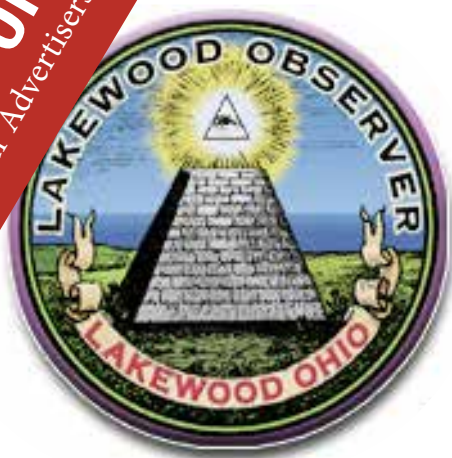


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# THE LAKEWOOD OBSERVER

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Volume 15, Issue 04, February 20, 2019

## One Lakewood Plaza To Be Built On Foundation Of Lies

by Jim O'Bryan

Since the Lakewood Observer broke the story of Lakewood Hospital closing back in 2014, Lakewood City Hall and groups that support the hospital teardown have told the public many things that we now know are, demonstrably lies. Despite this, many people took great offense when I called Mayor Summers a "liar" over the Lakewood Hospital debacle. So, from the dictionary:

**LIAR noun**  
1. a person who tells lies  
**LIE noun**  
1. an intentionally false statement.

*What follows is a chronology of confirmed and proven lies by City Hall that directly contributed to the decision to close and tear down Lakewood Hospital.*

**Lie #1: "Hospital Not Closing"**

December 29 - January 15, 2015

While the Mayor and Councilwoman Mary Louise Madigan claimed the Hospital was not closing, the Lakewood Observer had obtained copies of the Letter of Intent that called for the closing of Lakewood Hospital in it.

**Proven Fact:** Mayor Summers had been working with a small group of people to close Lakewood Hospital since before 2010.

**And City Hall knew this.**

When caught in that lie, City Hall and supporters went to:

**Lie #2: The Clinic is pulling out of Lakewood.**

**Proven Fact:** Mayor Summers had been cooperating with the Cleveland Clinic to leave their contract early. In



*The three arched windows in old Lakewood Hospital, where the new private foundation "Three Arches" gets its name. Three Arches also ended up with the lion share of dollars in this bad deal.*

the end an RFP was offered to the Clinic, thus the City and LHA (Lakewood Hospital Association) eagerly worked behind the scenes to get the Clinic out of their contract.

**And City Hall knew this.**

**Lie #3: Lakewood Hospital is losing money and has been declining in use.**

**Proven Fact:** Uncov-

ered documents examined by health care and accounting professionals prove that while insured use of the hospital was declining, the use by Medicare/Medicaid holders had increased in 2013 and 2014. When the Medicare/Medicaid payments were figured in, hospital earnings were constant, and the hospital would be sol-

**continued on page 2**

## LHS Soccer Star Named Male Athlete Of Year



*High School Athletes of the Year Malvin Gblah and Olivia Howell of Solon High School.*

by Christine Gordillo

Congratulations to Lakewood High senior and soccer All-American Malvin Gblah on winning the Greater Cleveland Sports Awards' Male High School Athlete of the Year honor! Malvin was one of three finalists for the award, which was given at a ceremony hosted by the Greater Cleveland Sports Commission on February 7. Malvin's accolades, in addition to his All-America award earned earlier this year, include:

2018 OSSCA All-Ohio First Team  
2018 All-Greater Cleveland Player of the Year  
2018 All-Greater Cleveland First Team  
2018 All-Lake Erie Regional Team  
2018 All-Southwest Conference 2nd Team  
2018 GCSSCA All-Star First Team  
Malvin, who was named an All-American in December,

**continued on page 7**

## Immigrant Voices

by Jeffrey Siebert

Immigrant Voices Story Time: What is an immigrant? An Immigrant is a person who moves to a country from somewhere else. The great thing about our country is that it is made up mostly of immigrants. Some came here from a few generations ago,

while others are just arriving. Because reading books about immigration is a perfect way to learn about new Americans, we're going to read stories about different types of immigrant experiences. This forty five minute story time features age-appropriate books with an immigration theme

## LO's Lighting Up Lakewood Winners Collect Great Prizes!



*Some of the great people of Lakewood Ohio who collected appreciation meals and deals totaling over \$600! This was our way with the help of the community to thank some of the people who took the time to make our city more festive. Thank you, Lion and Blue, Woodstock BBQ, Rood, Melt, India Garden, Namaste, and the West End Tavern, for the gifts!*

The Art of Ebru, Paper  
**continued on page 4**



# Hot Off The Deck

## One Lakewood Plaza To Be Built On Foundation Of Lies

continued from page 1

vent for at least a decade.

And City Hall knew this.

**Lie #4: No worry, there is over \$120 million in new development coming to Downtown Lakewood.**

**Proven Fact:** Mayor Summers and other groups received a letter from their lawyers and others stating that \$120 million was a completely fictitious number and should never be used again. City Hall and the Finance Director will still quote that dollar figure.

It was a LIE and City Hall knew it.

**Lie #5: We do not have any claim**

to what is inside or other properties and equipment connected to Lakewood Hospital.

City Hall, Mayor Summers, Kevin Butler, and Jenn Pae insist to this day that the City of Lakewood has no real claims to much of this, they say that they doubt that the City could prove ownership for the equipment, the services, outlying property, or funds held in the Foundations.

**Proven Fact:** The truth was known by City Hall back in March of 2015. In fact, the City of Lakewood, Cleveland Clinic, LHA, Subsidiary, and another consultant agreed, in writing, to the following: The City of Lakewood (i.e., the residents) owned every bit of every-

thing associated with the hospital. The land, the buildings, the equipment, the goods and services, and the money to fund it to keep it going. All belonged to the people of Lakewood. When asked, Mayor Summers, Kevin Butler, and Jenn Pae still lie about this. For 3.5 years they hid the documents that stated this.

This document alone might have won the residents' lawsuit to slow down the hospital deal in order to negotiate a better one - or even have saved Lakewood Hospital.

And documents show City Hall knew this all along.

The small portion of the documents finally released by City Hall demonstrate one other thing: this City Hall is inept - or arguably the most corrupt administration in Lakewood's history. The released documents prove that Lakewood City Hall and their supporters not only made the worst possible deal, they did so while lying to Lakewood residents about virtually every aspect of it. They chose the one deal that gave Lakewood residents the least, and gave the most to friends and supporters of Summers and FitzGerald.

One recently released document proves that instead of a \$250 million dollar potential win for the City of Lakewood, they turned it into a \$250 million dollar loss for Lakewood while getting land and millions of dollars for



photo by Jim Dempsey

their supporters to manage privately.

That is a \$500 million dollar shift in publicly owned assets for Lakewood residents.

Today, uncovered documents won in a lawsuit for public records that took three and a half years, can prove what we have said from day one. Lakewood-ites, you have been lied to and played. City Hall has actively worked to cover-up their lies and bad deeds.

Any Lakewood Official not calling for a complete outside accounting, and for all of the records be made public, should never be considered for public office again. Non-elected officials involved should never be allowed access to the funds that have come out of this both publicly and privately.

It was all one big lie, and City Hall and their supporters knew it from day one.

So, ask yourself, why did public officials like Mayor Summers, Kevin Butler, Jenn Pae, Mary Louise Madigan, Tom Bullock, Sam O'Leary, John Litten do this? Why did they lie? And why are they still hiding documents?

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**Upcoming Submission Deadline**

February 28, 2019  
March 14, 2018

**Publish Date**

March 6, 2019  
March 20, 2018

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# Lakewood Public Library

## Legends Of China: Culture And Poetry Presented By Professor Shunqin Li

by Elaine Rosenberger

Explore Chinese poetry and culture in a four-week course led by Professor Shunqin Li. Concentrating on poetry from the Tang Dynasty, this poetry series will open a window to Chinese culture through song, language and artistic expression.

Professor Shunqin Li is an instructor at Cleveland State University's Confucius Institute, which was established in 2008 as a way to further education on Chinese language and culture in the greater Cleveland area. Affiliated with the People's Republic of China's Ministry of Education, the Confucius Institute seeks to support Chinese teaching internationally and to facilitate cultural exchange. Professor Shunqin Li is a visiting professor from Yunan Agricultural University in China. Her main academic interest is teaching Chinese as a foreign language.



Tang Poetry is poetry written during China's Tang dynasty, from 618 to 907. During the Tang Dynasty, poetry was important to all levels of society, and Tang Poetry is often considered the Golden Age of Chinese Poetry.

The first class takes place on Wednesday, March 6, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium. Additional classes will be held on Wednesday, March 13, 2019, Wednesday March 20, 2019, and Wednesday, March 27, 2019. Professor Shunqin Li's classes are free and open to all; no registration is required.



## Friends Of Lakewood Library Spring Book Sale

by Lisa Calfee

All winter long, the Friends of Lakewood Library have been moving, sorting, stacking and organizing thousands of donations to prepare for the Friends of Lakewood Library Spring Book Sale on Saturday, March 9, 2019 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Now this small group of volunteers is working extra hard to get things ready two days earlier for the Members

Only Book Sale preview on Thursday, March 7, 2019 from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. If you would like to shop the early sale, memberships and membership renewals are available at the door for a small fee. The line-up for the sale starts promptly at 6:00 p.m.

While the 2019 book sale season is starting off with the same unbelievable prices, the selection of donated and cancelled library materials is entirely new, including a large collection of vinyl classical records selling for fifty cents an album, a completely updated biography section and a nice group of medical books. Both hard and soft back books sell for fifty cents each.

Children's books, maps, pamphlets, magazines, VHS tapes and CDs are still ten cents. Jigsaw puzzles, games, DVDs, audio books, games on CD, records and record sets are fifty cents apiece. Titles in the Better Books section are individually priced according to their unique values.

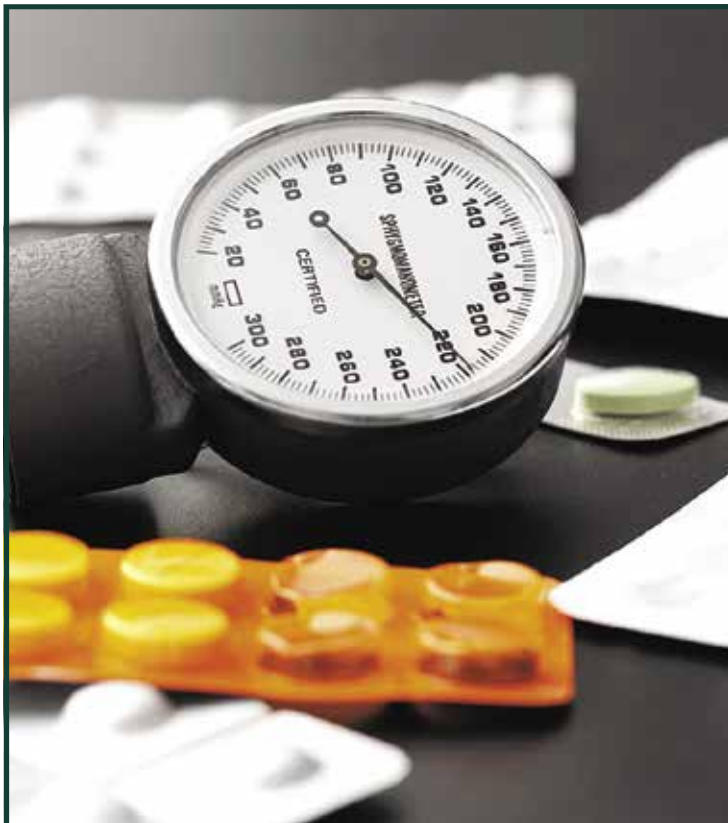
Come browse the amazing and affordable collection of bestselling authors, classics, poetry, cookbooks, mysteries, picture books, gardening guides and romances. Both sales take place in the Main Library Lower Level Friends' Book Sale Area. Only cash and checks are accepted.

## Heart Art



by Marge Foley

The "Inspire Your Heart with Art" program, recently held at the Lakewood Public Library, brought a group of children together to listen to a story, write a poem, and complete two different heart art projects. Here they are shown proudly displaying an art project where flowers were created from paper cupcake liners.



LUNCH & LEARN

Blood Pressure  
Management and  
Medications

Thursday, February 28, 2019 | 11:30 a.m.

Presented by Caitlin Mills, PharmD,  
Cleveland Clinic Lakewood Family  
Health Center

Assisted Living Building  
4th Floor Education Room

Please RSVP to Tammy Sibert  
at 216-912-0800 by February 26, 2019

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# Lakewood Public Library

## Calendar Of Events

compiled by Elaine Rosenberger

**Wednesday, February 20, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.**

**Presentation: Person-first Language and Disability Legislation  
Presentation by Disability Rights Ohio**

Since the landmark signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act in 1990, certain rights for people with disabilities have been protected by law. Three decades later, the struggle for equality is ongoing. A representative from Disability Rights Ohio will share the latest developments in legislation and its impact on everyday living for people with disabilities.

Main Library Auditorium

**Thursday, February 21, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.**

**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 “Postern of Fate: A Tommy and Tuppence Mystery” by Agatha Christie.

Main Library Meeting Room

**Saturday, February 23, 2019 at 1:00 p.m.**

**Talk - Prevention and Screening for Colon Cancer  
Presentation by University Hospitals St. John Medical Center**

The American Cancer Society lowered the age for regular colon cancer screenings to age forty-five. What is colon cancer and what are polyps? What are the signs and symptoms of colon cancer? Find the answers to your questions and join us for this health talk to find out what you can do to decrease your risk of getting colon cancer.

Main Library Auditorium

**Saturday, February 23, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.**

**Film: “The Theory of Everything” (2014)**

**Directed by James Marsh**

At Cambridge in the 1960s Stephen Hawking (Eddie Redmayne) is an unknown astrophysics student who is enchanted by literature student Jane Wilde (Felicity Jones). Life takes a devastating turn when he is diagnosed with Lou Gehrig’s disease. Together they must face reality but strive to live a life of meaning in academic and personal goals.

Main Library Auditorium

**Sunday, February 24, 2019 at 2:00 p.m.**

**Concert - Matthew Ball: The Sounds of New Orleans**

Matthew Ball aka The Boogie Woogie Kid performs a family-friendly program of New Orleans Boogie-Blues-Swing and song favorites from the ‘20s, ‘30s and ‘40s. Ball will get festival season rolling before Fat Tuesday with hits like “Ain’t Misbehavin,” “It Had to be You,” “In The Mood,” and “When the Saints Go Marchin’ In.” Laissez les bons temps rouler!

Main Library Multipurpose Room

**Wednesday, February 27, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.**

**Iditarod: The Great Alaskan Adventure**

**Presentation by Eleanor Csizmadia**

Spanning from Anchorage, in South Central Alaska, to Nome on the Western Bering Sea coast, this 1,000 mile race covers the roughest, most beautiful terrain Mother Nature has to offer. The race pits man and animal against nature, and against wild Alaska at her best. Each mile covered is a tribute to Alaska’s history and the role the sled dog played. Local enthusiast, Eleanor Csizmadia has been following the race for most of her life and will share personal photos, videos and race knowledge.

Main Library Auditorium

**Thursday, February 28, 2019**

**Great Decisions in the Library - Global Health:**

**Progress and Challenges**

The world faces a mix of old and new health challenges, including the preventable deaths of mothers and children, continuing epidemics of infectious diseases, and rising rates of chronic disease. We also remain vulnerable to the emergence of new and deadly pandemics. After a brief video, Dr. Ubydul Haque will lead a discussion and help to answer some of the

## Children And Youth

compiled by Jeffrey Siebert

**Sunday, February 24, 2019, 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.**  
**Lakewood LEGO® League**

**For youth in kindergarten through fifth grade (caregivers welcome)**

Use LPL’s collection of Lego® Bricks and your own imagination to create fabulous new structures and designs each month. No registration, but numbered tickets will be given out first-come, first-served.

Main Library Activity Room.

**Sunday, March 3, 2019, 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

Main Library Multipurpose Room.

**Wednesday, March 6, 2019, 4:00-5:00 p.m. in the  
Madison Branch Auditorium.**

**Puerto Rican Water Bottle Guiro**

**For students in first through fifth Grade.**

A guiro is a Puerto Rican percussion instrument made of a notched hollowed out gourd. Create your own water bottle guiro and join others as we play them to Latin music. Registration Required.

**Sunday, March 3, 2019, 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.**

**Happily Ever Crafter, For students in sixth through twelfth grade**

Come create cute, clever crafts with everyday materials. Materials are provided. Registration Required.

Main Library Activity Room.

complex questions surrounding global health initiatives.  
7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room

**Saturday, March 2, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.**

**Film “Get Out” (2017)**

**Directed by Jordan Peele**

Chris (Daniel Kaluuya) is about to meet his girlfriend Rose’s (Allison Williams) family for the first time. Rose assures him that her family is unaffected by their interracial relationship but as the weekend goes on, Chris becomes more and more paranoid about the strange things happening all around him. What starts as a light, meet-the-parents situation, quickly escalates into Chris fighting for his life as the family turns out to be more dangerous.

Main Library Auditorium

**Sunday, March 3, 2019 at 2:00 p.m.**

**Concert - Ginger Ackley**

Singer and songwriter Ginger Ackley has taken her life-long passion for music, combined it with a love of history and tradition, and melded them into the delightful style of Celtic Folk. Performing both traditional and original songs, she sings while accompanying herself on one of her six autoharps. In her own words, she is “Celtic with a twist,” because her music covers such a spectrum from original to traditional, mystical to educational.

Main Library Auditorium

**Tuesday, March 5, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.**

**Documentary “I Am Not Your Negro” (2016)**

**Presented by Twelve Literary Arts**

“I Am Not Your Negro” scrutinizes racism in America through James Baldwin’s unfinished book, “Remember This House.” It combines Baldwin’s manuscript about the lives and assassinations of three civil rights leaders with footage of African-Americans throughout history. “I Am Not Your Negro” explores the continued peril America faces from institutionalized racism. Members of the local organization Twelve Literary Arts will join us to discuss this film.

Main Library Auditorium

**Wednesday, March 6, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.**

**Legends of China: Culture and Poetry**

Presented by Shunqin Li of the Confucius Institute at Cleveland State University

Take a look at the legends of ancient Chinese Tang poetry in this four-week course taught by visiting professor Shunqin Li. This poetry series will open a window to Chinese culture through song, language and artistic expression. Experience Chinese history through poetry of the Tang dynasty and your own creation. The Confucius Institute works to support programs and activities that help to deepen the relationship between Cleveland and China.

Main Library Auditorium

**Wednesday, March 6, 2019 from 7:00pm - 8:00 p.m.**

**Staffed Exhibit Time**

Traveling Stanzas utilizes interactive tools to enhance and encourage user engagement with poetry. When visitors interact with digital creative tools such as Emerge or Thread, their voices will be incorporated into the exhibit in a variety of ways—from a scrolling group poem to posted cards printed from the Emerge web application. If you want to engage with these tools, but don’t know where to start, visit while our docents can assist. To schedule for large groups please email [events@lakewoodpubliclibrary.org](mailto:events@lakewoodpubliclibrary.org) or call (216) 226-8275, ext. 174.

Main Library Second Floor Gallery

**Thursday, March 7, 2019 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.**

**Spring Book Sale Preview**

Friends of Lakewood Public Library host a Members Only Preview Sale. Join at the door for as little as \$3.00.

## Immigrant Voices

continued from page 1

Marbling: For students in third through sixth grade. Ebru is a traditional Islamic and Turkish painting art that creates patterns resembling marble and other stone. Each design is a unique creation transferred to paper

by a special process. Thursday, March 7, 2019 from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room. Registration required.

To register, call (216) 226-8275X140 or register online at [www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.org](http://www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.org).



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# Lakewood Public Library/Schools

## Library Partners With Wick Poetry Center To Present "Traveling Stanzas: Immigrant Voices"

by Andrea Fisher

Lakewood Public Library will be hosting the exhibit "Traveling Stanzas: Immigrant Voices," in partnership with the Wick Poetry Center at Kent State University, and generously sponsored by the Friends of the Lakewood Public Library. Traveling Stanzas: Immigrant Voices acknowledges the unique experiences of immigrants in our community using an interactive exhibit that includes creative writing tools and activities, and engages a dialogue through the intimate and inclusive voice of poetry. The exhibit is open to visitors from March 1 through April 30, 2019 in the Main Library Second Floor Gallery, with supporting programs throughout the spring and summer. Madison Branch will have a smaller scale interactive component as well.

The official exhibit opening will take place at Lakewood Public Library in the Main Library Grand Reading Room on Friday, March 8 beginning at 6:30 p.m. with music by Global Connections, followed by opening remarks from David Hassler, Director of the Wick Poetry Center and Teaching Artist Katie Daley, and a poetry reading at 7:00 p.m.

The award-winning Traveling Stanzas Project has the mission to: "... bring poetry to everyday lives by fostering meaningful conversations and encouraging new voices. The program offers people moments of pause to slow down and reflect on their lives, their communities, and to participate in a shared creative experience."



Leading up to the exhibit, Daley, of the Wick Poetry Center, worked with groups from Cuyahoga Community College's Aspire ESOL classes at Taft School, students in the ASIA Inc. After School program and students from Garfield and Harding Middle Schools to create poetry, some of which is included in the exhibit. During these workshops, Daley engaged the groups with writing prompts and exercises to write verses which reflected experiences from their home countries and the United States.

Lakewood Public Library invites you to read and share in these unique experiences, and to visit Traveling Stanzas: Immigrant Voices to create your own stanzas, and to think about your own background and observations.

The exhibit is open during Library hours, Monday through Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., and Sunday 1:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Guided tours are available for large groups of eight or more by reservation. To schedule a tour, call (216)226-8275, ext. 174.

For more information on Traveling Stanzas and accompanying programs visit [lakewoodpubliclibrary.org](http://lakewoodpubliclibrary.org)

## District Open Enrollment Begins March 1

by Christine Gordillo

The Lakewood City Schools Open Enrollment period for the 2019-2020 school year will begin on March 1, 2019 and continue until March 31, 2019. An online form will be available on this District website ([www.lakewoodcityschools.org](http://www.lakewoodcityschools.org)) beginning the morning

of March 1, 2019. Notification of Open Enrollment status will be as follows: The first round of decisions will occur in June. Second-round decisions will occur in August. Kindergarten decisions will not be made until August. If you have any questions regarding Open Enrollment, please call 216-529-4203.

## Lakewood Kiwanis Offering Scholarships To Graduating Seniors

by Anna Bacho

The Kiwanis Club of Lakewood is proud to be offering its 2019 scholarship program to graduating high school seniors. The club's foundation will award eight \$10,000 scholarships, \$2500 per year for 4 years each. Edward Hadaway, Kiwanis scholarship committee chairman said "eligible applicants can be students at any high school, but must be a resident of Lakewood. They must demonstrate

academic success in high school and must have applied to one or more specific college or university. Winners will be chosen based on need for financial assistance; community involvement and service; the qualities of leadership, honesty, loyalty, diligence and participation in extracurricular activities." Applications and contact information is online at Lakewood Kiwanis. Please submit by April 1, 2019. Kiwanis serving Lakewood youth.

## Spring Art Programs

by Jeffrey Siebert

Spring inches ever closer, which means there is a bouquet of art programs at the Lakewood Public Library for students to choose from. Take a break and come on down to the Lakewood Public Library for some creative inspiration.

**Illustration Creation:** a picture book art program for students in kindergarten through first grade. This six week program will feature a different children's book illustrator each class and culminates with an art show on May 2, 2019. Thursdays, March 14, 2019 through April 25, 2019 from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. in the Main Library Activity Room.

**Strokes of Genius:** a six-week program for students in second through fourth grade. Art activities and stories

open up the world of art and culminates with an art show on April 23, 2019. Space is limited. Registration is required. Tuesdays, March 5, 2019 to April 16, 2019 from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose and Activity Rooms.

**Art Explosion:** for students in fifth through eighth grade. Learn about different artists in this six-week program, then experiment with and create your own style to display at the culminating art show on Monday, April 15, 2019. Mondays, March 4, 2019 to April 8, 2019 from 7:00-8:30 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room.

**Space is limited and registration is required. Call Children's and Youth Services at (216) 226-8275x140 or go online to [www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.org](http://www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.org) to register.**

## Social Justice Story Time And Scavenger Hunt

by Jeffrey Siebert

Children begin to categorize people based on race, gender and social status at a very young age to make sense of the world around them. Parents may not feel comfortable talking to their child about social justice in public situations or know where to start. Reading books about tolerance and diversity is a perfect way to start this conversation. Social Justice Storytime is a 45 minute program that features age-appropriate books with a social justice theme and includes a discussion time and related craft. This program will be held on

Thursday, March 7, 2019 at 10:30 a.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose room. This a drop-in program for all ages, so no registration is required.

Participate in Social Justice Month by searching the children's area of the Library for signs showing Americans of color who have impacted history. Scavenger Hunt signs will include a photograph and short biography. Enter your completed scavenger hunt sheet in a drawing for a prize. Pick up a scavenger hunt entry form at the Children's and Youth Services desk. No registration is required.

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# Lakewood Public Schools

## Harrison Turns School Into Black History Museum

by Christine Gordillo

Michael Jackson, Barack Obama, Josephine Baker, Garret Morgan – these are just some of the names honored as part of Harrison Elementary School’s Black History Museum, created to celebrate Black History Month. Harrison staff members were looking to do something extra special this year for the month of February and came up with the idea of transforming the entire school into a museum.

Each class was tasked with researching an African American who has had a significant impact on society and then creating a door decoration to celebrate that person’s accomplishments. With the help of curriculum and technology teacher Stacy Rocco, each class also added a QR code near the door that linked to a biographical video, or a speech, a song, or piece of literature from the highlighted individual.

Guests invited to tour the museum the first week of February were given an iPad to wander the building and see the many doors decorated and watch the biographies on the iPad. They were then asked to vote on their favorite door. The winner was the English Learners’ classroom of Tiffany Hickey with a bold Barack Obama door design. The design earned the class a pizza party in the future.

The museum idea came out of a

broader vision that Principal Sabrina Crawford has for her building.

“My goal is for our students to be exposed to and experience authentic learning opportunities. I have implemented various committees in our building that work to create these experiences for students. I challenged the Black History Committee to think outside the box and really elevate the Black History Month experience for our students and our staff,” Principal Crawford said. “Not only did we add visual aspects, but we used opportunities to add audio/technology as well through the use of QR Codes.”

The tech aspect of the museum helped the celebrated figures come to life as you listen to Pharrell Williams sing “Happy” or hear other NBA greats explain why Michael Jordan is the greatest player of all time. From entertainers, to athletes, to scientists, to national leaders, it is all simply inspiring!

## LHS Showcase To Highlight School's Rich Offerings

by Christine Gordillo

On Thursday, February 28 from 6-7:30 pm, Lakewood High School will host the LHS Showcase. The event is designed to share with the community all the opportunities available to an LHS student, from the abundance of extracurricular activities, to the wide range of curricular options such as Advanced Placement, College Credit Plus, and career-tech classes. The evening will also include a session for parents of incoming freshmen to talk about scheduling and a session for parents of non-public students interested in LHS. Visit the District website at [www.lakewoodcityschools.org](http://www.lakewoodcityschools.org) for more details.



## Employment Opportunities- Lakewood Recreation Seasonal Field Maintenance

by Mitchell Robida

Looking for summer employment where you will be outside?

The Lakewood Recreation Department is looking for people interested to join our seasonal field maintenance staff. Field maintenance preps the outdoor fields for the Lakewood High School, Lakewood Recreation Department and other athletic teams during the spring and summer seasons.

An individual interested to apply must be at least 18 years old, have a valid driver's license and good driving record. We require persons to work weekdays and weekends. If you are

interested please fill out our Employment Application located at <https://www.lakewoodrecreation.com/user/forms/5207-pdf-0.pdf> and turn into Leslie Favre Krogman, Coordinator, Lakewood Community Recreation & Education Department, 14100 Franklin Blvd, Lakewood, OH 44107, fax to 216.529.4464 or email an attached application to: [leslie.krogman@lakewoodcityschools.org](mailto:leslie.krogman@lakewoodcityschools.org).

We are seeking candidates able to start mid to late February.

Please call our office with questions at (216)529-4081.



present

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**7 PM**

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# Lakewood Public Schools

by Mike Deneen

Lakewood senior Tommy Sala hit a pair of clutch free throws with 1.5 seconds left to secure a 52-51 win on Senior Night. Sala scored the final six points of the game to help the Rangers overcome a 51-46 deficit with 2:25 left in the game. The nonconference win over Bay lifts Lakewood's record to 14-6 on the season. The game was preceded by a ceremony honoring the team's nine seniors: Shannon Cotto, Christian Marcano, Derek Walker, Tim Smith, Zion Kolodynski-Darby, Tommy Sala, Dominic Wahba, Alex Bransteter, and Delvaun Phillips. This group has gone 36-9 over the past two seasons, and was key to last year's conference championship.

The game was evenly played throughout, and matched Bay's perimeter shooting game against the Rangers tall front line. Bay jumped out to a quick 7-2 lead behind a couple three pointers from senior Max Schowalter. Lakewood responded with a 12-6 run to take a 14-13 lead after the first quarter.

Lakewood stretched the lead to 28-23 at the half, despite the fact Bay held Sala to only one field goal in the first two quarters. The Rangers held

## Rangers Edge Bay In Senior Night Thriller



Nine senior players and their families were honored before Saturday night's 52-51 win over Bay. This group has gone 36-9 over the past two seasons, and won last year's conference title.

the lead in the third quarter, as a late three pointer helped them to a 42-37 lead at the break.

Bay came out strong in the final quarter, hitting a trio of three point-

ers during a 9-2 run. Rocket senior Erik Painter then hit a pair of free throws that gave Bay a 48-44 lead with 3:42 remaining. Kolodynski-Darby cut the lead to two with a basket, but Painter responded with a three pointer that gave Bay the 51-46 lead. The Rocket cheering section exploded with excitement as Lakewood seemed to be on its heels.

Sala took over at this point, cutting the lead to 51-48 with a field

goal at the 2:08 mark. Lakewood made a defensive stand, and Sala scored again with 38 seconds remaining to make it 51-50. The Rangers again held defensively, and they had an inbounds play with 8.4 seconds left. They went inside to Sala, who was fouled. He made the decisive free throws, which were followed by a desperation heave from Bay. Lakewood won 52-51, as happy Rangers ran onto the court to celebrate.

Lakewood next hosts Amherst on Tuesday night at LHS. That conference matchup will be the final regular season home game of the season. The Rangers will finish the regular season with a road game at North Ridgeville on Friday.

### CHEERLEADER FUNDRAISER ON WEDNESDAY

The LHS Cheerleaders are hosting a pasta dinner fundraiser Wednesday, February 20. The event runs from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the LHS cafeteria. It's an all you can eat dinner. Presale tickets (\$10 for adults, \$5 for kids 10 and under) can be purchased from any member of the squad. Tickets will also be available at the door (\$12 adults, \$6 kids 10 and under).

## LHS Soccer Star Named Male Athlete Of Year

continued from page 1

has compiled one of the most prolific careers in Lakewood High School history: he played in the fourth-most games (71), had the third-most goals (45,) and the most assists (31). During the 2018 season, Malvin registered 18 assists, which is tied for the most in a single season.

Malvin's success is even more remarkable when you consider that he came to the United States four years ago from an African refugee camp. Malvin was born in a refugee camp in the Ivory Coast, on the northwestern tip of Africa. His family was fleeing the violence of civil war in Liberia. Once in the United States, Malvin's family found its way to Lakewood where Malvin found his home both in the community and on the soccer field.



Malvin Gblah

## Rotary Foundation Offering Four Scholarships

by Lynn Donaldson

The Lakewood/Rocky River Rotary Foundation is offering grants for study in any accredited post-high school educational institution. Four grants of \$3,000 will be awarded toward the cost of one year's tuition.

Applicants must be a member of the 2019 graduating class of any accredited high school, and be a resident of the Lakewood or Rocky River school district; show a record of academic success in his/her high school career; have applied to a specific college, university, community or junior

college, or trade or professional school; and have no direct relationship to a current or honorary Rotarian.

Applications must be received by 3 p.m. Monday, March 4. The awards will be presented on April 1.

Required information must be submitted on the application form that can be downloaded or completed online at <http://www.lakewoodrockyriverrotary.org>.

Guidelines for submitting the application, as well as other criteria, are included.



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# Lakewood Cares

## Have You Heard About That Monkey Place? No More Monkeys Enrichment Is A Family Fun Zone Now Open In Lakewood

by Heather McCormick

**What is No More Monkeys?**  
NMME Lakewood is a fun zone for families! NMME is located in Northland Plaza at 16210 Madison, has free parking lot parking, free coffee, and accepts cash and credit cards. Monkey class is a weekly class on a monthly subscription. Classes are geared towards young children (although we practice “age diversity”), use original music from local artists, and are based on MANNERS KINDNESS

AND DIVERSITY! We also have a drop-in play zone for families to come in and hang together. We also will offer supplemental fun classes ranging from Tea Parties to Yoga.

**What does No More Monkeys offer?**

**DROP IN PLAY:** \$6 per child per drop-in play visit (no subscription, just per drop in visit). Grownups stay and enjoy free WiFi and coffee. Hours on website.

**SUPPLEMENTAL CLASSES, TEA PARTIES, KIDDO YOGA, AND OTHER SPECIALTY THINGS:** (subjects vary) \$10 per child per visit, no subscription, just per class. Grownups stay to participate or simply hang out



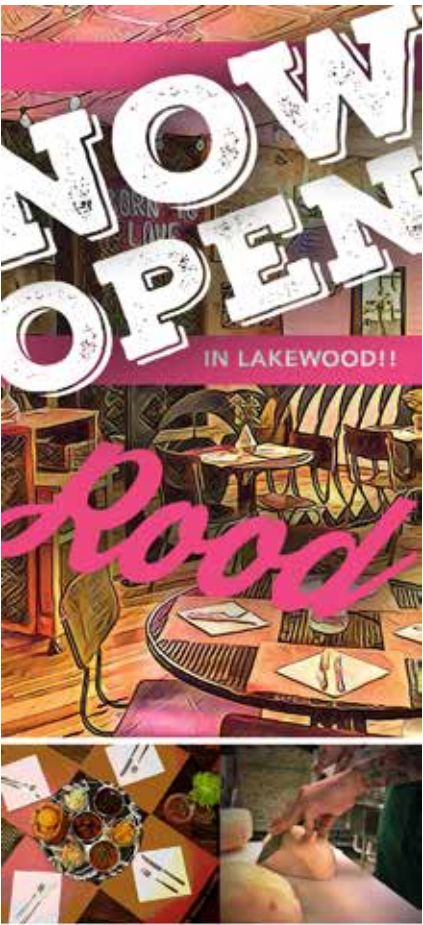
on the cozy couch. See calendar on website, please and thank you.

**MONKEY CLASS:** These begin in March, use original music by local artists and have different subject matter each month. These are on a monthly subscription plan and are \$60 for the month (4 or 5 classes depending on how many weeks). Sibling discount on website. Grab your spot today. Grownups stay and participate. We practice

“age diversity” so all are welcome, but our play zone and monkey classes are more geared to ages 0-5.

**Who is the owner?**  
Heather McCormick is a Lakewood resident who has worked with children for nearly 30 years. She raised her daughter Claudia as a single mother, and now that Claudia is grown, it’s time to get down to Monkey Business. Heather had the idea for NMME years ago and is so excited to be bringing it to our wonderfully diverse city. Kindness creates confidence is something she lives by, and she is pumped to have made a fun cozy place for families to spend time together. She also always has bubbles in her purse.

Miss Heather and the monkey team look forward to meeting you all and feel free to visit us anytime at [www.facebook.com/nmmenrichment](http://www.facebook.com/nmmenrichment) [www.kindmonkeys.com](http://www.kindmonkeys.com)



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STATE OF GEORGIA**

**IN RE:**  
DANIEL L. ALBRIGHT, PLAINTIFF  
CIVAL ACTION  
FILE NO. 2018-V-655  
TO JOLENA B. BORCHERT,  
DEFENDANT

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT THE ABOVE- STYLED ACTION DOMESTIC FOREIGN DECREE WAS FILED AGAINST YOU IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF COWETA COUNTY, GA ON THE 6TH DAY OF JUNE, 2018, AND THAT BY REASON OF AN ORDER FOR SERVICE OF SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION ENTERED INTO THE COURT ON THE 23RD DAY OF AUGUST , 2018, YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED AND REQUIRED TO FILE WITH CLERK OF SAID COURT AND SERVE UPON MEGAN E. WAL-LIN, PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY, WHOSE ADDRESS IS 5 EAST BROAD STREET, NEWNAN, GA 30263, 770.683.2468

AN ANSWER TO THE COM-PLAINT WITHIN SIXTY (60) DAYS FROM THE 20TH DAY OF FEBRU-ARY, 2019

## Tickets On Sale For Lakewood Event, Women Honoring Women

by Kristy Feyedelem

Tickets are now on sale for the highly anticipated Lakewood event, Women Honoring Women. It will take place on May 16, 2019 at Georgetown/ Vosh beginning at 6pm.

**Tickets can be purchased at**  
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2019-women-honoring-women-tickets-54833070189?aff=ebdssbdestse&utm-medium=discovery&utm-campaign=social&utm-content=attendeeshare&utm-source=cp&utm-term=destsearch>

Denise Dufala is this year's guest speaker. Appetizers and open bar are also included with your ticket. Gift baskets from local businesses will be available for bidding along with a 50/50 raffle. Tickets did sell out last year, so don't wait!

The Lakewood Women's Club (formerly known as Junior Women's Club of Lakewood) was founded in 1962, with roots going back to the early 1900s. It has provided, and continues to provide, a philanthropic organization

for women who are interested in serving their community while enjoying a program geared to fun and friendship. LWC supports Lakewood through these programs: an annual scholarship awarded to a female high school senior pursuing a higher education; and support of non-profit organizations, selected by membership, through an application process. Through our fundraising efforts, highlighted by our annual spring fundraiser- Women Honoring Women - in May, LWC plays an important role in helping to fund some of Lakewood's most vital social services and non-profits, including The Beck Center, GiGi's Playhouse, Journey of Hope, Lakewood Community Service Center, Live Well Lakewood, Matthew's Lending Library, Meals On Wheels, Trinity Lakewood Community Outreach, and The HUGS Foundation with grants totaling over \$250,000 since 1995. LWC has awarded more than \$30,000 in scholarship money to deserving high school seniors as they pursue their education.

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# Lakewood Is Art

I Haven't Buzzed Off Just Yet:

## Reviews Of Recent Releases By Local Bands, Pt. 85

by Buzz Kompier

**Mr. California & The State Police - The State Police Featuring Members Of Mr. California - self-released? - 21 songs - cassette**

This tape is, I suppose, Mr. California's last release as an Ohioan, as he's gone back to California for the time being. The title of this tape is actually pretty accurate, because most of the songs on here are instrumentals that don't exactly "feature" Terry, the man known as Mr. California, but instead his backing band/drum machine The State Police. The two tracks that have vocals are "Like To Get High" and "BLS," both pretty okay songs. The issue arises from the fact that a good few of these sound like typical Mr. C and The State Police songs with the vocals missing, which just kinda makes you go, "well, where are the lyrics?" That's not to say that there aren't songs on here that hold their own as instrumentals. The best of the bunch are the ones that sound like demented video game soundtracks, like "Sledding Up The Mountain," "Good Morning, Saint," and "Sonic On Acid And Speed," which could actually be the music from Sonic, I really have no idea. Definitely not the place to start with Mr. California, but if you've always wanted to hear more of his instrumental/compositional capabilities, this is for you. Also worth buying for any Mr. California fan for the insert alone.

(I don't even know who put this out or where to get it. Try a local record store?)

**Queen Of Hell - Queen Of Hell II - Phoenician MicroSystems - 8 songs - LP, digital**

The Queen returns with a full album— and this time, there are three bass players on it! Sadly, not all at once, but still. I think that this time around, the band sounds more "focused" or some reviewery term like that; it's a more cohesive sound instead of going all over the place. This is not in any way to disparage the first record, which I think is totally great. There's a good few absolute rippers, like the opening track "The Soul Exchange," the more glam-sounding "Ball Drivin' Insane," and especially "Death II Die," which is the centerpiece of the album as far as I'm concerned (it goes to this slow jam with a bass solo and clarinet and all this and it really lays it into you and then rips right back into the song— you really gotta hear it). "Queen Of My Nitemares" is a good heavy response to Heavenly Queen's "Queen Of My Dreams"— I thought they might just do the former song with different lyrics, but no, it's totally its own thing (and hey, speaking of, when is the Queen Of Hell version of "White Vines" coming out?). "The Path To Zen" is a weird closer, since it's real mellow and reverb-heavy with jazzy guitar playing, but at the same time it works really well.

There are plenty of shredding guitar parts, sorta-ridiculous but at the same time great lyrics, great driving rhythm section moments, and just a general sense that this band knows how to have fun, which I think is really important to have in music. Here's the bad part: the mastering for the vinyl version of this is...look, to be harsh, it's not good. It's very flat. I know this isn't my place to say, really, I'm just here to talk about the music itself, but it's gotta be particularly bad for me to take notice of it when I know that's not what I'm supposed to be doing. The only way to get anything at all out of it is to really crank it up. "Aha!" the Queen bellows back at me. "But you should be playing it at maximum volume anyway, so no harm done!" But look, if I'm playing a record that loud, I want it to sound great. I don't want to have to do that just to make it so I'm not distracted by how flat it is. I haven't used my download code yet (which involves emailing

the band and probably something about a blood sacrifice), but I'm told that the digital version doesn't have this problem. I'm entirely loath to recommend a digital version of anything ever, so I'm just putting these facts out there. Or you can buy the record and turn it all the way up and kill everyone in the surrounding area (and I mean that in a good way), it's your call. Oh, and the title of this one might not be "II" but "Upside Down Cross Upside Down Cross," but I couldn't figure out how to type that. God save the Queen. 4/5  
([queenofhell.bandcamp.com](http://queenofhell.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.*

## Calling All Artists To Join Lakewood Art League

by Mary Bodnar

Please consider joining the Lakewood Art League! Now is our membership drive for 2019. We meet the third Thursday of the month. Come to our first meeting to kick off 2019 on Thurs Feb 21st from 7 to 8:30pm at our beautiful new space in the Café of Lakewood United Methodist Church, 15700 Detroit Ave!

Our membership fee is only \$20 annually and we get fabulous artist presenters for our meetings as well as art show opportunities for our LAL members, making it a great bargain. We have the Westlake Porter Library Art Show for Lakewood Art League, at 27333 Center Ridge Rd, coming up from March 2 – March 30, 2019. Join now and your artwork can be on display there with ours!

The mission of Lakewood Art League is to connect the Lakewood Art Community through diverse, dynamic, and creative experiences that bring artists of all walks of life together to meet, create and talk about contemporary visual art. Our mission is to retain a dedicated art league membership which is deeply committed to promoting art and art education by bringing in a wide variety of artists to speak and teach on their particular artistic craft each month. We then place an emphasis on the value of visual art in our contemporary lives as artists living in and impacting our community.

We are constantly seeking innovative art speakers and presenters to enhance our programming for our members as well as holding monthly meetings that build community in our group, promote art education, and outreach to attract artists in our community to join our League. We welcome ALL members of our diverse



Lakewood's own very talented Michael Pomerantz presented for Lakewood Art League.

community and seek opportunities for interaction and access for artists of all ages. Art is for everyone. Creativity is at the heart of everything we do. We provide opportunities for our members to learn about art, themselves, and each other. Learning is an integral part of all of our programs.

The Lakewood Art League improves quality of life for our members and contributes to the vitality of our city. We continue to evolve and grow as an organization to keep pace with our vibrant city and the arts landscape in which we live. We look to the future while celebrating creating art in the past since our founding in 1950. Call 216/392-4944 for more info. Always looking for New Members!! President - Mary Bodnar, Vice President - Troy Blum, Exhibit Chair - Robert Perry, Secretary - Pat Shaughnessy, Treasurer - Paul & Sue Collander, Hospitality & Refreshments - Rose Dugan.



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# Lakewood Observer

## The Rockport Miracles - Part 4: Episode 3: "The Ballad Of Derecho Dan" Continues

*Fiction by Scott MacGregor*

A side note: I'd mentioned in one of my earlier dispatches that I hate River City and all of its orthodontured, boat-obsessed, inhabitants. When the storm-era began, you'd see groups of concerned River City folks standing on their lakeshore or sitting on one of their many boats, empathetically watching as one storm after another slammed into Rockport. Eventually, River City's mayor figured that he could make a buck out of Rockport's misfortune. He installed picnic tables, concession stands, and port-a-johns at several safe viewing points. What a jerk! (end note).

Meanwhile and miles away, Big Dan was having his doubts. He'd done all he could to hold the future together for his family but he knew that the Gas & Lube was an accident waiting to happen. When the Lincoln Casualty Insurance Building collapsed, his gas station had lost its best shield against the murderous derecho winds. Sure, his concrete garage could probably withstand the power of the atom, but the Gas and Lube wasn't called "the Gas and Lube" for nothing.

On any given day, the place was cluttered with propane and acetylene tanks, compressed air tanks, all species of oil based products, and two underground tanks containing 24,000 gallons of gasoline! A sudden fire or explosion could start a chain reaction that would make the Christmas Tree disaster look like a hippy campfire.

Wilmena could read Big Dan like a book and she knew he was thinking about closing down the business. "Old" Dan Sr. is probably stirring in his urn right now," she said, "he's worried you're gonna shut down the entire works!" Then she said, "And, what about Little



Dan? The Gas & Lube is his future, too, y'know. We can't let him down. The Gas & Lube must go on, Big Dan!"

Wilmena's words made something hurt deep inside Big Dan. He found himself at one of those crossroads that life pulls out of its ass every now and then when you aren't looking. Any decision he made from this point forward would be wrong. Big Dan knew he had to make the right, wrong decision.

To placate his wife, Big Dan replied, "Your right, Wilmena. The Gas and Lube MUST go on, dammit!" Wilmena smiled and said, "That's the stuff! Now, get your butt over here and eat some of this tuna salad." Big Dan pointed an unloaded finger at Wilmena and said, "I've got no time for tuna, my love. I gotta lotta work to do today." Big Dan then walked calmly into the Men's bathroom and threw up. His broad chest felt heavy, he was shaking and sweating like a pig. After a few minutes, the sick feeling passed and he went back to work on a 1967 Opel Kadett.

Just then, the station's tow truck pulled in with Little Dan behind the wheel and a Delta 88 on the hook. Oblivious as ever, Little Dan hopped out of the truck holding BD, his little Boston Terrier. Wilmena handed him a tuna salad sandwich and the hungry manboy shoved the entire thing in his mouth. After a few minutes of chewing and several swigs of Coca-Cola, Little Dan was able to enunciate a few words of recognizable English.

"What's been going on since I've been gone?" he asked. "NOTHING," his parents replied in syncopated unison. "Good!" said Little Dan, "It seems everybody I bump into thinks we're going out of business. Where do you s'pose they got that idea?" Wilmena and Big Dan traded glances and shrugged their shoulders. "Don't pay attention to idle talk," said Wilmena. Big Dan playfully mussed up Little Dan's hair. "C'mon son," he said, "I'll help you unhook the Oldsmobile."

The remainder of their work day went according to Hoyle. The pumps were shut down at 9pm and the three of them were home safe and sound by 9:30pm. Wilmena changed into her

night clothes and darned the boys' socks while listening to the Indians game on the radio. Big Dan went into the family room, turned on the TV, plopped into his favorite chair, opened a can of beer, and immediately fell asleep. Little Dan retreated to his bedroom sanctuary and read comic books while a blissful BD chewed on a sock monkey. Wilmena and Big Dan slept in separate bedrooms. Wilmena always went to bed first. Little Dan always went to bed after her. Big Dan was always the last one to bed and always the first one to rise.

When Wilmena woke up the next day at 7am, she did so with a startle. Something didn't feel right to her. Big Dan was always out the door by 6am but that morning she stuck her head into his bedroom just to make sure. As expected, he was gone but something she saw caused a chill to run up her spine. His bed was still made like it hadn't been slept in. Maybe he slept in his chair all night? As she walked down the stairs, Wilmena's intuition began to flare up and her anxiety increased with every step.

She noticed right away the downstairs lights were still on and she could hear the TV blaring. She gently called out, "Dan?" but there was no answer. Terrified, she ran back up the stairs and dragged Little Dan out of his bed. The intrepid BD sensed that danger was in the air and immediately crawled under a dresser. Little Dan, upset that his mom had woken him from a sound sleep, complained profusely but got up anyway.

Together they called out Big Dan's name with greater and greater urgency as they went down the stairs and headed toward the family room. It was there in front of their Zenith TV they discovered that Big Dan and all of their dreams had died during the night. Slumped over in his favorite chair, the coroner determined later that he'd died of a massive heart attack during the Tonite Show with Johnny Carson.

*by Eva Starr*  
**MARCH**  
**Aries:** Good thing the groundhog didn't see his shadow, because spring fever is knocking on the Ram's need for connection... going against your customary solo act, get out there.



**Taurus:** Mars is still in the Bull's Pen, and Uranus is joining him early this month, expected the unexpected, big news is headed your way...via tornado, so try a little gentleness.

**Gemini:** The Twins are about to pull something out of its hat, it may just be a leprechaun...magic is all around you this month...can you turn water into a Guinness?

**Cancer:** It's time to open up those crab pinchers of yours and spread the love & money...you cannot outgive the Universe, plenty of thrift stores & antiques shops are calling your name.

**Leo:** The Lion/Lioness has left the jungle, & life is currently a roller-coaster ride...the ups & downs are making you a little queasy, but you have courage, get grounded in the

Metroparks

**Virgo:** OK it's time to put away the metric ruler, and the white gloves in the examination rook of life...take a deep breath, trust that it will all work out & take off that damn worry hat.

**Libra:** You're usually the one playing peacemaker...it's time to change roles & visit your favorite sanctuary, oh yeah you can't decide...flip a coin & stick with it, just do it!

**Scorpio:** It's time to call your inner critic into your office & tell him to take a hike...release all judgments of yourself & others, wow isn't life a little more joyful without all that intensity?

**Sagittarius:** Jupiter is still hanging around, enjoy it...it's time to play Mary Poppins for a day & let a spoonful of fun be your therapy...flying kites at the

park is just what the Dr. ordered.

**Capricorn:** Seems like the Goat is spending a little too much time at the office, imagine that... it's time for a retreat...a B&B sounds like a plan, but leave your laptop at home.

**Aquarian:** Venus moved into your sign & the love boat is docked...it's time to explore about town, talk to strangers, try that new coffee shop...engage with the world...lucky you.

**Pisces:** The good news for our fish, the Sun is in your sign, however, Mercury is also Retrograde most of the month in Pisces... double-check everything & take off the rose-colored glasses.

*Eva Starr, local astrologer, has been studying the moon & stars since she could read. Starr can be reached at evastarr.com*

Then, just when things couldn't get worse, they did. The city's disaster sirens began to scream out their warnings all over Rockport. Another storm was on the way.

**NEXT: Part 4: Episode 4: "The Ballad of "Derecho" Dan" continues**

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# LakewoodAlive

## TAX HELP



### LakewoodAlive, ESOP Join Forces To Offer Free Tax Preparation On March 2

by Matt Bixenstine

LakewoodAlive has teamed with Empowering and Strengthening Ohio's People (ESOP) to offer free tax preparation and filing to working low-income families and individuals on Saturday, March 2. "Super Saturday" takes place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Harrison Elementary School in Lakewood's Historic Birdtown Neighborhood (2080 Quail Street).

Call 2-1-1 today to schedule your appointment to have your taxes done for free by one of ESOP's certified tax preparers. Walk-ins are welcome but will be seen after all scheduled appointments.


The Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) Program provides free tax preparation to working low-income individuals and families by trained, certified volunteers through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program. Tax preparers will help participants receive their full income tax refund – as much as \$6,431 in refund monies utilizing electronic filing and direct deposit.

Tax Credit Eligibility Guidelines for Tax Year 2018:

- Families with three or more qualifying children who earned less than \$49,194 in 2018 (or less than \$54,884 for married filing jointly) are eligible for a credit of up to \$6,431.
- Families with two qualifying children who earned less than \$45,802 in 2018 (or less than \$51,492 for married filing jointly) are eligible for a credit of up to \$5,716.
- Families with one qualifying child who earned less than \$40,320 in 2018 (or less than \$46,010 for married filing jointly) are eligible for a credit of up to \$3,461.
- Individuals who do not have a qualifying child, but are between the ages of 25 and 64, with earned income of less than \$15,270 in 2018 (or less than \$20,950 for married filing jointly) are eligible for a credit up to \$519.

Participants should bring the following items on March 2: IRS 2018 W2s and 1099s, Social Security Cards for all family members, government-issued photo of each person signing the return, childcare expense statement including the provider's Tax ID number, bank account and routing numbers for direct deposit of refund and last year's tax return, if possible.

For more information, please visit [LakewoodAlive.org](http://LakewoodAlive.org) or contact Allison Urbanek, LakewoodAlive's Housing & Internal Operations Director, at 216-521-0655.



### 2019 Knowing Your Home Series Schedule

Date	Workshop	Time	Location
March 7	Creating a Sound Investment	7 - 9 p.m.	The Bottlehouse Brewery Lakewood
March 21	All About Fireplaces	7 - 9 p.m.	The Hearth Shop
April 25	How to Contract a Repair	7 - 8:30 p.m.	Lakewood Public Library
April 27	Step Repair & Replacement	10 - 12 noon	Cleveland Lumber Company
May 16	Meet & Greet with a Building Inspector	6 - 8 p.m.	Western Reserve Distillers
May 30	Solar 101	7 - 9 p.m.	Buckeye Beer Engine
June 6	Bringing Universal Design to Your Home	7 - 8:30 p.m.	Lakewood Public Library
June 22	Kitchen & Bathroom Remodeling	10 - 12 noon	Cleveland Lumber Company
July 18	Deck Refinishing	7 - 9 p.m.	Sherwin-Williams Lakewood
July 20	Garage Repair & Replacement	10 - 12 noon	Cleveland Lumber Company
Sept. 14	Weatherization Basics	10 - 12 noon	Cleveland Lumber Company
Sept. 19	Cabinet Refinishing	7 - 9 p.m.	Sherwin-Williams Lakewood
Oct. 10	How to Stock Your Tool Box	7 - 9 p.m.	Lakewood Hardware
Oct. 17	Moisture & Ventilation	7 - 9 p.m.	Clock Electric
Nov. 7	Home Maintenance	7 - 9 p.m.	Clock Electric

### LakewoodAlive "Knowing Your Home" Schedule For 2019

by Matt Bixenstine

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

LakewoodAlive announces the schedule for the 2019 edition of "Knowing Your Home," a free educational series focused on sustainability and home maintenance best practices empowering homeowners to tackle necessary repairs and improvements. Orchestrated by LakewoodAlive's Housing Outreach Program, this series is designed to benefit a wide range of residents:

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

The sixth year of this popular home maintenance program features a collection of 15 workshops taking place from March through November led by experts within the industry. These workshops will cover a wide range of topics designed to educate homeowners regarding improvements and best practices for their homes. The best part? Each workshop is open to the public and free to attend.

The 2019 season commences with "Knowing Your Home: Creating a Sound Investment" on Thursday, March 7, from 7 to 9 p.m. at The Bottlehouse Brewery Lakewood. This kickoff workshop consists of a panel discussion addressing the process for tackling major home improvement projects. Panelists will share wisdom and insights to make the construction process more streamlined and effective, saving you time and money.

Moderated by Ian Andrews, Executive Director of LakewoodAlive, the panel of experts for "Creating a Sound Investment" consists of:

- Bill Gaydos, William J. Gaydos & Associates, LLC
- Chuck McGettrick, Architects C.A. McGettrick, Inc.
- Chris Parmelee, City of Lakewood
- Dana Paul, Prairie Stone
- Mike Quinn, Cleveland Lumber Company

To reserve your free spot for "Creating a Sound Investment," visit [LakewoodAlive.org/KnowingYourHome](http://LakewoodAlive.org/KnowingYourHome) or call 216-521-0655.

"We are thrilled to announce our 2019 season of Knowing Your Home workshops," said Allison Urbanek, LakewoodAlive's Housing Outreach & Internal Operations Director. "This workshop series is near and dear to us at LakewoodAlive, having grown considerably over the course of more than 65 workshops hosted during the last five years. We truly hope this free series is able to provide something useful for every Lakewood resident."

Now entering its sixth year, LakewoodAlive's "Knowing Your Home" series draws hundreds of attendees annually. Visit [LakewoodAlive.org/KnowingYourHome](http://LakewoodAlive.org/KnowingYourHome) to learn more. Our workshop series is generously supported by: Citizens Bank, City of Lakewood, Cleveland Lumber Company, First Federal Lakewood, Remax Beyond 2000 and Third Federal Savings & Loan.

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