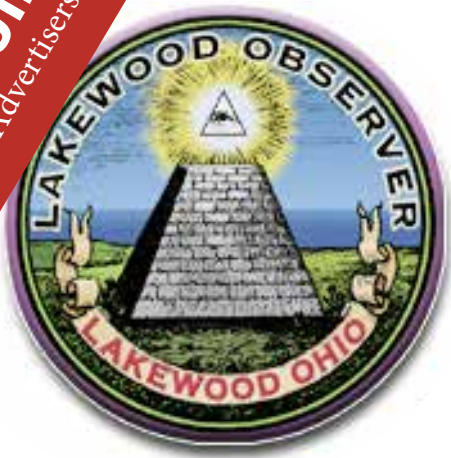


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Volume 16, Issue 08, April 15, 2020

Lakewood City Council

Discusses Local Economy In Virtual Meeting

by Matt Kuhns

Lakewood government continues to function during enforced social distancing, but sustaining the local economy is now a priority challenge. That's the condensed version of Lakewood City Council's April 6 meeting.

The meeting format was

a first for Lakewood, with all participants attending virtually, either online or by phone. Council last met on March 16, in a mostly traditional gathering at City Hall but without in-person public attendance. City Council moved to the completely remote format, following a statewide Stay At Home order and legisla-

tion making formal allowance for virtual public meetings.

About three dozen people joined the April 6 meeting, including elected officials, city employees, and members of the public. Technical issues slowed or interrupted the meeting at various points. But in general, the experiment proved that technology will allow meetings to continue, while avoiding in-person gatherings to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The extended closure of many Lakewood businesses will be a pressing issue for community leaders, judging from the council discussion. Patty Ryan, governance chair of LakewoodAlive, told council that the extension of Stay At Home orders through April has increased local businesses' concern: "They thought they could make it to the sixth [of April] and now they've extended it to May 1."

Mayor Meghan George said that the public health work of her administration's Coronavirus Task Force has gone relatively well—while still meeting multiple times per week "the meetings have gotten shorter"—but big challenges for Lakewood businesses remain.

George and Lakewood Alive Executive Director Ian Andrews both described the city's Rent Relief Program as an early success. Andrews said that the program, providing grants for storefront businesses negatively impacted by COVID-19, had aided 60 applicants as of March 6. George said that the program has already become a model for many other cities; "we're getting phone calls from as far away as Orlando, Florida."

Responding to a multi-month Stay At Home order, however, will be an ongoing job. "We've done a lot in a little bit of time, but there's certainly more to do," said George.

Mayor George has lined



Lakewood teachers with a message for their kids.

State Of The Schools Barnes Addresses Lakewood Families

by Dr. Michael Barnes

I trust that you are safe, healthy and well during this Covid 19 Quarantine. I want to share some district news.

Before doing that I would like to celebrate two weeks of remote learning. I would like to congratulate everyone for the hard work and the efforts put into engaging in this different kind of learning. I know it's uncomfortable and it's new

but you're doing a fantastic job.

To our students, keep in mind that the focus should be on learning. The intent here is not to overwhelm you. I know our teachers are working hard to plan lessons that will enhance learning experiences for you. We're trying to scale it appropriately, so this is a pleasant learning experience for you. We want you to not

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Lakewood's new favorite TV show, Virtual Council Meetings.

Lakewood Chalk Your Walk Inspires Residents To Express Hope

by Matt Bixenstine

As one of Ohio's most walkable cities, Lakewood offers 180+ miles of sidewalks. Recently, Lakewood residents chalked many of them to show we are in this together.

LakewoodAlive hosted its Lakewood Chalk Your Walk

(<https://www.facebook.com/events/3125194060845395/>) community solidarity initiative during the weekend of April 3-5. Community members were encouraged to take advantage of beautiful spring

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Simon's Special Birthday Wish



Lakewood Fire Fighters stand behind from left to right, Mary, Mark, Autumn and A Special Wish Birthday Boy Simon. More photos on page 2.

Mayor George's Page

by Meghan George
Mayor of Lakewood, Ohio

The coronavirus crisis continues and I recently recorded a video address for the City's website to provide my perspective on how your city government and your community are adjusting. In case you missed it, I'd like to summarize that video address for you here.

First, and this can't be said enough, my top priorities are safety and public health. Our goal with this crisis is to slow the spread of the virus. Every action we are taking is in service of those priorities and that goal.

I watch Governor DeWine's press conferences daily with my team and I am encouraged by the progress we are making in Ohio. I also want you to know that Lakewood is managing this crisis well. We continue to deliver thousands of meals to our seniors. We continue to pick up your trash. We are making adjustments or total changes to



our way of doing things--to our way of life. Governor DeWine said yesterday that we have reason to be optimistic and I agree with him. We're making

necessary changes. We're physically distancing. But we're doing it together. As we've heard, the peak is still ahead of us. No one is certain when it's

going to hit Ohio or Lakewood, but we do know that we have confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Lakewood and there will be more. By sticking to the plan, we are protecting ourselves and giving anyone who catches this disease in the coming weeks access to the world-class health care we have in Northeast Ohio.

We know that we're #InThis-Together. I challenge you, Lakewood-- Let's DO this together. Let's tackle this once-in-a-century challenge. Dr. Acton called on us to "double down on our commitment" and "fight this together." Lakewood is the most densely populated community in Ohio. Nowhere else--not in Cleveland, not in Columbus or Cincinnati--is a community as tightly packed as we are here. This means we know how to live close to each other with respect.

We've got this, Lakewood. We're ready. Let's show the rest of Ohio how to win this fight.

Thank you and be well.

Lakewood City Council Discusses Local Economy In Virtual Meeting

continued from page 1

up additional help for her administration, with two nominations for department directors introduced at the meeting. George nominated Claudia Dillinger for human resources director, and Peter Rancatore for finance director.

Both nominees participated in the remote council meeting, and Council

President Dan O'Malley spoke favorably of each, saying to Dillinger that "You're coming on at a strange time and we're thrilled to hear of your appointment." Council referred both nominations to the April 13 Committee of the Whole Meeting, and confirmation is likely.

Committees are preparing to resume their work on a remote basis after weeks of cancelled city meet-

ings. In addition to Committee of the Whole, council member John Litten said that the Health & Human Services Committee which he chairs will likely meet at least once per month. Law Director Brian Corrigan said that boards and commissions should commence virtual meetings in May.

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



A Special Wish And City Of Lakewood Celebrate Simon's Life



Mayor George and Fire Chief Dunphy join the party with gifts a plenty!
by Jim O'Bryan

A young Lakewood boy named Simon has just finished up his chemotherapy at the Cleveland Clinic recently. Well today was his 5th birthday, a reason to celebrate anyway, but this year it meant so much more to everyone. As part of A Special Wish Foundation's Cleveland Chapter, Simon was slated to have a ride around the city in a Lakewood Fire Truck. Well in the time of COVID-19 that is not possible for a variety of reasons. So it was going to be canceled. But anyone that knows Lakewood Fire Chief Tim Dunphy knows that was not going to happen. The man is a hopeless romantic and lover of people.

So as the clock struck 1:45 pm, the sirens started up, and as the first police car pulled onto the street you could see Simon's eyes light up. And with

that sparkle so did the eyes of everyone at the event. One car, two cars, one fire truck, two fire trucks, 3 police cars 1 SWAT truck, more fire trucks and sprinkled with friends and family members. All stopping by to wish young Simon a happy birthday and to celebrate a life that has been fought for by so many including Simon.

Thank you to Autumn, Mark, Mary and Simon for letting us share this special celebration. It made my year.

Thank you to A Special Wish Foundation, Cleveland Chapter and Jason Beudert, Emily Pitera and Robin Carpenter, you rocked this party. To the Cleveland Clinic Foundation for the fire truck and getting Simon back home. To Lakewood City Hall and Mayor Meghan George. To Westshore SWAT. To Lakewood fire department and lakewood police department.



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One United Lakewood Progress

We Must Stand Against Xenophobia During Coronavirus

The novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) is new to the world, but the knee-jerk paranoia and misinformation fueling fear, racism, and hate targeting Asian and Pacific Islanders in the wake of the outbreak is not. Like Islamophobia that swept the country after September 11th, an exaggerated fear and hostility toward Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) communities is being perpetuated by negative stereotypes rooted in bigotry and historical bias and is in danger of leading to the marginalization of Asian communities in civic, business, social, and political life.

Medically, viruses and bacteria (including COVID-19) do not discriminate based on race, gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity or immigration status. But the language and actions of people fueling misinformation and fear absolutely do. Over the past month, hate groups and public officials, some at high levels of government, have used racist language to deflect, scapegoat and ascribe blame rooted in bigotry to Asian commu-



nities for the spread of Coronavirus.

This rhetoric has emboldened an increase of hate crimes, assaults, abuse and harassment of the AAPI community across the nation. It was deeply

troubling for me, also a person of color, to learn that some Asian owned businesses right here in Lakewood have been on the receiving end of racially-charged verbal abuse in response to this pandemic. What we know by looking to history is that if left unaddressed, hate, like any virus, will continue to spread and will leave vulnerable communities open to dire consequences.

The spirit of Lakewood is rooted in boundless opportunity for all communities, no matter their race or ethnicity; no matter where they come from. I join

in solidarity with the AAPI community and vehemently denounce these xenophobic attacks and call on all local and state lawmakers and public officials to do the same in a public forum. Asian Americans, as well as all communities of color, should be able to participate in this community as equals, without the fear of being bullied, harassed or assaulted.

In this time of uncertainty and fear in our country, we must ensure that we lead in fighting misinformation with truth, mitigating hysteria with common sense, and protecting vulnerable communities by raising our voices to publicly denounce hate.

Asian communities, like all of us, are experiencing the same uncertainty, the same worry, and are grieving the loss of loved ones to the Coronavirus. They are also working tirelessly on the front lines to combat the virus in ER's, hospitals, doctor's offices, and are supporting our community through other essential occupations.

We must not let panic leave us open and impressionable to mistruths and misinformation about the virus that negate the core of who we are as Americans and as Lakewoodites. We must continue to define ourselves through moral acts of courage by standing up for the human rights of others and rejecting the rhetoric of racially divisive oppression.

Students Earn Top State Reflections Honors

by Christine Gordillo

Congratulations to four Lakewood City Schools students whose artwork was honored at the state level in the PTA Reflections art recognition program! Special shout out to Grant Elementary fifth-grader Sean Miller, who won an Award of Excellence, Ohio's highest honor, in the literature category for the Intermediate level. His piece will move on to national judging. Out of thousands of pieces of artwork submitted for state judging, only six students were recognized in each age level/category.

Harding Middle School eighth-grader Edie Barcelona earned a second-place Award of Outstanding Achievement for her dance choreography at the Middle School level. Lakewood High School senior Jane Kalinowski earned a third-place Award of Merit in the High School visual arts category, and Garfield Middle School seventh-grader Anna Maurer earned

an Honorable Mention in the visual arts category for the Middle School level.

The Reflections program offers students from schools with active PTAs the opportunity to create works of art for fun and recognition. Students in preschool through grade 12 are encouraged to submit works in seven arts areas: literature, dance choreography, film/video production, musical composition, photography, visual arts and special artist. All entries must follow a chosen theme, which this year was "Look Within."

Each school with a PTA can send up to 24 entries to the district level judging. Among works chosen for district-level recognition, the highest scoring 28 works as deemed by a panel of nine judges evaluating on artistic merit, creativity and interpretation of the theme, moved on to Columbus to compete with students' work from around the state.

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Lakewood Schools

State Of The Schools Barnes Addresses Lakewood Families

continued from page 1

be overwhelmed, not to worry, just do your best, and everything will be fine, okay? Everything will be fine.

To our parents: Thank you very much for your support through this. I know that many of you have several students at home, they're sharing computers and your wifi capabilities can be cluttered with multiple people working at the same time, but all of your support and generosity and the positive feedback you have been giving has been tremendously helpful and reassuring to our faculty, our staff, our administrative team, and our board of education, so know that your participation and support is greatly appreciated.

Recently with stakeholder support we completed a remote learning sixty day plan. We're very happy with the plan. We believe it will provide a more clear picture of what is expected in terms of

learning over the next 60 days. If you noticed, 60 days extends beyond the Governor's order to close the schools through May 1st. We believe as all indications suggest, that school will be closed longer. And we felt that it would be prudent upon us, as a school community to plan accordingly. So rather than having a plan through May 1st, we wanted to be as comprehensive and as prepared as possible for the extended closure through the end of the school year.

Hopefully things will get better and we won't need the last 60 days but in the event that we do, we are prepared to continue to educate our students. We intend to share this plan with our families tonight. We will get that out to you. But I wanted to first address you to talk about the highlights of the plan.

This plan addresses student engagement levels. What do we mean by that? Basically how much time is a

kindergartener, a first grader a second grader, etc expected to engage daily in learning.

We originally left that open-ended but with input from parents, from our faculty, from our principals, we feel that we have landed on a structure of student engagement levels that will really provide a quality education, learning experience for our students during this closure and it will be scaled appropriately.

Again, the intent here is not to overwhelm our students, and it's not to overwhelm our staff, or our parents, but to think creatively about how we can best meet the needs that are grade level appropriate for our students.

This plan also addresses grading. I know that this is an issue that the community has asked for us to share. We will be sharing that with some clarity. There are some things we had to take into consideration to make sure that what we decided did not have an adverse effect on our students.

For example, that bill totally waived state testing for the balance of the 2020 year, so students you don't have to worry about taking state tests and wondering how we're going to figure that out. We're simply not giving them.

Also they're exempting all third graders in this bill from being retained as a part of the third grade guarantee that has been a part of our practice.

Also important is graduation, I know some of our parents and seniors are concerned, "what does that mean for us?" If a student was on track to graduate prior to school being closed because of Covid 19, and assuming that that student stays engaged, this bill allows us to move those seniors onto graduation who were already on track to graduate.

Parents, please share this plan with your children, talk it through with them. We felt that it was necessary to come out with these provisions so that we can communicate more clearly with our families around the expectations for at least through May 1st but we believe even beyond into the end of the 2019-2020 school year.



Lila Wright performs a solo show on her front porch.

LHS Students Shine In Solo Porch Performances

by Dr. Charles Greanoff

Last week numerous Lakewood High School musicians stepped out of their cozy houses and onto their front porches in the middle of an frigid arctic blast and delivered musical therapy to friends and neighbors. To all the musicians and teachers that organized and prepared for these concerts—thank you! You represent the essence of public education and a core mission of the Lakewood City Schools. As we help students develop individual talents and skills, we recognize that the ultimate purpose of education is engaged, productive citizenship-- to make our nation and communities all the better. With these concerts, you succeeded on both counts, and then some. I attended a violin concert by Senior Emma Carson, who will be continuing her education at Case Western Reserve University, majoring in music education. (Her freshman sister Audrey was assisting her.) In these bleak times, today was great day.

This is quintessential Lakewood—we take care of each other in good times, and bad. Thank you LHS Stu-

dents and Music teachers, and of course all the parents and citizens of Lakewood. Long live Lakewood.

More info from Lakewood City Schools:

Porch concerts began on Thursday, March 9 when LHS performing arts students stepped out between 5 and 5:30pm and played the LHS Alma Mater and then music of their choice.

This week, April 16th the students from Harding and Garfield will also step out on their porches in conjunction with LHS students. They will play the Alma Mater between 5:00 and 5:30 and then music of their choice.

Then the next Thursday, April 23 the elementary students will step out so that all students K-12 will be encouraged to step out on their porch, perform the Alma Mater and then perform whatever they wish to perform.

At this point the final concert is April 30, unless we close for longer. Music teachers and administrators from LHS will drive around to listen, honk and be an audience while maintaining proper social distancing. Lakewood City Schools

We do know that students are still thriving and striving for college scholarships, we know that there are Ohio Highschool Athletic Association implications around grading and NCAA implications around grading as well. So we wanted to take our time and be careful.

One of the things we are committed to just to calm a little bit of the angst is whatever grade a student got in the third quarter, they will not get a grade less than that in the fourth quarter. They can only go up. So for example, if you got a B in the third quarter, you will at least get a B during the fourth quarter assuming that you are engaged in the learning activities that your teachers have set up for you. You can't shut down, students. Assuming that you're engaged, you'll get no less, but you can improve.

The plan also addresses special education guidelines.

We also included in this plan the district updates, not to take for granted that everyone is paying attention to the State Legislature and the laws that have been passed during this closure. We included some provisions specifically related to education that were a part of House Bill 197 that the Governor signed.

Also to note, in order to celebrate some Senior milestones, our administrators, along with some staff and some student input have worked hard to secure two alternative days for Prom and Commencement. We wanted to share this with you now so families can begin blocking those days accordingly. Prom would be June 25, Commencement would be June 27.

This is all dependent on the Governor releasing the stay at home order.

If things get better and we are allowed to socially gather, these dates have been secured so that we can celebrate our seniors and the milestones they've achieved in their K through 12 experience.

I wanted to share those updates with you. I wish you the very best. Happy Easter to everyone. Take some time to enjoy your family and friends if you can. Just reflect and remember that even considering these circumstances, we still are very very blessed and we still have a lot to be thankful for. Things will get better. We're in this together. We always will be. One Heart, One Lakewood.

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Lakewood Schools

Lakewood City Schools Sixty Day Remote Learning Plan

by Betsy Voinovich
Lakewood Families,
What an unprecedented situation we are in. The uncertainty is challenging for all of us. In the midst of it though, we feel certain about Lakewood City Schools’ commitment to our students, our families, and our willingness to be flexible.

Our Remote Learning Mission is to connect, engage, give feedback, and celebrate. Connection with students and families is critical. Relationships are the foundation of our District. We recognize that students and families need our support now more than ever. We are asking teachers to: Engage students in meaningful, authentic experiences; focus on essential learning; explore how to offer choice and flexibility to help families build routines that work best for them; and provide specific feedback and celebrate students’ progress.

To help us achieve this mission, we, with stakeholder input, have created a Remote Learning 60-Day Plan that we hope will help you envision remote learning in Lakewood more clearly. Our intent is to make adjustments as necessary along the way. Remember, we are in this together!

Student Engagement Levels

All students K-12 MUST be engaged in remote learning during this time period. Below are the expectations shared with our teaching staff for the level of engagement that should be provided for our students according to grade levels:

Grade Level
Student Engagement
live sessions, plus digital lessons, plus independent work time
Engagement for Students Requiring Intervention
PreK
1 hour per day
Engagement time for students receiving additional services/intervention will be equal to or greater than what is indicated on the left depending upon the way in which services are provided.

K-2
2 hours per day, including time for Art, Music, and/or PE
3-5
3 hours per day, including time for Art, Music, and/or PE
6-8
Up to 30 minutes per period per day
9-12
Up to 30 minutes per period per day; AP courses may require additional time
If teachers are requiring students to be online during a specific time period we have asked that they ensure that this is held during the time that teachers would normally have the students during the instructional day. This structure will prevent scheduling conflicts for students.

Grading During Remote Learning

PreK
PreK tuition is being waived so teachers will send resources and connect with families but will not provide report cards or complete Early Learning Assessment.
K-5
For the time being, teachers are asked to collect evidence of student engagement and progress, and offer feedback the best they can. We will revisit the reporting of grades within the next 30 days.

6-12
Students who participate and give effort in their remote learning should not be penalized, thus students’ 4th-quarter grade will be not lower than 3rd quarter. Based upon remote learning participation and work completion, 4th-quarter grade may go higher than 3rd quarter.

Special Education

As we have been planning and preparing to provide distance learning for students, a key area of focus has been how to best educate students with disabilities to ensure that they continue to receive a Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE). While the public education that all students will receive is distance learning, we will continue to provide high quality, specially designed instruction and related services via the distance learning model.

School age students with disabilities will participate in direct specially designed services via live video conferencing and/or telephone. The frequency of this instruction will be based upon the level of service in your student’s current IEP to the greatest extent possible given the circumstances we all face.

- All services will be focused on your student’s IEP goals, with the possibility of students being grouped based upon the common goals that they are working on. In some cases, this means that your student may participate in virtual small group instruction with a different group of students than what has been in place when school was physically in session.
- Students with disabilities will also continue to participate in general education distance educational activities consistent with the services in their IEPs, including with accommodations, as appropriate to the circumstances.
- Students who receive related services (speech language therapy, occupational therapy, physical therapy, adaptive physical education, etc) will continue to receive these services to the greatest extent possible. In many cases, your student’s related service provider will provide services via teletherapy by video conference or tele-

- phone.
- We will continue to monitor your student’s progress on IEP goals and provide you with progress reports using the best data we are able to collect during the school closure.
 - In some situations, we may reconvene your student’s IEP team to discuss whether a change to your student’s IEP is appropriate for the duration of the extended school closure. Situations where this is most likely to occur would be if a service is provided to support a student’s accessibility to attend school, in situations where it may not be practical or safe to provide a specific service, or when available progress monitoring data suggests a change is required to provide functional access to learning activities.

If the Annual Review meeting for your student’s IEP occurs during the school closure, we will hold the meeting virtually at a mutually agreed upon time and date. If you provided consent for your student’s triennial re-evaluation prior to the school closure and the evaluation plan included face-to-face assessment, we will hold a virtual meeting to determine whether we are able to use an alternate means to assess this area. Should the team determine that a face-to-face assessment continues to be necessary, we will suspend the evaluation until it is safe to conduct the assessment. These same principles will be used for evaluations that are due to be both planned and conducted during the extended school closure. If the re-evaluation cannot be completed during the school closure, your student will continue to receive services as determined by the IEP team until the evaluation is completed.

In addition to looking at best practices for providing special education and related services, these practices are consistent with state and federal guidelines. Distance learning for all students is a new service model for us. Should guidance change, or if we determine there may be a better way to educate students with disabilities, we may need to make changes to this model.

For Your Reference
In order to guide our actions, priorities and procedures, along with the Remote Learning 60-Day Plan, we have developed a 60-Day Action Plan to provide a pathway through this crisis for our administrative team.

You can find a PowerPoint presentation of the 60-Day Plan here [https://www.lakewoodcityschools.org/userfiles/2312/my%20files/60-day%20action%20plan%20lcs%20\(3\).pdf?id=66730](https://www.lakewoodcityschools.org/userfiles/2312/my%20files/60-day%20action%20plan%20lcs%20(3).pdf?id=66730) and on our Coronavirus Extended Closure Information Page, <https://www.lakewoodcityschools.org/Content/21474>

- Other Important Items of Note:
- House Bill 197 Provisions
On March 25th the Ohio legislature passed HB 197. It includes:
- Waiving state testing and state report cards for this academic year
 - Exempting all third-graders from retention under the third-grade guarantee
 - Lifting the cap on granting credit for distance learning and allowing special educational services to be provided via electronic means
 - Waiving usual requirements in order to permit high school seniors who were on track before the coronavirus crisis to graduate

Go here:
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1hc7kqmh-5idv9CXIWIf-H4xjMW2w3yd_XLec1D3njYBA/edit to see more of the education-related components.

Prom and Commencement

These senior milestone events have been rescheduled but remain dependent upon the all-clear announcement from Governor DeWine to hold large gatherings. The new dates are:

- June 25** - Prom
 - June 27** - Commencement
- Social/Emotional Wellness Resources:**

- Ohio Department of Education Resources
- Resources for Reducing Anxiety/Conflict at Home
- How to Answer 7 Big Questions Kids Have About the Coronavirus Pandemic:
- Fostering Healthy Social & Emotional Development in Young Children:
- Problem Solving:
- Manage Stress and Anxiety



Lakewoodites Dealing With COVID-19

LCCC Grad And Lakewood Nurse Looks For The Simple Joys To Deal With COVID-19 Pandemic

by Steve Sefchik

Cleveland Clinic registered nurse and Lorain County Community College graduate Michelle Timke finds joy in the simple things while dealing with the uncertainty of treating patients in the hospital's Surgical Intensive Care Unit – uncertainties that are now compounded by the COVID-19 pandemic.

“Catching up and checking in on my family and friends brings me the most joy,” said Timke, who is an intensive care nurse in the surgical ICU. She and her husband, Corey, are Elyria natives who now live in Lakewood.

“I also find a lot of peace from exercise, so I have been keeping up with my weekly routine of jogs, long walks, yoga, and now at-home workout videos,” she said.

Timke, who earned an associate of science degree from LCCC in 2014 and an associate degree in nursing from LCCC in 2016, starts her morning off from work with an online service or daily devotional from her Lakewood church. “This helps me have the right mindset for the day. I try to limit time spent on social media so that I am not influenced by the



Michelle Timke

hysteria some are causing,” she added.

Facing this current public health crisis is not easy for any healthcare professional, but Timke believes her education and training from LCCC prepared her for the challenges she now faces.

“The Nursing program at LCCC in particular was the most challenging endeavor I have accomplished in my life thus far. Looking back, I am so thankful for the high standards set by the professors in lecture, lab, and

clinical because I would not be the nurse I am today without that level of preparation,” she said. The professors in the program helped shape her and prepared her to take the NCLEX (nurse licensure exam). “I had a relatively seamless transition when I began my career.”

Healthcare professional and first responders face anxiety on a regular day and that is now magnified during this pandemic, but she uses a different focus in her day-to-day work with patients.

“I think vigilance is a better word to describe my actions and feelings regarding the COVID-19 pandemic,” Timke said. “At work, I have to be more vigilant while caring for patients to keep them and myself safe from harm. I find myself looking out for the safety of all members of our healthcare team more intentionally, especially regarding proper use and removal of PPE (personal protective equipment).”

After beginning her career in nursing at the Cleveland Clinic she continued her education by earning a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from The University of Akron and is now pursuing a Master of Science in Nursing degree from Kent State University. She also co-taught a nursing simulation lab at LCCC prior to returning to school to earn her MSN.

Timke was drawn to health

care after she lost her grandmother, whom she called Mema Sandy, to pancreatic cancer when Timke was a teenager. “I remember feeling so helpless and unaware of what to expect as she fought courageously,” Timke noted.

Timke’s passion only grew as she took courses in anatomy, physiology and genetics at Elyria High School during her senior year. “When the time came to make my career choice, it seemed to me that nursing was the best way to combine my desire to feel empowered while caring for people and my passion for learning about health and the human body,” she said.

Because research and recommendations for public health are changing almost daily Timke would like everyone to remember to be selfless during this time and think of others, especially the elderly and those with weakened or compromised immune systems. “Abide by social distancing recommendations and follow stay-at-home orders. Together we can combat this, and we will learn from our shortcomings,” she said.

After all, we all need to reflect on the simple things in our lives like our family and friends, she said. “I could not ask for a more loving and supportive family,” Timke said. “They are truly my greatest blessing in life.”

Lakewood Resident Makes Ventilator Parts



by Betsy Voinovich

Lakewood resident John Kocinski doesn’t have time to listen to Governor Mike DeWine’s daily updates, he’s busy working on ventilator parts. “I’m usually here working at that time,” he says. The name of his company is Precision Productions which is a machine shop located in Strongsville.

According to Kocinski they have “switched a ton of our stuff over to making ventilator parts.” With a clear understanding of how great a demand the country had for ventilator, Precision Productions went to work: “We got the plans, we programmed the first

part in a day. It took us three days to get up and running, it usually takes a a month.”

Right now the shop is making four parts on the supply chain including 20,000 shafts a week and pressure plates. The parts will be used for ventilators being assembled by Ford Motor company for the Federal government.

“We’re shipping every single day,” he said. “We put the first shipment on a corporate jet and flew them there was such a need.”

“I think when you’re talking about essential businesses,” he said, “this is about as essential as it gets.”


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Lakewood Victory Gardens



Victory Garden posters from World War II in the author’s private collection

Lakewood Victory Gardens

by Paul Bilyk

Victory gardens have long been an American rallying cry during times of crisis. Since World War I whenever uncertainty hits the food market Americans respond by growing their own food to ease the burden; the COVID-19 pandemic should be no different. It is rumored that 30% of produce in WWII came from victory gardens. The benefits of gardening are exclusive to no one and the possibilities are limited only by the imagination.

Pick a spot. Find an area with ample sunlight, a minimum of 6 hours can work but 8 or more would be ideal. Don't have a grassy area that fits the description? Consider growing in containers. Additional things to consider include access to water, the potential for pests (deer, dogs, children etc.), along with what you'll plant.

Identify what you want to grow. Focus should be on easy to grow crops that offer a high yield along with high nutrient value. Consider succession planting to ensure a steady supply of fresh produce and so that your crops aren't spoiling before consumption. Leafy green crops spaced 3-4 weeks apart could provide food well into 2021. Zucchini is an easy to grow crop that produces a high yield. Tomatoes can offer similar results if the growing season is cooperative. Often forgotten are the fall crops. Cool weather crops such as Broccoli, Cauliflower, Kale planted in August can be harvested fresh for Thanksgiving dinner.

Take care of your plants. Plants are living, breathing organisms and need to be treated as such. They will need food. Food comes in the way of soil and fertilizers; these items are essential

to healthy plants that provide healthy produce. Container grown plants pull nutrient from a finite source of nutrients and they are depleted a little every time you water. Like any other organism, your plants need water, some more than others. In general, consistently fed and watered plants are also happier.

Plan for your harvest. All your hard work can go to waste quickly if you don't have a plan for storing and consuming your bounty. What methods will you use for preservation? In recent years, canning has made a resurgence. Most canned vegetables when stored properly will keep up to 5 years. Backpackers have long used dehydration as a method of food preservation when space is at a minimum and shedding extra weight is imperative. Freezing is still a super easy way to store

and extend the shelf life of your harvest.

So as we move into this gardening season, ask yourself if you are going to contribute or if you'll hope that all the migrant workers that pick our produce are able to make it north of the border to ensure we can eat. If you decide you want to give it a shot, the staff at Lakewood Garden Center will be happy to assist you and help make sure you have healthy, happy produce into 2021.

Paul and his wife Jenna own Lakewood Garden Center at 13230 Detroit Avenue. In the coming months we will be working with Lakewood Garden Center and Lakewood Hardware in helping us all build COVID-19 Victory Gardens and take steps to secure our food security into the future. Lakewood Hardware is at 16608 Madison Avenue.

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Things To Do In The Time Of COVID-19

Staying Home

by Jim and Nancy Vanderstein

Hello!

I've been holding off boredom and keeping busy with what I usually do anyway - by being a mixed media collage artist. I also like to Zentangle and do Black-Out Poetry, which is easy to teach yourself how to do. Any kind of artwork is a great way to completely lose track of time. So, for all intents and purposes, I'm just a little old lady living in Lakewood and this is what I do all day. I'm a retired special events coordinator. My husband Jim works as

a chef at the Federal Reserve Bank in Cleveland; as of right now - blessedly - he is still working. Enclosed is one of his chicken recipes that is so easy to prepare.

What we miss most is the Library. Especially all who work there. I miss seeing their smiling, helpful faces. We take advantage of the Rocky River Marina in our neighboring community and of course our entire Metro Park system, driving and walking there as much as possible.

Chicken Thighs---Catch-Up

Servings: 4
Preparation time: 10 minutes
Start to Finish time: 1 hour, 10 minutes
Ketchup gives this chicken the flavor of a backyard cookout without the smoke and a drunk uncle.

1 cup Ketchup
½ cup Apple juice
1 Tablespoon Kosher salt
2 teaspoons ground Cumin
1 teaspoon sweet Hungarian Paprika
3 lbs bone in Chicken thighs, skin on
1 onion cut into large chunks
2 ripe tomatoes, cut into wedges

Preheat oven to 350 degrees
Mix together ketchup, apple juice, salt, cumin and paprika in a large Dutch oven or any heavy pot.
Rinse chicken thighs and pat dry. Add the chicken, onions and tomatoes to the sauce and toss to coat evenly. Cover and cook for 45 -55 minutes, until juices run clear from the chicken when cut from the thickest part.

Physical Distancing Events Made To Stay Home For

by Anna Brown

Lakewood has a new Facebook group designed to share and learn about upcoming physical distancing events taking place in the city. The group www.facebook.com/groups/LakewoodPorchMusic was started on April 9th by the community members who initiated the March 31st Lakewood, OH City-Wide "Porch" Sing-Along, trying to find a way to tie future sing-alongs together and allow other pop-up porch music initiatives to get shared, created or supported as well. It is their hope to encourage the front porch music movement to become a normal staple in our town, even after social distancing has ended, and to provide something to engage in and look forward to while staying home and maintaining physical distancing and avoiding crowd gatherings.

Currently, the group features two Lakewood Porch Music related initia-

tives. The second round of the Q104 hosted, Lakewood "Porch" Sing-Along is a featured event of the group took place on Tuesday, April 14th. Additionally, a Porch Concert Series is listed, which encourages student musicians and vocalists to perform on their porches on April 9th, April 16th, and April 23rd, between 5 and 5:50 pm according to grade level. Please join the group to help support these movements and others to come. Thanks!

Anna Brown is starting her career fresh right now thanks to the kick in the pants to follow her dreams given to her by her covid layoff. Taking what she's learned after 13 years of working in market research and software development project management, and 3 years of event hosting and looking for opportunities to fine-tune her skills and determining how she can help others meet their life and business goals.

Lakewood Kiwanis Says Thank You

by Anna Bacho

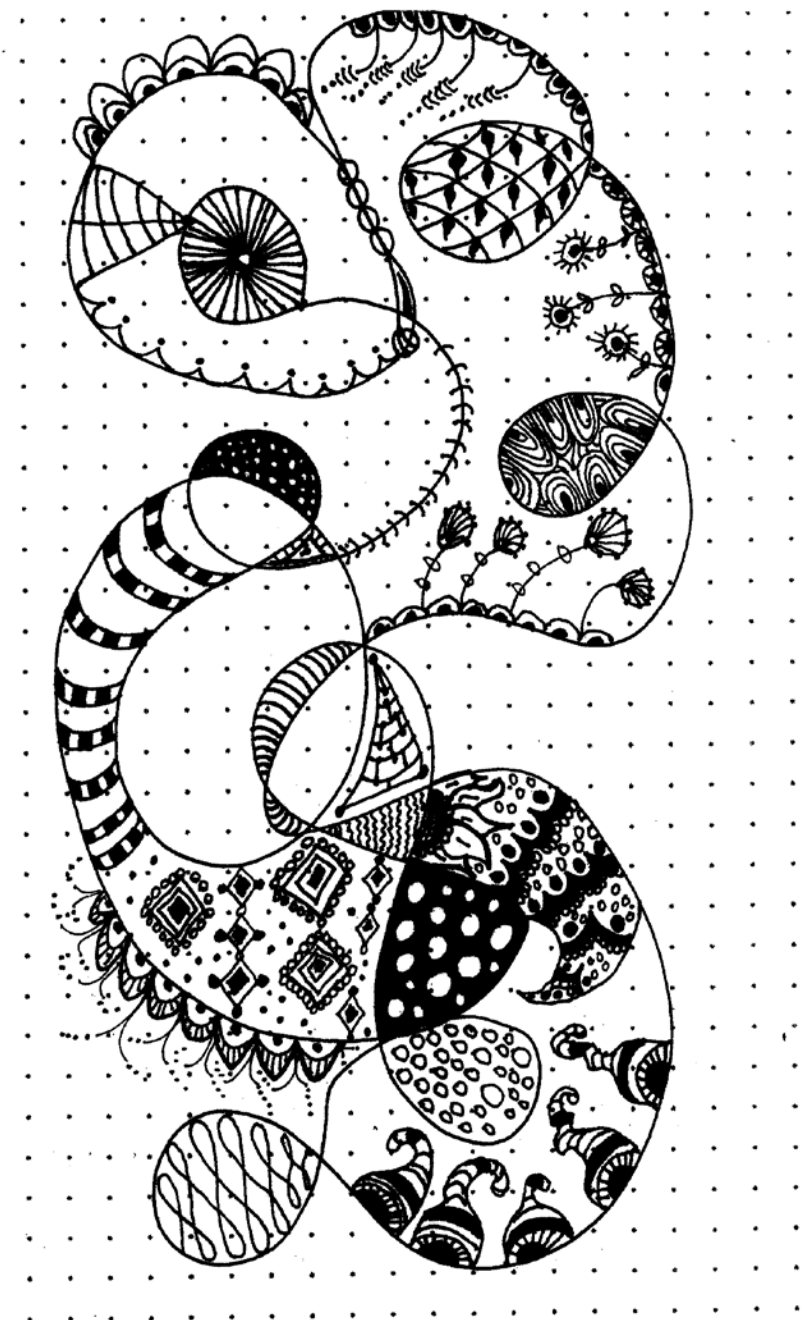
Thank you, thank you to all the pizza lovers in Lakewood who came to the Lakewood Kiwanis Pizza Bake-off on a snowy February night at Lakewood High School. And a big shout out to all of our vendors for keeping the pizza and ice cream smoothly flowing all night. What a great event for our community. The Kiwanis Club of Lakewood wants to thank everyone for helping with the success of this event. Our attendance for pizza lovers was over 600 and we had 10 of the best pizza shops to work with and participate. You voted for the following categories:

Participated:
Georgio's Oven Fresh Pizza
Peppers Italian Restaurant
Nunzio's Pizzeria
Papa John's
Toni's
Tomori's
Kamm's Ice Cream

Italian Creations-Best Overall
Pizza Winner
Angelo's-Pepperoni Pizza Winner
Papa Nick's-Specialty Pizza Winner
Donatos-Corporate Pizza Winner
All proceeds will be used locally to support the children of Lakewood, with a portion going for bike safety helmets this year, supporting Ohio District Kiwanis First Family Project.

Lakewood Kiwanis is the leading service organization in Lakewood celebrating 99 years of service in the community. Through our Lakewood schools with Key Club at Lakewood High, Builders Club at Harding, and K Kids at Grant, Horace Mann, Family Life Before & After Care at Harrison and Emerson. The club also awards 8 scholarships at \$10,000 each annually to Lakewood resident high school seniors.

#KidsNeedKiwanis



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G	E	K	H	P	L	G	O	D	P	E	E	H	S
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R	P	H	A	R	A	O	H	H	O	U	N	D	L
G	R	E	Y	H	O	U	N	D	R	E	X	O	B
G	U	P	R	E	T	N	I	O	P	N	I	H	C

Akita	Chow Chow	Pomeranian	Samoyed	Collie
Basset (Hound)	Fox (Terrier)	Poodle	Schipperke	Terrier
Boxer	Great Dane	Pug	Sheepdog	Lhasa Apso
Bull (Mastiff)	Greyhound	Puli	Shih Tzu	Shar-Pei
Cane Corso	Pembroke Welsh	Spitz	Toy	Water (Dog)
Chin	Pharaoh Hound	Spaniel	Skye	Vizsla
Coon (Hound)	Pointer	Setter	Husky	(Hound's) Tooth

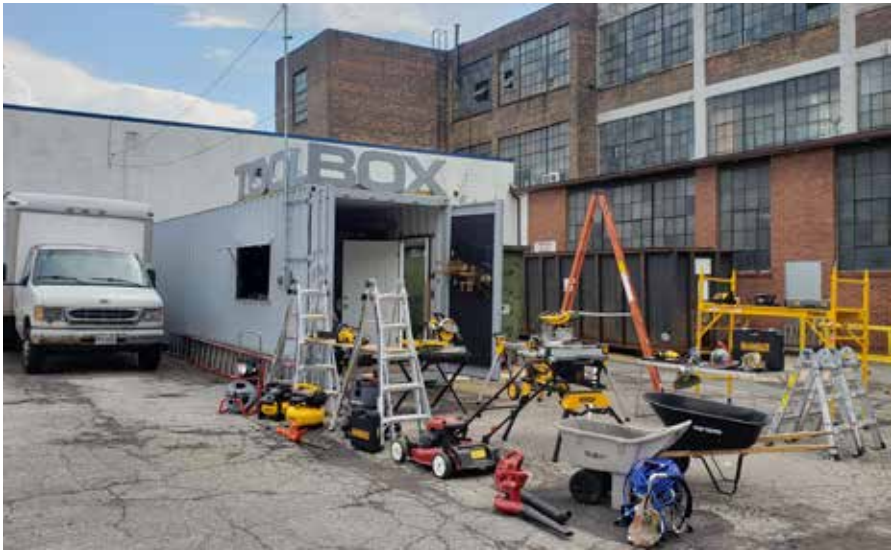
LakewoodAlive

Lakewood Chalk Your Walk Inspires Residents To Express Hope

continued from page 1

weather to break out sidewalk chalk and head outside to add chalk art to their driveway, apartment balcony or the sidewalk in front of their residence. Chalk messages of hope, inspiration and humor were spotted on sidewalks throughout Lakewood, offering a ray of hope as we all navigate this difficult time. LakewoodAlive featured chalk art submissions on its social media pages using hashtag “#LakewoodChalkYourWalk.”

LakewoodAlive thanks the many community members who participated in Lakewood Chalk Your Walk. For more information regarding our ongoing efforts to assist our community through this crisis, please visit LakewoodAlive.org. *Matt Bixenstine is the Marketing & Development Manager for LakewoodAlive. He enjoys all things Lakewood, especially walking his basset hound through Madison Park.*



Housed in a shipping container accessible from the East Lot of the Screw Factory, The Lakewood Tool Box provides home improvement and repair tools for members of the community.

What To Do While You're At Home

by Betsy Voinovich

There's a fun free app called "Spaceteam." You do need to be in the same room to play it, but it is a cooperative game where up to 4 people pilot a spaceship by responding to commands to work individual controls. It is a huge hoot to play and usually ends up being pretty loud. The Root has free books for little kids under 5 that you can pick up when you get your carryout food and coffee from them. The books are from Dolly Parton's literacy cooperative and recently she has begun reading those books on You Tube as bedtime stories. (Dolly Parton is at the Root every day right now. See photo.) The "Goodnight with Dolly" episodes are streaming on Facebook and You Tube every Thursday at 7PM at Imagination Library, Dolly Parton and Dollywood channels. On a more serious note, animal shelters are reporting that some people are turning in their pets because of their inability to feed them because of being out of work. If you have room in your life and can take care of a pet,



check with local shelters. For families who love legos and have a lot of them, and if you have fond memories of building the Bat Cave or Harry Potter's Night Bus but you long ago put all your legos together in large bins, you can sort them out and build those things again, or any set you want. Lego building instructions are available online.

Things to do in Lakewood

Hi, Im a long time Lakewoodite with an equally long penchant for puzzles. With this self-imposed confinement, we all need a bit of fun. I have been creating puzzles for a while now, and I see that this is the best time to share some of them for restless families everywhere. This one is a word search, I call "Dog Walking" Glad to give the kids (and the whole family) some good mental activity. *Joe Gombarcik
Ridgewood Avenue*

LakewoodAlive Announces New And Improved Pricing Model For The Lakewood Tool Box

by Matt Bixenstine

Welcome to year two of The Lakewood Tool Box. It's never been easier or more affordable to rent the tools you need for completing essential repairs to ensure we live in healthy and safe homes. LakewoodAlive announces a new pricing model whereby Lakewood Tool Box members will no longer be charged fees on a per-tool basis when renting from its ever-growing tool lending library, which consists of 60+ items ranging from standard hand tools to equipment for larger projects. Annual Tool Box membership – open to all Lakewood residents, tenants and landlords – remains priced at \$30 per resident/tenant and \$75 per landlord. Special pricing is available for low-to-moderate income residents. A refundable deposit will be required for tool rental, but will be refunded to the customer upon the return of all rented items in good, clean working order. The Lakewood Tool Box is currently open by appointment only to ensure health and safety during the COVID-19 crisis. Appointments can be made by contacting Matt Clark at 216-712-6674 or mclark@lakewoodalive.org. Both Tool Box members and non-members are also welcome to contact Matt with questions regarding their projects. “We’ve heard your feedback, and we’re making The Lakewood Tool Box even more accessible for our commu-

nity. Now members can borrow tools with zero additional fees,” said Allison Urbanek, LakewoodAlive’s Housing & Internal Operations Director. “We take pride in offering a program affording community members the opportunity to rent tools, while also enabling us to better assist low-to-moderate income residents with their home repairs. Ultimately, our goal is to ensure all Lakewood residents live in healthy and safe homes.” In addition to being affordable, membership in The Lakewood Tool Box is also easy for Lakewood residents to obtain. Membership can be completed online or by contacting Matt Clark. Proof of Lakewood residency is required through a valid driver’s license and utility bills. Housed in a shipping container accessible from the East Lot of the Screw Factory (13000 Athens Avenue) near the intersection of Athens and Halstead Avenues, The Lakewood Tool Box provides home improvement and repair tools for members of the community. This program helps residents to make health, safety and cosmetic improvements, not only making their residence a safer place to call home, but helping to maintain or improve their housing value, which benefits both the resident and the entire neighborhood. For more information regarding the Lakewood Tool Box, visit LakewoodAlive.org/ToolBox or contact Matt Clark at 216-712-6674.

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	\$1.50	\$2.00	\$3.50

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Lakewood Fiction

The Rockport Miracles-Part 4: Episode 25: “The Ballad Of Derecho Dan” Continues

Fiction by Scott MacGregor

Little Dan had to go to the can but couldn't because it was loaded to the gills with dynamite. Instead, he relieved himself into an empty (and appropriately labeled) Chock Full O' Nuts Coffee can he found floating in the river.

As Little Dan had sailed down the Cuyahoga River, he'd been gripped by vivid hallucinations. The "sunshine" pill Maynard had directed him to swallow turned out to be LSD. To his eyes and brain, all of the bridges lining the river along the Cleveland Flats turned into dinosaurs and other strange creatures. Once the boat had reached the mouth of the river where it meets the lake, Little Dan looked back from whence he came. All the dinosaurs were waving goodbye to him.

Upon reaching the open waters he could finally see what he'd already heard. Far off on the northwest horizon, Godzilla, aka the "giant lizard" described in Maynard Gridley's "Manifesto with Cheese" awaited him. The lizard was emerging from black clouds that belched vicious lightning bolts. It was a hallucination, of course. It didn't matter. By that point Little Dan was unable to disagree with anything his eyes were telling him.

Little Dan took a deep breath and yanked out a photograph he stored in his wallet. It was a picture of him, his parents and his dog, taken in happier days.



"Without you guys in my life, I don't know what I'm doing anymore," said a tearful Little Dan to the wallet-sized photo. "I'm a big boy, now," he concluded. "Something is in me and it's gotta come out!" One could argue that the only thing inside him at that moment was Wilmena's tuna salad and a powerful dose of LSD. He was right, though. Even in his altered psychological state, Little Dan knew that something had changed inside him. He was finally starting to grow up.

Standing tall on the bow of the boat, he squinted his eyes as he peered into a tie-dyed sky over his head. He said one "Our Father" and one "Hail

Mary," kissed the photo, and then tossed it whole into Lake Erie. Then he pointed the boat, "The Friggin' A" directly toward the middle of his dark horizon and yelled, "I'm coming to get ya, 'Godzilla!'."

At that same moment, a half mile upriver, Rowena Gridley and the Rockport Chief of Police, Tom Graber arrived at the place where Maynard's boat had been hidden. To her shock and Graber's anger, the boat was gone. "Dammit Rowena, I'm not playing games anymore!" he barked, "Where the hell is this boat you talked about?" Rowena raised her hands and said, "Tom, I'm not lying. It was tied up - right here!"

Suddenly, a sodden homeless person jumped out from behind a bridge abutment. "You lookin' for that big guy and his boat?" Graber stepped in front of Rowena and said, "Yeah! Where'd he go?" The man replied, "Gimme five bucks and I'll tell ya." Graber's first instinct was to tell him to get lost, but, he was in so much trouble for losing Little Dan, he was desperate to try anything.

Graber yanked the fin out of his wallet and held it up. "Where is he?" he demanded. "Gimme the money first," said the guy. The Chief stepped forward and held out the fiver but wouldn't let go until he had an answer.

"I don't know," the homeless man said, "I saw him standing on the boat, reading something. He ripped whatever he was looking at in two and tossed it in the river. Then he fired up the boat and headed toward the lake!" Graber gave him the five dollars. "How long ago was this?" he asked. The guy pointed downriver and said, "Ahhh--

twenty minutes ago. He's sure to be on the lake by now!"

Graber noticed that Rowena was staring at something on the river. "What are you looking at?" he asked. When he looked down he saw the papers that Little Dan had torn in two and then thrown in the water. It was Maynard's manifesto, alright. When Little Dan threw it away he hadn't noticed that it had landed on a large muck ball in the river and never sank. Graber found a long hunk of wood and was able to rake the torn pages onto the riverbank. Piecing the pages back together again, Graber sat down on an old truck tire that someone had thoughtlessly discarded. As he read the manifesto he began shouting things like, "Oh My God!" and "That crazy son of a bitch!"

Rowena stood silent. Graber looked up at her and asked, "Did you know about this, Rowena?" Rowena shook her head and said, "Know about what? Of course, not!" Chief Graber rose up and adjusted his gunbelt. "You better be telling me the truth. This was your crazy son, after all!" Rowena exploded and grabbed the Chief by his collar. "Don't you cast aspersions on my Maynard!" she screamed loudly into his eyeballs. "HE WAS A WAR HERO!!".

Graber peeled Rowena off of him and ran back to his squad car where Little BD had been waiting anxiously. "War hero, or not, you better not be lying!" he yelled as he grabbed hold of his radio microphone.

"ROCKPORT POLICE! ROCKPORT POLICE! COME IN--OVER!!" he screamed. When they responded he gave an order. "PUT IN AN URGENT CALL TO THE COAST GUARD. A MATTER OF LIFE AND DEATH! TELL THEM TO MEET ME AT THE MOUTH OF THE CUYAHOGA RIVER IMMEDIATELY!!!"

A Natural Distortion
Of Immensive Proportion
Came roaring across the lake
He confronted the mystery
Determined to Make History
On the Black Day
Derecho Dan Was Born
(Excerpts from, "The Ballad of Derecho Dan" ©1975 Music and Lyrics by: Googie Arthur and Dickie Don Rio for Agita Records-All Rights Reserved)
Read the entire story onlin eat the Lakewood Observer. <http://lakewood-observer.com/derachodan>

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LO Deck

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Go to lakewoodobserver.com/forum to read or post.

OBSERVATIONS FROM THE DECK!



Thread Title	Date	Posts	Reads
UPDATED TWICE A DAY Life In The Time Of COVID-19 Important Resources	Wed Mar 25, 2020	0	20692
A Special Wish From Simon	Tue Apr 14, 2020	0	343
State of Ohio COVID-19 Update	Tue Apr 14, 2020	0	229
Lakewood Goes Mad?	May 23, 2016	5	2291
New Lakewood Crowdraising Effort?	Mon Apr 13, 2020	5	1160
COVID-19 Observations 04.12.2020	Mon Apr 13, 2020	8	1592
The Road Less Traveled	Tue Mar 24, 2020	18	1657
For the Beauty of the Earth... A Lakewood Earth Day/Easter /Passover Reflection	Sun Apr 12, 2020	2	1551
COVID-19 Update 04.12.2020	Sun Apr 12, 2020	0	780
The View From Ward 2, #3	Tue Mar 31, 2020	12	1017
"Who are you staying home for?"	Fri Apr 10, 2020	0	825
COVID-19 Cases In County By Zipcode	Fri Apr 10, 2020	0	761
Cleveland International Film Festival Streaming Details	Fri Apr 10, 2020	0	723
Images From The Time Of COVID-19	Fri Mar 27, 2020	8	1796
LHS students on Academic Challenge	Thu Apr 09, 2020	0	744
LO's Music Critic Buzz, Hits The Stage With "Jim Davis"		0	139
Law Suit Against Carnegie Development?		6	690

Emerald Canyon Bald Eagles Streaming Live



For years I have posted photos of the bald eagles located in the Emerald Canyon near Puritas Road. It has always been a mosquito frenzied nightmare to get to them. Now Metro Parks has put a live cam on them. Babies are hatching right now. Will be learning to fly until June, then gone by July 4th. Check it out.



FREE Live Streaming Concerts



Cats on Holiday

One of Lakewood's favorite party bands specializing in all things fun, are doing FREE Live shows through various platforms. Follow the QR code to their Facebook page where the new live shows are listed.



18514 Detroit Avenue,
Lakewood, Ohio 44107
phone:216.521.7684
fax: 216-521-9518

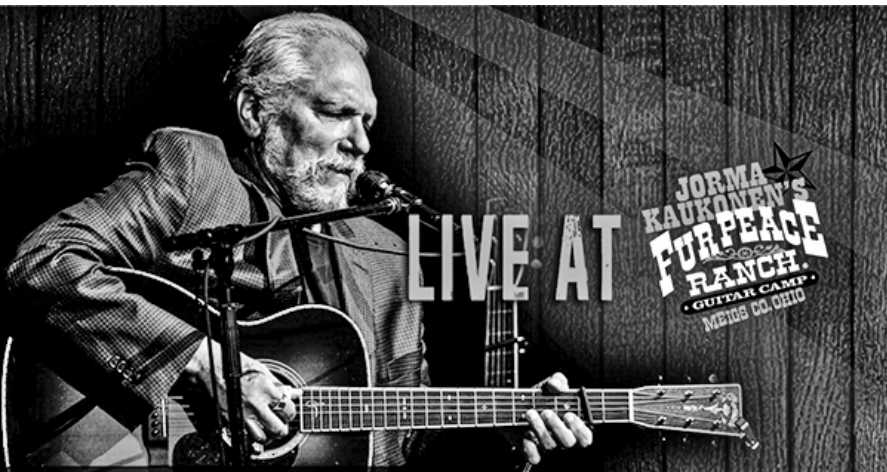
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PRESENTS

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SUNDAY 10 A.M. TO 2 P.M.
BRUNCH A 30-YEAR LAKEWOOD TRADITION
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POT ROAST HASH • OMELETS • FRITATAS • AND MUCH MORE!
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MAYBE ONE OF OUR VOTED BEST ON THE NORTHCOAST BURGERS?
COME AND RELAX IN A FRIENDLY COMFORTABLE ATMOSPHERE.

VIEW MENU'S AND WEEKLY SPECIALS @ WESTENDTAV.COM
MONDAY - FRIDAY 11:30A.M. - 2:30 A.M.
BIGGER BETTER HAPPY HOUR 4 -7 P.M.



LIVE - From the Fur Peace Ranch -

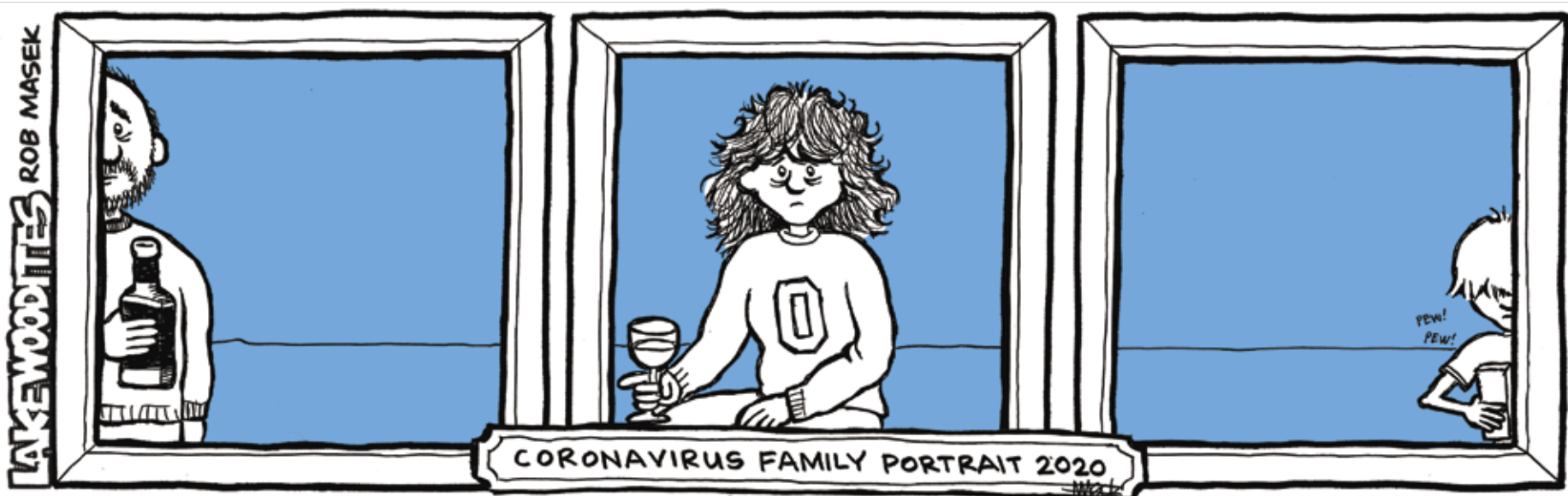
Every Saturday at 8pm.
Jorma Kaukonen guitarist for Jefferson Airplane and now Hot Tuna live with friends!
The Fur Peace Ranch down outside of Athens, Ohio has many great connections to Lakewood.



Mystery QR Codes - Check them out



The Back Page



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