's a most joyous of Lakewood traditions and it's back in Downtown Lakewood for a 12th consecutive year. The spirit of the season will come to life with holiday cheer when Light Up Lakewood 2018 takes place on Saturday, December 1.

Sponsored by First Federal Lakewood and presented by LakewoodAlive, Light Up Lakewood celebrates the season and the richness of our city's vibrancy. This free, family-friendly event in Downtown Lakewood features a holiday parade, lighting ceremony, winter fireworks, live music, ice carvings, hot chocolate, food trucks, children's games and much more.

Attendees are invited to stroll Lakewood's downtown district and visit local stores and restaurants while taking in the sights and sounds of one of Northeast Ohio's largest holiday celebrations. Light Up Lakewood serves as a marquee event for the entire region, drawing an estimated 20,000 guests each December.

Light Up Lakewood represents a day-long celebration that starts with Lunch with Santa at Dewey's Pizza from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and doesn't end until the music stops playing at 8 p.m. Guests' sensory perceptions will be delighted by the twinkle of holiday lights, the cheerful sounds of carolers and the warmth exuded by the festive, friendly atmosphere.

Highlights include the Holiday Market inside the historic Lakewood Masonic Temple, the ever-popular Holiday Parade, which commences at Manor Park Avenue at 5 p.m. and ends in front of Lakewood Public Library, live entertainment provided by bands and choirs, the Lighting Ceremony at 6:30 p.m. at City Center Park and a can't-miss fireworks show at 7 p.m. over the rooftops of Downtown Lakewood.

Schedule of Events for Light Up Lakewood 2018:

- 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. – Lunch with Santa at Dewey's Pizza
- 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. – Ongoing performances at Lakewood Baptist Church with a surprise visitor
- 3 p.m. – King and Queen Ceremony at Plantation Home
- 4 p.m. – Festival Kickoff with the Holiday Market at the Lakewood Masonic Temple
- 5 p.m. – Start of Parade at Manor Park and Detroit Avenues, headed westbound on Detroit
- 5:30 – 9 p.m. – Santa visits Lakewood Public Library
- 6–8 p.m. – Ongoing performances at Lakewood Public Library
- 6:30 p.m. – Lighting Ceremony at Main Stage at City Center Park (in front of the Marc's Plaza)
- 7 p.m. – Fireworks Show sponsored by First Federal Lakewood





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The Back Page

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