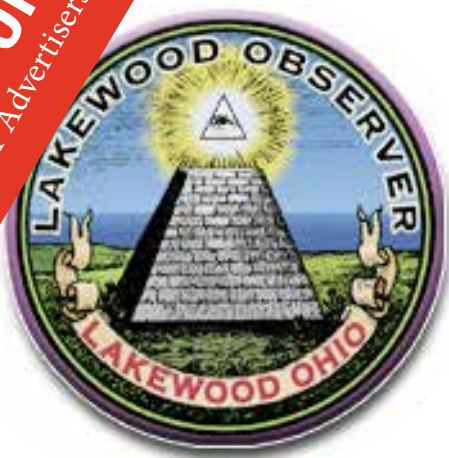


Free - Take One!
Please Patronize Our Advertisers!



THE LAKEWOOD OBSERVER

Proud Member Of The Observer Media Family Of Community Written And Owned Newspapers & Websites

Volume 14, Issue 23, December 5, 2018

"Christmas isn't just a day, it's a frame of mind."
Valentine Davies, "Miracle on 34th Street"

St. Ed's Wins State Championship



In what started off as a grinding, defensive battle St Ed's defeated the Colerain (Cincinnati) Cardinals 24-10 at the Tom Benson Pro Football Hall of Fame Stadium in Canton. Photo by Jacob Chabowski

Deck The Halls

by Heidi Murray

The Lakewood Historical Society's annual Christmas Sale on the Grounds has everything you need for holiday decorating, entertaining and gift-giving. Everything to Deck your Halls and support a great community organization.

Spending the first full weekend in December shopping at the Nicholson House, Lakewood's oldest structure, has become a holiday tradition for many savvy shoppers. If you've never been, you must come! Beautifully displayed new and nearly-new gift items, tree trimmings, decorations, wrapping paper and anything you need for holiday entertaining share the space with antiques, collectibles, vintage linens, glassware, silver and delicate heirloom ornaments.

Christmas Sale on the Grounds offers the opportunity to recycle treasures of the past, providing one-of-a-kind gift ideas. Donated by a legion of Historical Society supporters of all ages, the items reflect the treasures of the past 100 years and today. Relive your childhood with games, dolls and toys from days gone by, add to your Christmas village collection or find a treasured collectible. We have ruby red, snow white and patterned china to set the most festive table. Hundreds of ornaments and lights galore. If you're watching your budget, you can't afford not to shop here - don't miss this event!

Shop Christmas Sale on the Grounds at the Nicholson House, 13335 Detroit, on Friday December 7, from 4-7 p.m. A \$10 admission charge at the door ensures that you will be among the first to preview our sale.



Admission is free on Saturday, December 8, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. and Sunday, December 9, noon - 3 p.m. so come and take a look. Sunday all remaining items are half off. We accept cash, credit and checks. Parking is available across the street at St. Ed's.

All proceeds support the programs and projects of the Lakewood Historical Society. Questions? Call the Society at 216-221-7343.

Sounds Of The Season Performances December 13 & 14

by Christine Gordillo

December means holiday concert time at the Lakewood City Schools! From now until December 19, you can catch a concert at the Civic Auditorium nearly every night. Headlining the concert lineup is the wonderful tradition of Sounds of the Season, which will be held on December 13 & 14 at 7:30

p.m. Tickets are \$5 in advance, \$8 at the door. The magical evening of holiday sounds includes our top high school band, choir and orchestra ensembles with special appearance by some of our Barnstormers Drama Club members as narrators. Members of the Chamber Orchestra, Chamber Choir, Mixed Symphonic Choir, Wind Ensemble

and Symphony perform independently and in combined groups both large and small to create an unforgettable evening of music that will have you leaving feeling the warmth of the season!

For a full schedule of concerts, please visit our Performing Arts page on the website.



Light Up Lakewood Queen Yusra Abdi and King Tristan Rumsey in the annual parade in DowntowN, Lakewood.

Queen And King Honored At Light Up Lakewood 2018

by Matt Bixenstine

It's good to be queen and king of Lakewood's signature holiday community event. LakewoodAlive announces that Lakewood High School juniors Yusra Abdi and Tristan Rumsey were named Queen and King for Light Up Lakewood 2018 sponsored by First Federal Lakewood.

Students chosen for this honor have demonstrated their

love for Lakewood through providing outstanding service to the community. In addition to reigning over the Light Up Lakewood Holiday Parade on December 1, Yusra and Tristan were both awarded \$500 scholarships courtesy of Plantation Home in Downtown Lakewood. Both winners have agreed to provide at least

continued on page 7

St. Edward's vs Lakewood JV Basketball Game



St Edwards defeated Lakewood High School in Basketball by a score of 79-51 Monday night.

Hot Off The Deck



photo by Jacob Chabowski



photo by Jim O'Bryan



photo by Jim O'Bryan



photo by Jacob Chabowski

OBSERVATIONS FROM THE DECK!

Thread Title	Author	Posts	Reads	Date
St Edwards Over Lakewood	Jim O'Bryan	0	23	Mon Dec 03
Measuring The Damage	Mark Kindt	16	920	Mon Dec 03
Cove Church Plans	Bridget Conant	18	896	Mon Dec 03
The Road Not Taken	Mark Kindt	41	1175	Sun Dec 02
Lakewood Lights Up - 2018	Jim O'Bryan	0	1742	Sun Dec 02
Still waiting...	Dan Alaimo	4	426	Sun Dec 02
Lakewood Loses Again!	Brian Essi	10	806	Sat Dec 01
Thanks to Sam O'Leary Thinking in the Past				
Lakewood vs Lordstown?	Nadhal Eadeh	2	306	Fri Nov 30
Carjacking at McKinley Place?	Bridget Conant	7	1176	Wed Nov 28
City Art Installation at Sloane /Detroit	Bridget Conant	15	1944	Tue Nov 27
Recycling still worthwhile for Lakewood?	Dan Alaimo	9	805	Mon Nov 26
Essi claim blatantly false - immediate retraction and apology to the community demanded	David Anderson	49	2579	Mon Nov 26
Lakewood Law Department "Out-Foxes" Courts Again	Mark Kindt	13	1574	Sat Nov 24

WALL TO WALL TRANSFORMATIONS

PLASTER REPAIR

specializing in plaster and lathe restoration

216-255-8529

fully insured, free estimates

18514 Detroit Avenue,
Lakewood, Ohio 44107

phone:216.521.7684

fax: 216-521-9518

WEST END TAVERN

PRESENTS

SATURDAY 11 A.M. TO 2 P.M.

ALA CARTE BREAKFAST AND LUNCH FEATURING:

AMERICA'S VERY FIRST "CREATE YOUR OWN BLOODY MARY BAR"

SUNDAY 10 A.M. TO 2 P.M.

BRUNCH A 30-YEAR LAKEWOOD TRADITION

EGGS BENEDICT • EGGS SARDOUX • STUFFED FRENCH TOAST

POT ROAST HASH • OMELETS • FRITATAS • AND MUCH MORE!

FEATURING OUR "FAMOUS MEGA MIMOSAS"

SURROUNDED BY HI-DEF TV'S FOR ALL SPORTING EVENTS.

WHAT'S ON YOUR TV TRAY? GOURMET MEATLOAF? SAVORY POT ROAST? FRESH WALLEYE?

MAYBE ONE OF OUR VOTED BEST ON THE NORTHCOAST BURGERS?

COME AND RELAX IN A FRIENDLY COMFORTABLE ATMOSPHERE.

VIEW MENU'S AND WEEKLY SPECIALS @ WESTENDTAV.COM

MONDAY - FRIDAY 11:30A.M. - 2:30 A.M.

BIGGER BETTER HAPPY HOUR 4 -7 P.M.

THE LAKEWOOD OBSERVER

STILL BANNED AT CITY HALL

Your Independent Source for Lakewood News & Opinion

Published twice a month with a current circulation of 10,000+ copies. The paper is made available free of charge and can be found at over 130 business locations within the City of Lakewood and on our website. The views and opinions expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the publisher and staff. Copyright 2018 • AGS/The Lakewood Observer, Inc. All rights reserved. Any reproduction is forbidden without written permission.

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

Become an Observer!

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

Upcoming Submission Deadline

December 14, 2018

January 3, 2019

Publish Date

December 19, 2018

January 9, 2019

www.lakewoodobserver.com – 216.712.7070

14900 Detroit Avenue, Suite 205, Lakewood, OH 44107

The Lakewood Observer is powered by AGS's:

PUBLISHER

EDITOR IN CHIEF

ASSOCIATE EDITOR

ADVERTISING

Debra O'Bryan

Margaret Brinich

Betsy Voinovich

Sales Manager Karen Girard

216.407.6818

440-364-6926

ADVISORY BOARD - Steve Davis, Heidi Hilty, Jeff Endress, Jim Crawford, Steve Ott, Margaret Brinich, Betsy Voinovich

OBSERVATION DECK BOARD - Jim O'Bryan, Meg Ostrowski, Heidi Hilty, Dan Alaimo, Tom Wagner, Betsy Voinovich

WEBMASTERS - Raul Montejo, Dan Alaimo

PRODUCTION - A Graphic Solution, Inc.

ILLUSTRATIONS - Rob Masek, Jim O'Bryan

PHOTOGRAPHY - Jacob Chabowski, Brian Foux, Christine Gordillo, and Jim O'Bryan.

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS - Matt Bixenstine, Celia Dorsch, Christine Gordillo, Amy Kloss, John Kompier, Noreen Kyle, Jeff Lavery, Scott MacGregor, Miranda Miller, Heidi Murray, Elaine Rosenberger, Jeffrey Siebert, Tom Smith, Robert Swanson, Corky Thacker, Ken Tomaro, and Barry Wemyss.

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

City

Lakewood Seniors To Compete In The Northeast Ohio Mind Challenge

by Barry Wemyss

In the new year, the seniors of the Lakewood Division of Aging will test their abilities in the inaugural Northeast Ohio Mind Challenge for the New Majority. Join us in cheering them on. Better yet, why not try out for a spot on our team? We will be upholding Lakewood's honor as we match wits with the seniors from 20 other Greater Cleveland area senior centers.

The Northeast Ohio Mind Challenge for the New Majority is a team-based trivia contest. The centers will be placed in brackets (Think March Madness.) based on their geographic location. As the competition progresses from February through May, we will whittle down the competitors until the top two go head to head in the finals competition in Solon.

On Tuesday, January 15, 2019, Lakewood Division of Aging will hold its own internal competition.

Anyone, 50 years of age or older, is welcome to come out and test their knowledge. Staff from Get Lucky Trivia Company will run the afternoon contest for us. The six top point-getters will make up Lakewood's team. There will be four team members, with two alternates. All January participants will receive a complimentary T-shirt.

Participant pre-registrations must be completed and turned in to the Lakewood Division of Aging Activities Office no later than Friday, December 14, 2018. Come to the Lawther Center, 16024 Madison Ave. to complete the registration. There is no charge for this program. Please contact the Lakewood Division of Aging Activities Office with any questions by calling 216-529-5005, or by emailing barry.wemyss@Lakewoodoh.net. Consider joining us for this fun event. We are looking for spectators as well as competitors. Come on out. It will be fun!



A scene from the movie, "The Final Goodbye" filmed all over Lakewood. This scene was shot at Woodstock BBQ on Madison Avenue.

"THE FINAL GOODBYE" Returns For A Second Showing

by Robert Swanson

Let me begin by sending a hearty "thank you" to all Lakewoodites who came to the movie premiere of "The Final Goodbye" at the Capitol Theater last September 9th. Over 300 people attended which astonished the manager for a Sunday night showing. Our initial article in the Lakewood Observer back in late August spurred excellent attendance for our motion picture, filmed largely in Lakewood with many local actor/residents like James R. Smith, Dennis Runkle, Neil Donnelly, Donn R. Nottage, Dan Fox, etc.

We at Mil-Roy/Velvet Buck/WLFK Productions are proud to announce a second screening of this exciting film-noir thriller at the Atlas Lakeshore Cinema 7 on 22624 Lakeshore Blvd. (Babbitt Rd. & Lakeshore Blvd.) Kindly mark your calendars for Sunday, December 9th at 7:00 pm for another chance to view this much talked about movie that occurs in 1961. Yes, it's a period piece and we managed to recreate this fine community as

it looked way back when!

"THE FINAL GOODBYE" is the story of an aging private eye who finds himself drawn into a web of kidnappings, murder and hidden Nazi treasure in 1961 Cleveland. Filming locations in Lakewood include the Shore Restaurant, Westwood Dry Cleaners, Trio's Bar (now Woodstock), Bellino's Barber Shop, the Waterbury Bar and Restaurant, Hanna/McGorray Funeral Home, Alltronic, the residences of John & Karin Zimmermann and the late John Brinkman, just to name a few.

Please support this Lakewood/Cleveland production by attending our next exclusive showing on December 9th. Tickets may be purchased online at: atlasclimemas.net. Click on Lakeshore 7 at top of page, then click once again on "Select Date" for ticket info and viewing the promo trailer. Tickets are also available at the box office. Thanks again and may each and every Lakewoodite enjoy a blessed holiday season. See you at the movies.



Hanisha V. Pursley, Lenny Harris & Rhonda Kisel listen as the private eye tells all at Westwood Dry Cleaners.

AROUND THE CORNER

Booking Holiday Parties NOW!

Watch all Browns and Cavaliers Games with Us!

Book your fundraisers and special events With Us!

Tuesday and Sunday are \$2 Taco Nights
Best Brunch In Town! Saturdays at 11am & Sunday 9:30am
Mondays - Buy One, Get One - Black Angus Burgers
Wednesdays - Try our \$5 Menu!

18616 Detroit Avenue
216.521.4413 • www.atccafe.com

EATERY
DRINKERY
FUNNERY



Christmas Music Bingo

Friday, Dec. 21, 2018 * 10:30 a.m.

Join us for Christmas Music Bingo with special prizes and a raffle!

Complimentary refreshments will be served.

Assisted Living Building
4th Floor Education Room

RSVP by December 19, 2018
to Tammy Sibert at 216-912-0800

O'Neill Healthcare
LAKEWOOD
1381 Bunts Road
ONEILLHC.com

Lakewood Public Library

Calendar Of Events

compiled by Elaine Rosenberger

Thursday, December 6, 2018

Author Event - Women in Poetry Night

This evening will highlight the challenges of being a poet, a translator and a woman. The authors will discuss themes in their works, describe their writing and publishing processes, and read samples of their poems, "Meditations in the Feminine" translated from the original by Leanne Hoppe and "They Were Bears" by Sarah Marcus.

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

Saturday, December 8, 2018

Film - "La La Land" (2016), Directed by Damien Chazelle

Hollywood ambitions bring actress Mia (Emma Stone) to the land of big dreams and broken hearts. Fellow dreamer Sebastian (Ryan Gosling) is a jazz musician playing at dingy bars and cocktail parties. Drawn together by their common desire to chase their passions, the pair are enchanted by the city's starry nights and the allure of old Hollywood.

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

Sunday, December 9, 2018

Concert – The Rough & Tumble (See article on this page)

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

Saturday, December 15, 2018

Film - "Black Narcissus" (1947), Presented by Barbara Steffek-Hill

High in the Himalayas stands Mopu Palace, once inhabited by concubines and now home to St. Faith, an Anglican dispensary and school for local children. Sister Superior Clodagh (Deborah Kerr) is in charge. When a young general comes to call, native girl Kanchi (Jean Simmons) flirts with him. 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, December 16, 2018

Concert - Drumplay

Drumplay's sound is a wide open one, combining various percussive elements with strings and horns. Exploring Afro-Cuban, Brazilian and Middle Eastern styles in timbre and texture, their approach is purely rhythmic but gives way to a jazz bent and space between notes. "Rhythmprovisation" is how founding member James Onysko explains their modus operandi, that is, "the goal of there being no two performances alike."

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

Children & Youth Events

compiled by Jeffrey Siebert

Sunday, December 9, 2018

Happily Ever Crafter

For students in sixth through twelfth grade
Come create cute, clever crafts with everyday materials. All materials provided. Registration required.
In the Main Library Activity Room.

Saturday, December 15

Sew your own Library Tote

For patrons eight years and older
Create your own unique and stylish tote bag in this hands-on, no experience necessary craft program. All of the materials you need are provided and a master seamstress will be on hand to guide you through it. Registration is required.
2:30 p.m.-4:00 p.m. in the Main Library Homework Room.

Tuesday, December 18

Holiday Drop-In Storytime, For the whole family

Celebrate the Christmas, Hanukkah, and winter holiday seasons with this special forty-five minute program featuring stories, finger plays, music activities and a craft. No registration is required.



The Rough & Tumble Perform Free Concert At LPL

by Elaine Rosenberger

The Rough & Tumble and their camper return to Ohio this December, and Lakewood Public Library is happy to welcome them to our Main Library Auditorium concert stage at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 9, 2018.

Pennsylvania-born Mallory Graham and California-born Scott Tyler met in New England in the autumn of 2007. The two started out as friends and quickly progressed to bandmates and then to married bandmates. Since 2015, Mallory and Scott have lived in their sixteen foot camper, crossing the United States as a folk-Americana duo,

and weaving story and song together on the road.

After releasing three EPs, the duo released their full length recording, "We Made Ourselves a Home When We Didn't Know" in 2018. They have also recorded a soundtrack for the short film "Pieces and Pieces." The Rough & Tumble's concert takes place on Sunday, December 9, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium. Their performance provides the inside scoop on what it's like to be a traveling folk band crossing the country. Admission is free and open to all.

Drumplay At Lakewood Public Library

by Amy Kloss

With the name Drumplay, percussion is expected. But this Cleveland ensemble, who recently celebrated their twenty-fifth anniversary, is so much more than drums. Yes, Drumplay has a drum kit, but there are also bongos, bells and conch shells, as well as vocals, trumpet and flugelhorn.

Join us on Sunday, December 16, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. for a musical treat when Drumplay takes the stage in the Main Library Auditorium.

Back in 1992, James Onysko was a member of the Samba Scouts, who broke up before they could play a gig they had booked. Onysko formed a new group, came up with a name and Drumplay started a decades-long adventure



in world music, combining percussive elements with strings and horns. The group fuses jazz and folk with spoken word. Onysko describes their style as "Rhythmprovisation," where the goal is to make each performance unique.

Join Drumplay at Lakewood Public Library on December 16, 2018, for a unique Sunday with the Friends.

BBQ TUESDAY!

\$10 RIB DINNER SPECIAL!
1/4 SLAB, FRIES, HOUSE SLAW, PICKLES, ONIONS.
DINE IN ONLY UNTIL SOLD OUT.

WOODSTOCK

Smoke Joint

WHISKEY/BOURBON NIGHT

EVERY THURSDAY NIGHT AT WOODSTOCK!
HUGE SELECTION!
PAIRED WITH OUR SMOKED MEATS,
AMAZING WINGS AND SIDE DISHES.

MEAT THE PERFECT GIFT

WOODSTOCK GIFT CARD

BACK IN STOCK!
T-Shirts!
Short, Long Sleeve

13362 MADISON AVE. + LAKEWOOD, OH + (216) 226-8828

Lakewood Schools

Staff Spotlight Honorees: Terry Moreman & Lana Wade

by Christine Gordillo

Each month, Lakewood Schools selects two staff members to be recognized as Staff Spotlight honorees of the month.

TERRY MOREMAN

An elementary secretary's job is not for the weak, what with the constant phone ringing, doors buzzing, students arriving late. Not to mention the occasional irate parents. But Harrison Elementary's Terry Moreman handles it all with patience and aplomb.

To a person, Terry's colleagues mention how Terry treats everyone with kindness and always goes out of her way to lend a hand wherever she can. And that she is an expert multi-tasker.

"Terri is patient, kind, calm, and efficiently solves problems for many of the parents and staff at Harrison," says Kellie Brown, one of Terry's 13 nominators.

"Terry goes way beyond her secretarial duties at Harrison. She is the most hardworking secretary I've ever met, and always willing to help teachers with anything," added Anna Cintron.

Terry says her motivation to work so hard at her job is the students and her colleagues. She wants to help in any way she can to optimize a child's time in the classroom. That may take the form of her making repeated calls to a parent who didn't sign a voucher to waive school fees, or checking to see that everyone who is eligible filled out the free and reduced lunch form.

"It makes me feel good inside" to help these families, says Terry, who joined the District in 2004 and Harrison in 2007.

Terry's conscientious manner often leads her to work beyond her scheduled hours. However, she still finds time to make personal connections with Harrison staff that has left an impression on her co-workers, such as Jennifer Witt, who says:

"Terry is never too busy to ask about your personal family and makes coming to work better every day."

LANA WADE

For Garfield Middle School para-



Terry Moreman



Lana Wade

professional Lana Wade, life is all about the connections you make with people, something that comes naturally to her. Working with students in the classroom, her quiet but confident manner draws them in and earns a trust that goes beyond just academics. This has made a big impression with fellow staff members.

Just ask the many colleagues who nominated Lana for the Staff Spotlight award.

Teachers Colleen Corrigan and Leslie Eiben praised Lana for the com-

passionate way she approaches her students' academic and emotional learning: "She listens to them and responds to their needs, making a difference in their lives on a daily basis. She is an inspiration and a role model for all of us," wrote Colleen and Leslie in their nomination.

Lana, who joined the District in 2003 at Emerson then moved to Garfield in 2007, finds great satisfaction in building bonds with her students as it allows her to help them be successful in their academics.

"Building relationships is so important because if you have that

relationship, they will more easily do what they need to" to succeed, says Lana.

Whether she is working with students in one of the core subjects or in the English Learners classroom, "Lana's hard work and loving support pushes students to achieve beyond their perceived capabilities," said teacher Alex Schulze.

Her colleagues take note of Lana's quiet leadership and her intuition for finding that student who is most in need of her gentle encouragement.

"She takes needy students under her wing and has a calm presence about her that helps students flourish," says Liz Street. "She is a wonderful example of what a person in education needs to be like."

Scholarship Slots For District Preschool Available Now

by Christine Gordillo

The Lakewood City Schools' award-winning preschool program has scholarship slots available for the current school year for 3- and 4-year-olds. Scholarship are available for eligible students based on family income. Registration for the 2019-2020 school year begins January 7. Please call 216-529-4214 for more information or visit our website at www.lakewoodcityschools.org and choose PreSchool under the Departments tab.

DOWNTOWN
LAKEWOOD

PRIME OFFICE SPACE
FOR RENT
14900 DETROIT RD
300sqft - 1,200 sqft
UTILITIES INCLUDED!
216.221.1119
CALL TODAY!

Roman Fountain
Pizza & Subs

Order on-line at
romanfountain.com

Roman Fountain is one of the most well-known and loved pizzeria in Lakewood, Ohio. Roman Fountain has been serving up pizza since the mid 1950's with award winning pizza, calzone, stromboli, subs, pasta, wings, and salads.

Whether carryout or delivery, we provide your family with the freshest of toppings (over 25 to choose from) on our pizza. With dough and sauce made daily from our own recipe and freshly grated blend of mozzarella & provolone cheese, we provide a great pizza for you and your family

At Roman Fountain you can find all your favorites:

- Pizza
- Calzones
- Stromboli
- Salads
- Pasta

- Subs
- Wings
- Appetizers
- Desserts
- Dinners

To see our menu or coupons please go to www.romanfountain.com
Or stop by at
15603 Detroit Ave
Near the corner of Lakeland Ave

Call us at 216-221-6633

LAKESWOOD DENTAL GROUP

17117 DETROIT AVENUE, LAKEWOOD OHIO 44107

5 Good Reasons To Call Us

1) Convenience... We'll see you immediately and fix your problem now!

2) Money... We are affordable and will help you with your insurance.

3) Fear... Do not worry, our work will be done comfortably

4) Time... We realize your time is valuable. We will not keep you waiting.

5) Our Promise... We stand behind all the work we do.

216.221.0300

Call Us Today!

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

LAKEWOOD CARES



Volunteers assemble holiday food baskets for Lakewood neighbors in need.

LCAC Does It Again!
Volunteers And Gifts
Of Food Needed

by Celia Dorsch

Thanks to hundreds of volunteers of all ages, Lakewood Charitable Assistance Corporation’s 30th Annual Thanksgiving Food Basket Distribution was another successful event! Turkeys and all the fixings needed to prepare a family feast were delivered to 320 Lakewood neighbors in need.

LCAC is already gearing up to deliver another round of holiday food baskets to a second group of 300 Lakewood households. From December 3rd -13th, LCAC encourages Lakewood residents to drop off gifts of non-perishable food items at Lakewood Hardware, or any one of the following schools: Emerson, Garfield,

Harrison, Lincoln, Grant, Roosevelt, Harding and Lakewood City Academy.

Beginning Friday, December 14th, LCAC asks members of the community to step up and help. Many hands are needed to sort the canned food donations prior to home deliveries on Saturday, December 15th. Bring your family and friends. This service opportunity is open to all ages. Specific times, dates and volunteer needs are listed below:

Where? Lakewood Masonic Temple - 15300 Detroit Ave.

Enter through NE door near rear parking lot

NO RAIN/SNOW DATES - EVENTS ARE HELD REGARDLESS OF WEATHER!!

Friday, Dec. 14th – 10am – 2pm – food donations are sorted and prepped for bagging

6pm - 7pm – non-perishable food bags are filled

Saturday, Dec. 15th – 9am - 10:00am – perishable food is bagged and all items are prepped to deliver

10:00am - 11:00am – drivers deliver food baskets to 300 Lakewood households

Please dress for the weather on Saturday, as much work may be done outdoors.

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 Facebook page at Lakewood Charitable Assistance Corporation.



Italian Creations
Restaurant, Catering, and Take-out

Making life simple...
Catering from
Italian Creations

216-226-2282

16104 Hilliard Road • Lakewood
www.ItalianCreation.com

Italian and Classical American Cuisine



BROS. AUTOMOTIVE
15501 Madison Avenue, Lakewood, OH
Tune-Ups, Exhaust, Brakes, Shocks

Call Brian Toth at:
216.226.8100



HIXSON'S
14125 Detroit Ave.
Open Daily To Christmas
10am-9pm
Sat 10am-6pm • Sun 12pm-5pm
216.521.9277

Rock & Roll Hall of Fame Ornament

New Book On Christmas Traditions by Bill Hixson!

OHIO'S LARGEST SELECTION OF MOUTH BLOWN GLASS EUROPEAN ORNAMENTS. MANY DESIGNED BY BILL HIXSON AND STAFF!

YOU ARE NOT READY FOR CHRISTMAS UNTIL YOU VISIT HIXSON'S & MR. CHRISTMAS

Hixson's Ornament

Church Of The Ascension Hosts
Carols Sing-Along To Benefit
Lakewood Community
Services Center

by Corky Thacker

The community is invited to enjoy singing holiday and Christmas carols from 4:00 – 5:30 p.m. on Sun., Dec. 16, at Church of the Ascension, located at 13216 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood. A free-will offering will support Lakewood Community Services Center.

This acapella sing-along in the sanctuary offers fellowship and cheer apart from worship. Ghiradelli hot cocoa and cookies will be served following the caroling.

For those who would like to participate in Christmas worship but have

too many holiday demands to attend church on the eve or day, Ascension offers Christmas Lessons & Carols with Holy Eucharist and a Pop-up Nativity, followed by a free holiday feast on Sun., Dec. 23. A brass and organ prelude is at 3:30 p.m., and the service begins at 4:00 p.m. All are welcome to take Communion, and all children will be invited to join in the pop-up Nativity, if they wish.

Christmas Day will be celebrated with Holy Eucharist, trumpets and carols at 10:30 a.m. on Dec. 25., followed by refreshments and hot cocoa. All are welcome!

Become An AARP Tax Aide Volunteer
And Help Make A Difference

by Tom Smith

The IRS sponsored AARP Tax Aide Program is looking for volunteers for the 2018 tax filing season. AARP Foundation Tax-Aides provide free personal income tax assistance and tax form preparation for low and moderate income taxpayers, with special attention to those age 50+. During tax season, we set up tax preparation sites, many of them at public libraries and senior centers in western Cuyahoga County. Last year, about 34,600 volunteers across the country helped prepare more than 1.5 million free federal tax returns at over 5,000 sites.

You need not have any prior tax experience. As an AARP Tax Aide volunteer, you will be provided with free training through IRS designed classes. The initial meeting for prospective volunteers is in early December, and tax preparation season runs from mid-January to mid-April. There are a number of volunteer sites on the west side of Cleveland and the western suburbs. In addition, the hours and days are flexible since our locations are open on

various days of the week.

Our volunteers fill several roles:

Counselors - Work with taxpayers to prepare the paperwork used for the tax return.

Computer Operators - Enter the taxpayer's information into the computer for electronic filing and printing.

Greeters - Greet and assist our clients and keep our sites flowing smoothly.

Technical Coordinators - Use their knowledge of personal computers, software, and electronic communication systems to set up and maintain the hardware and software used at our tax preparation sites.

As a volunteer, you'll meet a great group of people!! You'll also feel fulfilled by giving some time to those in your community who can use an extra hand with tax preparation.

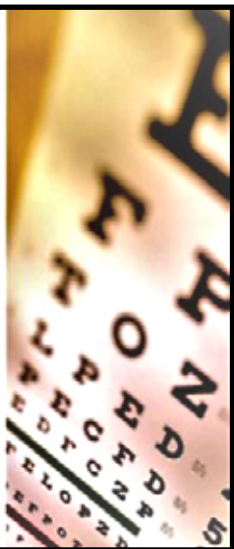
To volunteer go to <http://taxaide.webs.com/> or for additional information contact Tom Smith (216-221-9388).

It's a great program and we will welcome your help.

Sophia K. Fotinos O.D., LLC
Doctor of Optometry

Eyenstein's Optical
14553 Madison Avenue
Lakewood, OH 44107
Tel: 216-227-2020

Lakewood Optical
14650 Detroit Avenue
Lakewood, OH 44107
Tel: 216-226-9615



LAKEWOOD CARES

Holiday Gifting Gets Local With LEAF's Holiday Farmers Market

by Margaret Brinich

Tuesday, December 18th marks the second LEAF (Lakewood Earth And Food) Community Holiday Market this holiday season and the final farmer's market put on by LEAF in 2018. Conveniently located right here in Lakewood, at Garfield Middle School (13114 Detroit Ave.), the weekday-evening market runs from 5:30 to 8 p.m. From market City Fresh CSA Holiday Shares, to other locally grown and produced foods, to a wide array of gift giving arts and craft options from local makers, the Holiday Market is a locavore's dream.

If you get peckish while you shop, be sure to check out the LEAF Community table with a soup and bread and hot drink bar. Proceeds from LEAF table purchases will go to benefit LEAF Community programming, which is dedicated to the development of a more sustainable, healthful and economically viable community through environmentally responsible actions producing broad access to fresh, local foods, knowledge and culture.

A full list of the confirmed

December 18th vendors to date include:

Backattack Snacks: Healthy, pre-packaged snacks: beef jerky, vegan jerky, almonds.

Bee Basic Products: Small batch, handmade skin care products and more!

Breadheads Breadery: Sourdough pretzels breads and more vegan options. Community Greenhouse Partners: Local vinegars, chutneys, honey and possibly microgreens.

Creative Squared: Wooden signs, ornaments, cosmetic bags, etched wine/beer glasses.

Dave the Grainman: Brings local baked goods, nuts, grains, maple syrup and more.

Dizzy Laundry: Handmade wool dryer balls, drawstring bags, large tote bags, unpaper towels & napkins.

DMH Exclusives: Women's accessories.

Doten Apiary: Local honey, beeswax, and more.

Little Lakewood Pasta: Vegan friendly dried pastas, Jrs Smokehouse Rub gift sets, and Tubular Turtle pasta straws.

Mary Davis: Marila's Magical Shower & Bath Salts, tote bags, and miscellaneous gift items.

Neal's Yard Remedies with Ynes Arocho: Organic skincare.

Additional vendors are currently being booked. Vendor registration information can be found here:

<http://www.leafcommunity.org/>.

The evening will also serve as a City Fresh pick-up location for Holiday Shares. Shares must be purchased in advance of the market and can be ordered online at www.cityfresh.org until December 11, 2018.

20 Minutes After Quitting

by Noreen Kyle

In partnership with WYLN (Westshore Young Leaders) we are promoting "My Community, My Health" to help people quit tobacco.

Within minutes of smoking your last cigarette, your body begins to recover:

20 minutes after quitting
Your heart rate and blood pressure drop.

Benefits of Quitting Smoking Over Time

It's never too late to quit using tobacco. The sooner you quit, the more you can reduce your chances of getting cancer and other diseases. Quitting smoking lowers your risk of diabetes,



lets blood vessels work better, and helps your heart and lungs. Life expectancy for smokers is at least 10 years shorter than that of non-smokers. Quitting smoking before the age of 40 reduces the risk of dying from smoking-related disease by about 90%.

Quitting starts here.
Call 1-800-QUIT-NOW

TRINITY CATHEDRAL
INVITES YOU TO
SPEND CHRISTMAS
WITH US

CHRISTMAS EVE
5 p.m. Family Service & Pageant
10:30 p.m. Prelude: Carols for choir, organ & trumpet
11 p.m. Choral Worship

CHRISTMAS DAY
10 a.m. Service with Carols

**TRINITY CATHEDRAL**
AN INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY OF FAITH
2230 Euclid Avenue • Cleveland, OH 44115
217.771.3630 • www.trinitycleveland.org
FREE PARKING

**Fedor Manor**
Apartments
Affordable Senior Housing Community

When you walk through the door,
you know you are home.

Seniors
Make us your NEW
HOME this winter!

12400 Madison Ave. • Lakewood, Ohio
216-226-7575
TTY 1-800-750-0750


www.fedormanorapartments.com

"C" is for Cheer

Saturday, Dec. 8 @ 7 pm

Pilgrim Congregational Church
2592 W. 14th St., Cleveland


blazingriverband.org * facebook.com/blazingriverband

TROY BRATZ
 **Real Estate Agent**
Residential/Commercial
Lakewood Resident

Let's find you a new home or business!
 @TroyBratzKW
Follow me on social media for tips on navigating the buying & selling process.

 **GREATER CLEVELAND
SOUTHWEST**
KELLERWILLIAMS.


TroyBratz@KW.com
TroyBratz.KW.com
216.702.2196

Lakewood Is Art

Things I Said To Impress Girls: Reviews Of Recent Releases By Local Bands, Pt. 81

by Buzz Kompier

A Saucerful Of Lies - A Saucerful Of Lies - self-released - 6 songs - CD, digital

Earlier in the year, you may recall the group Exploding Lies (assisted by New Planet Trampoline) released a CD entitled "Obscured By Cloud Nothings." This, now, serves as the rebuttal. The musicians are listed only by their initials, but I'm reasonably certain there are some Cloud Nothings and some New Planet Trampoliners on here. The music on here is all instrumental except for when it features samples of various things. Online, there are titles listed for each of the six tracks; disappointingly, these were not listed on the CD version, which is especially unfortunate as they came up with some good ones. The style here is experimental, some more electronic, some more psychedelic, some more ambient. A couple of them, I think, would serve very as well as the soundtrack to some kind of arty movie. You've kinda got to be in the right mood to get into this, but if you are, it's not bad. I particularly enjoyed "Part III" ("Embryo'Malley"), especially when it moves from a vaguely Floyd-esque thing to a Pere Ubu "Final Solution" krautrock kind of thing. I must admit, my knowledge of Pink Floyd is mostly limited to the Syd Barrett years (and the big radio hits that everyone knows), so I can't say how well this functions as a tribute to them. It's certainly more trippy than the Exploding Lies. For "Part V" ("The Final Kurt"), I think they got the saxophone guy from Magic City to solo for a bit, occasionally joined by guitar. That's pretty cool, and then it moves into an atmospheric moody thing. Hey, when I was able to get into this, I enjoyed it, and I don't usually tend to listen to this kind of thing, so that's gotta mean something. 3/5

(asaucerfuloflies.bandcamp.com or drugorientatedgroup@gmail.com...or try a local record store?)

Cloud Nothings - Last Building Burning - Carpark Records - 8 songs - LP, CD, cassette, digital

I'm not quite sure where to start with this. I thought "Life Without Sound" was a high point for Cloud Nothings, so it's possible that anything following it would disappoint me a bit. Many people I've talked to think this is a great return to form for the band while at the same time moving them into new directions. I think that's a fair enough assessment for the most part. "Last Building Burning" combines a lot of elements from the previous three albums (not counting "No Life For Me") into a new kind of thing. However, to me, it kind of comes across like they aren't quite sure what they're doing. That's a pretty harsh thing to say, I suppose, but they've sort of just thrown stuff together into something that is less than the sum of its parts. That's not to say that this is a bad album. While it's on, I enjoy listening to it. There's a bit more of a post-punk feel than I've noticed before, particularly on "Offer An End" and "Dissolution," which both have certain parts that remind me of The Cure. "On An Edge" works very well as a bombastic opener and "Leave Him Now" proves as well as anything else that Dylan Baldi can write a catchy song. As an album, defined within this sentence as a series of songs put together in a certain order, it's quite good. It flows very well and makes a lot of sense as a sequence of songs, perhaps more so than "Life Without Sound" did. That said, I don't know if all the songs stand on their own. And a couple of them are just not memorable; I've forgotten them immediately after listening to them. "Dissolution" is almost a good song, or is a decent song up to a point, and then becomes a long noise/feedback thing, but not one that sounds natural, like on "Wasted Days," but almost like they went "oh, we forgot the 10-minute song on the last album, let's stick a long noise thing in the middle of this one." Like I said, this album most certainly has its moments, I just don't find it to be their most thrill-

GALLERY LIFE



by Ken Tomaro

Don't let the name of our group fool you, we have artwork for sale that appeals to just about everyone. Join us at the Winchester Music Tavern on Saturday December 15th from 12-5pm and take care of that last minute Christmas shopping. We'll have paintings, prints and jewelry just to name a few items. We work with all local artists and everything is handmade so whether you're a procrastinator or not, this event is for you!

The Winchester is located at 12112 Madison Avenue, Lakewood, OH 44107

ing or engaging material. Again, I'm not saying it's a bad album. If you're a Cloud Nothings fan, you'll find something to like about this, and I am a Cloud Nothings fan. I will also say that it has grown on me a bit with repeated listening (the time I liked it most, I was in a particularly foul mood— maybe that's the secret?), so perhaps in a year's time I'll be raving about how great it is. Who knows? 3/5

(cloudnothings.bandcamp.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.

MELT
bar & grilled

THE SANDWICHES: BIG. THE EXPERIENCE: LARGER THAN LIFE.

MELT
bar & grilled

A TRUE LAKEWOOD ORIGINAL SINCE 2006

LAKEWOOD | CLEVELAND HEIGHTS | INDEPENDENCE | MENTOR
AKRON | AVON | CANTON | DAYTON | COLUMBUS
CEDAR POINT | PROGRESSIVE FIELD | CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY

[MELTBARANDGRILLED.COM](https://www.meltbarandgrilled.com)

St. James Anglican Catholic Church

**1681 East 55th St.
at Payne Ave. in Cleveland**

Mon., Dec. 24, 10:30pm - Vigil of the Nativity
Tue., Dec. 25 - 9:00am - Nativity of Our Lord

Please consult our website for additional information and services.

www.saintjamescleveland.com
216-431-3252

AGS PRINTWEAR
div. of A. Graphic Solution, Inc.

**T-SHIRTS
HOODIES
& HATS!**

OH MY!

**Custom Imprinted Apparel
Corporate Logowear
Spiritwear**

216.410.3232

agstshirts@earthlink.net
www.agsprintwear.com
14900 Detroit Ave., Suite 310
Lakewood, Ohio 44107 USA

Business News

Cox Raises Commitment To Bridge Digital Divide With \$20M Pledge

by Jeff Lavery

Cox Communications announced the overwhelmingly positive results of a survey of Connect2Compete program participants, a program designed for low-income families in need of internet access at home.

The vast majority of parents agree low-cost internet service at home gives children a leg up for high school graduation (91 percent) and helps students get higher grades (89 percent). During a press conference in Washington D.C., Cox President Pat Esser also announced Cox is expanding its commitment to bridge the digital divide with a commitment of \$20 million dollars annually.

Connect2Compete Survey Results
The recent survey of more than 1,700 Connect2Compete participants revealed parents agree Connect2Compete:

Makes it easier to communicate with teachers and the school (95 percent)

Sets children up for success (94 percent)

Makes children more interested in school work (88 percent)

The convenience of having internet access at home is among the greatest benefits (97 percent)

According to the survey, most Connect2Compete customers are first-time internet users. Many first-time internet users lack the digital literacy

skills necessary to make the most of their internet connection. To help bridge this gap, Cox Communications offers free digital literacy training and resources through the Cox Digital Academy. The digital literacy training is designed to empower low-income families to build educational, economic and social opportunities crucial to realize the full potential of a home internet connection.

Cox Expands Commitment to Bridge Digital Divide

Joined by FCC Chairman Ajit Pai and Founder of EveryoneOn, Zach Leverenz, Esser revealed the company surpassed a significant program milestone and is expanding its commitment to bridge the digital divide during the press event. To date, more than 400,000 people have been connected to the internet via the Connect2Compete program and the company continues to invest in the program. Esser announced the company is pledging an additional 20 million dollars to support this initiative over the next year.

“With convenient, reliable internet access at home, students can readily focus on their school work, explore their passions and ultimately reach their full potential in life,” said Pat Esser, president of Cox Communications. “We will continue devoting important resources – including discounted internet service – to bolster their success and close the digital divide.”

Cox has offered a low-income internet program for nearly two decades, and has a strong history of exceeding its goals for providing access to technology to students and their families – in the classroom, in the community and in homes. Through public-private partnerships and a dedicated focus across the entire Cox organization, the company continues to lead the way in closing the digital divide in the communities it serves. By connecting schools, community centers like Boys & Girls Clubs and homes, Cox is helping municipal leaders create smarter neighborhoods and cities.

During the back-to-school season, empowering students with the right tools is top of mind for parents and teachers. Survey respondents reported the sign-up process for Connect2Compete is a positive experience, and most participants experienced no issues when signing up via telephone at 855-222-3252 or online at www.cox.com/lowcostinternet. Cox also regularly hosts or attends events where families can sign-up in person.

“My number one priority at the FCC is to bridge the digital divide—the gap between Americans who have access to the internet and advanced technologies and those who don’t,” said FCC Chairman Ajit Pai. “That’s because the internet is increasingly critical in our daily lives. I’ve seen

this for myself in my travels across the country and that’s why the FCC has taken aggressive action to extend internet access. Every American deserves to have access to digital opportunity.”

About Cox Communications

Cox Communications is a broadband communications and entertainment company, providing advanced digital video, Internet, telephone and home security and automation services over its own nationwide IP network. The third-largest U.S. cable company, Cox serves approximately 6 million residences and businesses. Cox Business is a facilities-based provider of voice, video and data solutions for commercial customers, and Cox Media is a full-service provider of national and local cable spot and digital media advertising. Cox is known for its pioneering efforts in broadband, voice and commercial services, industry-leading customer care and its outstanding workplaces. For eight years, Cox has been recognized as the top operator for women by Women in Cable Telecommunications; Cox has ranked among DiversityInc's Top 50 Companies for Diversity 13 times. More information about Cox Communications, a wholly owned subsidiary of Cox Enterprises, is available at www.cox.com and www.coxmedia.com.

Dear Valued Customers of India Garden and Namaste,

Thank you Lakewood for your support and patronage in making India Garden and Namaste India Garden your favorite Indian Cuisine Restaurants in Northern Ohio.



INDIA GARDEN

Lunch Buffet \$10.95

18405 Detroit Ave.

216-221-0676

Open Daily

Lunch 11am - 2:30pm

Sat. & Sun. 11:30am - 3:00pm

Dinner 5pm - 10pm

NAMASTE INDIA GARDEN

Southern Indian Cuisine

14412 Detroit Ave.

216-221-4800

Hours: Monday - Closed

Tuesday - Sunday

11:30am - 9:30pm

Ask About Gift Certificates And Catering

Buckley King Welcomes Attorney And Lakewood Resident David L. Moore

by Miranda Miller

The law firm Buckley King is pleased to announce that attorney and Lakewood resident DAVID L. MOORE has joined its Cleveland office. David is a transactional attorney advising emerging businesses, privately held companies and non-profit organizations. His experience includes commercial financing, real estate and corporate matters. He began his career at Moore Yourkvitch & Dibo, a law firm he started after law

school, where he worked extensively with banks and financial institutions, private foundations, charities, and information-technology and energy companies.

“We’re excited to welcome David to the firm,” said attorney Brent M. Buckley, Buckley King’s managing partner. “His vast experience, entrepreneurship and appreciation for honesty and professionalism make him a great asset to our firm, which prides itself on creativity, integrity and transparency in client service.”

David earned his B.B.A. magna cum laude at Kent State University and his J.D. cum laude at Cleveland-Marshall College of Law. He was admitted to the Ohio bar in 2011.

About Buckley King
www.buckleyking.com

Buckley King provides legal advice and representation on traditional to complex business matters in all major industries and areas of business law, finance, labor and employment, real estate, bankruptcy, transportation, sports and entertainment law, family law, as well as litigation. We maintain a culture in which integrity, transparency, creativity, better solutions, teamwork, and passion for what we do is non-negotiable. Rethink your outside counsel.

Lakewood's #1 choice for interior and exterior painting

Neubert PAINTING

Serving Northeast Ohio Homeowners since 1975

Quality Painting. THAT'S ALL WE DO!

Call us at 216-529-0360 for a Free Consultation!

neubertpainting.com

Lakewood Fiction

Fiction by
Scott MacGregor

Lester Brown was still hugging his Hasselblad when I flew out of his camera store like a squirrel torn between two sows. I couldn't decide whether to run southeast to see Father Marlowe (and hopefully, Wren Mathews) or southwest to make sure my Mom got through the storm in one piece. In the end, Mom won the toss, again.

During that moment of indecision I'd inadvertently looked north down 150th street and was stunned by a strange, if not, scarifying sight. Where there was once a long avenue coated with trees and houses, there was now an impassable road obstructed by large piles of sticks and stones. With nothing left standing to obstruct its view, I glimpsed something not seen from that mid-town vantage point since the earliest days of Rockport. I could see frozen Lake Erie.

Trying to run the eight blocks to my street was like one of those dreams where it feels that one is running through quicksand. I had to stop at least a half dozen times along the way to help people catch their freaked out dogs, or move large branches from their yards. At one point, I helped a group of men free a young mother and child trapped after a live electric pole had fallen onto their 1960 Rambler American. The chunky Rambler was unhurt, (Patton probably used Ramblers during his campaign through the Ardennes), but hot wires were preventing their escape until some brave old retiree used his penknife to carve a forked end onto his wooden cane and then used it to snag wires away from the car.

Finally, I reached my street and was relieved to see that the storm had delivered another glancing blow, just as the previous storm had on the night before. There were a couple old oaks that fell and plenty of downed tree branches, but nothing on the scale of destruction that happened in mid-town. Apparently, both storms had followed the same trajectory right up the crotch of Rockport, leaving its eastern and western flanks fully intact. It was epic weirdness that most residents didn't appreciate until weeks later when the international meteorological community began showing up.

My mom was thrilled to see me walk through the front door but was otherwise upset that she couldn't watch her soap operas because the electricity was out. Famished, I retreated to the breakfast nook and inhaled the remaining half box of Cheerios after which I felt re-energized and ready for bear. I announced that I was going back out again and left the house with my mother yelling and holding on to the back pockets of my bell bottom jeans.

The Rockport Miracles-Part 3 Episode 2 "The Belles Of St. Swithun's"



Once I'd shaken her loose, I yelped out the obligatory "Don't worry, Mom-Love You!" and then ran the entire mile to St. Swithun's Church.

St. Swithun is a Catholic church that also included a school and a princely abode where Father Marlowe and his assistant priests lived. I'd spent eight long years at St. Swithun grade school where my classmates and I were routinely humiliated and beaten by nuns. We called them "The Fighting Nuns" because of their tendencies to punch, slap, and finger schmoosh faces of the various sized children and adults they targeted. Ironically, Father Marlowe had always been a stellar pastor who would never abuse a child or tolerate abuse from any of his priests. A graduate of the Spencer Tracy school of priesthood, Father Marlowe was not shy to throw a punch at any priest, deacon, or drunken janitor that crossed him. That was well known and, in the Catholic way, respected.

For some reason, however, he never interfered with the celibate women in black who ran the school. I suspect that he was as deathly afraid of them as our parents were. Had he anticipated the long term effects of their cruelty, perhaps he would have done something. Over the decades, children who had been schooled by the Fighting Nuns of St. Swithun grew up and would rather go to hell than expose their own children to that group of impoverished mental cases unhappily "married" to Jesus. By 1970, the school's student population was in sharp decline and with it, the financial and spiritual viability of St. Swithun's Church. Compounding the school's decline was the fact that fewer women were becoming nuns. Instead they were choosing more conventional career paths including real marriage, ostensibly so that they

could beat up their own children.

Suffice to say, the future of the parish was hanging in the balance while rumors flew that the arrival of Father St. Charles, the young and snidely martinet, was intended to bring stability to the profit margins of St. Swithun and eventually replace Father Marlowe as pastor.

By the time I'd reached the priest residence at St. Swithun, my blood was up and I would've cold cocked any nun that dared to get in my way. I was about to ring the doorbell when Father Marlowe himself came hurriedly out the door wearing his black hat and struggling to get his arms into his black overcoat. "I can't talk right now, young man, I've been called downtown to see the Bishop." His sudden appearance on the porch startled me. I sank back to my old timid self and started stuttering, "...Fa...Fa..Father.." I could tell he was in an impatient and excited state, so I jumped behind him to assist with his overcoat. "Father," I said, "I'm looking for Wren Mathews!" A burping sound behind us signaled the unwelcome presence of Father St. Charles. His appearance at the door was accompanied by the sound of a loud vacuum cleaner droning just inside house.

Father Marlowe turned to the younger priest and barked, "Please either close the door or ask her to stop that racket so I can hear myself think." Father St. Charles chose the latter suggestion and went back inside to silence the housekeeper. Father Marlowe looked at me very kindly and said, "I remember you from the school and you were with Wren last night at the park, correct? You helped untangle me from those goddam fallen branches in the cemetery." I nodded and said, "Yep, that's me."

I heard Father St. Charles yell at the housekeeper, "MRS. MATHEWS-- STOP THE VACUUM CLEANER FOR A MOMENT PLEASE!" The housekeeper turned around and her face became visible from the doorway. To my utter shock, I recognized her instantly! It was Wren's mom! And, unlike my last encounter, she was sober!

Suddenly, the bells of St. Swithun's Church began to ring out. Having heard them my entire life from all points of town, I noticed immediately that they sounded different. St. Swith-

un's had resorted to canned bells piped through a loudspeaker for as long as I could remember. The bells on that day sounded clear, genuine, ie; real. Father Marlowe stepped to the edge of the porch and looked up at the bell tower with tears in his eyes. "I haven't heard those bells for 20 years," he said, "consider it a bona fide miracle whenever a Lazarus spirit is brought back to life."

Just then, creepy Father St. Charles appeared at the door again and in his bitchiest voice screeched, "Father Marlowe! The Bishop is WAITING!" The old pastor exhaled loudly, slowly turned around, looked straight into the eyes of Father St. Charles, and in his sternest Spencer Tracy "Boys Town" voice replied, "Shut the hell up you little twerp, or I'll box your ears for you!" Father St. Charles' eyeballs nearly popcorned out of his head, he took a step back and made the same sound a tire makes when punctured by a large nail. Then, he retreated inside and slammed the door. Father Marlowe just shrugged and shook his head. He turned back around, gave me a wink, and while pointing toward the church tower he said, "If I were you, I'd check out that belle."

Next: Part 3:Episode 3: "On A Clear Day You Can Punch A Cleric"
© 2018 Scott MacGregor-EOI Media Press Inc.
©2018 Illustration by Rob Masek
©2018 Illustration by Greg Budgett
Catch up on previous episodes at:
<http://lakewoodobserver.com/download-issues/>



IMAGE PAINTING AND CONTRACTING

Nick Dosky, owner • nickdosky1@aol.com

- Interior/ Exterior Painting
- 5- year warranty on all exterior painting
- Drywall hanging and Finishing
- Carpentry all types

FREE ESTIMATES

LICENSE AND INSURED

FAMILY OWNED BUSINESS

40 YEARS EXPERIENCE

IN THE TRADES

Call Today! (440) 558-6729

The Back Page

LAKEWOODITES
ROB MASEK

LOVE HANUKKAH BUT BORED WITH THE TRADITIONAL DREIDEL GAME?

KICK YOUR FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS UP A NOTCH THIS YEAR WITH...

ULTIMATE BATTLE DREIDEL!

COMBAT YOUR FRIENDS IN THE COLOSSAL CHUTZPAH ARENA (NOW WITH BLUE-TOOTH)!*

* OFFICIALLY SANCTIONED BY THE ULTIMATE BATTLE DREIDEL COUNCIL OF JERUSALEM (ARKANSAS)

WEAPONIZE YOUR DREIDEL WITH SPECIAL TCHOTCHKE KITS LIKE "OLIVE OIL SLICKS," "THROWING STARS OF DAVID," AND "LATKE BOMBS"!

WHEN THE MENORAH CANDLE OF DOOM EXTINGUISHES THE LAST STANDING DREIDEL WINS!!

BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE COMMITTEE TO EXPLOIT AND COMMERCIALIZE ALL RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS.



Carabel Beauty Salon & Store

Full Service Salon For Females

Gifts for Gals! Stocking Stuffers!

Bows, Tiaras, Hemp Lotions and Body Wash, Nail polish. Gift certificates for females of all ages.

 Check Us Out On Facebook To See Accessories and New Ideas!

CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT FOR BEST SERVICE.
FREE PRIVATE PARKING. CHECK WITH ID OR CASH

15309 MADISON AVENUE • 216.226.8616



Skettle Automotive

15501 Madison Avenue, Lakewood, OH

Tim Skettle Owner, Technician

Formerly at Steve Barry Buick


For an appointment CALL

216.226.5993



BENTLEY


WEALTH MANAGEMENT OF
RAYMOND JAMES®




MICHAEL A. BENTLEY
Vice President, Investments


Bentley Wealth Management of Raymond James
159 Crocker Park Blvd, Suite 390 // Westlake, OH 44145
O 440.801.1629 // C 216.513.0933 // F 440.801.1636
www.bentleywealthmanagement.com // michael.bentley@raymondjames.com


© 2016 Raymond James & Associates, Inc., member New York Stock Exchange / SIPC. Raymond James® and LIFE WELL PLANNED® are registered trademarks of Raymond James Financial, Inc. 16-BR3AP-0073 TA 04/16



You work late. So do we.

 24/7 BUSINESS-CLASS SUPPORT

 FAST, RELIABLE INTERNET

 SCALABLE VOICE SOLUTIONS

\$64⁹⁹mo*

for 12 months

50 Mbps INTERNET
ONE LINE OF STANDARD VOICE
UNLIMITED NATIONWIDE CALLING

SWITCH TODAY. Call 216.535.3323 or visit coxbusiness.com

*Offer valid until 12/31/18. Minimum service term, early termination fees, equipment, installation fees, taxes, and other restrictions may apply. See coxbusiness.com. © 2018 Cox Communications, Inc. All rights reserved. OPA105474-0011



Health | Medicare | Small Group | Life | Supplemental



Medicare Open Enrollment thru Dec. 7th

ACA Open Enrollment thru Dec. 15th

Carl Lishing & Mike Fitzpatrick

Licensed Insurance Agents

216.228.0765
16506 Detroit Ave.
www.clevelandinsurance.info

HealthMarkets Insurance Agency is the d/b/a, or assumed name, of Inspire Insurance Solutions, Inc. which is licensed as an insurance agency in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Not all agents are licensed to sell all products. Service and product availability varies by state. Compliance Code HMIA004472

This paper is written, produced, and delivered by residents of Lakewood.

Isn't it time you joined with us?

Visit the "Member Center" today to sign up and submit an article to the LO!

www.lakewoodobserver.com/members/login

If you would like to help this history-making 15-year-old project continue getting out the words, stories and images of your fellow Lakewoodites and you have a business, contact production@lakewoodobserver.com and we will send out an advertising kit!