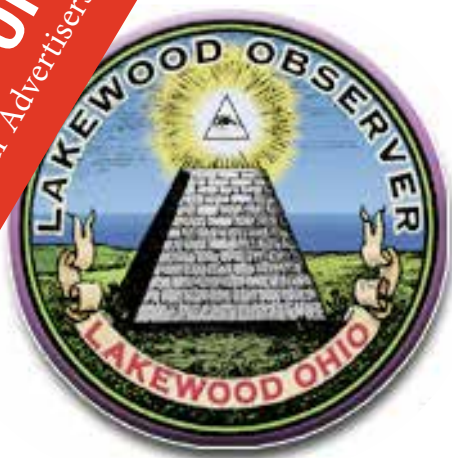


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Volume 15, Issue 01, January, 9 2019

Councilman Rader Looks Into Starting Ethics Commission

by Jim O'Bryan

As we were heading to press it was announced by Councilman-At-Large Tristan Rader that he was working on a proposal for an Ethics Committee. This is indeed good news for residents.

This indicates that people on City Council finally understand the need to clear the air, and heal the community.

There are a couple discussions on the LO Deck now, and we will be following this story!

photo by Jim O'Bryan



Lakewood Observer's Holiday Decoration Appreciation Contest results are in. Photos of the top 32 homes as chosen by our readers and judges are on Pages 8-9. Over \$600 in special appreciation gifts ready for all who claim them. Read how on page 8.

Councilmember Meghan F. George To Propose Paid Parental Leave

Councilmember Meghan F. George is set to propose an ordinance to establish paid parental leave benefits for full-time City employees at the first Lakewood City Council meeting of the year on January 7, 2019. The ordinance proposes to provide full-time employees with paid leave following the birth or adoption of a child and additional paid leave for

birth mothers recovering from childbirth.

Under the City's current policy, employees must use sick time, vacation time, and other paid time off following the birth or adoption of a child to maintain their income. Councilmember George, who has spent her career in the

continued on page 14

Man Arrested In Lakewood, Suspect In Quadruple Murder

by Jim O'Bryan

25-year-old Shelby Svensen was arrested on Newman Avenue during a routine vehicle check and taken into custody for driving a stolen 2013 Kia Sorrento. The vehicle was traced back to a missing vehicle report that was part of a triple murder in Tarpon Springs Florida on January 1. The three victims were found lying on the floor of their home in a 55-and-older community just outside of Tarpon Springs. Also three dogs were found dead inside. The bodies were discovered during a routine welfare check. Victims were 71-year-old Richard Louis Ivancic, 59-year-old Laura Ann Ivancic and 25-year-old Nicholas James Ivancic. Svensen's wife,



Shelby Svensen

who is Richard and Laura Ann Ivancic's daughter, is now missing. 21-year-old Jamie Nicole Ivancic is considered "endangered" and missing under "suspicious circumstances."

Svenson, who also goes by

continued on page 6

Call For Nominations For Third Annual Women Honoring Women At Vosh

by Kristy Feyedelem

The Lakewood Women's Club will be hosting Women Honoring Women at Vosh on May 16, 2019. Local celebrity, Denise Defalla will be this year's keynote speaker. Proceeds from the event will go

to this year's charity recipient, Gigi's Playhouse and The Lakewood Scholarship program.

In addition to the powerful message our speakers give

continued on page 11

Lakewood Public Library Madison Branch Bike Rack Ribbon Cutting

by Molly McGirr Norris

Staff from Lakewood Public Library, members of Bike Cleveland, representatives from Knabe Law Firm, local bike shop owners, and city officials held a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Tuesday, December 18, 2018 after the installation of a bike rack this fall. The custom bike rack, featuring the Bike Lakewood logo, was donated by Knabe Law Firm and installed at the Lakewood Public Library, Madison Branch in the historic Birdtown area of Lakewood.

The idea for the new bike rack was initiated by Ken Knabe, and the project was coordinated by: Parker Mulholland of Knabe Law Firm; Jason Kuhn and Jacob VanSickle of Bike Cleveland; and Molly McGirr Norris, Judy Grzybowski, and Gregory Christian of Lakewood Public Library. At the ceremony Kuhn spoke about how generous community members like



Photo credit: Brittany Graham

Knabe allow Bike Cleveland and its divisions including Bike Lakewood to work towards their goal of safer streets for all drivers. Knabe is an avid

cyclist himself, and the Knabe Law Firm focuses on protecting the cyclists of the Greater Cleveland Area.

continued on page 6

Lakewoodite's Brewing For Good Again

by Ean Fakan

Lakewood's own Ean Fakan, is a homebrewer and an intervention specialist, an educator of children with special needs, for over a decade. Since starting to homebrew seven years ago in a kitchen on Lakeland Avenue, he has expanded his craft to beers, wines, ciders and meads. Once a hobby, Ean's Brews moved from stovetop pots to electric brew kettles and stainless-steel conical fermenters. That's how he won a competition at Bad Tom Smith Brewing Company, which earned

Fakan the title of HomeBros Cleveland brew club, Brewer of the Year for 2018!

Fakan's newest public release, the Black HI-PA, tied for second place in the 2017 Cleveland Beer Week's Homebrew Competition, and it will be available at the W. 25th St. brewery beginning January 5, 2019. It is a beer capable of weathering the dank darkness that Cleveland is famous for in the fall, yet keeping it light and peppy enough to punch through a rogue heat wave on Lake Erie's shores. It took several years to perfect,



explained Fakan. He boasts that the Black HI-PA is for either lovers or haters of both dark beers or IPAs. This is a

continued on page 14

Hot Off The Deck



Group photo from the 2019 Lakewood High Alumni Hockey Game at Winterhurst Skating Rink.

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How Does Accountability And .. Transparency Start.	Jim O'Bryan	1	163	Mon Jan 07
Lakewood Alumni Hockey 2019	Jim O'Bryan	0	88	Mon Jan 07
UPDATED_Man Arrested In Lakewood Sought For Triple Murder in Florida	Jim O'Bryan	2	848	Sun Jan 06
Councilman Rader Proposes Ethics Commission		26	1852	Wed Jan 02
Nomination For Ethics Commission Chair	Brian Essi	10	818	Tue Jan 01
Lakewood vs Lordstown?	Nadhah Eadeh	11	1761	Fri Dec 28
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City

Not In Kansas Anymore! Tickets On Sale Now For “Loving Lakewood: There’s No Place Like Home”

by Matt Bixenstine

It's an Oz-inspired celebration that's 15 years in the making and you're invited!

Tickets are now on sale for "Loving Lakewood: There's No Place Like Home," LakewoodAlive's annual winter fundraiser taking place Saturday, February 23, from 7:30 to 11 p.m. at the Lakewood Masonic Temple. Guests are invited to don cocktail attire with Wizard of Oz flair to partake in a celebration of 15 years of LakewoodAlive and 10 years of our Housing Outreach Program in a historic Downtown Lakewood venue.

Sponsored by Cleveland Property Management Group, There's No Place Like Home will feature Oz-themed

food, drinks, décor and entertainment that will have you skipping on your way off to see the wizard. This limited-capacity event is expected to sell out, so act faster than a swirling tornado to secure your tickets by visiting LakewoodAlive.org/NoPlaceLikeHome.

\$100 VIP Ticket

This Over the Rainbow opportunity includes all General Admission ticket offerings plus early entrance at 6:30 p.m., access to closer (first come, first served) free parking, open bar for the first hour, two drink tokens and entrance into a VIP-only “There’s No Place Like Home” raffle drawing that will even make Dorothy and Toto jealous.

\$50 General Admission Ticket

This ticket will make you think

you aren't in Kansas anymore by bringing you to Oz (the Masonic Temple) at 7:30 p.m., where you'll receive unlimited food, one drink token and access to all of our Emerald City-flavored fun like a glittering game of chance, auctions and special visitors from Oz.

No matter which option you choose, you'll be able to click your heels together and join us over the rainbow where troubles melt like lemon drops. Guests are encouraged to wear cocktail attire and follow the yellow brick road to the Masonic Temple for a memorable evening celebrating community vibrancy.

Proceeds will support LakewoodAlive's programming as we strive to foster and sustain vibrant neighborhoods in Lakewood. Much like Dorothy and the cast of characters making the adventurous trek to Emerald City, we at LakewoodAlive possess the heart, brains and courage necessary to assist the wonderful residents of Lakewood along the journey to achieving an even more vibrant community.

More details regarding There's No Place Like Home will be unveiled in the coming weeks. For ongoing updates, please visit LakewoodAlive.org/NoPlaceLikeHome.

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The Empty Nest Is Empty



by Jeff Fritz

After eight years of selling furniture at 14423 Detroit Avenue, the Empty Nest is empty. Until someone else signs a lease it will be known as the Empty Storefront.

About LakewoodAlive

There's no place like home. At LakewoodAlive we don't have magical ruby slippers, yet we strive to serve a vital role in the lives of Lakewood residents in need through our Housing Outreach Program. Our journey follows a yellow brick road on the path to community vibrancy. The 5.5 square miles comprising Lakewood is our Kansas, and we take our responsibilities very seriously. As the immortal lyrics from "Over the Rainbow" state, "Dreams really do come true."

Loving Lakewood: There's No Place Like Home is generously supported by the following sponsors:

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Lakewood Public Schools

Roosevelt Repeats As High Progress School Of Honor

by Christine Gordillo

For the second year in a row, Roosevelt Elementary has earned the designation as a High Progress School of Honor by the Ohio Department of Education. The honor recognizes the school for its gains in reading and math proficiency among all students during the 2017-2018 school year. Roosevelt is the only school in Cuyahoga County to have earned this significant award.

“I remain extremely proud of the Roosevelt staff for their hard work and the students for their academic growth. The fact that they’ve been recognized for their efforts is icing on the cake,” said Roosevelt Principal Eileen Griffiths.

To become a High Progress School

of Honor a building must first be a Title 1 or Title I-eligible school with at least 40 percent of its students classified as economically disadvantaged. In addition these schools must rank in the top 10 percent for gains in proficiency for all students. High Progress Schools of Honor must have also earned an A or B for all students on the 2017-2018 State Report Card, and an A, B or C in the Gap Closing. Overall, Roosevelt earned an A on its most recent Report Card.

As an incentive to help close achievement gaps in Ohio, the Ohio Department of Education developed the Schools of Honor program to identify, recognize and highlight schools that are making substantial progress in ensuring high achievement in reading



and math for all students, many from economically disadvantaged homes.

Paolo DeMaria, Superintendent of Public Instruction for the state, said in a press release from the Department of Education: “Ohio’s students can do amazing things, and these schools are creating the right conditions to close

achievement gaps and address the issues that sometimes prevent students from taking full advantage of educational opportunities. Congratulations to these schools, their teachers and administrators for making a real difference in the lives of their students.”

Garfield Writers Place In Power Of The Pen

by Christine Gordillo

The Garfield Middle School Power of the Pen team attended the District Tournament on December 8 at Monticello Middle School in University Heights and landed two of its writers in the top 15. Congratulations to 8th graders Layla Black, who placed 3rd overall, and Ellie Clark, who placed 12th. The team is coached by teachers Maggie Bacher and Leslie Eiben.

The contest is made up of three rounds where the writers are given prompts to jump-start a story such as

“describe a character whose middle name would be Mischief.” The writers have 40 minutes to complete the story. Layla and Ellie will likely move on to Regionals. Notifications come out soon. The Power of the Pen team members are:

7th: Haley Benjamin, Zoe Bowers, Ellie Costello, Sydney Elyko, Luke Kimble, and Elma Kudic

8th: Layla Black, Ellie Clark, Kay Coleman, Nicole Goddard, Bella Lara, Kali Pedley, and Jacob Mariani as an alternate/guest writer.

Rory O'Brien Of Lakewood Competes In Upcoming International Children's Games



Rory O'Brien
by Eric German

Nine youth from Cleveland have been invited to participate in the 8th Winter International Children’s Games in Lake Placid, NY from January 6-11, 2019. Over 1,000 youth athletes and coaches from over 33 international cities are expected to be represented. The games are an opportunity for children to combine sports with cultural exchanges and educational programs. The delegation is being supported by a number of local organizations including the Greater Cleveland Sports Commission, host of the 2004 International Children’s Games.

Nine Cleveland athletes aged twelve to fifteen will represent Northeast Ohio and compete in biathlon, cross country skiing, alpine skiing, figure skating and speed skating. Other disciplines at the event include ice hockey, freestyle skiing and snowboarding.

“This is an incredible opportunity for children from our community to engage in international competition while cultivating friendships with children from all over the world,” stated David Gilbert, Greater Cleveland Sports Commission President and CEO and International Children Games Executive Committee Vice President. “The experience is a unique mix of sports-


manship, fellowship and civic pride.”

The International Children’s Games will welcome approximately 1,000 competitors, coaches and staff from around 33 different cities. Lake Placid, NY previously hosted the Winter Olympics in 1932 and 1980.

Athletes listed by name, sport and hometown: Nicholas Koerber, Alpine skiing, Medina, Jamie McSweeney, Figure skating, Brecksville, Matthew Mlachak, Figure Skating, Moreland Hills, **Rory O’Brien, Speed skating, Lakewood**, Giovanni Papa, Biathlon, Medina, Andre Poggio, Cross Country Skiing, Shaker Heights, Jessica Sassano, Figure Skating, Fairview Park, Cameron R. Scacheri, Cross Country Skiing, Shaker Heights, Niko Ustin, Biathlon, Shaker Heights

Jessica Sassano’s figure skating coach, Carol Heiss Jenkins, a two-time Olympic Figure Skating Medalist (silver and gold) notes “the competition mirrors an Olympic experience, complete with opening and closing ceremonies and utilizing the Olympic venues at Lake Placid.” Heiss Jenkins observes, “it will be a magical and memorable event for all participants.”

For more information, visit <http://international-childrens-games.org/icg/> and <https://www.lakeplacid2019.com/>



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Lakewood Public Schools



The sixth grade choir performing.

Garfield Choirs Win Maltz Museum's "Stop The Hate" Sing Out

by Christine Gordillo

In partnership with the Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage and Roots of American Music (ROAM), the Rock Hall hosted performances by middle school students from across North-east Ohio who have been working with teaching artists to compose original songs for the Stop the Hate: Youth Sing Out competition held on December 12, 2018. The Garfield Middle School 6th and 7th grade choirs tied for first place and earned their school \$5,000!

The original songs the students created along with a guest composer and their director were about all kinds of topics important to youth today including bullying, refugee crises, racism, drug abuse, among other themes. Garfield's guest composer was Brent Kirby.

Also competing in the competition were the 8th grade morning choir from Garfield and the Harding afternoon choirs for 6th through 8th grade.

Said Director Lisa Richards of the event: "I have participated in this event

with my choirs for the last five years. It has been a great experience for the students."

The choirs will perform again at the Stop the Hate awards ceremony at the Cleveland Museum of Art on March 14, 2019.

You can read the winning lyrics below:

Turn Around: Garfield 6th Grade Choir & artist Brent Kirby

Intro:
Look at everything you have done
You have to know you're not the only one

Think of things that give you joy
We have to stand up. Be strong, then turn around

Chorus:
Turn around, let our world bring you to the light
Turn around (part 2)
Turn around, let our world bring you to the light

Verse 1:
It's a decision to do the right thing
You can be someone to look up to

Superintendent Listen & Learn Session Set For Jan. 24

by Christine Gordillo

Lakewood City Schools' Superintendent Mike Barnes will be holding his third "Listen & Learn" session to hear what the Lakewood community has to say about our schools. The one-hour sessions are informal conversations and people are welcome to drop in any time. The third session will take place on Thursday, January 24 at noon at the Lakewood Panera. Come and share with Dr. Barnes your thoughts, ideas and concerns for the District.

Remainder of the sessions:
February 28, 2019, 9 am @ Rising Star Coffee Roasters, 13368 Madison Ave.
April 25, 2019, 6 pm @ Ranger Cafe at Lakewood High, 14100 Franklin Blvd.

Helping people who are in need
You can start over, and turn around (part 2)

(Chorus)
Verse 2:
If you feel like you don't have a voice
You need to know that you have a choice

Sometimes we need to talk our feelings out
We have to stand up for others, and turn around

(Chorus)
Bridge:
Look at everything you have done
You have to know you're not the only one

Think of things that give you joy
We have to stand up. Be strong
Then turn around

Chorus:
Turn around, let our world bring you to the light
Turn around (part 2)
Turn around, let our world bring you to the light
Turn around

Guns down: Garfield 7th Grade Choir and artist Brent Kirby

Verse 1:
Something happens and you don't know what to do

Feeling angry, need someone to talk to
You're not alone, I'm standing right here

Don't be, controlled by your fear
Chorus:

Guns down, Guns down
We don't need them around
We don't want to hear the sound
We gotta stop! And put our guns down

Verse 2:
We should feel safe, to go to church, and pray
Places we go to everyday
Hurtful people out on the street
Look for warnings in what others tweet

(Chorus)
Bridge:
That could have been me standing there

We need more than thoughts and prayers

Verse 3:
People die. It's no longer pretend
Scars are there of our families and friends

There are laws we need to amend
Bring justice to those who cannot defend

(Chorus)
We gotta stop
And put our guns down (3x)



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Lakewood Project "Night At The Movies" Concert Jan. 19

by Christine Gordillo

The Lakewood Project's winter concert on Saturday, January 19 will take you back to many of your greatest film memories as the group puts on its show, "A Night at the Movies." Songs from favorite films such as "Ghostbusters" and "Ferris Bueller's Day Off" are on tap. The group will also be joined by some of our middle school musicians. The show kicks off at 7:30 pm at the Lakewood Civic Auditorium. Tickets are \$3 for students and \$8 for adults in advance at the LHS Bookroom (216-529-4047) or by using this order form, and \$5/\$10 at the door.



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Library

The Visual Glory Of Rock And Roll

by Amy Kloss

If you were a teenager in the 1970s, you remember the music. Rock and roll was blasting from cars, in living rooms and at parties. With no earbuds, nobody had a private soundtrack. Rock music was part of the culture, a communal experience. The high point of that culture was the live concert, and Cleveland knew how to put on a show.

If you want to relive those heady days of rock and roll or see a photographer whose work spans decades of live shows in Cleveland, join Janet Macoska and Peter Chakerian in the Main Library Auditorium on Thursday, January 17, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. when they present their book, “All Access Cleveland: The Rock and Roll Photography of Janet Macoska.”

At the age of twelve, Macoska sold a photo of Sonny and Cher taken with her dad’s box camera to Teen Scene magazine. She was answering fan mail at radio station WKYC when the duo came in for an interview, and Macoska seized her moment. She’s been seizing moments ever since, using her love



Peter Chakerian (above) and Cleveland’s legendary Rock and Roll Photographer Janet Macoska (right) are stopping by Lakewood Public Library’s Auditorium January 17 at 7:00 pm to talk about their book “All Access Cleveland: The Rock and Roll Photography of Janet Macoska.”



of music and photography to cover live shows in Cleveland for over forty years. With a 35mm Minolta, Macoska started photographing shows in 1974, a time she says was remarkable for its open access to performers. No press pass was necessary; she simply took her camera into the show, pushed her way

to the front and took as many photos as she wanted.

“All Access Cleveland” is the spectacular result of that access, with 340 photos of rock superstars and other celebrities, posing and performing. Her work is in the Smithsonian, the Grammy Museum and the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame; it appears on album covers and in the homes of musicians. Macoska’s writing partner, Peter Chakerian, first met her at a concert in 1989, after he’d been admiring

her photos for years. As a journalist covering rock and roll in Cleveland, Chakerian has been featured in dozens of publications across the country and is a regular contributor to The Plain Dealer and Cleveland.com.

Join these journalists on January 17, 2019 at the Lakewood Main Library as they talk about their decades of covering legendary rock performers in Cleveland. Books will be available for sale and signing at the event.

Lakewood Public Library Madison Branch Bike Rack Ribbon Cutting

continued from page 1

Before Knabe cut the ribbon on the new bike rack, Norris spoke about what it means for the Library to have it, including how important it was for the Library to work with community members and local organizations to support their interests and goals. More specifically it is important for the Library to promote safe cycling for users of the Library, which includes community members who cycle for many reasons: health, fitness, environmental impact, economic sense, and vehicle accessibility. Whatever the reason a library user might choose to ride their bike to the Library, Norris said, “Having a secure place to leave their bicycle while using Library resources is extremely important.

Bike racks are located next to every entrance at both the Main Branch and



Ken Knabe

Madison Branch of Lakewood Public Library, and in addition there is a bike repair station including an air pump for public use on the Main Library Front Porch.

Man Arrested In Lakewood Suspect In Quadruple Murder

continued from page 1

the name Shelby Nealy, was charged with receiving stolen property and domestic violence. His children, ages 2 and 3, were placed with Family Welfare Services. Saturday, Police in Florida found a fourth body in a shallow grave. There was no identity

given but it is believed it is the body of his wife. She hadn’t been seen in weeks. She is the daughter and sister of the other people murdered. Police are on their way from Florida to question Shelby.

Good work Lakewood Police.

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Lakewood Public Library

Calendar Of Events

compiled by Elaine Rosenberger

Thursday, January 10, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.
Great Decisions in the Library – The Waning of Pax Americana?
Led by Dr. Javier Morales-Ortiz

Since 1945, Pax Americana has promised peaceful international relations and an open economy, buttressed by U.S. military power. In championing “America First” isolationism, President Trump has shifted the political mood toward selective U.S. engagement, where foreign commitments are limited to areas of vital U.S. interest, and economic nationalism is the order of the day. What short-term and long-term implications do these isolationist policies have? After a brief video, Dr. Javier Morales-Ortiz will lead a discussion and help to answer some of the complex questions surrounding American isolationism.

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

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 “My Inventions and Other Writings” by Nikola Tesla.

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

Saturday, January 12, 2019

Film - “Pale Rider” (1985)
Directed by Clint Eastwood
Presented by Terry Meehan

A community of prospectors are panning for gold in the California hills when the owner of a mining company employs gun thugs to force them off their claims so that he can strip-mine for coal. When one of the hired goons shoots a dog belonging to 14-year-old Megan Wheeler (Sydney Penny), she prays for a miracle. Just then, a mysterious stranger rides out of the wilderness and into the fray. He becomes known as The Preacher, but he is much handier with a gun than are most men of the cloth. 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

Sunday, January 13, 2019

Concert - Patrick Woods

The contrapuntal elements of Patrick’s music have long been loved and revered by many fans of acoustic solo guitar. More influenced by rock than by acoustic music, Patrick has carved out his unique brand of acoustic instrumentals that are complex enough for advanced musicians, but melodic enough for the simple music lover. His techniques go beyond average fingerpicking and include string snaps, octave hammer-ons, harmonic sprays, flamenco strums, and punchy bass lines that all go together with a rhythmic pulse.

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

Tuesday, January 15, 2019

Documentary - “Unseen” (2016)
Presented by Director and Producer, Laura Paglin

Anthony Sowell went on a killing spree in Cleveland, but, for a long time, no one noticed. The women he preyed on were those on the margins of society, those dependent on drugs in an area overwhelmed with addiction. He counted on his victims’ assumed disposability and their vulnerability, to hide the eleven murders for which he was eventually convicted. Arrested in 2009, Sowell sits on death row. Laura Paglin, director and producer, focuses this documentary on the stories of Sowell’s victims. Paglin joins us for this screening of “Unseen” for a discussion after the film.

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

Tuesday, January 15, 2019

Knit & Lit Book Club

Come share your passion for great literature and show off your knitting, crocheting, counted cross-stich, embroidery and quilting works-in-progress. Tonight we will discuss “Little Fires Everywhere” by Celeste Ng.

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

Wednesday, January 16, 2019

Misidentified Historical Photographs
Presentation by Corey Recko

In late 2015, when the news broke that a rare photo of Old West gunfighter Billy the Kid had been unearthed, the world took notice. However, there was one problem: Billy the Kid most likely wasn’t in the photo. Discover the truth behind that photo and several others like it, including one of President Abraham Lincoln, and famed Western gunman Doc Holliday.

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

Thursday, January 17, 2019

Author Event - “All Access Cleveland: The Rock And Roll Photography of Janet Macoska” by Janet Macoska with Peter Chakerian

If rock and roll has been the soundtrack of your life, Janet Macoska has likely provided the visuals. David Bowie, The Clash, Led Zeppelin, DEVO, Hall and Oates, Heart, The Kinks, John Waite, Michael Stanley and Alice Cooper are just some of the musicians who have used her photos on their records. This long-awaited compendium of native Cleveland Macoska’s more than thirty years of shooting rock and roll subjects presents many never-before-seen images from her archives combining iconic imagery with entertaining, behind-the-scenes stories. Co-author Peter Chakerian is an award-winning writer, author and journalist and a regular contributor to The Plain Dealer and Cleveland.com.

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

Thursday, January 17, 2019

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 The Dollhouse Murders: A Forensic Expert Investigates 6 Little Crimes by Thomas Mauriello.

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

Saturday, January 19, 2019

Film - “Ruby Gentry” (1952) Directed by King Vidor
Presented by Barbara Steffek-Hill

Free-spirited, backwoods girl Ruby Corey (Jennifer Jones) is more than her parents can handle. They send her to live in the household of wealthy businessman Jim Gentry (Karl Malden). Ruby blossoms into a knockout, leading to a tempestuous affair with Boake Tackman (Charlton Heston). After years of rejection by the town’s class-conscious snobs, Ruby agrees to marry Jim. When at last Ruby has the wealth and the power to strike back against the town’s elite, she does so with a vengeance. 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, January 20, 2019

Cleveland Opera Theater: Operatic Favorites

Join Cleveland Opera Theater for an intimate performance of live opera. The program will feature a mix of operatic favorites as well as newer repertoire. Cleveland Opera Theater believes that people from all backgrounds, if given the opportunity, will be moved by the unique beauty and transformative qualities of opera.

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

Exposing Famous Misidentified Photographs With Author Corey Recko



Is this a rare photo of Billy the Kid?

by Lisa Calfee

Sometimes a world famous photograph of Abraham Lincoln turns out to be a guy named Joe... or Dave, or maybe Henry. But whoever it is, it’s not Abraham Lincoln. How was the entire world fooled?

Author Corey Recko is returning to Lakewood Public Library on Wednesday, January 16, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. to reveal some of the most notoriously misidentified photos that have managed to pass through the portal of truth to the promised land of unquestionable fact. The images are helped in their quest for worldwide acceptance by the internet, where they lie in wait, just one google search away from their next misinformed victim.

Corey Recko is used to separating

fact from fiction as the author of three books which required extensive historical research. His first, "Murder on the White Sands: The Disappearance of Albert and Henry Fountain," won the Wild West History Association's award for the "Best Book on Wild West History" for 2007. He went on to write, "A Spy for the Union: The Life and Execution of Timothy Webster" and "Death of a Kootch Show Girl," as well as articles on a variety of historical topics for magazines and historical journals.

Abraham Lincoln, Billy the Kid and Doc Holliday are among the famous subjects of misidentified photographs that will be discussed during the program. The event takes place in the Main Lower Level Auditorium at 15425 Detroit Avenue.

Share the Dream:

A Celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr.

by Marge Foley

For some children, being off from school on January 21, 2019, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, means sleeping late, playing video games, and watching television. The Lakewood Public Library is offering a meaningful alternate. Your child can still catch some extra shut eye, however from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. they can take part in a program that will celebrate the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. through stories, songs, and a craft. As part of the MLK Day of Service, participants will create cards which will

be distributed to local nursing home residents. This artistic endeavor will brighten the day of a senior citizen and provide your child with a chance to serve others. The cards will be delivered to a local nursing home by a library staff member at a later date. Each child will also be given the opportunity to make a take home booklet about the life of Dr. King. There is no need to register in advance. All school-age children are invited to participate in this program which will take place in the Main Library Multipurpose Room.

LO Holiday Lighting Appreciation 2018

photos by Jim O'Bryan



Thank You Everyone!

Here are the top 30(32) Homes in our LO Holiday Decoration Appreciation Contest 2018. Each home has a special show of appreciation waiting for them at the Lakewood Observer offices. Contact production@lakewoodobserver.com with the best time to drop off your gift! Gifts have been provided by Woodstock BBQ, Melt Bar and Grilled, West End Tavern, India Garden, Lakewood Hardware, and Lion and Blue. Over 100 homes were suggested by the residents of Lakewood who then voted on which homes best represented “the holidays.”

Judges were: Councilman Ward 4 Dan O’Malley, Director of Lakewood Alive Ian Andrews, Raymond James/Bentley Wealth Manegement Michael Bentley, Moderator Lakewood Community Interest FB Page Kim Walcheck, LO Deck Dan Alaimo, and interested bystander Stephen Davis.

You must email: production@lakewoodobserver.com or call 216.407.6818 to claim your gift by February 15th. Thank you everyone that took part!



photos by Jim O'Bryan



photos by Jim O'Bryan



photos by Jim O'Bryan



A large, two-story house is the centerpiece, glowing with warm white lights. The roofline is outlined in lights, and the windows are also illuminated. In the foreground, three large, white, illuminated reindeer are positioned as if pulling a sleigh. The reindeer have red bows around their necks. The sleigh is also white and illuminated. The entire scene is set against a dark night sky, with the lights from the house and decorations creating a festive atmosphere.

photos by Jim O'Brien

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

Lakewood Cares

by Meg Ostrowski

This month, Lakewood resident and founder of the non-profit "because I said I would," Alex Sheen officially released "because I said I would: The Book" and the first three episodes of "because I said I would: The Podcast."

"Because I said I would" is an international social movement at the forefront of shifting how the world views commitment and accountability. Their mission is to better humanity through promises made and kept. They do this through chapters of volunteers; character education in schools and prisons; accountability programs; and awareness campaigns with global reach. It began with a viral offer to send ten Promise Cards to anyone in the world by request only (at no cost) as a way to honor and memorialize Alex's father, whose most admirable quality was being a person of his word. With over 10.3 million Promise Cards distributed to over 153 countries, this cause has played a unique role in changing lives around the world.

Thousands of people have shared their Promise Stories with this growing organization, and now they are proud to share them with you!

"Because I said I would: The

Lakewood Resident, Alex Sheen Knows A Single Promise Can Change A Life Forever



Alex Sheen, Founder of "because I said I would"

Book" is heartwarming, humorous, inspirational, and tragic. The stories will challenge readers to look deep within themselves and consider the importance of the promises they make. Readers will gain practical life lessons from surprisingly raw stories

of ordinary people with incredible determination; useful advice on how to better keep promises; and inspiring perspectives that can be utilized in leadership and personal development initiatives. 100% percent of the author's proceeds go to "because I said

I would," a 501(c)(3). The book is available from Amazon.com, Walmart.com and at over two hundred Barnes & Nobles locations. Or you can purchase it directly from the organization's website at <https://becauseisaidiwould.com/thebook>.

"Because I said I would: The Podcast" is hosted and narrated by Alex himself with the support of Lakewood's own, The Front Porch People, a premier podcast and radio syndication network. Each episode features compelling interviews from around the world. You'll hear the dramatic stories of promises made, kept and even broken. (WARNING: some content in these episodes may be difficult and disturbing to listen to. If you have children, they may want to sit this one out.) You can subscribe to the podcast via Apple Podcasts, Spotify, Stitcher and Google Play. Or you can stream it directly from the organization's website at <https://becauseisaidiwould.com/thepodcast>.

A single promise can change a life forever. And every promise has a story. To inspire others, share yours by visiting <https://becauseisaidiwould.com/yourpromisestory>.

Lakewood Medical Clinic: Is Medical Marijuana Right For You?

by Dvora Nelson

As of 2018, thirty-one states have legalized medical marijuana, and Ohio is one of them. Ohio's medical marijuana control program is designed to help patients who suffer from 21 severe and chronic medical conditions. Because many of the qualifying conditions are symptomatic of aging, the fastest growing demographic relying on medical marijuana nationwide is patients aged 54 and older. If you have any of the conditions listed in the sidebar, call Lakewood Medical Clinic to start integrating medical marijuana to improve your quality of life.

Legal medical marijuana is very different from the marijuana that is purchased on the streets. Medical grade marijuana is inspected, certified, and lab tested for contaminants including mold, chemicals, and toxic pesticides ensuring that you receive the safest and purest plant products. An ideal medical marijuana regimen limits psychoactive effects or the feeling of being "high". Lakewood Medical Clinic professionals teach you how to properly dose and safely adjust your medication so you can function throughout your day with relief.

A clinical evaluation is necessary to see if you are a candidate for medical cannabis. Erin Lesueur, the Executive Director for Lakewood Medical Clinic, outlines that, "The patient's symptoms guide which medical marijuana regimen our physicians recommend." Each plant has different clinical effects that cause distinct reactions in your body. Some plant strains are used to supplement chemotherapy to help energize patients with fatigue asso-



ciated with their cancer treatments. Other plant strains calm the mind and relax the body to help patients suffering from PTSD (post-traumatic stress disorder) sleep better without night terrors. "Our certified medical marijuana professionals help patients identify the type and mode of cannabis administration that is best to manage your disease," Erin says.

Research has demonstrated that medical marijuana can strengthen the immune system, reduce inflammation, and slow the growth and spread of cancer cells. These multiple modes of action work on our "endocannabinoid system," which is a network of molecules and receptors in the human body that regulates everything. Our bodies recognize the marijuana plant molecules called phytocannabinoids, and these phytocannabinoids work directly on our endocannabinoid system to activate advantageous functions in our bodies.

In the state of Ohio, marijuana is

Ohio's qualifying conditions are: AIDS/HIV, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), Alzheimer's disease, cancer, chronic traumatic encephalopathy. Crohn's disease, epilepsy or another seizure disorder, fibromyalgia, glaucoma, hepatitis C, inflammatory bowel disease, multiple sclerosis, pain that is either chronic and severe or intractable, Parkinson's disease, post-traumatic stress disorder, sickle cell anemia, spinal cord disease or injury, Tourette's syndrome, traumatic brain injury, and ulcerative colitis.

a medicine, and this medicine has to be recommended to you by a physician. You take your recommendation to an Ohio licensed dispensary to purchase medical marijuana products just like you currently take your prescriptions to the pharmacy. "At Lakewood Medical Clinic we offer genetic testing to patients so they can identify the plant strains that are genetically suited for them," Erin states. Patients can take their test results to a licensed dispensary and utilize it as a guide to select medical marijuana products that will be effective for them. "When you know what plant strains will work best for you, you save costs and start feeling better sooner," Erin says.

Medical marijuana oils, tinctures, plant material, edibles, patches, and vaporization are legal in Ohio with a

valid medical recommendation. At Lakewood Medical Clinic, the physicians evaluate and educate each patient in order to present treatment regimens that give the best results. Although medical cannabis is not currently covered by insurance, it is an affordable alternative for many patients.

Call Lakewood Medical Clinic today to learn how medical marijuana may help you. Lakewood Medical Clinic is located at 11906 Madison Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio 44107. Our phone number is (440) 809-8450.

Interested in learning more? Come to our Open House on January 25, 2019 from 3 – 8pm. Tour the clinic and meet the doctors.

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Lakewood Cares

Denise Dufala Will Be Guest At Annual "Women Honoring Women" In May

by Kristy Feyedelem

The Lakewood Women’s Club is excited to announce that our featured speaker for this year’s Women Honoring Women is Lakewood’s own Denise Dufala! Denise is an Emmy-award winning journalist who spent 30 years in the Cleveland television market in addition to receiving a B.A. in Journalism from The Ohio State University. Along with serving as the 6 & 11 PM news anchor at WJW-TV, Denise was the original morning anchor of "Newscenter 8 This Morning." She served as a primary evening anchor on WOIO’s Cleveland 19 News for 22 years, before stepping down in late 2016 to spend more quality time with her young son and husband. Denise began her career as a writer for Ohio’s “Heart of It All” campaign in the late 80’s, while serving as a news-promotion producer for WTVN-TV in Columbus.

During her distinguished career on Cleveland television, she covered such historic events as President Clinton’s Inauguration, the Pope’s visit to St. Louis, the 9/11 Attack on the United States, and most recently the 2016 Republican National Convention. She has interviewed President Bill Clinton, First Lady Hillary Clinton, President Barack Obama, Sen. Mitt Romney, and countless celebrities.

In the late 90’s, Denise Dufala’s “People” column in the Cleveland Plain Dealer featured northeast Ohioans making a difference in society, and gave readers good news on page 2 of the Sunday Paper.

In 2006, Denise was recognized by her peers and inducted into the Radio/Television Broadcasters Hall of Fame of Ohio. In 2010 she was inducted into the Cleveland Association of Broadcasters Hall of Fame.

Denise is known for her work with children and families. She served as a board member for The Make-A-Wish Foundation, Kati’s Hope, Cornerstone of Hope and the Cleveland Community Building Initiative. Denise used her platform on the news to bring viewers “Wish of The Week” stories about inspiring Make-A-Wish kids and the



tireless work of the foundation, staff and volunteers. She even recorded an album, "The Age of Miracles," of which 100% of the proceeds went to the Make-A-Wish Foundation. You can find her regularly singing in her church choir, and occa-

Call For Nominations For Third Annual Women Honoring Women At Vosh

tionally singing the National Anthem at Cleveland sporting events.

In 2017, Denise teamed up with Project Love/Values In Action Foundation to become Ambassador for their Stick Together campaign to combat

vision in Lakewood. She serves as a role model and participates in community affairs and activities contributing time, effort, and resources. She is an agent for change who shows creativity in business decisions or in development of specific products or services, and who will continue progress.

The Call for 2019 Nominations are DUE FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2019. If you know a local women who should be recognized then we invite you to submit a nomination to be considered. All nominees will be recognized at the Women Honoring Women fundraiser to be held: 6:00 p.m., Thursday, May 16, 2019 at Georgetown|Vosh in Lakewood. The nomination form is available on the website and can be filled out and submitted electronically this year. <https://www.lakewoodwomensclub.org/nomination-form.html>

bullying in schools. Her anti-bullying themed children’s book, "Bomba The Brave," was published in May of 2018.

Throughout the years, Denise has made it her mission to raise awareness and funds for charities doing great work in the hometown she loves.

The Lakewood Women’s Club is excited to have a hometown favorite like Denise as their speaker for the third annual event in May.

The Women Honoring Women spring fundraiser recognizes outstanding charitable service and economic enrichment in our Lakewood community. The awards this year will be recognizing a Community Leader and a Business Leader.

The Community Leader Award honors a woman who has demonstrated excellence in leadership through deep local understanding and outstanding initiative. She consistently advances community-driven, innovative, and sustainable solutions to the region’s most pressing challenges, and service to either one organization or a variety of volunteer activities.

The Business Leader Award recognizes a woman who reflects quality and dedication in the operation of a small business in Lakewood; or, who plays a key role in establishing and implementing an economic development vision in Lakewood. She serves as a role model and participates in community affairs and activities contributing time, effort, and resources. She is an agent for change who shows creativity in business decisions or in development of specific products or services, and who will continue progress.

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Lakewood Fiction

The Rockport Miracles Part 3: Episode 4 : “Strangers In The Night”

Fiction by Scott MacGregor
Because I'm genetically insecure, I wasn't confident that Wren Mathews would be happy to see me. I had ascended the bell tower stairs at St. Swithun Church with reasonable certainty of a warm greeting. And yet in the "here today, gone goose" world of teen-aged love, nothing is certain.

As it turned out, Wren WAS happy to see me and why shouldn't she be? We'd lived a lifetime together in less than a day and now we'd found ourselves unchaperoned and surrounded by dense fog! Good ol' Father Marlowe was a hopeless romantic. It was he that suggested I meet Wren in the bell tower. Unfortunately, his own momentous meeting downtown had not gone well.

During a confrontation with the Bishop (his real life younger brother), Marlowe learned that he'd lost his beloved job of 30 years as Pastor of St. Swithun. Adding insult to injury, he was informed that Father Elmo Fry, the most notorious pedophile in the growing society of disgraced Catholic clergymen, would be provided indefinite sanctuary at St. Swithun by order of the Holy See.

Father Fry had just returned to the U.S.A. via hospital ship from a remote jungle parish on the island of Haiti. While there, he'd been cruelly injured (some said mutilated) by a



Mambo priestess for having molested several boys in the village where he lived. When told of these plans, Father Marlowe went bonkers. He broke the Bishop's nose and had to be dragged away by three seminarians. Marlowe screamed that if Fry took one step onto the grounds of St. Swithun, he'd "send him to hell, where he belongs."

As a direct result of his actions and threats, the Bishop issued a severe retaliatory punishment. He ordered the new pastor, Father St. Charles, to remove Father Marlowe from the priest's residence and banish him to a "no tell" motel on the outskirts of Rockport. Father Fry, on the other hand, was to be made comfortable inside the St. Swithun convent, whose only permanent

inhabitant was the primeval, harridan nun known as Sister Mary Leviticus.

Meanwhile, Wren and I were blissfully waiting out the fog up in the bell tower. I had a million questions to ask her but the love looks in her big blue eyes made me speechless. I was on the verge of kissing her when a strange noise on the stairway ruined the moment. "Ker-clunk!...Ker-clunk!...Ker-clunk!" We stood up and peeked down the darkened stairwell to see where the sounds were coming from.

Suddenly, we both felt overtaken by a tingling feeling caused by another strange warm wind. "Oh no," I said to Wren, "It's the ill wind." This startled Wren because she'd slept through the earlier event that caused hundreds of us Rockporters to become temporarily psychotic. I grabbed Wren's hand and said, "We've got to get out of this wind right away!" We were about to run down the stairs when the source of the "ker-clunk" sounds came into view. It was old Sister Mary Leviticus laboring mightily to pull a tall, heavy object up the stairs one "ker-clunk" at a time.

Wren and I ducked out of sight behind a large cabinet. The Sister reached the bell tower and with one last feat of strength, she lifted the mysterious object onto the platform. To our amazement, it was a life-sized wooden statue of Jesus! She was obviously under the spell of the ill wind! As we hid undetected, she waddled over to the cabinet which held the button panel controlling the "canned bells" that had replaced the real church bells years ago.

The pre-programmed bell tones included many selections from the Catholic Church's Greatest Hits catalog. The manufacturer also threw in a few secular ditties like, "Ol' Man River" and "Jimmy Crack Corn." We could hear the Sister wheezing loudly and talking to herself as she pushed a series of buttons on the device's control panel.

Still unaware of our presence, she lurched back to the statue of Jesus and started pinching His face. "I bet you know how to show a girl a good time," she said in her best Almira Gulch-like voice. At that moment, the canned bells started playing the tune that she'd selected. Wren and I looked at each other and started to laugh. It was "Strangers In the Night," a song made popular by ol' Blue Eyes himself, Frank Sinatra.

We stared in amused wonder as Sister Mary Leviticus took the lead and began slow dancing with the wooden Jesus. By this time, the ill wind had its grip on all three of us and while the twisted Sister rumba'd with the Messiah, Wren and I put our arms around each other and began slow dancing cheek to cheek. It was completely weird and totally wonderful.

Just as the song ended, we heard people screaming and dogs barking on the streets below. The fog was so thick, the human chaos was only heard but not seen. Then, the familiar voice of someone banging on the locked doors of the church rang out. "LET ME IN!! OPEN THESE DOORS!!" I knew that voice! I'd just spent most of the morning with it in a camera store. It was Lester Brown! Wren immediately darted down the stairs to help him.

"SOMEONE IS ON THE WAY, LESTER," I yelled back, "WHAT'S GOING ON DOWN THERE??" Lester replied tersely, "I NEED TO SPEAK TO FATHER MARLOWE!"

Just then, Wren opened the doors and Lester Brown pushed his way into the church. Sister Mary Leviticus was still dancing with Jesus as I flew down the stairs. The fog was beginning to lift and I saw the madness playing out on the streets. People were fighting and rioting, dogs were barking and biting, others were singing, dancing and screaming song requests to the lucky gal dancing with Jesus in the bell tower. One guy wanted to hear "This Girl Is A Woman Now" by Gary Puckett and the Union Gap.

"Father Marlowe called me, he needs our help," said Lester, "he's been banished from St. Swithun." Lester led us to a hidden door behind the church altar. Ever notice that the Catholics always seem to have secret doors and tunnels in their churches? I suppose it's a tactic they developed during the days when Romans would feed them to wild animals. This particular secret door led to a safe room. Father Marlowe was there alone and peering out of a tiny crucifix-shaped window. "He's here," said Marlowe, "I can't believe those Vatican bastards did this to us."

We looked through the window and saw an ambulance parked outside the convent. Two male orderlies were helping a bald, short and rather stout man into a waiting wheelchair. The man wore the all black cassock of a priest. I noticed that the wheelchair's seat was piled high with pillows.

Lester and Father Marlowe started whispering to each other but Wren and I could hear them clearly. "So, there he is, huh?" whispered Lester to the deposed pastor. "Yep," said Father Marlowe in a disgusted voice, "that is the notorious Father Elmo Fry."

Father Marlowe pulled out his handkerchief and began wiping tears from his eyes. Lester put his hands on Father Marlowe's back and shoulder and reassured him. "Trust me, Jim. The RCM will take care of you." As he gazed through the cross shaped window Lester muttered, "...and Father Fry will regret the day he ever stepped foot into Rockport!"

MELT

bar & grilled

THE SANDWICHES: BIG. THE EXPERIENCE:

LARGER THAN LIFE.

MELT

bar & grilled

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Lakewood Is Art

Yes, We Are Open!

by Chris Young

It is hard to believe that we are finally open but after serveral false starts and unforeseen delays we are ready to share our art with Lakewood. Our last hurdle is waiting for the broken window to be fixed. Yes, we were the unlucky business that had a car come through the front window in October.

Lakewood Art Studios is a new artist collective, education, and event space located at 18115 Detroit Ave Lakewood, Ohio that focuses on bringing all types of artists and the community together to exhibit, participate, learn, and share experiences. We believe the arts should be accessible to everyone and that it ought to be easy for creatives to celebrate their efforts.

Since we have a lot going on it is easy to be involved. Lakewood Art Studios hosts exhibitions, workshops, critiques and artist collective meet and greets. We are always looking to connect artists and the community.

The new artist collective group would like to meet on a monthly basis and by checking the business Facebook page you will find the information about these meetings. One of our members is working on putting a newsletter together and we will be looking for things to put in it. If you have a great idea, info on a wonderful art related event, or knowledge on how to do a project we want to hear about it.

On Sunday, January 13, 2019 Lakewood Art Studios will host a peer



Top: the finished storefront after the accident. Below: a photo from the accident.

to peer critique. This is a positive gathering intended to strengthen the bond of local artists and share their knowledge and experience with one another. If you are an artist living in Lakewood and the surrounding communities, you are welcome to join us.

Starting January 1, 2019, we will have an open call for emerging artists to submit ideas to be presented during our E. A. T. T. Luncheon. E. A. T.

T. stands for Emerging Artists, Table Talks. We are also looking for community members to come and eat with us. This is a grassroots funding event and is a perfect way for artists to connect

Uh--Uh-- Uh-- Uh--: Reviews Of Recent Releases By Local Bands, Pt. 83

by Buzzy Kompier

Ricky Hell & The Voidboys - Satan Of Cool - Quality Time Records / Greenway Records - 8 songs - cassette

For those keeping score, this is Ricky Hell's second release since moving to LA, his first with the Voidboys since then, and the first to be released on a physical format since then (Ricky assures me that "Blue Lips" is gonna come out soon). In a way, it's kind of a double EP, since the first half was recorded at one studio and the second side at another. This becomes important soon. Side One is pretty good. "Living On The Edge Of The Nite" kicks off the tape with a very "He's A Whore"-influenced riff; "The Numbers" and "Perfectly Down" are both very catchy and good. Adam Spektor's clarinet adds a lot to the melody of the former, and I think The Voidboys as a whole are really starting to come into their own on this tape; Carter Luckfield has some good basslines in here as well, particularly on the final track of the first side, "Space Time." The flip is where the problem arises. The production takes a hit and the whole thing kind of gets muddled in that. I'm not sure whether it's a result of the different studio or what, but the songs are also not as good. Makes you think about how much that kind of thing has to do with it, ya know? The best of the bunch on this side is "Silver Star For Robot Girl," which doesn't really sound like Bob Pollard at all but does highlight the inherent issue, not only with itself, but also the name of

with community members.

Because Donato's is a gracious neighbor, we will be able to host several tent events that will be held in their side parking lot. Right now, we are looking at Arty Parties for June, July, August and possibly September. More details on these events will be coming soon.

Creative Journey Programs help toddlers through adults find a never-ending imagination through the process of art. We now have open enrollment for Art Lab After School, Family Art Club, Winter and Spring Break Camps, as well as Summer Camps. We have on site and outreach programs available.

Lakewood Art Studios would also love your patronage at our artist collective gallery shop. Our space is divided into private studio spaces and an area for your shopping convenience. When you shop locally you not only bring joy to the person you are shopping for, but you are helping a neighbor.

To find out more details about the events and activities in this article please contact Chris Young by stopping in to Lakewood Art Studios, calling her at 216 370 2414 or visiting the business Facebook page, www.facebook.com/LakewoodArtStudios.

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the tape and the name of the band: do you really want to invite comparisons between your music and other, long appreciated music (like Guided By Voices, Nick Lowe, or Richard Hell & The Voidoids)? If you've consistently liked the previous Ricky Hell releases, you'll like this one as well; if you're more like me and not entirely sold, this one isn't bad, particularly the first side. 3.5/5

(I assume this'll be available at qualitytimerecords.bandcamp.com as soon as RH&TVB finish up their tour)

Vanilla Poppers - I Like Your Band EP - Feel It Records - 4 songs - 7", digital

This is Vanilla Poppers' first record since becoming an Australian band with Cleveland members as opposed to a Cleveland band with an Australian member. VP do their usual charging punk (with a bit of hard rock guitar riffing in there), very tight and well-played. Jo plays both guitar and drums on this one (not at the same time, I don't think) and his drumming style changes the sound some— not significantly, but you can tell a difference if you listen for it, and I like it. Steve's got some particularly good basslines on here and Christina's vocals are particularly manic and great. Mostly, you've got the typical Poppers topics (Pop-pics) covered in the lyrics: hard living,

continued on next page

Lakewood Observer

A Resolution: Campaign Finance Reform

by Matt Kuhns
The time is ripe for campaign finance reform.

The very wealthy funnel huge campaign contributions to dark money groups, to influence our elections and to buy government policies. Their influence comes at the expense of everyone else.

This month, the nonprofit American Promise is leading a campaign to end the flood of dark money. Citizens throughout Ohio are contacting representatives with postcards, emails, phone calls, and visits. The message is: support a bi-partisan effort for a 28th amendment to the US Constitution.

Lakewood's Representative Marcy Kaptur has signed the American Promise pledge to work for reform. She has been active with the House Bi-Partisan

Campaign Finance Caucus working toward fundamental changes to clean up a political system dominated by money. She has introduced a constitutional amendment resolution, as well as a bill that targets foreign money in our elections. American Promise recognizes her as a strong advocate for the reforms that people want.

With a new Congress comes new opportunity. All of America's people deserve elected officials who represent us. As a constituent in Ohio's Ninth Congressional District, I thank Representative Kaptur for her efforts, and ask that she continue to champion this cause among her colleagues.

Lakewood resident Matt Kuhns is a freelance graphic designer, and occasional author.

Councilmember Meghan F. George to Propose Paid Parental Leave

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benefits industry, believes that her proposal is necessary to provide additional supports and protections for working parents. "The period following the birth or adoption of a child is a vulnerable time for working families," Ms. George said. "I believe that it is important that our City enact employment policies supportive of and consistent with the realities that employees face juggling family and employment responsibilities. There are more women in the workforce than ever before but public policy is still lacking far behind. Lakewood is in a position where we can be a leader in this area, which is gaining momentum across the country," she added.

Councilmember George emphasized that studies of paid parental leave laws already in place reveal advantages for both employees and employers. Employers with paid parental leave have demonstrated a competitive advantage in retaining and attracting top talent. Ms. George drew on her professional experience in the industry in crafting the legislation. "In today's competitive market, it is essential for municipalities to look at their overall benefit package to obtain the best and



Councilmember Meghan George

brightest talent," she added, "We compete with the private market for top talent and it is time that our overall employment package shows our commitment to our employees."

The paid parental leave ordinance is on the docket for the January 7, 2019 Council meeting held at 7:30 p.m. in the Auditorium of Lakewood City Hall. It is expected that upon introduction the ordinance will be referred to a Council committee for further deliberation. Council meetings are also streamed live on the City's website here: <http://www.onelakewood.com/councilvideos/>

Boatbuilding And The Restorative Coast

by Ed Neal

Sitting on the Solstice Steps in Lakewood Park one can feel the restorative power of the Lakewood shoreline. It recharges one for dealing with the pressures of everyday life. The charge is even stronger if one can get out on the water in a small boat on a calm day.

In a small boat, once you push off from a sandy beach or a wooden pier your attention immediately goes to the matters of balance, trim, and propulsion. It fully absorbs you. The payoff is immediate entrance to a parallel world populated with birds, animals, fish, plants, rocks and trees discovered only from the water.



Two Six-Hour Canoes under construction by CABBS Workshop participants.

The amazing thing is that you can build one of these restorative machines yourself. Of course you can buy one but building one yourself gives you many more options from which to choose and a sense of personal satisfaction that is off the charts.

But let's be realistic. Few have the time it takes, nor the resources, nor the space for boatbuilding. But that doesn't have to stop you. You can start small. You only need a small boat to get on the water to enjoy its restorative benefits. The idea is to start.

of three or four people with each team building a boat. Once each boat is completed, it is raffled off among the three or four people who built it. One lucky person on each team will take home a boat, but everyone will take home new skills and increased self confidence.

The Workshop starts February 9 and runs for five consecutive Saturdays at the CABBS workspace on Columbus Road in the heart of the Cleveland rowing community neighborhood in the Flats. No prior experience is required other than an open attitude and a minimum age of fourteen.

That's where the Boatbuilding Basics Workshop offered by the Cleveland Amateur Boatbuilding and Boating Society (CABBS) can help you. The workshop is all about hands-on learning as you build a 15 foot boat called a Six-Hour Canoe. You will work on a team

You can learn more at the CABBS website: www.cabbs.org. With water in the very name of Lakewood, the city's soul lies along its shoreline. Pick a calm day, wear your PFD and explore it from the water in a small boat, a boat you may have built.

Lakewoodite's Brewing For Good Again

continued from page 1

beer you can confidently slide across the table for your dubious friend. The Black HI-PA's balance of roasted chocolate malt and the resinous hop profile will tiptoe up your friend's nose and down their palate until gracefully settling in their gullet. Expect your companion to reverently replace the glass on the table, so that you both may admire the HI-

PA's light body, but dark color. And should you doubt its intentions, rest comfortably upon this fact of good will: the Black HI-PA sends 40% of its proceeds to its creator's prized charity of choice: Autism Speaks. Go ahead, take another sip, it's for the kids!

Ean Fakan is a married new father, and Intervention Specialist who is passionate about outdoor sports, brewing beer & Lakewood!

Uh--Uh-- Uh-- Uh--: Reviews Of Recent Releases By Local Bands, Pt. 83

continued from page 13

the foibles of the music world, etc. "A Stranger" is an interesting change, though, as I think it's a pretty straightforward love song? Weird. I don't think this tops their LP, but it might be the better of their two 7"s thus far. Good recording as well. If you like punk, plain and simple...well, you should like Vanilla Poppers already, right? 3.5/5

(feelitrecordshop.com for the 7", feelitrecords.bandcamp.com for the digital)

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

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2006 - LO_2/1- Lakewood Is Ohio’s Newest Main Street - Hospital Ribbon Cutting

Headlines were all about Downtown Lakewood, Ohio. After submitting paperwork and dues, LCPI had been told that we were a “Mainstreet City.” Also was abuzz about the ribbon-cutting at Lakewood Hospital for the new Belle Avenue entrance and waiting area. Bob Seelie was elected to a 5th term as President of Lakewood Council, and continued his updates in the paper. A look at Lakewood Police’s canine Officer Obrock. A hard look at “No Child Left Behind” by Dr. Greanoff. “Young Woman’s Vision for Lakewood Park: ‘A Place To Grow’ A 4 page color spread on one of the most innovative, and cost-effective ideas ever for Lakewood Park. It was discovered the Nicholson House was actually older than Oldest Stone House! Gordon Brumm’s amazing series “Intelligent Design: Skeptical Thoughts about the Skepticism (2)” “Beauty and the Beast” and Verb Ballet covered at Beck Center. Hot Topics On The Deck: 1) First Rockport Square resident by Thomas J. George 2)Status of CitiState Program by Rhonda loje 3) The Eminent Domain Spectator by Mark Timieski



2007 - LO_3/1- City Councilman Edward FitzGerald Announces Race for Mayor

While Mayor George was being announced as the Vice Chair of the National League of Cities. Then Councilman FitzGerald grabbed the head-line with his announcement that “Lakewood needed stronger Leadership.” Hogsback Lane repair announced. With the announcement of Dollar Tree coming to Lakewood we take an in-depth look at phenomenon of what it means in Lakewood. LO Photographer Ivor Karabatkovic had just won Scholastic Awards for his photos. LHS Cheerleaders collecting to send cheer to soldiers in Iraq. Lakewood Hospital Newly Renovated Cornary Care Unit examined. Gary Rice looks at Lakewood Treasure Trove of Churches. One of the most infamous cartoons in the LO ran. “Krazy Kenny and the Wrestlin Fools” by Scott MacGregor (Rockport Mircles) and Gary Dumm. Of course people were outraged, not at FB levels but upset. Kenny’s fam-ily called from Florida. They had gotten a copy of the cartoon and cried. They couldn’t believe the city of Lakewood still remembered or cared about their brother known to all as “Crazy Kenny.”



2008 - LO_4/1- “Promises That Lakewood Will Prevail” Mayor Ed FitzGerald

“I want a local government that is known for high ethical standards, efficiency, and technological innovation,” was one of many highlights in Ed’s speech. He would soon announce he was moving on to seek another office. We announce the loss of the historic Hall House, a turn of the century home on Detroit near Edwards Park, now a driveway for Lube Stop. A look back on 2005 including the SWAT Pigeon, The first LEAF Garden, Stand-offs, LO’s full page story in National Enquirer about Judge Pat Carroll, UFOs, Uncle Scratch’s Gospel Revival, and more!



2011 - LO_7/1- Introducing Lakewood’s New Leadership

After being elected County Executive, Ed Fitzgerald steps down handing over keys to then Councilman Summers. The two had been working with others behind the scenes to close down Lakewood Hospital originally for a Rec Center. Scott Gilman and Dave Dargay were appointed Fire Chief and Assistant Fire Chief. And stories about “Lakewood Hospital Receives Three Gold Seals of Approval,” “Transportation Meets Public Art In Downtown Lakewood,” “Possible Salary Raises For The Mayor And Council,” “Matthew Markling To Lead Board In 2011,” “Waiting For Super-man,” “H2O Starts 2011 With New Assistant Coordinator Emmie Hutchinson And MLK Day Of Service.” The City had begun to push “Wellness” and started various programs dedicated to “Wellness” so LO started “Wellness Watch” with some good recipes and information. Lakewood Business-women Team Up For “La Bella Italia.”



2012 - LO_8/1- Quiet Street Disturbed By Violence

2012 Comes in with violence, handled by Lakewood Police quickly, quietly as they always do. Sad news is that past City Council President Robert Seelie has died. A look at the Hollywood Slim Band before their night at LPL. We join with LHS as they celebrate 50 years of Foreign Exchange Programs. Lakewood Native To Launch New Book, “The Irish Hungarian” Erin has been back writing for the LO many times and we love her input! LO’s “Wellness Watch” focuses on “Midwives Offer Birthing Options For Lakewood Women,” and “Stress Kills.”



2015 - LO_11/1- Hospital? Clinic? Rec/Wellness? Who Knows?

“Lakewood Hospital’s Current State In Question” As we had discussed on the Deck going back to 2010. With hints provided by the LO 2011, and with the Lakewood Observer breaking the news on the LO Deck in 2014, we finally put the story on Page 1 of the Lakewood Observer. As we break the story the Hospital is closing, Lakewood City Hall says, “The LO is lying, it is not closing.”City Hall says, “Investment In Water And Sewer Projects Spurs Rate Hikes” but no mention of the \$230 million needed. “St. Peter’s Youth Participate In Homeless Awareness Sleep-Out.” “Grinch Steals Christmas From Lakewood Residents” a new crime in 2018 police nab some of these thieves! “Thomas Robert Bullock IV Is Born”



2016 LO_12/1 - Council Passes Hospital Deal In A City Divided

“The Savers Wore Red, Builders Wore Blue, Residents are Divided, What’s A City To Do?” With two years of a constant barrage of misinformation, and outright lies City Council gave the Mayor a unanimous vote to close and tear down Lakewood Hospital. This marks the second year of fighting in court for documents about the entire secret plan. “Master Agreement Gives Clinic Public Assets” explained just how bad this deal is. “North Coast Health Announces New Leadership,” “The Thrifty Peddler - End Of An Era,” “Officials Fail City, Future In Citizens’ Hands,” “New Ward 4 City Councilman Dan O’Malley Sworn Into Office” Deck Topics: “CCF Seizes Complete and Absolute Control of LHA, ” “Possibly Drunk Driver Sends Car Into House on Hilliard,” “Hostage Situation Ends Well On Fry,” “The Problem With Anonymous Forums,” “Psssssst Lakewood,” “Copper Church Downspout Thief Indicted.”

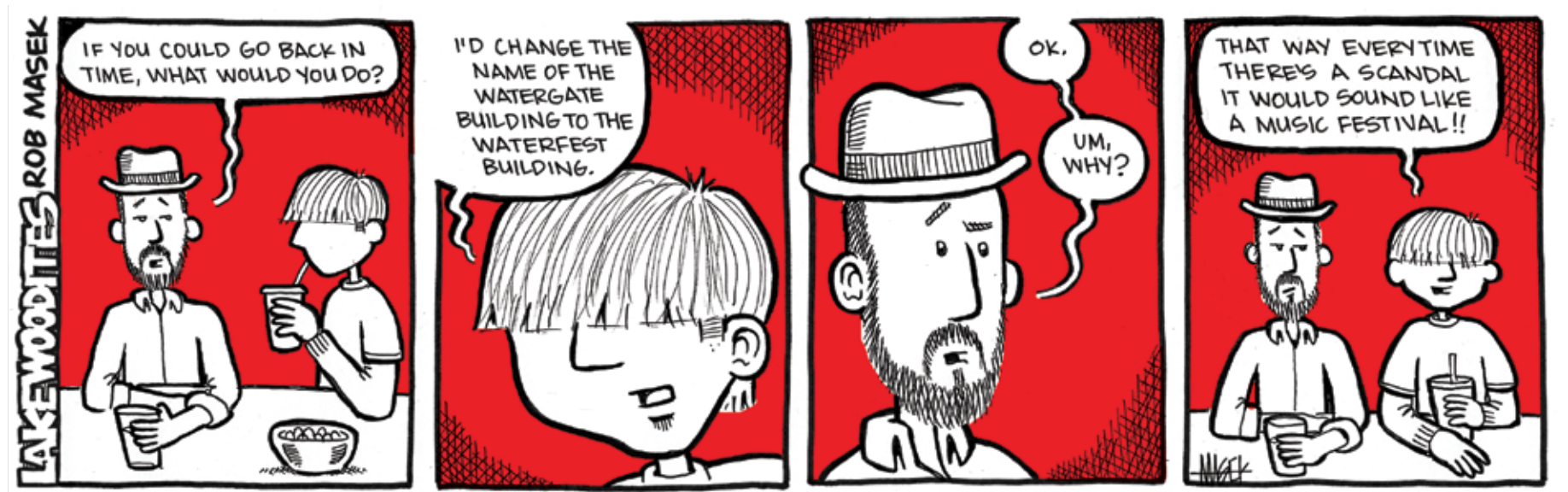


2017 LO_13/1 - Back To School In LHS’ New Academic Wing

The big news was the opening of the new Academic Wing at LHS, and the passing of ex-Superintendent “Dr. Madak Left Lasting Lakewood Legacy.” Other stories looked at: “The Art And Architecture Of Lakewood Pub-lic Library,” “Lakewood High School Duo Nominated For Presidential Scholar Program,” “Remarks From New Board of Education President Betsy Shaughnessy,” and outgoing president, Tom Einhouse. “LakewoodAlive To Host Loving Lakewood: Lumberjack Bash On February 25.” An update on “Bad Government 12: President O’Leary Delays Charity Care For Political Purposes,” and a look back on “Winterhurst Ice Skating Rink.”



The Back Page



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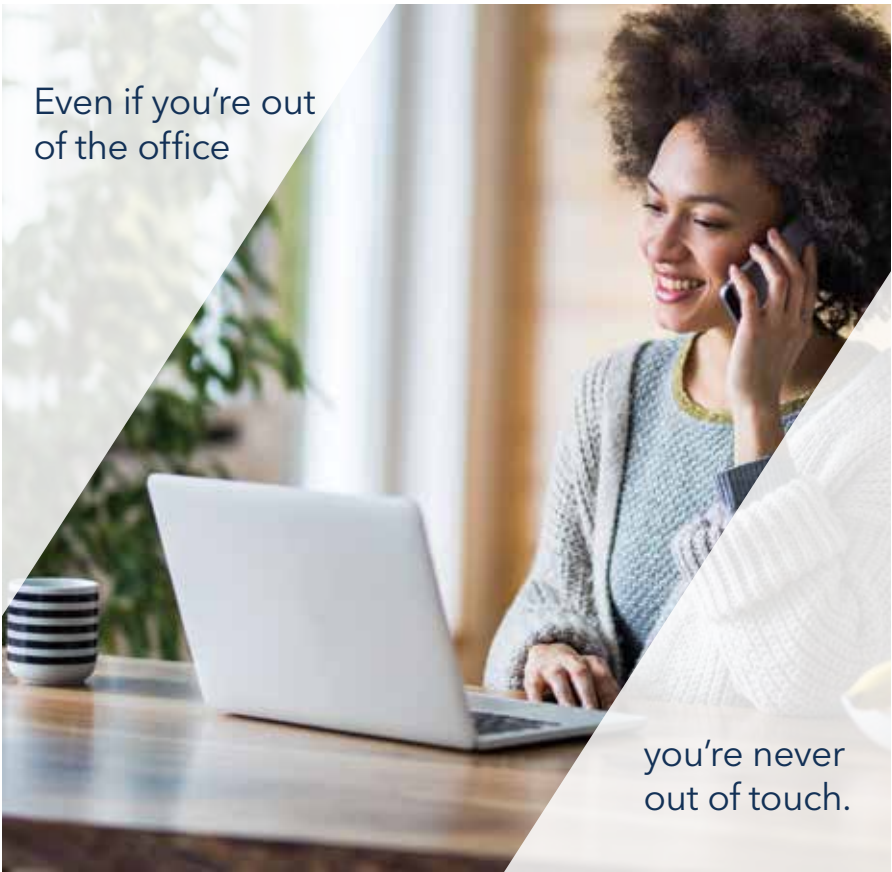
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