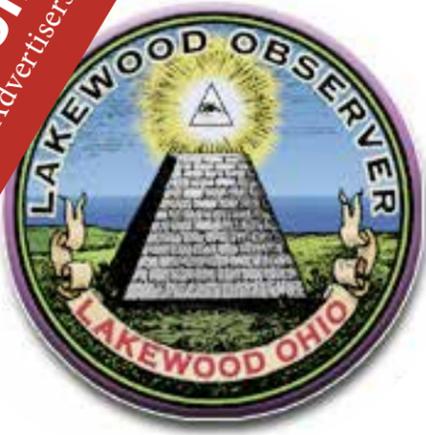


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- Atticus Finch, “To Kill A Mockingbird”

THE LAKEWOOD OBSERVER

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Volume 16, Issue 02, January 22, 2020

One Lakewood Progress: Judge Carroll’s Call For New Jail Policies Grounded In Defensible Rationale

by Laura Rodriguez-Carbone

Late last year, long-time Lakewood Judge Patrick Carroll publicly called for an



photo by Jim O'Bryan

Lakewood Municipal Judge Patrick Carroll

independent review of the policies at Lakewood City Jail after three instances of drug sharing among inmates, as well as a separate incident where an inmate was prematurely released from captivity. Judge Carroll stated his office was alerted to these incidents after the fact and was not properly informed.

In interviews last year, Judge Carroll offered some policy solutions for consideration, like establishing a citizen oversight committee to oversee how the jail is run, as well as new internal policies that expand avenues of transparency in

continued on page 3

Giant Eagle Goes Green

by Josie Kavc

Many people are trying to help the environment across the world, and stores around Lakewood have joined in.

Plastic bags release toxic chemicals into the environment and can cause a lot of harm and they cannot be recycled. Paper bags on the other hand are environmentally friendly because they are biodegradable and can be recycled. Plastic bags also harm wildlife and clog sewage systems. Researchers believe that 500 billion plastic bags are used across the globe each year. If everyone pitches in by using paper and reusable bags that number can be reduced. Stores across Lakewood are pitching in to help this issue.

I was at Giant Eagle and realized that they are using paper bags. You can bring your

own reusable bags or pay \$0.10 per bag. These little things help out the environment a lot. Then I started thinking about what other stores in Lakewood have paper bags. I called several other stores in Lakewood and found out that stores including Walgreens on Madison and CVS on Detroit are also using paper bags. Stores such as Drug Mart and Rite Aid have plastic, but provide paper. Aldi’s doesn’t have bags and so you can bring your own reusable bags!

When going to the store make sure to bring your reusable bags and help the environment! Lakewood is working hard on helping the environment one step at a time and with everyone’s help we can help the environment stay clean!

Josie Kavc is a 7th grader at Harding Middle School.

Annual LHS Alumni Hockey 2020



photo by Brian Fox

Last week was great fun for all LHS and St. Ed’s alumni at the Annual Alumni Hockey Game. More photos inside and online!

LakewoodAlive Announces Award Honorees To Be Recognized At “Loving Lakewood: All-Stars”

by Matt Bixenstine

Championship-caliber community vibrancy doesn’t happen by accident. Rather, it’s achieved thanks to strong leaders who routinely demonstrate qualities like passion, perseverance and commitment.

LakewoodAlive proudly announces Michael Bentley as the 2020 Founders Award recipient and fellow community leaders Robert Brill, Heather Rudge, Ryan Sheldon & Brittany Graham, Eric Stephens and Michael Summers as award honorees to be recognized during Loving Lakewood: All-Stars taking place Saturday, February 22, from 7:30 to 11 p.m. at the Lakewood Masonic Temple. Each will be honored as part of the evening’s festivities in recognition of their exemplary service to LakewoodAlive and the Lakewood community.

Tickets are on sale now for Loving Lakewood: All-Stars, LakewoodAlive’s winter fundraiser sponsored by Cleveland Property Management Group. Guests are invited to don their favorite jersey and bring their ‘A’ game for a sports-inspired celebration of the heart, hustle and teamwork that’s built Lakewood into a community of champions. This limited-capacity event is expected to sell out, so act faster than a sprint to the goal line to secure your tickets by visiting LakewoodAlive.org/AllStars.

Each member of this honoree group has made an indelible impact on LakewoodAlive and our community:

Michael Bentley – The Founders Award celebrates individuals who exemplify the vision of LakewoodAlive’s founding members through making exceptional contributions to our efforts to foster and sustain vibrant neighborhoods. During the last four years, Michael’s role with LakewoodAlive has been nothing short of remarkable. Michael joined the LakewoodAlive board of directors in 2017 and serves as chair of the Develop-



Clockwise from top-left: Eric Stephens, Heather Rudge, Michael Bentley, Robert Brill, Ryan Sheldon & Brittany Graham and Michael Summers.

ment Committee. Through his financial services firm, Bentley Wealth Management of Raymond James, Michael has served as title sponsor of our Front Porch Concert Series the last four summers. Michael regularly recruits coworkers and friends to complete volunteer housing projects on behalf of our Housing Outreach Program, and he sits on our Impact Team, a group focused on creating a social enterprise plan for LakewoodAlive. Ohio CDC Association recently honored Michael as its 2019 Community Leader of the Year based on his extensive contributions to LakewoodAlive.

Robert Brill – Robert, as Market Vice President of

Cox Communications, has overseen the development of a phenomenal partnership between Cox and LakewoodAlive. Thanks to Robert’s leadership, Cox has been a longtime supporter of LakewoodAlive’s community events, including Light Up Lakewood and the Front Porch Concert Series. Robert and his staff have repeatedly partnered with LakewoodAlive to tackle housing and community beautification projects. Cox has also proven instrumental in assisting with LakewoodAlive’s technical needs, both at our office and at special events like

continued on page 8

Registration Opens For Lakewood Preschool

by Christine Gordillo

Lakewood City Schools preschool registration for Lakewood residents for the 2020-2021 school year is now open! In addition to the District’s current half-day offerings for 3-5 year-olds, next year will also include a full-day option at the new Taft Center for Innovation in the former Taft Elementary

building. The all-day option cost includes onsite child care provided by Lakewood Child Care. All of the District preschool programs also include music therapy sessions with Beck Center staff. Call 216-529-4214 for more information and also visit our the Preschool page on the District website at www.lakewoodcityschools.org

Lakewood Observer

It's Free, And Never Intrusive Not On The Deck? Here's What You Might Have Missed



Lakewood Fire Fighters wait for water to quell the flames before going in to this house on Spring Garden. Photos and story posted while they were still fighting the fire!



First look at the renovations of the Madison Branch of Lakewood Public Library, brought to the Deck weeks before being released.

Antonio To Deliver State Of The District

by Nickie Antonio

State Senator Nickie J. Antonio (D-Lakewood) will give her annual State of the District address to discuss issues affecting the community such as health care, education and transportation on Saturday, February 1 at 11 am in Parma, Ohio. This presentation to the public will include an update on Antonio's work at the Statehouse since the beginning of the 133rd General Assembly, and a Q&A period.

Immediately before the address,

from 10 am to 11 am, the Senator will hold office hours to meet constituents. If you are interested in scheduling a brief one-on-one meeting, please contact Nicole Schneider in her office at 614-466-5123.

WHO: Senator Nickie J. Antonio

WHAT: State of the District address

WHEN: February 1, 2020, 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. (Office hours are by appointment from 10:00 a.m.- 11:00 a.m.)

WHERE: Parma-Snow branch of the Cuyahoga County Public Library, Conference Room B

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Upcoming Submission Deadline	Publish Date
January 31, 2020	February 5, 2020
February 14, 2020	February 19, 2020

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Lakewood Observer

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Lakewood City Hall

One Lakewood Progress: Judge Carroll's Call For New Jail Policies Grounded In Defensible Rationale

continued from page 1

reporting issues at the jail by looping in elected officials and city administrators.

The administrative issues that have beleaguered the Cuyahoga County Jail in recent years remind us that from a policy administration standpoint, there is always room for improvement, and that regular review of administrative policies that ensure the safety and security of the community ought to be a priority on an ongoing basis.

Given the issues of administrative liability, accreditation standards, case law, and the need to support professional behavior, comprehensive written policy and procedures are a necessity for all jails.

Correctional policy changes, as those suggested by Judge Carroll, are grounded in defensible rationale and should not be seen as a rebuke of jail officials, but as part of a constructive re-assessment of policies and procedures that solve current problems and prevent future ones.

The public administration of jails has progressed in the United States from ad-hoc management of independent Sheriffs where anything goes, to the legal necessity of jails serving as institutions of professional and accountable conduct, where policies are linked to legitimate correctional outcomes, prevailing standards, and community safety goals.

Citizen oversight into police departments and jails is not a new phenomenon. Cleveland's Office of Professional Standards and Police Review Board was established to help put a process in place to investigate citizen complaints and make policy recommendations to elected officials and the police department. Citizen involvement is a crucial aspect to all public processes and providing



This might be the most famous photo of Judge Carroll ever taken, sentencing a landlord to live in his own building. The story and photo made the National Enquirer.

the community a say in how they are policed can lead to very positive outcomes to the community's relationship with, and faith in, their local police department.

The changes called for by Judge Carroll would establish an independent, Review-Focused oversight board that would review police department operations and provide community input about internal investigations and procedures. This would provide an extra level of oversight for internal functions of the police department and promote a greater understanding of the complexities of operating a jail and how the community is policed.

Quality improvement is important not just for business, schools, or hospitals. Learning how to increase efficiency, strengthen partnerships and relationships, and serve the public better should be a central tenet for all public agencies and entities. A citizen's review board makes sense in the spirit of continuous quality improvement

and in strengthening the bond between our community and our police department.

In interviews late last year, Lakewood Police Chief Timothy Malley stated to Cleveland.com that the concerns expressed by Judge Carroll had already been addressed through internal policy updates and that in his opinion, an outside review of the jail was not needed.

As of this writing, there is no word regarding whether the new mayoral administration will request an outside review in response to the incidents.

What do you think? Should city council or the new administration establish an independent, citizen-led oversight board?

Send your thoughts to the member center at www.lakewoodobserver.com. Sign in and submit your response under the title, Thoughts for Laura.

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Lakewood Public Library

"Inspire Your Heart With Art" Day

by Marge Foley

Art is appreciated for all sorts of reasons. It has the power to change us and to inspire our hearts. More than just a painting on a wall, art can be the music you hear or a sculpture you feel. Students in Kindergarten through Fifth Grade are invited to experience the arts at the Lakewood Public Library in this after-school program with a variety of activities. These include

listening to a story, personalizing a poem, completing a coloring project and making a unique heart-filled creation. The Inspire Your Heart with Art program will take place on Friday, January 31, 2020 from 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. in the Main Library Activity Room. Register online at lakewoodpubliclibrary.org/youth or call (216) 226-8275, ext. 140.

Women In History Presents:

Susan B. Anthony

by Lisa Calfee

The lifework of Susan B. Anthony changed the world. Born in 1820, she fought furiously for the rights of African Americans and women due to her conviction that all people are created equal -- a radical thought for a culture mired in slavery and oppression.

Women in History is proud to present a dramatic re-creation of the famous suffragette on Sunday, February 9, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. as part of our Sunday With The Friends program at Lakewood Public Library.

2020 marks the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution granting American

women the right to vote. Because of her impassioned activism, the legislation came to be known as the "Susan B. Anthony Amendment."

Anthony is just one of sixty-four notable women currently portrayed by the actresses of Women in History. From Sojourner Truth to Joan Rivers, great care is taken to accurately depict the personality, dress and life story of each remarkable subject and has led to the program's award-winning reputation.

Women in History's presentation of Susan B. Anthony will be held in the Main Lower Level Auditorium at 15425 Detroit Avenue.



Windsong, Cleveland's Feminist Chorus To Perform At Lakewood Public Library

by Amy Kloss

Not everyone wants to identify as a feminist. Some people think it's too radical, too exclusionary or no longer necessary. But what about a singing feminist? Around the world, groups of women gather to celebrate music and feminism in choral groups belonging to the Sister Singers Network. Windsong is Cleveland's own feminist chorus, which last year celebrated its fortieth anniversary.

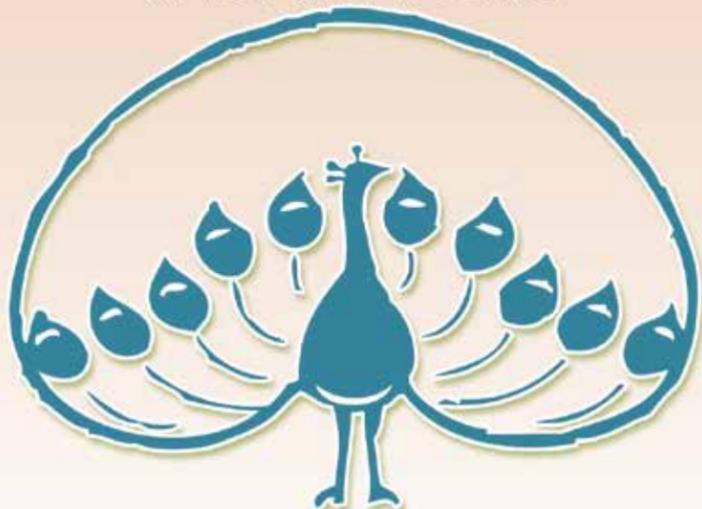
You can hear Windsong perform on Sunday, February 2, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room. This intergenerational group of women and non-binary individuals will perform songs from a wide variety of cultures, songwriters and time periods. Started in 1979 as the Cleveland

Women's Chorus, the group officially became Windsong in 1996. There were lean years with only a handful of members, but currently the chorus has almost fifty singers. As a non-audition choir, the group embraces people of all levels of experience with music and includes both singing and non-singing participants. They have performed around the country at the Sister Singers festivals held every four years, at area churches, the State Theater, Holiday CircleFest and Cleveland Pride festivals. Dedicated to promoting feminism, social change and accessibility in the arts, Windsong seeks out ADA-compliant venues and offers an ASL interpreter at major concerts.

Join Windsong on February 2, 2020 at the Lakewood Main Library for this Sunday with the Friends concert.

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"Inspire Your Heart With Art" Day

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Lakewood Public Library

Calendar Of Events

compiled by Elaine Rosenberger

Thursday, January 23, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.
Great Decisions in Libraries, Decoding U.S.-China Trade
Presentation by Paul Schroeder, PhD
Main Library Multipurpose Room

The United States still uses centuries-old numbers to measure trade. This antiquated system mangles understanding of the US-China trade relationship, shrinking America's true economic size, while swelling China's. After a brief video, Paul Schroeder, professor at Case Western Reserve University, will lead a discussion and help to answer the complex questions surrounding US-China trade relations. Readings will be available one week in advance.

Saturday, January 25, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. (96 minutes)
Lakewood Public Cinema
"Caramel" (2007), Directed by Nadine Labaki
Main Library Auditorium

A beauty salon in Beirut is a safe haven for five women in this Lebanese romantic comedy. Shop owner Layale (Nadine Labaki) consults her employees about a problematic affair, stylist Rima (Joanna Moukartzel) struggles with her attraction to a female client, and seamstress Rose (Sihame Haddad) abandons her own ambitions to care for her family. In their familiar salon, the women search for answers to questions of life, love and happiness.

Sunday, January 26, 2020 at 2:00 p.m.
Sunday with the Friends
Mike and Mary
Main Library Auditorium

Mike and Mary are a jazz and pop duo specializing in the music of the Great American Songbook. Vocalist Mary Osburn has a background in musical theater and delights in rediscovering songs from long-ago Broadway shows and sharing them with new audiences. Mike Elkins is an accomplished pianist who writes all of the duo's arrangements and plays in a number of area bands. Together, the two perform in a delightful and interactive cabaret style.

Tuesday, January 28, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.
Genealogy Workshop
Taught by Deborah Abbott, PhD
Main Library Learning Lab

Genealogist Deborah Abbott will show you how to unlock the secrets held by census reports, military records, birth certificates and death notices in this hands-on workshop. Unravel your history using the free Library Edition of ancestry.com, the world's largest collection of online records. The Library Edition of ancestry.com is free to use every day at the Library Technology Center and Madison Branch. Call (216) 226-8275, ext. 127 to register.

Wednesday, January 29, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.
Literature Discussion - Mythological Retelling: "Circe"
Literature Series presented by Barbara Parr
Main Library Multipurpose Room

The fourth in our four-part course led by Barbara Parr, an instructor with Case Western Reserve University's Laura and Alvin Siegal Lifelong Learning Program. Participants will read "Circe" by Madeline Miller alongside selections from the epic poem "The Odyssey" by Homer that inspired Miller's novel.

Saturday, February 1, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. (135 minutes)
Lakewood Public Cinema
Film Series—From Books to Films: "BlacKkKlansman" (2018)
Directed by Spike Lee
Main Library Auditorium

Ron Stallworth (John David Washington), an African American police officer in Colorado Springs, manages to infiltrate the local Ku Klux Klan branch with the help of a Jewish undercover agent named Flip Zimmerman (Adam Driver) who eventually becomes its leader. Based on the 2014 autobiography "Black Klansman: Race, Hate, and the Undercover Investigation of a Lifetime" by Ron Stallworth, this film continues our series of films based on books.

Sunday, February 2, 2020 at 2:00 p.m.
Sunday with the Friends
Windsong, Cleveland's Feminist Chorus
Main Library Multipurpose Room

Begun by a few brave voices back in 1979, Windsong now includes almost fifty singing members, a cohort of non-singing members called the Crescendos and a volunteer group called the Grace Notes. As a non-audition chorus, Windsong offers a home for any woman-identified person and performs songs from a wide variety of cultures, songwriters and time periods, lifting up messages of feminism, progressivism, environmentalism, diversity and community.

Wednesday, February 5, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.
Lakewood's Shared Spaces: Panel Discussion
Panelists Ian Andrews, Antoinette Gelsomino, Sean McDermott and Katelyn Milius
Main Library Auditorium

Lakewood is a thriving city known for its progressive, vibrant and diverse community. Join us for a panel discussion highlighting the physical places, organizations and individuals who add to our own social infrastructure. Panelists from LakewoodAlive, Lakewood Department of Human Services, Cleveland Metroparks and Lakewood Department of Planning & Development will share how we can use our communal sense of belonging to strengthen our city and citizens.

Children And Youth

compiled by Nic Starr

Sunday, January 26, 2020, 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Lakewood LEGO® League
For youth in kindergarten through fifth grade (caregivers welcome)
Main Library Activity Room

Use Lakewood Public Library'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.

Friday, January 31, 2020, 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Inspire Your Heart with Art Day
For students in kindergarten through first grade
Main Library Activity Room

Experience the arts in this after-school program with a variety of activities including listening to a story, personalizing a poem, completing a coloring project and making your own unique heart-filled creation. Come celebrate art and how it touches your heart! Registration required.

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4 Items	\$9.00	\$11.50	\$15.00	\$18.00
Deluxe	\$9.50	\$12.25	\$16.00	\$19.50
Extra Items	\$0.50	\$0.75	\$1.00	\$1.50
Ext. Cheese/Spec. Topp	\$1.50	\$2.00	\$2.50	\$3.50

Available Items: Pepperoni, Sausage, Mushrooms, Onion, Green & Red Peppers, Anchovies, Ham, Bacon, Fresh Garlic, Black, Olives, Hot Peppers, Ground Meat, Pineapple, Jalapeño Peppers **SPECIAL TOPPINGS:** Artichoke Hearts, Tomato, Broccoli, Chicken

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Lakewood Education Observed

Pair Of District Teachers Earn Recognition

by Christine Gordillo

Two Lakewood City Schools' teachers recently earned recognition for their commitment to their profession. Horace Mann Elementary teacher Allison Martzolf was selected to serve with the Ohio Department of Education Ohio Teacher Leader Liaison program and Garfield Middle School teacher Barb Lynch earned a grant from the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics that will allow her to attend the International Congress on Mathematical Education (ICME) in China.

ICME is held every four years and offers an opportunity for educators from the United States to discuss issues related to mathematics education with international leaders from developed and developing countries. Grant recipients have the opportunity to interact with mathematics educators from across countries, listen to world-renowned scholars in mathematics and



Barb Lynch

mathematics education, and take part in a focused study group dealing with a wide range of topics. Lynch will be participating in the focus group, "On activities for and Research on Students with Special Needs including Giftedness and Creativity."



Allison Martzolf

Lynch was beyond excited to receive the grant: "I am very grateful to NCTM for having faith in me and giving me this opportunity. I am most interested in meeting teachers from other countries and learning how mathematical concepts are applied and

taught in classrooms across the world. Math is a universal language and discovering the unique perspectives and philosophies of how that language is practiced in different cultures will afford me the opportunity to grow as an educator and a citizen of the world."

Martzolf has been selected as one of 50 educators to participate in the first cohort of the Ohio Teacher Leader Liaison program. This new, innovative and prestigious network of teachers from across the state will engage with the Ohio Department of Education on topics related to current and future education initiatives in the state. As an Ohio Teacher Leader Liaison, Martzolf and her peers will gain knowledge and skills related to trust-building, communications, feedback and use of data as well as acquiring understanding of state government roles and processes related to education.

Congratulations to both of these dedicated teachers!



Pictured left to right: Back Row: Nikhil Mahajan, Dhyani Nautiyal, James Mamone, and Rohan Kumar, Front Row: Lorraine Tzeng, Qiwen Wu, Nasreen Shakur, Samyuktha (Samy) Iyer, Jennifer Seward

Birchwood 8th Grade Writers Win Recognition: Lakewood Student Earns Recognition For Humorous Essay

by Aubrey Fox

Birchwood 8th grade students earned gold key, silver key, and honorable mention in the Regional Scholastic Writing awards.

Samyuktha Iyer (Highland Heights) was awarded a gold key for her personal essay and memoir, "A Pop of Color in a Grey Place."

Rohan Kumar (Brunswick) also earned the gold key award for his short story, "The Struggle."

Qiwen Wu (Cleveland) won a gold key for her short story entitled, "Because of You"

Nikhil Mahajan (Orange Village) won a silver key in the science fiction and fantasy category for his story, "The Kidney."

James Mamone (Parma) was also awarded a silver key in science fiction and fantasy for his, "Fear of the Unknown."

Dhyani Nautiyal (Lakewood) earned honorable mention for his humor writing entitled "Vengeance."

Nasreen Shukar's (Cleveland) flash fiction, "Moving Away" was also awarded honorable mention.

The Scholastic Writing Awards is the longest-running and most pres-

tigious program for recognizing and rewarding students' talent. Our students join the ranks of Scholastic alumni Andy Warhol, Stephen King, Sylvia Plath, and Tschabalala Self. Last year nearly 340,000 works were submitted and over 2,700 students received national recognition.

Mrs. Lorraine Tzeng describes Scholastics as one of Birchwood's signature programs, saying, "Scholastics offered students a unique opportunity to write a longer piece involving the entire writing process from brainstorming to submission. It allowed students a creative venue to hone various revision techniques, putting into practice techniques they have learned. Every award was well deserved."

While Birchwood takes pride in its students' accomplishments, they recognize the talent and dedication of their teachers as well. Since 1986 Birchwood has been participating in this program under the direction of Mrs. Lorraine Tzeng. Under her dedicated coaching, 170 students receive regional and national recognition. Twenty-nine students have received National Gold or Silver Key Awards, 89 have received Regional Gold or Silver Key Awards,

Senior Earns Trip To Materials Camp In France

by Christine Gordillo

When Lakewood High senior Nicole Hudak signed up as a freshman for West Shore Career-Tech's Project Lead the Way pre-engineering program, never in her wildest dreams did she imagine it would lead to an all-expenses paid trip to France. But here she is, headed to Clermont Ferrand, France in June as one of only two United States high school students to attend a materials engineering camp. The camp is sponsored by ASM International's Education Foundation.

"I never thought Project Lead the Way would lead to something like this," Nicole said. "I am super excited!"

This is not the first materials camp Nicole will have attended. Last summer, Nicole and two other West Shore Project Lead the Way students participated in the week-long ASM camp at the group's headquarters in Aurora. It was there that Nicole discovered that materials engineering is the path forward for her and where camp organizers noticed her natural leadership skills that led to the invitation to France.

and 52 students received Honorable Mention. One of Birchwood's newest teachers, Mrs. Jennifer Seward, assisted in coaching this year, proving to be a valuable asset to the team.

Birchwood School of Hawken is a private, coeducational school in Cleveland, Ohio. Founded in 1984, Birchwood serves students in kindergarten through grade 8. Birchwood's mission is to equip children to lead a life of becoming – growing, thriving and flourishing – through the development of intellect and character.

birchwoodschoo.org



Nicole Hudak

Nicole and the other camp attendees this summer will experience hands-on learning principles of applied math, material science, and engineering. Two adult mentors will accompany Nicole and the other student from the U.S. Nicole said she is "so thankful" for Project Lead the Way teacher Bob Sedlak for encouraging her to keep an open mind about applying to the first materials science camp and for recommending the opportunity to her.



Lakewood Education Observed



One of the HOME ALONE groups in action.



H2O HOME ALONE Team Leaders.

H2O's First HOME ALONE Event Is A Huge Success!

by Hayley Welsh

On Wednesday, January 15th, H2O's HOME ALONE Leadership Team unveiled their program for the first time to over 60 children from the ages of 9 to 12 years old. The program's goals are to enrich children with skills that will be essential for their independence.

It all started last May, when H2O "Help to Others" presented the concept of HOME ALONE to a group of high school students and invited them to get involved. In June, eleven high school students stepped up to the plate and became H2O's Research and Development (R&D) Team. I was one of them.

H2O's R&D Team re-envisioned

the program to fit the ever-changing society that today's children live in. We met with law enforcement, firefighters, and many others.

In October, H2O's R&D team recruited 42 more high school leaders, ranging from sophomores to seniors, to develop the presentations that the children saw at our first event.

Over the time that was spent together, not only did the program develop, but a connection between the team members evolved. H2O's HOME ALONE program not only focuses on teaching younger kids to be safe, but also provides the skills to prepare its high school leaders for the real world.

Emma Hirsch, a senior at Lakewood High School, commented, "My desire to study psychology in college in order to help kids find confidence through personal growth has only grown greater since my involvement with HOME ALONE."

Each leader involved with HOME ALONE has put in over forty hours in the past three months. We were thrilled to finally show the community the event that we have been building for months.

The first event was full of nerves and excitement from both the leaders and adults involved. From 6:30 to 8:45pm, children and their guardians were simultaneously being taught essential skills, such as fire safety and how to clean wounds. The adults

were getting directions from law enforcement officials, fire chiefs and policemen, while the children were being educated by the H2O HOME ALONE Leaders.

Each segment lasted around twenty minutes, moving swiftly and efficiently. Adult volunteers sat along in the rooms to observe the dynamic between the children and leaders. Renee Kolecki, one of the adult volunteers, said that the group leaders were well-prepared and really kept the children's attention.

Parents evaluated the program after the event. Virtually 100% indicated H2O's HOME ALONE met or exceeded their expectations and that they would recommend the program to others. Here is a sample of quotes from parents: "Lots of helpful, up-to-date info to help prepare your family transition to more independence" and "Great way to spend an evening!"

The program went very well and we are very proud and thankful for all those who were involved. There are still more HOME ALONE events, but space is filling up fast! Sign up soon! You can register online at: <http://thelakewood-foundation.org/h2o/home-alone/>

Hayley Welsh is a member of H2O HOME ALONE Leadership Team. She is a junior at Lakewood High School.

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Lakewood Living

Family Focused Chiropractor Opens In Lakewood

by Allison Workman

Posture & Poise Chiropractic is a specialized care center that opened at the beginning of the new year. The practice focuses on treating patients of all ages, from children to elderly with a special focus on pregnant, postpartum parents and children. Dr. Allison Workman is the owner and Doctor of Chiropractic at Posture & Poise. She is a Webster certified chiropractor. Webster is a technique in which chiropractors analyze the joints, muscles, and ligaments of the pelvis and reduce dysfunction of the sacrum in order to allow for optimal fetal position. Correction of the pelvis may improve pregnant patient's low back and pubic symphysis pain and reduce labor and delivery discomfort. In addition, Dr. Workman also offers the following services to all of her patients: diversified chiropractic adjustments, ConneTX soft tissue therapy, kinesiology taping, Activator method, applied kinesiology, strengthening exercises, and nutritional supplementation. The practice is located in the Rozis Wine House building on the corner of Detroit & Cook Ave. They offer well-rounded, holistic, and non-invasive care. Care consists of gentle hands on treatment as well as analyzing musculoskeletal disorders, nutritional imbalances, and thoughtful consideration of rehabilitation exercises to implement as patient self-care. Dr. Workman strives to bring the utmost patient-centered care possible.

Dr. Allison Workman grew up in Andover, OH and graduated from Pymatuning Valley High School. She then earned her bachelor's degree in Molecular and Cellular Biology from Kent State



University. Next, she traveled to New York Chiropractic College located in the small town of Seneca Falls, NY and received her Doctor of Chiropractic degree in November of 2019. While in school she took a particular interest in pregnancy and pediatric chiropractic, and even gave birth to her son in her last year of chiropractic school. After she graduated, her family packed up and moved to the land of Cleveland, Ohio where she is excited to be established and serving the community. Dr. Workman is an advocate for movement and strength training to help improve longevity and quality of life. She hopes to incorporate that into her practice to help everyone achieve the healing they deserve.

For more information about Posture & Poise Chiropractic, or to schedule an appointment, visit their website at www.postureandpoisechiro.com or call (216) 200-7902.

LakewoodAlive Announces Award Honorees To Be Recognized At "Loving Lakewood: All-Stars"

continued from page 1

the annual Loving Lakewood fundraiser.

Heather Rudge – Heather has been a devoted friend to LakewoodAlive over the years. As founder and owner of HP Group, a historic preservation consulting firm specializing in the successful delivery of federal and state historic tax credits, she lends her knowledge and expertise to our Design Committee. Heather is playing an integral role in this committee's effort to establish a historic district along a portion of Detroit Avenue, and she is also involved with LakewoodAlive's Impact Team. Heather is a past recipient of the Lasky Service Award, which celebrates volunteers who demonstrate uniquely exceptional commitment to LakewoodAlive.

Ryan Sheldon & Brittany Graham – Ryan and Brittany are not only co-owners of Beat Cycles, but are also a wonderful example of what can happen when a small family business truly believes in its community. Since opening their bicycle shop in 2014, Ryan and Brittany have been enthusiastic advocates for LakewoodAlive, donating eight bikes over the years to benefit our organization. Their generous support has enabled the Meltdown Bike Raffle to evolve into a key component of our Lakewood Summer Meltdown, and they graciously let LakewoodAlive host a fundraising event at their shop in 2019. Ryan and Brittany also play a key role in our city's bicycle advocacy efforts through participation with Bike Lakewood and through spearheading the "Kidical Mass" bike ride.

Eric Stephens – Eric has been one of the most valuable volunteer contributors to our Housing Outreach Program over the years. Having served as Director of Community Outreach for Lakewood New Life Church, he has helped coordinate numerous LNLC volunteer housing projects with LakewoodAlive, many of which

require advanced skill sets in order to refurbish a front porch or replace porch steps. No housing project is ever too big or challenging for Eric and his team, and he routinely comes to our rescue when we need to locate a volunteer group in short order. When he's not assisting LakewoodAlive, Eric serves as Senior Philanthropy Advisor for Baldwin Wallace University.

Michael Summers – Michael, as Mayor of the City of Lakewood from 2011 to 2019, has long been a champion of LakewoodAlive, specifically the Housing Outreach Program whose mission is to ensure all residents live in healthy and safe housing. During Michael's mayoral tenure, the administration and city council supported our Housing Outreach Program, helping it to evolve into one of the most important components of our work in the community. This support provided for expansion of the Paint Program, support of the Lakewood Pride Fund, assistance to residents with bed bugs and strengthening of a multi-department, public-nonprofit approach to addressing some of the most challenging housing issues our residents face.

"We are thrilled to be able to recognize Michael, Robert, Heather, Ryan & Brittany, Eric and Michael for their outstanding contributions, not only to LakewoodAlive, but to the entire Lakewood community," said Ian Andrews, LakewoodAlive Executive Director. "These community leaders have served vital roles at LakewoodAlive and we are eternally grateful for the incredible impact each has made within our organization."

Loving Lakewood: All-Stars features sports-themed food, drinks, décor and entertainment that will have you saying, "I don't care if I never get back." Proceeds will support LakewoodAlive's programming as we strive to foster and sustain vibrant neighborhoods in Lakewood. Much like a team of destiny on a championship quest, we at LakewoodAlive possess the dogged determination and tireless work ethic necessary to assist the wonderful residents of Lakewood along the journey to achieving an even more vibrant community. To learn more, please visit LakewoodAlive.org/AllStars.

Loving Lakewood: All-Stars is generously supported by the following sponsors:

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Lakewood Is Art

The Sketchbook Challenge

by Chris Young

"The Sketchbook Challenge" is a project that involves local artists working together to help preserve Ohio's creative spirit and energy. I own a for profit business, so it has been very difficult to get any sort of funding. All I need right now are the sketchbooks and the artists willing to fill them.

Basically, we are creating a library of sketchbooks. It would be great to have a place where local artists can be celebrated and given a special place of recognition. There are no restrictions. Beginners, mid-career and seasoned artists can all become part of this collection. The only caveat is that whatever they submit has to fit in the sketchbook. All the books will be the same size.

I want to give any artists a sketchbook and have them fill it with whatever they wish and then collect them. The books will be a record of thoughts, dreams and stories that the artist wants to share. Anyone can come in and view the sketchbooks at any time. The books

will become the property of Lakewood Art Studios. There will be no copying or photos allowed of the work but people are free to view the contents. The sketchbooks will contain the contact information of the artist and any social media or other ways for the public to get in touch with them. To be eligible for a free sketchbook, an artist must participate in any Lakewood Art Studios event or activity. For now, this will be free for artists to participate. The launch party for the first round of sketchbooks induction will be in August of 2020.

Lakewood Art Studios is looking for folks that can help this campaign by spreading the word, becoming a participant, donating to purchase sketchbooks, studio supplies, furniture or shelving. I would love to partner with you to help local artists preserve and share their talent with anyone who comes to browse.

Starting in January 2020 the books will be given to the participants of the This Is Us! Local Artist Self Portrait Exhibition during the reception on Sat-

Letter To The Editors

Lakewood Can Eliminate County Plastic Bag Ban

by Steve Gannis

The Cuyahoga County Council (county government) recently irresponsibly and needlessly enacted a law banning useful free plastic bags with purchases from retail stores and merchants. Then the city of Brooklyn, Ohio, which borders Cleveland, enacted a good law eliminating the foolish county plastic bag ban.

Lakewood City Council can and should also pass a law revoking the County's plastic bag ban in Lakewood. Call 216-221-0228 to help stop this bag ban in Lakewood.

We need plastic bags, to put trash and garbage in, to pick up dog poop, to carry purchases home from stores, etc... People re-use plastic bags for such purposes. There is no plastic bag pollution in Lakewood. So why ban them? It is stupid.

The County big government bag ban is unjustified dictatorial extremism that further erodes our freedoms.

I see bicycle riders in Lakewood with plastic bags of items hanging from the

handle bars as they ride. Paper bags can't do that. Paper bags are leaky and are made from trees, destroying forests that fight global warming. Plastic bags can be recycled. Better than banning them.

Banning bags is how certain politicians get publicity, pretending to be helping the public. It has become a senseless fad.

This ban, forcing us to use the same dirty, increasingly germ, non-plastic bag every day makes it unsanitary. Some purchases, such as wet fruits and vegetables and frozen foods and other foods can leak through paper bags, but not plastic bags.

Having to buy plastic bags hurts poor people the most. Those thicker plastic bags you can buy have many times more plastic than the thin plastic bags stores give us free, so it creates more plastic that County Council pretends to be so concerned about.

Fight this plastic bag ban in Lakewood.

urday, January 25th starting at 3 p.m. Twenty-seven artists' self-portraits will be on view January 8th til 25th. Then from there any artist who is interested and willing to fill the book and return it will be given a sketchbook.

"This Is Us! Local Artist Self Portrait" Exhibition details, information about the Sketchbook Challenge, participation and donations can be found by filling out the form on the contact page on www.LakewoodArtStudios.com. Mention in the message area that you want more information, to donate or to

find other events, or call 216 370 2414.

Chris Young is an artist, educator and small business owner. He loves working with wire to create jewelry and sculpture pieces that are usually described as different and unique. He also mixes several mediums to make 2-D art. His mind is always trying to see ordinary items in new ways. He loves working with people of any age to get them to draw outside of the lines just a little bit. It is a goal of his to connect artists and their art with other local folks.

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Lakewood Observer

Power Of Moms: 2020

by Molly Crowe

Moms Demand Action will host an event on February 16, 2020 for Greater Clevelanders to engage in the movement to protect people from gun violence. "Power of Moms: Ohio 2020" will feature guest speaker, The Honorable Nan Whaley, Mayor of Dayton, and will be held at the Rocky River Methodist Church Hall located at 19414 Detroit Ave. starting at 3pm.

Two years ago, over 300 Clevelanders gathered at the same location to take action to reduce gun violence following the school shooting at Marjorie Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland Florida, at which 17 people were killed. In Ohio, an average of 1400 people die by gun every year; firearms are the second leading cause of death among Ohio children and teens. "In a state where 90% of residents have indicated support for background checks on all gun sales, 2020 marks a pivotal opportunity for gun safety reform in Ohio. The 'Power of Moms' event will align and elevate the voices of mothers and others who know that gun violence is preventable and want to do something to end the gun violence epidemic," said

Brittany Dalton, a Cleveland Heights resident and a gun violence survivor who was injured in a

2018 drive-by shooting while picking up her 8 yr. old son from school.

Power of Moms: Ohio 2020 will present opportunities for volunteers to learn about a variety of evidence-based strategies to reduce gun deaths, injury and trauma, including legislative advocacy and school safety measures.

Registration is requested, but not required. For more information go to: <https://tinyurl.com/PoMCLE>

Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America (www.momsdemandaction.org) is a grassroots, non-partisan movement of Americans fighting for public safety measures that can protect people from gun violence and keep our families safe. Moms Demand Action has a chapter in every state and, along with Mayors Against Illegal Guns, Students Demand Action and the Everytown Survivor Network, it is part of the nation's largest gun violence prevention organization, Everytown for Gun Safety, with more than 6 million supporters.

Letters To The Editor:

Lakewood March Levy

by Robert Bade

Every time the Lakewood School System announces a new levy to appear on an upcoming ballot, numerous articles surface supporting the position that funding is necessary to "keep Lakewood City schools strong" and "continue to provide the educational excellence that residents expect." Reference the Lakewood Observer article by Christine Gordillo, Volume 16, Issue 01, page 6.

The article assures land owners the upcoming March levy will "have a minimum financial impact of less than \$2.00 per \$100,000 of fair market property value, with no increase in tax rate, due in part to responsible refinancing, sound financial practices and property value growth." Listed are many reasonable spending outcomes for the 3.9 mill operating and 1.0 mill permanent improvement levies, although most are not for emergency spending issues, but instead for "adding, expanding, providing, and protecting" programs. It's important to note that Treasurer/CFO Kent Zeman recently stated in a Sun News article dated August 15, 2019 that he anticipates a \$2.7 million deficit in 2020, \$4.6 million deficit in 2021 and \$9.2 million deficit in 2023!

It's appropriate that everyone evaluate all information at hand so that they can make sound decisions at the polls. However, simply evaluating program necessity and program wishlists is only a part of this process. It is imperative we also look at tax rate mill growth, home fair market value growth, and subsequently, the growth in actual property tax dollars paid, the real out-of-pocket impact! Case in

point: In my 20 years of Lakewood residency and property ownership, tax rate mills have increased 37%, home value 54%, and most importantly, annual property taxes have increased 93%. These are the true key indicators we must evaluate!

Another key metric is to evaluate where Lakewood stands educationally as compared to the schools having higher performance results, and then to evaluate our year-to-year improvement statistics. Many of us have reviewed recent annual results published in Crain's which indicate our need for improvement, over school districts which include Hudson, Rocky River, Solon and Orange.

Surprisingly, performance is not just about adequate funding. Lakewood's property tax as a percentage of fair market property value is 2.93%, while Orange's is 2.17%, Rocky River's 2.39% and Solon's 2.45%.

At some point, the cost of education cannot continue to be funded by property taxes or by the ever changing allowance we get from the State of Ohio. Many school districts have realized this and have established supplemental funding sources. In Florida, in addition to property taxes, some districts charge a flat or percentage fees for each real estate sale transaction, whether commercial property or private home transactions. Other districts are considering a minimal income tax adder for helping fund education. This provides a much more level playing field by shifting some of the expense burden from property owners to all residents. This would be especially advantageous in Lakewood, where at present every-



The GiGiFIT team

Commitment To Fitness At GiGi's Playhouse

by Celeste Blau

GiGiFIT Adult at GiGi's Playhouse on Detroit Rd here in Lakewood just wrapped its first session and the results are impressive!

Every Monday for the past 12 weeks, a group of adults with Down syndrome have been meeting at the Playhouse for GiGiFIT. GiGiFIT is a FREE program designed to address common issues for people with Down syndrome, including hypotonia (low muscle tone), joint laxity and decreased balance. Each session included an hour-long workout, comprised of planks, squats, weighted ball passes, push ups, hips abductions and more.

TOGETHER, these 8 participants have worked during the last 12 weeks to collectively:

- lose 15 pounds
- increase grip strength (measured by the dynamometer) by 21.25lbs
- increase number of chest passes thrown in 1 minute by 41 throws
- increase number of standing marches in 1 minute by 68 reps
- improve number of push-ups (using correct form) in 1 minute from 77 total to 142 total (a difference of 65 combined push-ups!)

The second session of GiGiFIT Adult launches January 20. Due to popular demand, two classes will be offered this session – Monday evenings and Tuesday mornings.



Michelle and Annie

GiGi's Playhouse is an achievement center for individuals with Down syndrome and their families. It offers free therapeutic and educational programs to promote literacy, math, motor skills and more, for people with Down syndrome from birth through adulthood. If you are interested in learning more about our mission, stop by the Playhouse (15316 Detroit Ave) or visit us at www.gigisplayhouse.org/cleveland.

one can vote on tax issues, but 45% of residents do not own, but instead rent their residences.

Considering the history of annual growth in our property taxes, the taxes we pay based on market value vs. other major U.S. cities, and more importantly, the forthcoming deficit spending projections not yet funded by present millage, our elected school board officials must focus on alternative funding options.

Robert Bade
Lakewood, OH
Robert Bade is Managing Partner-Edgewater Financial Services, Lakewood, Ohio. Retired VP Finance & CFO AGA/Linde Healthcare Region, North America.

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LO Storytime

The Rockport Miracles-Part 4: Episode 20:

“The Ballad of Derecho Dan” Continues:

Fiction by Scott MacGregor

“...only a precious few ever remember and once they're gone, no one ever remembers. WE MUST SEIZE THE DAZE!!” (Excerpt dated 6/15/75 from Maynard Gridley's “Manifesto with Cheese.”)

Little Dan felt dead inside. He'd slept the previous night on the deck of Maynard's boat and awoke to the pitter splatter sounds of concrete flaking off the High Level Bridge. Clutching a pint carton of Lawson's Chocolate Milk against his heart, Little Dan wondered how his life had gone so wrong-- so fast. “It's all Maynard's fault!” he cried.

It was then the fifth day following Storm 5.5. After Rowena and the Three Joes had orchestrated a series of daring get-a-ways, Little Dan was now cowering in the Cleveland Flats on a boat named "The Friggin' A." Maynard had converted the vessel into a gigantic floating bomb for reasons still unclear. It was no secret that Maynard had returned from Vietnam angry and confused. The question remained, however, what did Maynard want to blow up and why? Looking for answers, Little Dan combed through the cryptic ramblings of Maynard's “Manifesto with Cheese.” The document was difficult to read since it was covered with wine stains and cigarette burns. Throughout the manifesto, Maynard warned repeatedly that Americans must be prepared



to act swiftly, “When the Giant Lizard appears before us.”

To keep his spirits up, Little Dan munched on the tuna salad sandwiches that Rowena had packed for him but, not even the zingy flavor of Wilmena Newman's famous tuna salad could beguile him. Little Dan broke down and cried, “I lost my dad, my mom, my dog, and the Gas & Lube.”

Meanwhile, the burnt remains of Rockport's historic Gas & Lube had cooled down enough for human inspection to begin. When the underground tanks exploded the station's

Tire Corral had been torn to pieces. Hundreds of used tires, many on fire, all priced to sell, shot through the air and into the surrounding neighborhoods. As a result, 20 houses burned to the ground because of flaming tires and it was a real Rockport miracle that no one was hurt seriously. One of the flaming tires destroyed the house of Lester Brown, owner of the Rockport Camera Shop. Lester emerged unscathed but, after 5 days, the fate of his beloved ‘Kodachrome the Cockatiel’ seemed none too good.

Then, Little Dan's string of bad

luck ended and he didn't even know it! Fire Chief Ned Nicholson and a team of firemen had collected over 200 tires from the neighborhoods. A hook and ladder truck was needed to recover the last one because the explosion had shot the tire into the high branches of a large oak tree. As the Hook and Ladder was being positioned, something colorful caught the eye of the firemen.

“Look at that pretty bird, will'ya?” one fireman said. The Chief looked but couldn't see anything. “What is it - a cardinal?” asked the Chief. “Ain't no cardinal that I ever see'd,” replied the ladder operator, “Looks like a little clown bird of some sort!” Chief Ned scoffed, “Aaag! We got plenty of clowns in this town, you betcha!... None with feathers, though.”

Just then a fireman flicked a switch and the hook and ladder roared to life. With the ladder high and sturdy against the tree, Chief Ned climbed within reaching distance of the tire. It was then that a peculiar sight froze him in his tracks. It was a bird popping his crested head up from inside the tire. He had a face with two bright orange cheeks and a yellow crest. The frightened bird shouted, “KODACHROME!” and flew off.

“Hmmm...,” the Chief muttered, “it would seem that Lester Brown's cockatiel is no longer missing.” Then, with gloved hands he un-ensnared the rogue tire from the tree branches. As he did, he heard a fright-tinged, whimpering sound. The tire itself was stuffed with Twinkies wrappers, potato chip bags, and what appeared to be the probable remains of several tuna sandwiches. The Chief removed all the trash from the tire, layer by layer, until he finally unveiled the source of the strange, pitiful sounds.

“OH MY GOD!!!” Chief Ned shouted, “IT'S A MIRACLE! I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!!” Suddenly, the cockatiel returned, first landing on Chief Ned's shoulder before jumping inside the tire. The Chief looked at the bird and said, “Hey there little neighbor-- what's cookin'?!” The friendly little bird popped his head out of the tire, looked up at the Chief and shouted, “KODACHROME!!!”

Annual LHS Alumni Hockey Game 2020



photo by Brian Foxx

2020's gaggle of skaters assembled for a group photo.



photo by Brian Foxx

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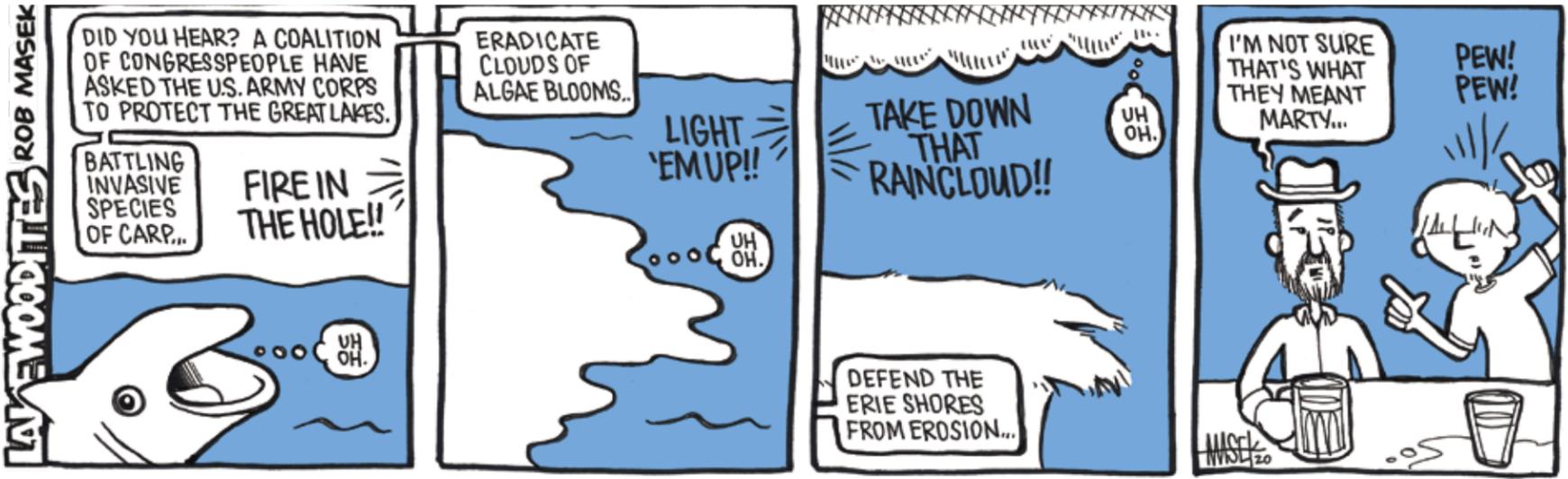


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