

# LAKEWOOD CORNEL OF THE LAKE WOOD CORNEL OF THE LAKE WO

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Volume 15, Issue 06, March 20, 2019

# Meghan George Announces Her Run For Mayor

by Meghan George Coucilperson-At-Large

I am running for mayor because I feel that Lakewood deserves top-notch representation, especially at the executive level, and I believe that I am the best candidate for the job.

What I will bring to the role of mayor is a combination of council experience and work in the private sector. In my day job as a work force strategist I work with executive leadership at companies throughout Ohio, advising them on employee



Councilwoman-At-Large Meghan George.

benefits and human resources. My experience with these responsibilities would be valuable assets for the elected manager of Lakewood's executive branch.

The mayor leads an organization of over 400 full-time employees, including multiple collective bargaining units; it would be a privilege to bring my experience with best practices and cutting-edge techniques to managing the workforce of our city.

I also bring my love for this community. I am a Wyandotte Avenue homeowner and

continued on page 3

# **Brad Presutto Seeks To Represent Ward 2 Residents On Council**

by Matt Kuhns

The people of Lakewood Ward 2 can rely on him completely for three things, Brad Presutto said in launching his campaign for city council: listening, helping others, and representing the community honestly.

A series of people spoke about how Presutto does all these things, already, in remarks to an event held March 13 at Deagan's Kitchen.

Jennifer Scott, whose pit-bull "Charlie" faced ban-ishment under Lakewood's previous breed-specific policies, recalled listening to Presutto speak up at a city council meeting on behalf of her and Charlie. Scott said that she didn't even know Presutto yet, but was moved by his advocacy.

More recently, Scott contin-



Brad Presutto, canddiate for Ward 2 City Council representative

ued, local Coast Guard families received similar generosity when Presutto helped collect donations for unpaid federal workers during the extended government shutdown.

Several speakers joined Scott in describing him as someone who shows up for friends, neighbors and even strangers. State Representative Mike Skindell, City Councilperson Tristan Rader, and Bike Lakewood board member Amanda Wolf were among the guests speaking on Presutto's behalf.

When Presutto himself addressed the crowd, after listening to other speakers, he described the values which led his family to put down roots in Lakewood over the past 15 years. "We continue to keep Lakewood our home because of the people," above all, he said.

Presutto has actively worked to give back to that community, whether delivering meals for the Division of Aging, joining Hayes PTO, or volunteering for the equality organization Human Rights Campaign.

The vision guiding his council candidacy is "for Lakewood to be the destination of choice for affordable housing, smart business development, and a safe & green city," he said.

Yet his ultimate responsibility would be listening to and representing the people, he emphasized. Presutto said that diversity of viewpoints are a part of Lakewood, including within Ward 2, and that he is running to work on the community's goals and ideas, not just his own.

"At the end of the day," he said, "I'm there to represent Ward 2."



Nolan and Delia Jablonski enjoying last year's event with the bunny!

# Hop To It!

by Bridget Jablonski

Are you trying to keep those whimsical childhood dreams alive for your child as they grow up? Or maybe you just want to see how your baby will react to the Easter bunny for the first time and catch a funny snapshot! Either way, the best way to embrace those

pivotal moments of childhood is to join other Lakewood families on Saturday, April 13th at this year's Breakfast with the Bunny, hosted by H2O!

H2O, or Help to Others, is Lakewood's very own unique service program for high

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# LHS Pair Earn National Art Honors



Scholastic Art Silver Medal winners Lillian Horschke (left) and Inga Wilhelmy.

by Christine Gordillo

Congratulations to Lakewood High School senior Lillian Horschke and freshman Inga Wilhelmy, who have earned national Silver Medals in the prestigious Scholastic Art & Writing Awards presented by the Alliance for Young Artists & Writers. This competition is the nation's longest-running and most prestigious recognition program for creative teens in grades 7–12. More than

340,000 pieces of art were submitted for the contest and earning a national award puts Lillian and Inga in the top 1% of participants.

Lillian Horschke won her Silver Medal in the Printmaking category for her print "Evelyn". Inga Wilhelmy won her award in the Mixed Media category for her "Sea Shells" piece. The award-winning pieces of art will be included in

continued on page 6

### St. Ed's 71, Green 53 In OHSAA Regional



St Ed's and Green battled at Wolstein Arena on the campus of Cleveland State University Saturday afternoon. With the win St Ed's advances to Columbus as part of the Final Four. Congrats to Green and their fans on an impressive season.

# **Lakewood's West Side Story - Great Food**



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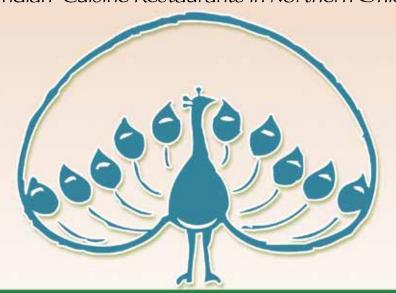
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NOTICE OF PUBLICATION IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF **COWETA COUNTY** STATE OF GEORGIA

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 DOMES TIC 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 PUBLI-CATION 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. WALLIN, PLAIN-TIFF'S ATTORNEY, WHOSE ADDRESS IS 5 EAST BROAD STREET, NEWNAN, GA 30263, 770.683.2468

AN ANSWER TO THE COMPLAINT WITHIN SIXTY (60) DAYS FROM THE 20TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2019



### Your Independent Source for Lakewood News & Opinion

Published twice a month with a current circulation of 10,000+ copies. The paper is made available free of charge and can be found at over 130 business locations within the City of Lakewood and on our website. The views and opinions expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the publisher and staff. Copyright 2019 • AGS/The Lakewood Observer, Inc. All rights reserved. Any reproduction is forbidden without written permission.

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### Become an Observer!

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

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# **Lakewood Observer**

# **Meghan George Announces** Her Run For Mayor

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a lifelong third generation resident. I attended St. Luke Elementary and Lakewood High School (class of 2000). I have a B.A. from Ohio State University, and a post-baccalaureate and teaching license from Cleveland State University.

As an At-Large member of Lakewood City Council, I have been hands-on with issues ranging from replacing the discriminatory pit-bull ban, to my recent proposal for paid parental leave. My contributions on council demonstrate my ability to work with different groups always focusing on achieving positive results for the whole community.

My intention is to run a grassroots campaign, going door to door and

connects them with their community

run by volunteers, and all of the serv-

ers will be Lakewood high schoolers

donating their Saturday morning to

assist at this event. They will be serv-

ing up pancakes and sausage at the

Women's Pavilion at Lakewood park.

So come wake up with some coffee pro-

vided by Lakewood's well known Root

cafe, and see why Lakewood is a thriv-

ing, vibrant place to raise a family!

Hop To It!

continued from page 1

talking with neighbors in every ward. My campaign will focus on key issues including public safety, quality public services, continued improvement of our housing stock, fiscal responsibility, and smart development of our commercial corridors.

I'm prepared to address both the issues currently facing Lakewood, and the challenges that we will face in the

My goal is to bring a fresh, positive perspective to this position.

I hope to build on the community support I've received while considering this decision. I'm running for mayor to continue serving the community which I've called home all of my life, in a way that will make the biggest difference.

# school and middle school students that through volunteerism. This event is

chance to win fun prizes!

This event has seating times at 8:30 a.m., 9:45 a.m., 11 a.m., and 12 p.m. Get your reservations soon as this event may sell out! The cost is \$10 per adult and \$5 per child. Photos will be available with the Easter bunny for \$5. Enticing raffle baskets donated by local businesses will also be on display for a

www.thelakewoodfoundation.org/h2o for reservations by April 10th. A special thanks to First Federal of Lakewood, who has generously sponsored this event, so that more proceeds can benefit H2O. Hope to see you there!

# **Power For The Powerless; Seven Sisters**

Poem by Mary Bodnar

I cried about leaving my trees one day soon

The squirrels too – it's like leaving beloved pets behind in a vacant house.

Seeing them now, with their skeletal winter crowns, we almost forget their cathedral like canopy.

We take trees for granted until we breathe in deep

their comforting shade and feel their essential breeze in the summer.

My massive old friends are vibrantly alive even though the city

And my neighbor has threatened to take four of my lovely seven sisters down.

We had eight but tragically took one down ten years ago and we mourned her loss. Trees, like elephants, are reluctant to abandon their dead

Especially when it's a big old revered matriarch.

In the language of trees, they mourned too

My trees protect, connect and communicate with one another.

What they must have endured and survived together for over 100 years!

To reach enormousness trees must support each other

My lovely seven sisters are protecting and have built kinship networks

(I really think the twin trees are boys but the rest are wise old mother trees)

Trees share water and nutrients and recognize root tips of their kin These massive old oaks are far more alert, social and sophisticated

than what we diminutives think

There is an inner life of trees you know, if you take time to watch and listen

trees are intelligent beings and are charged with energy and power

They are on God's time, not ours

They move in slow motion like a freeze frame of action

In tree time or ultra-slow motion

Disconnected loners they are not

My trees have formed a deep communal relationship with each other And Me.



# COUNCILMAN LAKEWOOD \* WARD 4

Our Neighbor, Our Voice!

Paid for by O'Malley for Lakewood Committee



# Aging in Place

Wednesday, March 27, 2019 | 11:30 a.m.

Presented by Jennifer Harkness, OTR/L Director of Rehabilitation, O'Neill Healthcare Lakewood

Assisted Living Building 4th Floor Education Room

Please RSVP to Tammy Sibert at 216-912-0800 by March 25, 2019



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# **Lakewood Public Library**

# Calendar Of Events

### compiled by Elaine Rosenberger

### Thursday, March 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 "Nutshell: A Novel"

**Main Library Meeting Room** 

### Saturday, March 23, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

### Film - "The Namesake" (2006) Directed by Mira Nair

After moving from Calcutta to New York, the Ganguli family maintains a delicate balancing act between honoring the traditions of India and blending into American culture. Parents Ashoke (Irrfan Khan) and Ashima (Tabu) long for the family and culture they left in India, but they are proud of the opportunities their sacrifices have given their children. Their son Gogol (Kal Penn) strives to forge his own identity without forgetting his heritage.

Main Library Auditorium

### Sunday, March 24, 2019 at 2:00 p.m.

### **NEA Big Read 2019 Concert**

Cleveland vocalists Kristine Caswelch and Matt Jones will sing songs related to the vignettes in "Citizen: An American Lyric" written by poet Claudia Rankine, for the Cleveland National Endowment for the Arts' Big Read 2019. Caswelch sings with Trinity Cathedral Choir and Chamber Singers. She is also the Artistic Director and Co-Founder of Cleveland Transgender Choir. Jones sings with the Cleveland Chamber Choir and the Trinity Chamber Singers.

**Main Library Auditorium** 

### Tuesday, March 26, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

**Genealogy Workshop** 

### Taught by Deborah Abbott, PhD

Genealogist Deborah Abbott will show you how to unravel your history with professional results using the free Library Edition of ancestry.com and other resources. Space is limited at the workshops, but you are welcome to register with a partner and share a computer. Also, keep in mind that the Library Edition of the famous genealogy resource, ancestry.com, is free to use every day at the Library. Call (216) 226-8275, ext. 127 to register.

Main Library Learning Lab

### Tuesday, March 26, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

### "Citizen" Book Discussion, Led by Damien Ware

The Big Read is an initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts to broaden our understanding of our world, our communities, and ourselves through the joy of sharing a good book. This year's selection is "Citizen: An American Lyric" by Claudia Rankine. The Center for Arts Inspired Learning has partnered with organizations in Greater Cleveland to plan programming related to "Citizen." Leading the discussion of "Citizen" is local poet Damien Ware.

**Madison Branch Auditorium** 

### Wednesday, March 27, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.

### Documentary - "Daniel Thompson: One Tough Poet" (2019) Directed by Jim Wolpaw

This film explores a twelve-year effort to document the life cultural hero. Daniel Thompson was a fearless poet and social activist. In 1992 he was proclaimed the first poet laureate of Cuyahoga County. The resolution states: Daniel Thompson has distinguished himself as one of Cuyahoga County's most colorful, talented and concerned citizens. The Cleveland Heights-University Heights Public Library will also screen this film on Tuesday, March 26, 2019.

Main Library Auditorium

### Chinese Tang Poetry

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 Multipurpose Room

### Wednesday, Marcy 27, 2019 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. **Staffed Exhibit Time**

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

# **Children And Youth**

### compiled by Nick Starr

Tuesdays, March 6- April 17, 2019, 4:00 p.m. – 5:15 p.m. Happy Chinese

For students in first through sixth Grade.

Learn about Chinese characters, expressions and culture in this seven-week interactive program. Registration required.

Main Library Multipurpose Room.

Sunday, March 24, 2019, 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

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.

in the Main Library Activity Room.

tools, but don't know where to start, visit while our docents can assist. To schedule for large groups please email events@lakewoodpubliclibrary.org or call (216) 226-8275, ext. 174.

Main Library Second Floor Gallery

### Thursday, March 28, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

### Poetry Workshop, Led by Leanne Hoppe

From the Italian, stanza means a room—a place to pause. Indeed, Traveling Stanzas offers individuals moments of pause, with which to reflect on their lives, their city and a shared experience of their community. Leanne Hoppe, local teacher, editor and translator will lead workshops in the Traveling Stanzas Exhibit to give attendees a structured moment to explore the interactive tools.

Main Library Second Floor Gallery

### Saturday, March 30, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

### Film - "Winter's Bone" (2010), Directed by Debra Granik

After her drug-dealing father disappears, Ree Dolly (Jennifer Lawrence) becomes the caretaker of her family. A sheriff tells her that her father has put up their home as bond, and if she doesn't find him before his court date, they could lose everything. Braving the criminal underworld and breaking her community's code of silence, Ree fights to preserve her family. This is the first of ten films directed by women the Library will show this season.

Main Library Auditorium

### Sunday, March 31, 2019 at 2:00 p.m.

### Performance - The Cleveland Opera Presents: "Susanna's Secret"

Il segreto di Susanna or Susanna's Secret is an intermezzo, a composition which fits between other musical or dramatic entities, written by Enrico Golisciani and composed by Ermanno Wolf-Ferrari. Count Gil, a jealous husband, suspects his wife, Susanna, of flirting with another man. Count Gil hilariously tries to trick his sly wife into revealing her secret. Presented staged and costumed in the art-deco style to celebrate Cleveland's Golden Era.

Main Library Multipurpose Room

### Tuesday, April 2, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.

Documentary - "The Other Side of Immigration" (2009)

Directed by Roy Germano

### Presented by El Barrio Workforce Center

Based on over 700 interviews of people in Mexican towns where about half the population has left to work in the United States, "The Other Side of Immigration" asks why so many Mexican Citizens come to the U.S. and what happens to the families and communities they leave behind. This documentary provides a perspective on undocumented immigration rarely witnessed by Americans. Members of the local organization El Barrio will join us to discuss this film.

**Main Library Auditorium** 

### Tuesday, April 2, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

### Poetry Workshop, Led by Leanne Hoppe

From the Italian, stanza means a room—a place to pause. Indeed, Traveling Stanzas offers individuals moments of pause, with which to reflect on their lives, their city and a shared experience of their community. Leanne Hoppe, local teacher, editor and translator will lead workshops in the Traveling Stanzas Exhibit to give attendees a structured moment to explore the interactive tools.

Main Library Second Floor Gallery

### Wednesday, April 3, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

### Lakewood Historical Society - Is Wright Still Relevant?

### **Presentation by Fred Unwin**

Since his death sixty years ago, Frank Lloyd Wright remains the prototype architect in the minds of Americans. Of the three surviving Wright-designated homes in the Cleveland area, Fred Unwin will focus on the Weltzheimer/Johnson house in Oberlin. This is an example of Wright's Usonian house, designed to answer the demand for beautiful and affordable middle-class homes. Unwin has served as volunteer docent at the home for the past sixteen years.

Main Library Auditorium

### Wednesday, April 3, 2019 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. **Staffed Exhibit Time**

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 or call (216) 226-8275, ext. 174.

Main Library Second Floor Gallery

### **Purim Party With Jewish Lakewood** Alliance And JHUB!

by Tim Collingwood

Jewish Lakewood Alliance will be having a Purim Party with JHUB on March 20, 2019 at 7 p.m. at the new Western Reserve Distillery.

The night will feature a Purim-Themed cocktail (and mocktail) list, Hamentaschen, some light food, and a Purim spiel organized by Samia of JHUB Young Adults programming.

We will have 3 local charities joining us: Operation Welcome Mat, Drink Local. Drink Tap, Ohio Innocence Project

\$5 tickets include a complimentary cocktail/mocktail. Tickets are limited and will not be sold at the door.



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# **Lakewood Public Library**

# The Cleveland Opera Brings "Susanna's Secret" To LPL

by Elaine Rosenberger

"Il segreto di Susanna" ("Susanna's Secret") is an intermezzo in one act composed by the Italian composer Ermanno Wolf-Ferrari. The opera had its premiere at Munich's Hoftheater on December 4, 1909. The Cleveland Opera's performance of "Susanna's Secret" will be staged and costumed in art deco style to celebrate Cleveland's Golden Era.

Wolf-Ferrari was born in Venice in 1876, the son of a German father and an Italian mother. At first, he wanted to be a painter like his father, but eventually he enrolled in Munich's Conservatory of Music, where he studied composition. He became known for his comic operas, and one of the finest is "Susanna's Secret."

"Il segreto di Susanna" is Wolf-Ferrari's best-known comic opera. In this opera, Count Gil, a jealous husband, suspects that his wife, Susanna, is flirting with another man. The Count tries to trick Susanna into revealing her secret and disclosing the identity of her lover. But, when the truth of Susanna's secret comes out, Count Gil is in for a surprise.

Now in its twenty-third season, The Cleveland Opera strives to make opera accessible to all people. Their production of "Susanna's Secret" features Francisco X. Prado (baritone) and Nicole Wong (soprano) under the direction of Jacek Sobieski. The Cleveland Opera's performance of "Susanna's Secret" takes place on Sunday, March 31, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. in the Main Library first floor Multipurpose Room. Admission is free and open to all.



located in Children's and Youth Ser-

vices. No registration is required. The

hilarious antics will begin at 7:00 p.m.

# Is Wright Still Relevant?

by Amy Kloss

Sixty years after his death in 1959, Frank Lloyd Wright remains one of America's most revered architects. His career spanned seven decades and included iconic public buildings, as well as modest domestic dwellings.

One of those modest homes is the Weltzheimer/Johnson House in Oberlin, an example of Wright's Usonian architecture. Fred Unwin, who has served as volunteer docent at the house for the past sixteen years, will be sharing his knowledge about Wright and the Usonian house on Wednesday, April 3, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium.

Designed in 1947 and completed in 1949, the Weltzheimer/Johnson House is the first Usonian house in Ohio and one of the few in the nation open to the public. Wright's Usonian concept first

emerged during the Great Depression of the 1930s, a time when servants in American homes became rare. Usonian homes typically featured an open living area with a fireplace, flat roofs and a lack of basements and attics. In these simplified homes, Wright offered a beautiful environment that Americans could both afford and enjoy.

The Weltzheimer family lived in their Oberlin home until 1963. In 1968, Art History Professor Ellen H. Johnson bought the house and began restoring the property. After her death in 1992, the house was given to Oberlin College, which opened it up for public tours. The new Open House season will begin on April 7, 2019.

Join Fred Unwin for this insightful Lakewood Historical Society program on April 3, 2019 at the Lakewood Main Library.



Magician Neil Rozum and an audience member had fun with spoons at a past performance at the Lakewood Public Library.



# **Magic With Neil And Company**

by Marge Foley

Come enjoy a delightful magic show as Neil and Company perform their stage magic tricks and illusions. Magician Neil Rozum has won first place in numerous competitions, including the Columbus Magi-Fest. He has worked with David Copperfield to promote the occupational therapy program called Project Magic. His entertaining program of comedy magic will keep you laughing while amazing you with a trunk of unbelievable feats!

Bring your children to the Lakewood Public Library on Saturday, March 30, 2019 for the Magic with Neil and Company program and experience joyful audience participation without embarrassment. Generously funded by the Friends of the Lakewood Public Library, this program will take place in the Main Library Multipurpose Room, which is





# **Lakewood Public Schools**

# LHS Academic Challenge Team **Sweeps Conference Titles**

by Christine Gordillo

The Lakewood High Academic Challenge Team continues its legacy of excellence as the varsity squad wrapped up its regular season Southwest Conference play undefeated at 9-0 and then proceeded to also win the conference tournament the weekend after wrapping up its regular season play. The team earlier this year had earned invitations to the Regional Ohio Academic Challenge Tournament and also to the National Academic Quiz Tournament to be held in Atlanta in May. The HSNCT is NAQT's premier high school event. The tournament is held at the end of each school year and fea-

tures the top quiz bowl teams from across the United States and from other countries. Over 350 schools will be attending the event.

Adviser Bob Sedlak says the team is seeking help to defray the cost of the Atlanta trip. The team plans to take two teams - 12 students - to the tournament on May 24-26. Any contributions are appreciated. Checks can be sent to LHS Academic Challenge, 14100 Franklin Blvd., Lakewood, Ohio 44107. Checks should be made payable to Academic Challenge Team Fund – LHS.

Congratulations to all the team members and to advisers Peter Petto and Bob Sedlak!

### **Harding Student Qualifies For** State Geo Bee

by Christine Gordillo

Congratulations to Harding 8th grader Jamie Holland, who has qualified for the Ohio Geographic Bee! Jamie, who is the Harding Bee champion, is one of 100 middle schoolers from across the state who will compete for the Ohio title and a chance to move on to the National Bee in Washington, D.C.

Jamie earned the right to take a

qualifying test for the State Bee by winning the Harding Bee. The State Bee will take place in April in Columbus. Nationally, more than 10,000 4-8 graders take part in the Bee. The contest is designed to encourage teachers to include geography in their classrooms, spark student interest in the subject, and increase public awareness about

# geography.

### LHS Pair Earn National Art Honors

### continued from page 1

a national online exhibit on the Scholastic Art & Writing website at www. artandwriting.org.

Lillian and Inga's artwork earned Gold Medal status at the regional Scholastic competition that allowed them to move on to national-level judging. Lillian also earned a Silver Medal and an Honorable Mention for two other pieces judged at the regional competition. Credit is also due to Lillian's teacher, Amy Sedlak, and Inga's teacher, Autumn Sabin.

In addition to Lillilan and Inga, six Lakewood High School and West Shore Career-Tech students were named Golden Key winners at the regional level and also had their work judged at the national level. Those regional winners are: Sarah Drago (Photography), Emily Perry (Drawing & Illustration),



Darnesia Shields (Photography), Max Sloan (Film & Animation), Turner Sorge (Photography), and Lillian Utrata (Drawing & Illustration).

The Scholastic Awards were founded in 1923 to offer recognition





The Rotary Club of Lakewood and Rocky River honored 16 West Shore Career-Technical District Outstanding Student Award recipients at its noon luncheon on March 4 at the Don Umerley Civic Center.

### **Rotary Recognizes 16 Outstanding West Shore Career-Tech Students**

by Lynn Donaldson

West Shore Career-Technical District Outstanding Student Award recipients were honored by the Rotary Club of Lakewood and Rocky River at its noon luncheon on March 4 at the Don Umerley Civic Center.

The 16 students, top performers in their Career-Technical programs, were chosen for their exemplary accomplishments in the classroom, school activities, clubs, athletics and service in the community. Each student exemplifies traits of leadership, dedication, responsibility, caring, community involvement, and initiative.

"The Rotary Outstanding Students represent the "best of the best" in the West Shore Career Technical District. Our teachers and staff work tirelessly to give all of our students

rich academic, technical and real world experiences," remarked Bill DiMascio, West Shore Career-Technical District educational coordinator.

"These students have taken full advantage of the opportunities afforded to them. No matter what path they chose to follow for future success, we know they possess the relevant knowledge and skills to achieve to their fullest potential."

School administrators, parents, and guests were among those in attendance. According to Rotarian Nancy Ralls, West Shore Career-Technical District career development coordinator, this is the 21th year the club has honored the Outstanding Student Award winners.

Read the rest of this article online at: lakewoodobserver.com







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# **Lakewood Public Schools**

# Lakewood Montessori 's Super Fun Trivia Night

by Kate Ingersoll

Lakewood Montessori School (LMS) is hosting its 3rd Annual Trivia Night on Saturday, April 6 at 7pm at Vosh Nightclub (1414 Riverside Drive, Lakewood). The event is a great evening of fun trivia, food, drink and great silent auction and raffle items. The event supports the school's scholarship fund and is a great way to learn about this wonderful school and its families.

LMS is a small secular Montessori School whose mission is to support each child's development as whole and unique persons by offering authentic and affordable Montessori early childhood education to the Lakewood community and surrounding areas.

All are welcome and tickets can be purchased by going to: https://montessorilakewood.org/ under the "News" section of the website.

# Lakewood Recreation Hiring To Fill Dozens Of Summer Positions!

by Matt Demaline

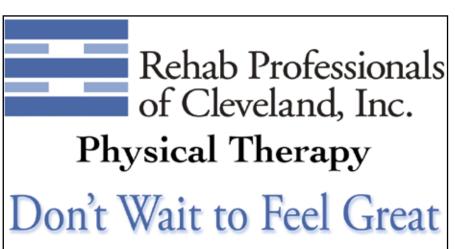
What better job for the summer than at a swimming pool, ball field, or summer camp? Take the opportunity to work outside, with kids, making a difference. Lakewood Rec is now hiring to fill many open positions for learn-to-swim instructors, lifeguards, pool attendants, baseball scorekeepers, summer camp counselors and more.

As winter turns to spring, many of our thoughts turn to warm summer days, filled with playing tee ball, riding the water slide at Madison Park, or making friends at Kids Connection or Ohio Heritage. Lakewood Recreation is hiring seasonal employees to make all those summer memories continue



Photo credit: Nancy Pizir

for a new generation. Applications preferred by March 31, 2019. Find position and application details at www.lake-woodrecreation.com/summerjobs.



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# St. Mark Community Ready To Brave Shave Once Again

by Christine Gordillo

The St. Baldrick's Foundation, a volunteer-driven charity dedicated to raising money for childhood cancer research, will host one of its signature head-shaving events for the sixth year at St. Mark School in Cleveland on March 22, 2019, where over 80 students, staff, parents, and other family members will shave their heads in solidarity with kids with cancer and raise money to conquer childhood cancers.

St. Mark's Shave Your Mane events have raised over \$250,000 in last five years and have seen 500 heads of students, parents, staff and alumni shaved. This year, organizers hope to add another \$50,000 to that total. The school is more than halfway to meeting that goal. Besides soliciting donations from the community and local businesses, participants are also holding bake sales and restaurant fundraisers in support of St. Baldrick's and the Shave Your Mane event. Hair salon Dante Lucci is donating many of the stylists to shave heads.

"Hosting our events have increased awareness not only for myself but for hundreds of people who may not have become involved otherwise and now are crusaders to the cause of pediatric cancer research," said Heidi Martin, who served as the event's organizer its first five years. Martin was inspired to stage St. Mark's first St. Baldrick's shave event in 2014 by her young

nephew who died at 17 months from a rare pediatric cancer. Martin knows she and the organizers are not done.

"There are more people to reach and more events to create awareness through because that awareness is what creates research dollars, and research dollars create hope for all these kids and their families. I also dream that some of our shavees may even consider a career for themselves in medicine one day and possibly make a significant contribution of their own to find a cure, improve outcomes and treatments to support the St Baldrick's mission."

Martin's nephew, Gavin Cole, will be one of the 13 honorees this year. Some, like Gavin, have sadly already lost their battle. Also among the honorees is organizer Julie Andolina's daughter and St. Mark student Gianna, whose cancer is currently in remission.

Fox 8 News anchor Autumn Zemba will serve as emcee of the event. Zemba's son Simon is battling leukemia. Speakers will include Alex Huang, MD, PhD, cancer researcher at the Case Comprehensive Cancer Institute.

Worldwide a child is diagnosed with cancer every two minutes, and one in five children diagnosed in the U.S. will not survive. Only 4 percent of all federal cancer research funding is dedicated to pediatric cancer research.

If you would like to contribute to the St. Mark event, visit www.stbaldricks.org/events/StMark2019.



# **Lakewood Cares**

# Lakewood Garden Club Hosts Author Amy Stewart

by Dawn Cushing

The Lakewood Garden Club is thrilled to announce that we will hosting "New York Times" bestselling author Amy Stewart, for a luncheon on Tuesday, May 14th, at the Don Umerley Civic Center in Rocky River. Ms. Stewart will give a spirited talk on her best-selling book, The Drunken Botanist, an entertaining look at the botanical origins of every delicious cocktail. Doors will open at 11:30 a.m., with a catered lunch at noon. The presentation will follow. Amy Stewart is a frequent guest on both television and radio and a sought-after speaker. She has authored numerous popular books including "Wicked Plants," "Wicked Bugs," "Flower Confidential" and her latest series about the Kopp Sisters, which is based on the first female sheriff in the United States. Her presentations are entertaining, informational, memorable and "spirited"! There will be books for sale at the program, which Amy Stewart will autograph.

Reserved seats can be purchased beginning today through our board Vice President, Linda Grandstaff, at (216) 226-6645. Reserved seats are \$30 each (Check - made out to The Lakewood Garden Club - or cash only,) and include a catered sit-down luncheon and the presentation by Amy Stewart. All seats are reserved at tables of 8. The funds raised at this event will go toward the many beautification efforts and service projects that Lakewood Garden Club sponsors. Those interested in attending this very special afternoon are encouraged to call for tickets as soon as possible, as we are expecting to sell out.

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Author Amy Stewart.

Lakewood Garden Club has a long history of service and contribution to the City of Lakewood. Having just celebrated our 100th anniversary in 2016, we are among the oldest garden clubs in the Cleveland area, with a membership of about 70 active women. Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month from September through June, with an agenda of programs and field trips that are timely, interesting and valuable. We have a website and publish a monthly newsletter.

Our group has enjoyed a wonderful relationship with the Lakewood City Schools where for decades we have been a strong supporter of the LHS Horticulture Program. Lakewood Garden Club was instrumental in the creation of the Lakewood High School Outdoor Learning Lab, the wonderful garden area that graces the entrance to the newly renovated building. In addition, we partnered with H2O on their service project to create a pollinator

garden at Madison Park two summers ago. Our members provided guidance, plants, and financial resources to help his wonderful garden become a reality. We also visit the elementary schools to help teach children the joys and rewards of gardening through age-appropriate 'make-and-take' projects. In addition, we have assisted with the installation of gardens at several schools in both hands-on and financial ways.

The members of Lakewood Garden Club really like to roll up their sleeves and play in the dirt! In addition to our outreach to the schools, we also contribute to the City through the installation and maintenance of several beautification projects and parks. For example, our members lovingly maintain the beautiful Isaac Warren Pocket Park located behind Geiger's and The Melt, in the center of the City. This lovely, restful spot is an oasis of calm for busy

pedestrians walking downtown. In celebration of our 100th year anniversary, members contributed funds, plants and efforts to beautify the Andrews Avenue entrance to Kauffman Park and last summer, our members were again busy working with the City on the newly renovated Cove Park, where plants were selected, purchased and installed by members who also worked diligently to design and prep the newly developed garden area.

\The members of the Lakewood Garden Club are very proud of our long history of contributing time, talent and resources to create beauty in the City. The funds we raise through events such as the Amy Stewart Luncheon will go toward our beautification projects, and monthly meetings. We are a great group of women who have fun while working hard for the City we love.

# **Knights Of Columbus Charities Fundraiser**

by Harry Freer

The Knights of Columbus, Council 2643 is trying to raise money for its Charities Fund which it uses to support various local causes such as Coats for Kids, Pediatric wheelchairs, and much more. The Knights of Columbus is the largest Catholic fraternal service organization. Council 2643 includes St. Clements, St. Luke the Evangelist, St. James and Transfiguration Parishes here in Lakewood.

Saturday, March 30, 2019 5:30 pm till 8 pm Cavatelli with meatballs or sausage,

> Salad, asst. sodas, and a dessert. Adults and teens - \$12, Kids under 12 - \$9. St. Clement's Hall 2022 Lincoln Avenue Call Tom for reservations, advance

ticket sales 216-403-3902



Meet And Greet's New Shuttle Service Compliments Of Rotary Club Of Lakewood And Rocky River With Service Provided By Youth Challenge Of Westlake

### Meet And Greet's New Shuttle Service Compliments Of Rotary Club Of Lakewood And Rocky River

by Lorilynn Wolf

Summer is less than three months away for most Northeast Ohio families. With a break from the daily school schedule, it is the perfect time to seek out extra help for a child that may be struggling with anxiety, attention, academic, electronic addition, social/communication or other issues. But how do you find a summer camp, program or provider that can best meet the needs of your child?

Connecting for Kids makes it easy with 75 local providers serving children birth through age 12 all under one roof at the Meet and Greet on Thursday, April 11 from 6:30 – 8:30 pm at the Don Umerley Civic Center, 21016 Hilliard Blvd. in Rocky River. To register for the event, visit connectingforkids.org/

meetandgreet. Those who pre-register and attend will be entered into a drawing to win a \$100 VISA gift card.

New this year is the Ask Us! program, where attendees can stop by the Ask Us! table upon entering the Meet and Greet to get recommendations from staff on resources tailored to a family's needs.

"Sometimes coming to an event such as this can be overwhelming for a parent or caregiver who doesn't even know where to start," says Sarah Rintamaki, Executive Director of Connecting for Kids. "We want to be as welcoming and helpful as possible. The

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# **Lakewood Cares**

It's A Girl ... Or Perhaps A Boy!

# **Becoming A Rotary Youth Exchange Host Family!**

by Kirsten Senger

Girl or boy, one thing that is certain is when you open your home to a foreign exchange student, you open up your understanding of the world as well.

The Rocky River Rotary Club has not only made it possible for dozens of Lakewood High School students to study abroad, but also for foreign exchange students from all over the world to learn what it's like to be an American high schooler for a year. Football games and fast food, homecoming and hotdogs, and politics and prom are all part of the experience. However, some of the most memorable experiences come from the time spent with their host families. Without our host families, the Rotary Foreign exchange program could not exist.

For decades, Lakewood has been the most welcoming club in our North East Ohio District 6630. Our district, which includes 53 clubs, hosts 10-12 foreign exchange student annually. Lakewood High School has consistently welcomed 2-3 of those students every year. The exchange students love Lakewood for all the reasons we do: friendly residents, walkability, diversity, educational opportunities, access to the arts, sports & recreation, just to name a few.

In many countries around the world, being a Rotary Foreign Exchange



Pati, our exchange student from Thailand, out with the Toole family.

student is often limited to children of Rotarians or community leaders, and the programs nearly always require that parents of outbound exchange students host an incoming exchange student. Here in Lakewood, our outbound students come from widely varied families, and the number of outbound students varies from year to year. Together, this makes our program more challenging. Over the years, Rotary has relied on the kindness of so many Lakewood families that have generously hosted foreign exchange students, whether they have an exchange student going outbound or not.

Rotary provides the financial support for the Rotary Youth Exchange program, as well as counselors and guidance for the students. However, the students need a place to stay in the community. Host families are asked to host an exchange for 3-4 months, as Rotary would like students to live in 3 homes during their year here. This allows the students to get to know different families without placing too large a commitment on any one family. Host families are not paid, but the exchange student receives financial support from Rotary that pays for educational expenses, sports, clubs, extracurricular activities and a monthly allowance for spending money. Hosts families are responsible for a safe and welcoming home, a place to sleep, meals, and making sure their student can get to school and activities.

Host families come in all shapes and sizes and they have welcomed students into their homes for many different reasons:

Families host while their high

schooler is abroad on an exchange, or after they return, to pay back the hospitality their son or daughter enjoyed.

Some families pay it forward, because their child might be considering being an exchange student in the furure.

Young families often host to allow their children to have a personal experience with someone from another culture.

Younger adults might host because they enjoyed living or traveling abroad in the past or hope to in the future!

Empty nesters, or par-

ents with a student in college host to add a little excitement to their routine.

Host families are younger, older, large, small, married, divorced, widowed, retired....in other words...like us. What they do have in common is generosity, curiosity, patience and understanding. Your exchange student might be just an interesting guest or they might become a lifelong long distance member of your family. You may find that you have a lot in common, or not so much. Still, you can't help but respect any young person who is brave enough to give up what's familiar to try a new life, a new language, and a new culture, and we have nothing but respect and gratitude for the host families who make it possible.

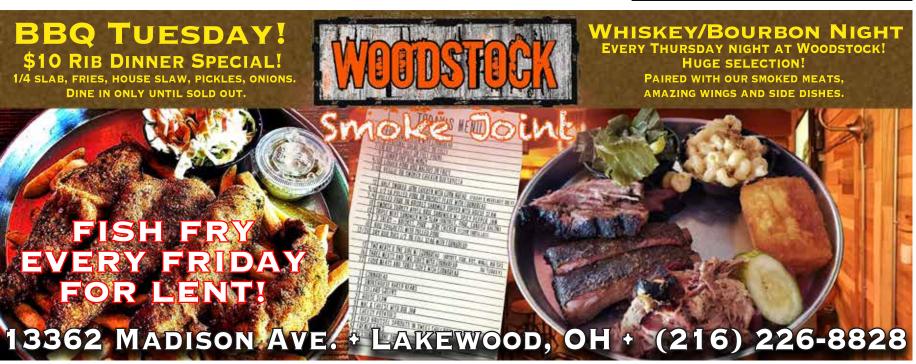
We would love to introduce you to our current exchange students, Pati from Thailand, and Eduardo From Brazil. Additionally, we can connect you with other families that have hosted exchange students...one of them might be your neighbor!

If you are interested in finding out more about hosting a student, or the Rotary Youth Exchange Program, please feel free to contact us:

Rotary Youth Exchange c/o Chris Arnold carnold@fitzarn.com







# **Lakewood Observer Fiction**

The Rockport Miracles-Part 4: Episode 5:

# "The Ballad Of Derecho Dan" Continues

Fiction by Scott MacGregor

Little Dan sure had his work cut out for him if he was to save the Gas & Lube. Everyone said he was in over his head and doomed to fail. Little Dan's secret weapon against such pessimism was his own youthful optimism. He didn't yet know where failure lived and he sure as hell wasn't roaming the town in search of it.

Aside from the storm danger, the second biggest and most immediate problem facing the Gas & Lube was its need for a master auto mechanic. Little Dan knew how to pump gas, change tires, and tow the cars, but a first class mechanic he was not. No one could ever fill Big Dan's shoes, but they had to hire someone.

Big Dan's extended family was replete with grease monkeys. Virtually all of his uncles, nephews and cousins worked in the automotive trades. Wilmena called them all for help, at least until they could find someone. Sadly, none were willing to move to stormtossed Rockport for the half promise of an uncertain future. This angered Wilmena because Big Dan always came to the aid of every single one of them when they needed help. "The human race is overrated," complained a tearful Wilmena.

Then, as he slept that night, Little Dan had a fitful dream. He dreamt that he was standing alone in a raging storm amidst the wreckage and ruins of the Lincoln Casualty Insurance building. As purple lightning flashed across a nervous sky, Little Dan raised a clenched fist to the heavens and in his best Scarlett O'Hara voice screamed out: "AS GOD AS MY WITNESS, I WILL TAKE THE FALLEN BRICKS FROM THIS ASSHOLE INSURANCE BUILDING AND BUILD A GREAT WALL THAT WILL SAVE THE GAS & LUBE!!!"

The dream was so vivid that he awoke screaming at the ceiling fan in his bedroom. His loud shrieking woke up Wilmena and caused little BD to scramble under the armoire. By the time Wilmena got out of bed and came running, Little Dan was sitting up with his face in his hands. "What is it, honey?" she asked, "Did you have a bad dream?" Little Dan uncorked his face from his hands and looked up at her. "No," he said with a rare smile, "I had a very good dream!"

A demonstrably relieved Wilmena plopped down next to him on the bed. "How 'bout I make you a little tuna salad and you tell me about it?" she asked. Eating tuna salad at 3am was not unusual in the Newman household, and Little Dan readily agreed. Together, he and Wilmena spent those pre-dawn hours slapping tuna onto Triscuit wafers and discussing how a great wall could save their bacon.

It was commonly known back



then that the city would not pay for the clean up of the Lincoln Casualty site that lay in ruins next to the Gas & Lube. If the hundreds of thousands of fallen bricks could be repurposed into a great wall that protected the Gas & Lube, wouldn't that be a win-win for everybody? Rockport's Mayor Robert "Fat Bob" Franklin thought so. He gave the idea his enthusiastic blessing.

The first thing Wilmena did to get the ball rolling was contact a company in Cleveland's Little Italy. Big Dan always said that when it came to masonry, it took an authentic Italian to do the job right. The very next morning at 7am, three young Italian men from the Rosalie Construction Co. arrived and started working. Their names were Joe, Joe, and Joe. "That makes it easy to remember, at least," said Wilmena.

The first order of business was to salvage all reusable bricks from the Lincoln Casualty site and stage them in a pile behind the Tire Corral. Within a single day, they had piled up enough

bricks to build a wall that was 25 feet long and 25 feet high. Large enough, they determined, to shield the entire northern side of the Gas & Lube building from storms coming off Lake Erie. As the first milestone of Little Dan's dream became a reality, Wilmena gave her boy a big motherly hug. In turn, Little Dan gave little BD a hug and also the second half of his tuna sandwich.

The Three Joes washed up and pledged to return the next day to begin work on "da greatest wall you ever will see-ah!" For their parts, Little Dan, BD, and Wilmena went home exhausted, proud, and happy. Everyone in the Newman house slept soundly because it was the first night since Big Dan passed away that they went to sleep with a little hope in their hearts.

Then, in the middle of the night starting at 3:15am, Wilmena, Little Dan, and the 36,000 remaining residents of Rockport were suddenly woken up by the city's emergency sirens.

Storm 5.4 was on its way.



### APRIL

ARIES

Mr. Sun is in Aries & shining down on the Ram...Mercury & Lady Venus join the party later this month, you are worthy, claim it...if guilt shows up at the door, don't let him in.

### TAURUS:

With Uranus entering the Bull Pen last month, the Bull is riding wild, confidence is yours, strut your stuff, anything can happen, like the Bull on the cover of the Observer.

### GEMINI:

Mars the Warrior Planet just sent some fire to the Twins' house, channel that energy into self-love, then sprinkle that love thru the neighborhood, you're the King/Queen of wit & charm.

### CANCER:

The Crab has been granted a new super power, the power of forgiveness, don't question it, take it to the limit one more time & forgive Old Man Winter, side-step your way to the beach.

### LE 0

If anyone can pull a rabbit out of a hat, it's you Lion, King of the Jungle... join a fundraiser, or better yet, start one yourself, when you ROAR, everybody listens, you've got the Midas Touch.

### VIRGO:

Spring is in the air, & the wind may be blowing a bit of bullying your



way, just remember Virgo, it's not about you, don't take it personally, go for a walk along the river.

### LIBRA:

You are the mediator of the Land, always trying to keep the peace, taking the safe well-traveled road, come out of your comfort zone & ask that hottie out, a local coffee shop?

### SC#RPI#:

It's time to leave your stinger at home, lighten up, there's no bad, nor no good...it's a lot of gray area & a matter of perspective, change is the only constant there is, go with the flow.

### SAGI++ARIUS:

The Centaur is about to hit the bullseye, dead on center...can you spell MANIFESTATION with a capital M? Jupiter aka Santa Claus is ready, dream big.

### CAPRICORN:

Some of that magic from the Centaur's arrow took a detour & landed on the Goat's mountain, yours just comes in the shape of a well-thought-out worked-hard-for venture, enjoy.

### AQUARIAN:

Too much electricity last month left you needing a recharge, you are exactly where you need to be, no need to "do" anything, except maybe buy a hammock, then get some R&R.

### PISCES:

You float now, Mercury Retrograde is over...still in your sign though along with Venus, however, communication is crystal clear in that lake of yours...swim on over to that Catfish.

Eva Starr, local astrologer.Starr can be reached at evastarr.com

# LakewoodAlive

### Six Key Takeaways From LakewoodAlive's "Knowing Your Home:

# Creating A Sound Investment" Workshop

by Matt Bixenstine

And away we go! LakewoodAlive's 2019 "Knowing Your Home" series got off to a strong start on March 7, as 45 attendees gathered at The Bottlehouse Brewery Lakewood to hear an Opening Night panel discussion addressing the process for undertaking major home improvement projects.

Panelists Bill Gaydos (William J. Gaydos & Associates, LLC), Chuck McGettrick (Architects C.A. McGettrick, Inc.), Dana Paul (Prairie Stone), Chris Parmelee (City of Lakewood) and Avi Selva (Cleveland Lumber Company) shared their expertise with the assembly of homeowners, while LakewoodAlive Executive Director Ian Andrews served as moderator. Ultimately, their collective goal involved equipping attendees with the knowledge and confidence necessary to tackle larger projects.

Now in its sixth year, LakewoodAlive's "Knowing Your Home" workshop series draws hundreds of attendees annually to learn home maintenance best practices. Our workshop series is generously supported by: Citizens Bank, City of Lakewood, Cleveland Lumber Company and First Federal Lakewood.

If you happened to miss this

particular workshop, we've got you covered. Here are six key takeaways from "Knowing Your Home: Creating a Sound Investment."

# 1. Start with ensuring structural soundness.

You may have grand plans for your home, but before you pursue them it's paramount to ensure you have a strong foundation on which to build. Before making substantial changes to your home, make sure your house envelope is structurally sound. This means ensuring that your house structure, roof and siding are all in good repair.

### 2. Determine a budget and stick to it.

Before commencing your major home improvement project, know how much you wish to spend - then don't let yourself exceed that figure. As you begin to explore your home improvement goals, it's easy to be tempted to expand the scope, yet you owe it to yourself to complete your project within your means. Make your budget a binding agreement you've made with yourself. Consider performing some of the labor yourself to save money and avoid paying with credit if possible. Additionally, it's advisable to add a contingency plan to your budget. Expect that there will be some cost overrun, and set aside a minimum of 10 percent of your total budget to protect yourself should an overrun occur.

3. Have realistic expectations.

When it comes to large-scale home improvement projects, you stand a much better chance of coming away satisfied if you understand the specifics and limitations of your project up front. This means developing realistic expectations with regards to your project's budget, timeline and long-term outlook. A good contractor will be able to keep your project moving, keeping your vision on track. Keep in mind that most major projects will experience at least one minor speedbump on the road to a successful completion.

### 4. Write a list of what you want.

Make a list and check it twice. Create a "wants vs. needs" list – this will help you stick to your budget and get the project result you desire. By employing this strategy, you can better hold your contractor responsible for ensuring the final product meets your expectations. In the end you'll enjoy a project result that fulfills all of your needs and if extra budget remains, then you can pursue a few extra bells and whistles.

### 5. Know the trends.

Something has value when it's perceived to have future benefits. Current trends in the local home improvement market include master suite additions, updated bathrooms and new garages.



LakewoodAlive's first "Knowing Your Home" workshop of 2019 drew 45 attendees to Bottlehouse Brewery Lakewood.

Many homeowners wish to preserve the historic qualities of their homes, necessitating that new additions be completed seamlessly.

# 6. An architect can help you understand the possibility of a project.

A successful home improvement project typically requires a strong relationship between architect and homeowner. Your architect can help you analyze the full scope of your project, enabling you to better determine the range of requirements and choices at your disposal. Ultimately, your architect will help you truly define your project and guide the design. Finding the right architect, then bringing that expert into your project early, should pay dividends throughout the course of your project.

# LakewoodAlive Launches Lakewood Pride Fund To Assist Residents With Home Repairs

by Matt Bixenstine

LakewoodAlive, a community-centered nonprofit organization, announces the launch of the Lakewood Pride Fund. This innovative program will leverage a collection of funds to secure home repair loans for Lakewood families who otherwise might not have access to conventional bank financing, helping families complete health & code compliance repairs. This program will not only help to keep a home in good repair, but it will also with each on-time payment improve the client's credit score

This program has been designed to often be a last-resort option for folks who have nowhere else to turn. LakewoodAlive's Housing Outreach Program works tirelessly to connect residents to available resources to keep their homes in good repair and this program is now another tool in our organization's tool box. The ideal candidate is someone who perhaps had a temporary job loss or a life change that made staying on top of their household bills difficult but are now working to get back on track. The Lakewood Pride Fund will help these clients make essential health, safety and code compliance improvements ultimately enhancing their quality of life, one repair at a time.

"The Lakewood Pride Fund is a tool to help families repair their homes as well as their credit by educating them about simple behavior changes like setting up a budget or creating a home maintenance schedule," said Allison Urbanek, LakewoodAlive's Housing & Internal Operations Director. "With these dollars, we will be able to assist homeowners in-need while preserving the tremendous pride in our neighborhoods, and helping to keep Lakewood alive and thriving."

The Lakewood Pride Fund will:

Improve access to bank financing for those who are unable to qualify for conventional bank loans through financial and home repair education

Reduce the risk of homes falling into foreclosure and causing blight to our community

Build stronger neighborhoods by maintaining and sustaining our housing stock through home repairs and improvements

Advance housing outreach to homeowners to help maintain Lakewood's historic housing stock

The Lakewood Pride Fund is only available to Lakewood residents who own and occupy their home. The program is currently able to serve households that are considered up to 120% of area median income, with loans capped at \$8,500.

For more information regarding the Lakewood Pride Fund, including access to the Lakewood Pride Fund Application, please visit LakewoodAlive.org/PrideFund or contact Allison Urbanek at 216-521-0655. Please email completed applications to aurbanek@lakewoodalive.org.







# The Back Page







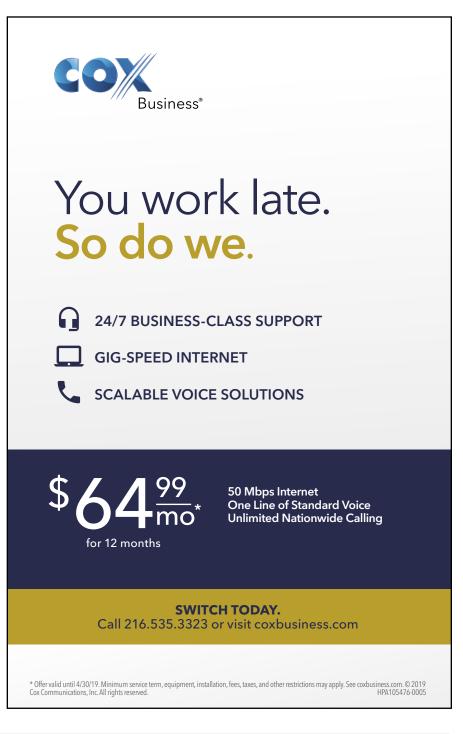












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