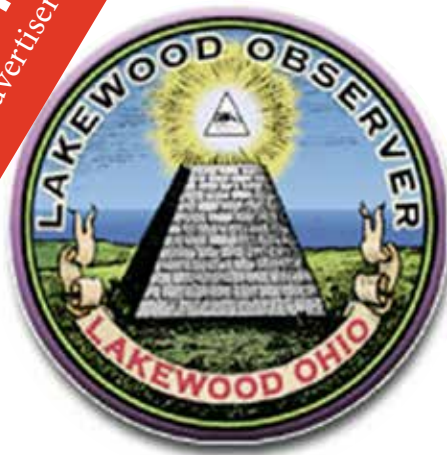


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Volume 16, Issue 22, November 18, 2020

“Fools multiply when wise men remain silent.”
Nelson Mandela



Photo by Shane McNicholas

Evan Laisure working on his new mural at Lakewood Park. The mural took over 500 hours to do. A bike rack will be added on top of his amazing work.

Evan Laisure's Amazing Mural And Bike Rack To Be Unveiled Next Week

by Jim O'Bryan

It usually starts the same way, “There is something going on at.... Can you check it out?” The calls cover everything from fires and shootings, to Monarch butterfly releases. Most of the time I am glad I got the call and a chance to check it out. This time it was, “... constructing at the Woman's Pavilion.”

So I climbed in the car, went down, and what I discovered was one of the best murals to be put up in Lakewood since Richard

Haas installed his two massive murals in the Lakewood Public Library. When I spoke with a city worker, he stated, “We are installing a new bike rack.”

It has to be one of the most beautiful bike racks ever installed! What I was looking at was a spectacular vision of bike life in and around Lakewood done by Lakewood artist and owner of The Past Times online store, Evan Laisure. Evan, what is your deal? “I print wholesale

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Celia Dorsch To Receive Rotary Paul Harris Fellow Award

by Lynn Donaldson

Celia Dorsch has been named a Paul Harris Fellow (PHF) by the Rotary Club of Lakewood and Rocky River in recognition of her leadership in the Lakewood community.

She will be among those honored at the District 6630 Annual Foundation Awards Banquet at 6:30 p.m. on November 19.

Ms. Dorsch has spent her career helping others and teaching Lakewood's youth the value of giving back to their community. Hired by Lakewood Division of Youth as an activities specialist, Ms. Dorsch realized the importance of connecting young people to their community. She worked with the city and schools to create Help-To-Others (H2O), a youth volunteer program at Lakewood High School.



Through H2O, high school and now middle school students learn to give back in endless projects throughout the year. They have held dances for the elderly, visited nursing homes, food collection/distribution, among many others. Each summer H2O coordinates a summer service camp for middle school students.

During her nearly 19-year tenure as coordinator of the program, she has been privileged to help develop hundreds

of young leaders who have gone on to make a difference. Upon her retirement from H2O, she jumped right into a volunteer organization that distributes meals at Thanksgiving and Christmas to those who are in need.

The free awards banquet will be virtual, and registration is required. To register, go to <https://rotarydistrict6630.org/Stories/save-the-date-foundation-virtual-gala>. Special guest will be Rotary International President Elect Jennifer Jones, the first woman named to lead the worldwide organization.

The local Rotary Club was one of only 11 Northeast Ohio clubs that achieved 100% member giving to Rotary International's Annual Fund, earning the club the opportunity to award a PHF to an

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City Eyes New Developer For Hospital Site

by Meghan George

The City of Lakewood has undergone tremendous change in 2020. One of those changes was the direction of our downtown redevelopment at the intersection of Detroit Avenue and Belle Avenue and I am pleased to tell you that the City is now moving forward. At the November 16, 2020 Council meeting we asked for Council to authorize my administration to move forward in negotiating a non-binding term sheet with a new developer CASTO.

In 2017, CASTO and their partners were one of two teams selected as the most qualified to develop the nearly six-acre former hospital site in the heart of Downtown Lakewood. Their proposal and supporting documentation from that process can be found at <http://www.onelakewood.com/downtowndevelopment/>. This was a months-long selection process with multiple

rounds of submissions and analysis, discussion with and evaluation of eight development teams before a citizen-led real estate development advisory panel, and presentations at a joint Architectural Board of Review/Planning Commission public meeting.

CASTO presented a vision for a mixed-use development to integrate into the fabric of the Lakewood community while creating a new anchor for Downtown. The City now has a unique opportunity to revisit CASTO's proposal. CASTO has stated they remain committed to this project and are enthusiastic about restarting discussions with the community.

CASTO's initial proposal from the 2017 selection process is a starting point for our discussions. This plan will evolve

over time with public input and the City's reviewing processes, which requires multiple City Council, Planning Commission, and Architectural Board of Review approvals. Through these public meetings and comment, the Lakewood community will ensure this developer and their project are aligned with our Development Objectives and Lakewood's Community Vision.

We have much due diligence ahead of us before entering into a new relationship with a developer. Six acres in the heart of Ohio's most densely populated community must be treated as the exceptional, once-in-a-century opportunity it is. We will reconvene the advisory panel

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December 12 Through 20 Light Up Lakewood 2020 To Spread Virtual Holiday Cheer

by Ian Andrews

LakewoodAlive's Festive Community Event Goes Virtual to Bring the Spirit of this Treasured Event to Life

Sponsored by First Federal Lakewood and presented by LakewoodAlive, Light Up Lakewood celebrates the season and the richness of our city's vibrancy. This virtual, family-friendly event will fea-

ture nine days of Lakewood holiday traditions that premier daily on Facebook and Instagram beginning December 12. The virtual event will kick off with our Lighting Ceremony that will include a mini-parade that will feature Light Up Lakewood Celebrities including Santa, Grinch, & Buddy the Elf.

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Think Small For Thanksgiving 2020

by Matt Kuhns

As you plan Thanksgiving this year, try one simple and easy idea: stay home, together with people you live with.

This option is perfect for a dire pandemic, like the one we're experiencing. There's really no better way to go right now. A recent headline about our northern neighbors, who celebrate several weeks before

we do, explains: “Canada's had its Thanksgiving—and now has a COVID-19 spike.”

But staying in on Thanksgiving is also one of life's best-kept secrets.

I have hosted Thanksgiving for three, or two, or even one, many times, and it's one of the best days of the year. It's

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The Mayor's Corner

by Meghan George
Mayor, City of Lakewood

This past week I released a new video on the COVID-19 pandemic. Below is the script of that video.

On Wednesday evening, Governor DeWine called on Ohioans to recommit to coronavirus safety practices. We are experiencing record high COVID-19 cases and a surge in hospitalizations and ICU admissions. These are the worst numbers since the beginning of the pandemic and they are moving in the wrong direction.

In his address, Governor DeWine announced revisions to existing health orders, issued new health orders altogether, and warned of further steps that would need to be taken if the tide does not turn within the next week. The new mask order includes the requirement that businesses post a face covering requirement sign at each public entrance. Additionally, the Governor has set up a new Retail Compliance Unit, led by the Bureau of Workers Compensation, that will be inspecting to ensure retail compliance. The first violation of this order will result in a written warning and a sec-



ond violation will bring about closure of the store for up to 24 hours.

The new social gathering order re-enforces the 10 person limit on gatherings as well as places significant restrictions on social activities. We have communicated these updates to the business community as well as placed this information on the Coronavirus page of our website.

Lakewood is such a special place. We are the most densely populated city in the state and it is going to take all

of us, working together, to reduce the spread of the virus. We must continue to work together as a community.

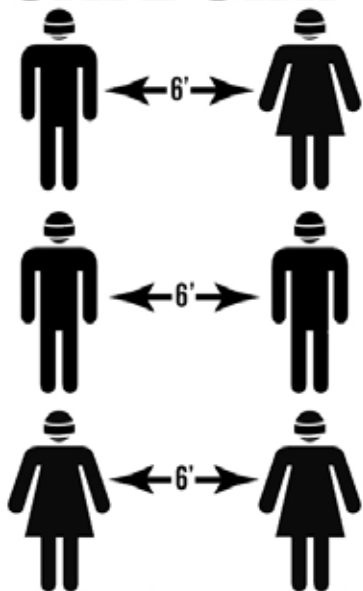
I am working with my team at City Hall to revisit procedures and operations, work schedules, PPE needs, and work-from-home options. I am encouraging each business to do the same.

All of us need to do our part.

I'm encouraging everyone to reduce our interactions as much as possible, especially those outside of our households. Thanksgiving celebrations will look different this year but we need to make these changes so that we have everyone at the Thanksgiving table next year.

So, wear your mask, wash your hands, and practice social distancing. Let's be part of the solution, Lakewood.

ARE YOU
PRACTICING
SAFE SIX?



MASKING
For A Friend



Education

50 Rangers Included In All-Conference Honors

by Christine Gordillo

The Rangers' first fall season in the Great Lakes Conference has paid dividends with 50 student-athletes earning some level of All-Conference honor, including 11 named to the GLC's 1st Team. The following Rangers were selected for their standout play:

1st Team: James O'Donnell (cross country); Omar Almutari, Quinn Costanza, Ben Merriner, and Aubree Nagel (soccer); Brandyn Bates, Javion Goudy, Tico Jones, Jr., Pete Patsouras, and Hakeem Quran (football); and Annabelle Sorge (volleyball).

2nd Team: Lauren Barber, Sam Hudak, Matthew Hueter, and Eli LaDue (soccer); Matt Bowen and Lucas Winters (football); Sadie Gregg and Teeghan McGann (cross country); and Ella Bangert (volleyball).

Honorable Mention: Jazi Dunay, Ben Jablonowski, Abby Sacha, and James Toole (cross country); Nobert Baguma, Annette Doren, Sean Teets, and Mallory Zavatchen (soccer); Jack Derethik and Sean McHugh (golf); Bilal Abuaun, Mohammed Alniserawly, Othman Awad, and Sean Teets (football); Helen Hylton and Amy Pilgrim (volleyball); Kkyu Du, Hay Nay Lwi, and Sofia Rivera-Bitner (tennis); and Lanajah Honera and Isabelle Reay (cheerleading).

Sportsmanship Award: Lindsay Gregg and Simon Sanders (cross country); Muzafar Ali and Jasmine Magda (soccer); Cole Dockus (golf); Mohammed Alniserawly (football); Ella Bangert (volleyball); Maya George (tennis); Mayda Strnad (cheerleading).



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ADVERTISEMENT

Early lung cancer screening is key. Do it before it's too late!



Muhammad Iqbal, MD
Cleveland Clinic
Lakewood Family
Health Center

Lung cancer kills more Americans every year than the next three most common cancers – breast, colon and prostate – combined. But, there is good news – early detection through screening can improve survival numbers.

“Unless you’re screened early, lung cancer isn’t usually diagnosed until it causes symptoms,” says Muhammad Iqbal, MD,

pulmonologist at Cleveland Clinic Lakewood Family Health Center. “Symptoms are often absent until lung cancer is in advanced stages.”

Dr. Iqbal answers common questions about early lung cancer screening:

Only people who smoke can get lung cancer, right?

Cigarette smoking is the leading cause of lung cancer. Quitting smoking is a step in the right direction, but doesn’t eliminate the chance of lung cancer developing. Other risk factors for

the disease include secondhand smoke, asbestos or radon exposure, and family history.

Why is it important to get screened sooner than later?

Early detection is key when it comes to treating lung cancer. When the disease is found early, 80% or more of the cases can be cured with radiation or surgery.

Screening for lung cancer with CT scans detects more early-stage cancers and decreases deaths from lung cancer by 20% in people ages 55 to 75 who are at high risk.

Are lung cancer symptoms prominent?

“No, and that’s why it’s hard to diagnose. During advanced stages is often when symptoms become prevalent,” says Dr. Iqbal. “In early stages, patients usually don’t present any signs of the disease.”

Visit [ClevelandClinic.org/CancerTreatmentGuides](https://clevelandclinic.org/CancerTreatmentGuides) to download a free lung cancer treatment guide. To schedule an appointment with Dr. Iqbal or another pulmonologist, call 216.444.6503.

Colorectal cancer screening: No good reason to put it off.

Everyone knows that colonoscopies are a tool to detect colorectal cancer – the second leading cause of cancer-related deaths among men and the third leading cause among women in the United States.

Colonoscopy is known as the gold standard – the best, most accurate test to screen for colorectal cancer. Since most cancers start as polyps, cancer can be prevented when polyps are removed during a colonoscopy. A screening colonoscopy is recommended for anyone 50 years of age and older, or age 45 if you are African American.

New preps are easier to swallow.

You may be concerned about unpleasantness and inconvenience as you prepare for the exam. But it’s time to stop worrying – the prep process is much easier these days. It tastes better, you don’t have to take as much as you did before, and the timing has also changed to make it easier for patients.

Concerned about coronavirus?

While the coronavirus is still in our communities, Cleveland Clinic is among the safest places in healthcare today.

For your safety and those around you, we have taken the following steps:

- Limited and screened visitors.
- Continued extensive cleaning.
- Required masks for our caregivers.

We ask that you help us maintain a safe environment by:

- Practicing social and physical distancing.
- Wearing a mask while in our facilities.
- Washing and sanitizing your hands properly.

As we welcome all patients back for regular, routine care, we will continue making your safety a top concern.

Learn more about the steps we’re taking to keep you safe at [ClevelandClinic.org/Coronavirus](https://clevelandclinic.org/Coronavirus).

To schedule an appointment at one of our screening locations near you, call 216.444.7000. For more information and a complete list of locations, visit [ClevelandClinic.org/Colonoscopy](https://clevelandclinic.org/Colonoscopy).



New sports medicine physician on the West Side.



Michael Scarcella, MD
Cleveland Clinic
Fairview Hospital, Richard
E. Jacobs Health Center
in Avon, and Lakewood
Family Health Center

Orthopaedic surgeon, Michael Scarcella, MD, is seeing patients at Cleveland Clinic Fairview Hospital, Richard E. Jacobs Health Center in Avon, and Lakewood Family Health Center.

Dr. Scarcella specializes in ACL and arthroscopic surgery.

To schedule an appointment with Dr. Scarcella or any sports medicine specialist, please call 877.440.TEAM (8326) or visit [ClevelandClinic.org/SportsMedicine](https://clevelandclinic.org/SportsMedicine) to learn more.

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Politics Local And State



Senator Antonio and Senator Kunze (R-Columbus) providing sponsor testimony for SB 162.

Senator Antonio Discusses Importance Of Supporting Domestic Violence Survivors

by Nickie Antonio

Last week, I was honored to participate in Leadership Ohio’s panel on "Ending Violence Against Women & Girls." In Ohio, 1 in 5 women will be raped in their lifetime, but unfortunately, only one third of survivors will come forward and seek justice. Additionally, more than 1 in 3 women in the United States will experience physical violence by an intimate partner in her lifetime. We are likely to see this increase for 2020. According to Human Rights Watch: crises & especially lockdowns can trigger a greater incidence of domestic violence due to increased stress, cramped and difficult living conditions, and breakdowns in community support systems and services. In fact, in our own community, calls to the Domestic Violence and Children Advocacy Center in Cuyahoga County’s hotline increased by 40% during Covid.

Fighting for survivors is essential and passing state legislation is an important piece to supporting them. This General Assembly, I introduced bipartisan legislation with Senator Stephanie Kunze (R-Columbus) to reclassify strangulation as a felony (SB 146), and SB 43 which would increase state funding to DV programs and include DV convictions and protection orders as a red flag component in firearm legislation. According to the Strangulation Training Institute, women who have been strangled by their partners are 750% more likely to be murdered than domestic violence victims who have not experienced strangulation. I also introduced SB 162 which would eliminate both the statute

of limitations and the spousal exemptions for rape or sexual battery.

Domestic Violence protections cannot stop at the state level. President-Elect Joe Biden was instrumental in passing the Violence Against Women Act to support and protect survivors. Unfortunately, the VAWA has yet to be re-authorized by Congress in recent years. Additionally, we need to strengthen the definition of domestic violence, which was severely limited by the Department of Justice under the current Administration. Beyond legislation, we still have to do the work to open people’s minds and shift how they think about survivors and perpetrators. Culturally, mass media and social media have desensitized the public’s perception of violence, creating a pseudo-acceptance of said violence.

The burden of combatting domestic violence should not and cannot be

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Dan O'Malley Elected As Leader of North Shore AFL-CIO

from News Release

Long time labor activist to lead Ohio’s largest local labor federation

The delegates of the North Shore AFL-CIO elected, by acclamation, Dan O’Malley as its new leader this past Wednesday. O’Malley, who also serves as president of Lakewood City Council, is succeeding Harriet Applegate who is retiring.

O’Malley, 35, is a Cleveland native and a graduate of John Carroll University. He previously served at the North Shore AFL-CIO as campaign director and prior to that he spent eight years with Working America, the last two years as the organization's state director in Ohio. O’Malley is a member of the Office and Professional Employees International Union (OPEIU) Local 1794 and American Federation of Musicians (AFM) Local 4.

“As a fourth generation union member, it's the honor of a lifetime to be leading the Greater Cleveland labor movement,” O’Malley said. “We have incredible challenges and opportunities and I will work hard every day to address them both,” he said. O’Malley emphasized that his priorities for the labor federation are to assist affiliated unions in organizing campaigns, to build strong relationships in our communities and to provide a strong voice for workers at all levels of government.

“Dan is eminently qualified to fill this position,” Harriet Applegate said of O’Malley and his new position. “Not only has he served the



federation for the last five years as campaign director, he is also adept and intimately acquainted with the political process in all its aspects,” she explained. “Dan knows the labor movement and he knows the community in which it resides,” Applegate said.

The North Shore AFL-CIO Federation of Labor is the organized voice for 80,000 working people in Cuyahoga, Lake and Geauga counties. Over 146 Local unions are affiliated with the labor federation.

Congratulations Dan O'Malley!

Lakewood Seventh-day Adventist Church
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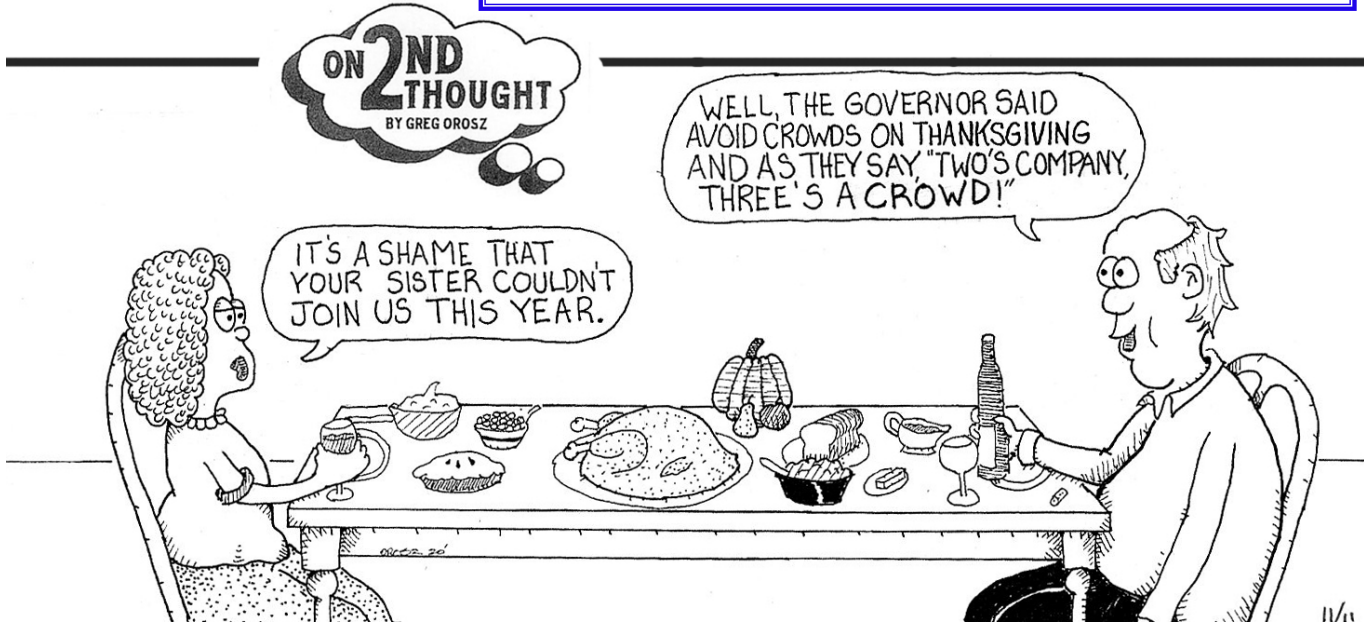
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Lakewood's Financial News

sponsored by First Federal Lakewood

Revisiting Your Budget During a Crisis

by James Hill
Branch Manager, Lakewood

Many Americans found themselves in the throes of the COVID-19 crisis before they fully understood what was going on. For many, news of the virus was distant and remote, something that was happening in China and Europe. Until it wasn't. Once COVID-19 reached our shores, actions had to be swift and immediate. Our world changed in a matter of weeks. We quickly went from working in crowded office spaces, dining out frequently and enjoying abundant entertainment options, to sheltering in place, exhausting every streaming service, and becoming intimately familiar with food delivery services we had only vaguely heard of before.

And our budgets took the most substantial hit of all as 30 million people (and counting) lost their jobs during the COVID-19 crisis. A prolonged absence of income means that it is time to revisit your budget and make substantial changes to your spending to deal with the possibility of renewed COVID-19 shutdowns across the country.

Assess Your Income

If you are still employed, that is terrific news. Many of your friends, family, and neighbors may not be so fortunate. Even if your income has not taken a hit due to pandemic-related cut-backs, almost everyone needs to make some adjustments related to income. Of course, you cannot begin to make the right changes until you have adequately assessed your income situation.

Make a list of all your after-tax income. Account for every dime you bring home each month. This is the household budget you have to work with. The goal is to make sure you do not spend a penny more each month than you bring in.

Some people need to make additional adjustments as the expanded unemployment benefit has expired. This means many U.S. unemployed lost an additional \$600 per week in income at the end of July 2020 (though they may still receive some portion of it). That loss must be accounted for in



your calculations. It is no small hit to the average household budget.

Categorize Your Expenses

In the world of expenses, there are fixed expenses that are considered necessary for you and your family to survive. This includes things like:

- Housing
- Food
- Utilities
- Household supplies
- Insurance

These are things that are essential for most households. You cannot survive without them.

Then, you have the expenses that are important to you. For most people, transportation tops the list. While most U.S. households believe a vehicle is an essential expense, it is possible to survive without one. At the very least, many two or three vehicle families could make the sacrifice and operate with only one vehicle – especially with so many people working from home during the crisis.

Other important expenses that people must consider during pandemic (and any other crisis that comes along) include things like:

- Clothing
- Entertainment
- Recreation
- Gourmet coffee
- Dining out
- Shopping

In this crisis, many of these things have been taken off the table, which can only help your budget. Concerts, sporting events, vacations, shopping trips, and even (in many states) the ability to enjoy dinner at a restaurant have been removed from the equation.

What is Essential Spending?

Essential spending is spending you cannot function without. It is the spending that keeps the lights on, places a roof over your head, and gives you nourishment. These are the things that must be included in your budget regardless of anything else that gets left out.

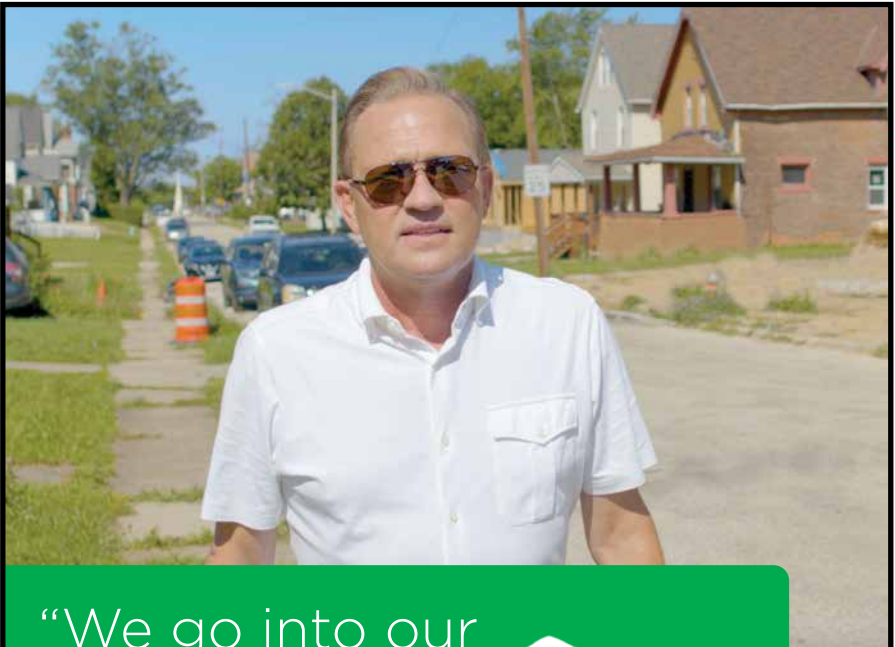
Cutting Back

Many households have already cut back on entertainment and other optional expenses, without really even trying. That does not mean there are no other options to consider. These are a few areas where you can cut the budget, even more, to give you a financial cushion during your moments of crisis.

- With shipping delays, it's not such a big sacrifice anyway and could save you tons of money each month.
- You can always go back when times are better and there are many free options available to tide you over. Plus, many libraries, universities, museums, and other organizations are offering free streaming options that are educational as well.
- This may be difficult with everyone working and schooling at home, but it is possible to reduce water usage, light usage, etc.
- The benefit of this is that you are ordering fewer meals in.

Takeaway

Your world has changed, and the financial ramifications of those changes may just now be sinking in. However, staying on top of the situation by assessing your income, categorizing, and prioritizing your expenses can help you weather this and any future crisis with your budget intact.



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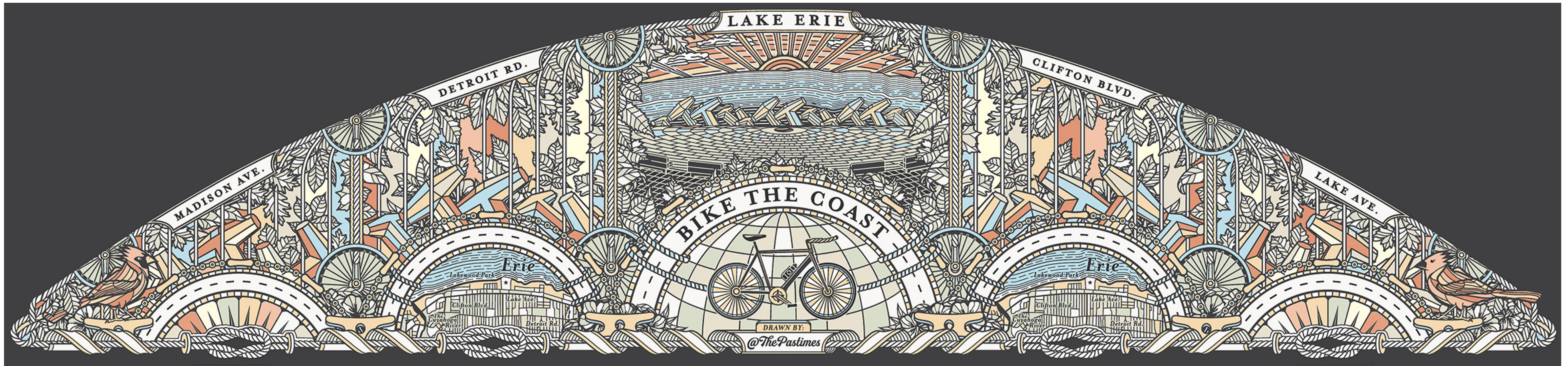
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Lakewood Is Art®

Lakewood Is Art®



Evan Laisure's original art that was the basis for the mural. This does not do the final work justice. Head on down to Lakewood Park, just west of the Woman's Pavilion and check it out. Also check out the rest of Evan's art online, see story on the next page. Heard of an artist or art project Lakewoodites should know about? Drop us a note. Could be worth a t-shirt.

Something Everyone Could Use, Especially Bike Riders

by Jim O'Bryan

As many of you know all of the Observers have been huge supporters of bikers, riders and cycling. At one time we started Bike Lakewood, and had a biking column that became the "Great Lakes Courier" cycling paper. So when I saw Kenneth Knabe's new book "Cycling RIGHTS Bicycles, E-Bikes & Micro-Mobility Devices" I wanted to get a copy and find out what it was all about. All of us, riders and drivers, cannot know enough about the laws on the streets for all of us.

Lakewood resident and Lawyer Kenneth Knabe has earned the title "Greater Cleveland's Bike Attorney" not just in the courts, but in decades of riding and

service to the Greater Cleveland community. He is a Bike Cleveland Corporate Sponsor. He serves on the boards of Ohio Bicycle Federation and the Ohio to Erie Trail. He also co-chairs a sub committee of the City of Cleveland's Vision Zero Taskforce, whose goal is to reduce the number of fatalities and injuries to all road users.

Back to the book. It contains common sense rules of the road that can benefit and educate everyone from the beginners to experienced riders, and yes even those who have never ridden a bike, will never ride a bike but drive. Simple questions answered and explained. Like the simple question that everyone on the roads ask,



Author Ken Knabe, Northern Ohio's Bicyclists Lawyer.

"Can a cyclist go through a stale red light with no cross traffic?" Well only if it is a "dead light." Which is explained in one section with subnotes noted and put elsewhere. The book is that thorough.

It is a small paperback that could easily fit in a backpack for a long trip, allowing a rider to have a great source for questions that arise. But you do not have to carry the book with you. Each copy comes with a P.H.O.N.E. card which

lists 8 points in the Cycling Law Arsenal: Ohio Revised Codes, and on the other side 5 important steps to take should you ever be in an accident.

Looking for that special present for your rider, child, husband or friend? I cannot think of a better present under \$20.

At the same time you will be supporting a Lakewood business that puts its money where it heart and mouth is: on the road enjoying cycling.

Kenneth, thank you for this wonderful addition to my library.

You can purchase a copy through BikeCleveland, where all of the proceeds help Bike Cleveland in their efforts. Or at bike shops like Spin across the street from Ken's Law Firm. Also at Amazon and on Kindle..

Cycling RIGHTS Bicycles, E-Bikes & Micro-Mobility Devices (ISBN978-1-63385-395-9

Written by Kenneth Knabe with Parker Mulholland.



Evan working on the mural.

Evan Laisure's Amazing Mural And Bike Rack To Be Unveiled Next Week

continued from page 1

outdoor apparel for my online store. I also have a food trailer called The Pastimes Cafe where I sell coffee and build your own breakfast sammies with bagels from Cleveland Bagel Co. I hope one day to combine everything into a Coffee & Print shop."

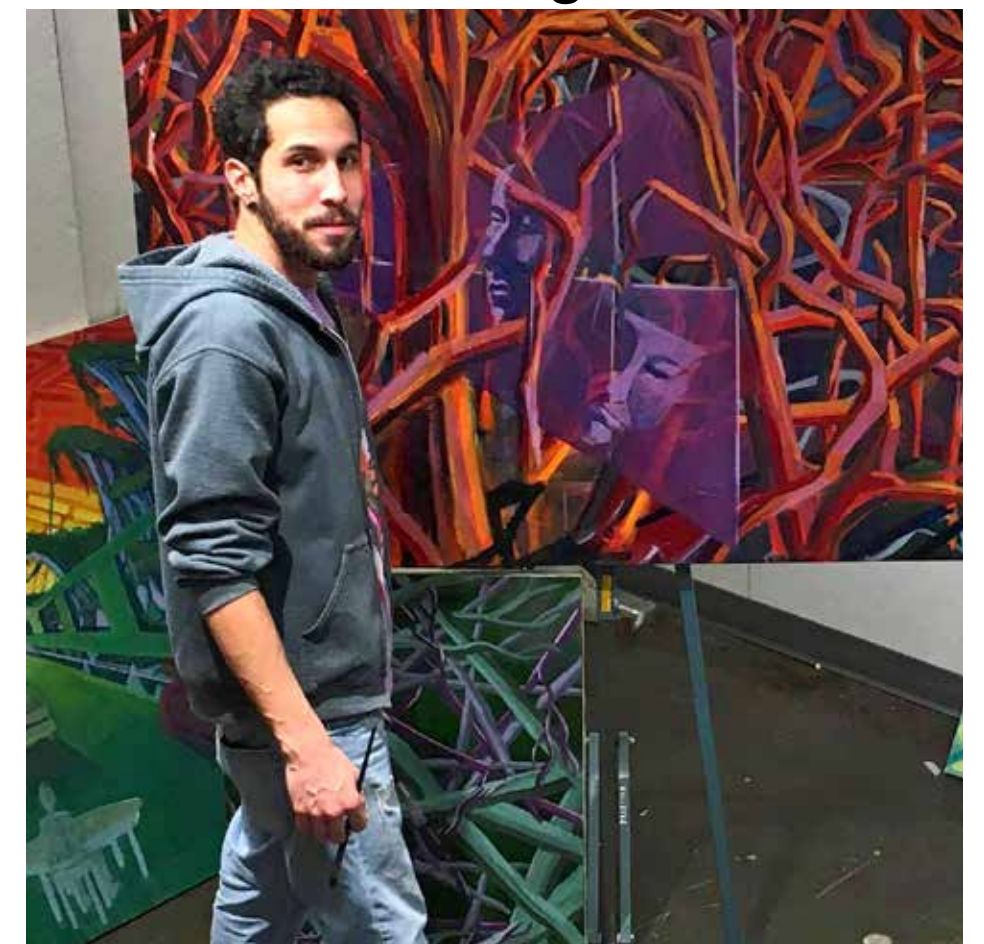
OK but what about this artwork? "The artwork was drawn for a community bike rack in Lakewood Park. The mural is inspired by stained glass windows seen in Lakewood churches and is composed of different materials relating to the park, cycling, and Lake Erie. The border of the artwork is built from a rope design that is tied in various sailing knots. The base of the mural has nautical charts, community maps, and other iconography such as bicycles and boating cleats. These are set below a series of tet-

rapod structures which are found along the coast of the park. The leaf canopy at the top of the piece contains different illustrations from each of the 26 different tree species found within the park. The top of the mural lists each of the horizontal main roads in Lakewood as well as a solstice step sunrise placed in the center of the piece. The entire project took over 500 hours to complete."

Evan wanted to make sure the following people were thanked. Special thanks to the photographer, Shane McNicholas (@elsephoto)

Special thanks to Allison Henne from the Department of Planning and Development and the Spectacular Vernacular public art initiative and thanks to Summer Murrell and Alex Tharnish for the help with painting.

Ray Rodriguez Show At Root Cafe Through November



Ray in his studio. photo by: Gordon Stewart

by Jim O'Bryan

Looking for a short break from the day? Some good art, conversation and coffee? Stop by the Root Cafe on Detroit Ave. and check out the art of part-time Root Barista Ray Rodriguez. Ray is having a small show selling prints and stickers of his work. This small grouping is in the surreal vein.

Ray is one of those people you cross paths with in life, and as you see more bits and pieces about the person and their work your appreciation only builds. This has been my experience with Ray.

Passionate about life, science, art and his beloved Puerto Rico. At the tender age of 28, you can add him to your artist/people to watch list. I think you will be pleasantly entertained.

This show is up through the end of the month.

Distance and Wonders

These paintings reflect some of Ray's feeling and thoughts throughout this very strange year. He was looking to create a surreal fantasy series of expressions but kept getting dragged back into the realities of the pandemic, the economy and other news. Still he strives to lighten the images with a playfulness and bright colors. Prints range in price from \$10 - \$15. Stickers only \$3. (I remember Warhol Brillo Boxes and Dali prints for \$50 in the 60s, just saying.)

You can see more of Ray's artwork at: Ray Rodriguez@raymond.rodz and www.rayrodriguezart.com

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11.00 BURRITO DINNER 10.00

12.00 PIZZA DINNER 10.00

13.00 PASTA DINNER 10.00

14.00 SALAD DINNER 10.00

15.00 SANDWICH DINNER 10.00

16.00 SMOOTHIE DINNER 10.00

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30.00 SMOOTHIE DINNER 10.00

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3.00 PORK

4.00 RIB

5.00 TACOS

6.00 BURRITO

7.00 PASTA

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Forum



Fire fighters Par Larry Artzner (L) and Patrick Linn (R)

Two Of Lakewood’s Finest Complete Over 1,000,000 Steps

by Jim O’Bryan

Firefighters / Paramedics Larry Artzner and Patrick Linn completed a the Million Steps Challenge, in (28) twenty eight days! They both finished strong by completing a full marathon independently, on the last day. There were able to keep track of each other’s progress by

using a common app. Our understanding is the competition was fierce. In the true spirit of Brotherhood, they coordinated the contest to end in a tie!

Although we have members consistently working to stay in the best shape possible, these guys took it to another level!

Think Small For Thanksgiving 2020

continued from page 1

unbelievably peaceful. Not just Thanksgiving itself, but everything. When you go small on Thanksgiving, you discover that the last Thursday in November is about as close as America gets to just giving it a rest for one whole day, all year.

Try it, trust me on this.

You could experiment with variations. You could stay in and still prepare a feast for 10; you’ll just have more leftovers. If you have to go visit-

ing, try to stay outdoors. If you have to break bread together, avoid any kind of buffet service.

Staying in, though, is really something everyone should try for Thanksgiving some time, and this year is about the best moment you could choose. Stay safe everyone.

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

Celia Dorsch To Receive Rotary Paul Harris Fellow Award

continued from page 1

individual who has made a difference in the community.

Paul Harris Fellowships are given to recognize exceptional contributions made by individuals who further Rotary’s mission of encouraging the ideals of service as a basis of worthy enterprise, high ethical standards, community service, and the advancement of international understanding and goodwill.

Named for Paul Harris who founded Rotary in 1905, the award was established in his honor in 1957

and is usually reserved for individuals who contribute \$1000 US to the Rotary Foundation.

Gifts to the Annual Fund help Rotary clubs take action today to create positive change in communities at home and around the world. Contributions help strengthen peace efforts, provide clean water and sanitation, support education, grow local economies, save mothers and children, and fight disease.

Ms. Dorsch is currently a youth leadership consultant at Engage & Excel, LLC.

Thank You To State Representative Nicki Antonio

by Stephen LaMantia

I am wrting to express my sincere thanks to State Representative Nicki Antonio for her leadership at Lakewood Park on Veterans Day, November 11, 2020. It was very disappointing to the many veterans, veteran family members and other respectful citizens who assembled at the Lakewood Park Veterans' Memorial to honor those courageous members of our military who served and sacrificed that there was no Lakewood city-sponsored event to honor our brave men and women, some of whom made the ultimate sacrifice.

Representative Antonio took the personal initiative to welcome those

in attendance and led us in the Pledge of Allegiance at 11:00 A.M. in honor and remembrance. All in attendance welcomed and appreciated her gesture of community, patriotism, and appreciation. Thank you Representative Antonio and thank you to all those who visited the memorial, shared their personal stories with others and demonstrated such respect and reverence for our fallen heroes.

Stephen LaMantia is a 48 year resident of Lakewood, a retired hospital pharmacist and past member of Citizens Advisory Committee. All four children attended Lakewood Public Schools.

How To Support New Parents During COVID-19: Tips From A Postpartum Care Specialist:

by Lexi Tabor

Ohio may be back in the red, but people are still having babies. Parents of new babies are feeling isolated and overwhelmed more than ever. Chances are, you or someone you know has had a baby in the past 8 months. Here are some ways you can help:

Drop off a prepared meal on their doorstep.

Have groceries delivered to them, or ask them to send a photo of their list if you’re going to the store anyway.

Check in on them. Text just to say hi, and talk to them like you did before they had a baby. Be patient in waiting for a response.

Let them know they’re doing a great


job. Send them some mail or an unexpected e-card. Small gestures go a long way.

If you know someone who is struggling, remind them that accepting help is a sign of emotional strength. Professionals exist for a reason!

It still takes a village to raise a child, and though that village may look different during a pandemic, it’s still possible to be part of one.

For any questions on simplifying postpartum care, email hatchlingcle@yahoo.com or visit https://hatchlingcle.squarespace.com


Lexi Tabor is a lifelong Lakewood resident and Postpartum Care Specialist passionate about helping families thrive from the start.



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Forum

Lakewood Rocky River Sunrise Rotary Named Shelter Box Hero

by *Larry Faulhaber*

ShelterBox USA Ambassador and Past Rotary District Governor, Jack Young, announced that the Lakewood Rocky River Sunrise Rotary Club has been designated a ShelterBox Bronze HERO for Rotary Year 2019-2020. The Club donated funds from its Foundation to support this worthwhile program. 1.6 million people have been sheltered since 2000, and this year alone ShelterBox USA has provided aid to over 87,000 people. This could not have been achieved without the support of clubs like the Sunrise Club.

HERO Clubs enable ShelterBox to have the resources and time to be ready when disaster strikes by allowing ShelterBox to purchase and pre-position aid in or near countries where we respond often, resulting in a more efficient and timely response. Gifts donated through the HERO will be designated to Deployment Essentials, directly and quickly aiding families in need.

ShelterBox is a global organization

made up of people who believe in shelter as a human right – that shelter from the chaos of disaster and conflict is vital. When people are plunged into crisis, normality is suspended. But good, quality shelter can cut through the chaos. This is why we provide tools that enable people to rebuild homes and transform their lives. It started as a small organization in the UK and has grown to make a big impact across the world.

Young stated, “Rotary has been instrumental in the Shelter Box growth and is the cement that binds it all together. Since ShelterBox was founded, it has grown from one club’s adopted project to involvement of all clubs in Rotary International.”

This is just one of many community, youth, vocational and international projects of area Rotary Clubs. To learn more about how you can join with men and women in your area to give back through service in your community, and internationally, contact – sloopyohio19@gmail.com

City Eyes New Developer For Hospital Site

continued from page 1

to review and discuss CASTO’s plan and make changes or improvements where needed. Then, the City will enter exclusive negotiations with CASTO for a project development agreement. I have been in close communication with City Council and we are collectively excited to see new life breathed

into this catalytic site.

I look forward to working with you on this project in the coming months. Please reach out to me or my team in the City’s Department of Planning & Development with your thoughts and feedback on this project or Downtown Lakewood generally. We need your input. Let’s be part of the solution, Lakewood.

Changing The Tide For One Non-Profit At A Time

by *David Bemer*

Shark&minnow, a Cleveland-based strategy and design consultancy, today announced its sixth annual #sharkATTACK, which acts in conjunction with #GivingTuesday on December 1, 2020. The movement brings together businesses and communities across the globe to champion the worthy causes they believe in.

“Now in its sixth year, we have the unique opportunity through #sharkATTACK to give back to our community during the holiday and giving season by changing the tide for one local non-profit through partnership, empathy and invention,” said Brian Jasinski, shark&minnow’s director of design. “Amidst these challenging times, we are here to elevate and illuminate the initiatives of the organizations

for which we deeply care.”

The selected organization will have the opportunity to present their unique business challenge to shark&minnow’s team and, in exchange, be provided with a strategic and actionable plan that empowers the organization to turn their presented challenge into an opportunity.

Greater Cleveland non-profit organizations should submit their application for the sixth annual #sharkATTACK at www.sharkandminnow.com/givingtuesday before November 26, 2020 at noon. The chosen organization will be announced the following day, on November 27.

David Bremer is a passionate storyteller and loves to share local news. He works with many local non-profits and businesses as an Associate Writer & PR specialist.

Senator Antonio Discusses Importance Of Supporting Domestic Violence Survivors

continued from page 4

placed solely on survivors. It is on each of us to support them and seek further protections for people in these dangerous situations. If you, or someone you know, find yourself in such a relationship or situation, I highly encourage

taking advantage of the resources within our community, including Cleveland’s Rape Crisis Center.

24-Hour Crisis and Support Hotline: (216) 619-6192 or (440) 423-2020 or chat online

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Lakewood Authors

Rosy, Won't You Please Stay Home:

Reviews Of Recent Releases By Local Bands, Pt. 109

by Buzz Kompier

Marty Brass - On The Grass - self-released - 6 songs - digital

Marty Brass: you might know him from Ma Holos, The Nico Missile, JuJu Shrine, Pig Flayer, and many other bands. If you read this column regularly, you might know that he shreds. "On The Grass" is his solo debut and while it has elements of some of those bands, it definitely is its own thing. I suppose what you'd call it would be lo-fi power pop-- catchy, guitar-driven pop rock songs with pretty poor recording quality. I'm not sure whether the fidelity was a stylistic choice or just a result of equipment constraints-- I'm a fan of a rawer production, but even I would've liked certain parts of this to be a little more clear-- but I suppose it does fit with the quarantined nature of this project. Some songs are slightly more mellow, like "Do Whatever We Want" and "Trip Up North," some have more of a garage rock feel, like "Morning Girls" and "Spaulding Street." "Ready To Pop" reminded me of a Parquet Courts song. If you liked that Joey Nix tape from last

year (and I definitely did), this has that kind of vibe-- also, I think Joey himself plays drums on one of these songs, so there's a further connection. The weakest track here is "Clean Freak." I have nothing against an instrumental interlude, but this goes on for six minutes and, while it is sorta meditative in its way and there is a time and place for that kind of thing, it did not work for me stuck in the middle of the record like it is here. That said, the remaining five songs are all pretty good to really good. I hope this one comes out physically at some point (at least as a tape, come on) and I hope to hear more from Marty real soon. He shreds! 3.5/5

(martybrass.bandcamp.com)

Spike Pit - Maniac Of Torment - Big Spike Says F___ You Records - 8 songs - LP, digital

I think just over a year since their



Marty Brass On The Grass

debut LP "Animal Of Disrespect," local maniacs Spike Pit are back for more. Hey, what's with these "X of Y" titles? Do these guys think they're Breathilizör? While maybe lacking the standout tracks of the first LP, I think this one's a little more focused. They seem a

little more mad here, and I mean mad as both insane and angry. There's some very funny lines in here, despite all the rage (I laugh every time I hear the word 'sublime' in "Bitch Stealer" and the way he says 'goddamn illiterate' on "Cool"-- and that's not even getting into the illustrations that accompany the lyrics), but don't mistake them for some kind of novelty: Spike Pit means business. The music is good maniacal hardcore and Ellis is well on his way to becoming one of the best hardcore frontmen in Cleveland right now and the band rips too. "Life Is Piss" isn't quite as great as the Roobydocks' "Life Is Joke," but it's still

pretty anthemic ("Living day to day is so gay" is quite an opening line). "Laundry" might be the most relatable Spike Pit song yet (and who'd've thought these guys used dryer sheets? That's more civilized than I thought possible from them). Somehow they even making wetting da bed seem like a pretty cool idea on here (on the topic of that, Ellis addresses that he's 25 but feels like he's 9-- remember when MRR said he was in high school? Good times). You should know by now if you'll like this. I sure do! 3.5/5

(spikepit.bandcamp.com)

Are you a local-ish band? Do you have a record out? Email vaguelythreatening@gmail.com or send it directly to the Observer: PO Box 770203, Lakewood, OH 44107.

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Lakewood Is Alive

continued from page 1

”Light Up Lakewood is such a fun celebration of the season and we wanted to do our best to keep the celebration alive, in a safe way,” said LakewoodAlive Executive Director Ian Andrews. “We are thrilled to bring you nine days of videos featuring some of our favorite traditions of the event and hope it brings the community together during this uncertain time.”

Schedule of Virtual Events for Light Up Lakewood: Reimagined Video content will premiere daily at 7 p.m. on Facebook and Instagram.

Saturday, December 12
Mini-Parade – 3 p.m.
Featuring Light Up Lakewood Celebrities - Santa, Grinch, & Buddy the Elf.
Live parade updates will be posted on LakewoodAlive’s social media. Click here for parade route details.
Lighting Ceremony – 7 p.m.
Join Santa, Buddy the Elf, Mayor Meghan George, and others as they flip the switch and light up Lakewood.

Sunday, December 13 – 7 p.m.
Story Time with Lakewood Public Library
Join Librarian Marge Foley for finger puppet story time.

Monday, December 14 – 7 p.m.
Five Minute Holiday Craft
Join H2O service-learning program for creative 5-minute kid-friendly holiday craft.

Tuesday, December 15 – 7 p.m.
Story Time with Lakewood Public Library
Join librarian Julie Strunk for holiday story time that explores diverse holiday traditions.

Wednesday, December 16 – 7 p.m.
Ranger Café Holiday Special
Chef McGorray and Lakewood High School students share a holiday dessert from the Ranger Café culinary program.

Thursday, December 17 – 7 p.m.
Lakewood Chamber of Commerce 4th Grade Scholarship Reading
Scholarship winner will present their “Why I love Lakewood.”

Friday, December 18 – 7 p.m.
Holiday Shopping Showcase
Meet local small businesses as they feature this season’s hottest holiday items.

Saturday, December 19 – 7 p.m.
Holiday Music Presentation

Sunday, December 20 – 7 p.m.
LakewoodAlive Staff Gratitude Feature
Staff members share their gratitude toward the community and their work.

For more information and continued updates, please visit LakewoodAlive.org/LightUpLakewood.

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