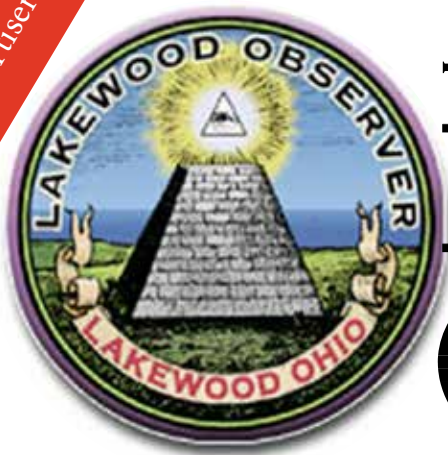


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Volume 17, Issue 8, April 21, 2021

April is Autism Awareness Month  
<https://nationalautismassociation.org/>

photo by Jacob Chabowski



## City Of Lakewood Responds To Violence At Madison Park

from City Hall

On the evening of April 13th, 2021, one person was shot at Madison Park and transported to MetroHealth, where he underwent surgery. Lakewood Police are investigating.

At 6:45 pm on April 13, Lakewood Police received a call indicating gunshots had been fired near the south side of Madison Park. Lakewood Police officers arrived on the scene moments later and discovered an 18-year-old male with two apparent gunshot wounds being attended to by our Division of Parks Security Guard. Lakewood Fire Paramedics arrived to transport the victim to MetroHealth Hospital. Lakewood Police are investigating.

Mayor Meghan George said, "To the victim of this shooting, we wish you a full recovery. Lakewood's Parks are a sacred place to our community and I am heartbroken to have violence like this occur anywhere in our community, but especially at Madison Park."

"To Lakewood's First Responders: Thank you. By all accounts, our Division of Parks security guard's quick reaction saved this victim's life. Our security guard is a retired Cleveland Police detective and was making his rounds last night at Madison Park when the incident occurred. Our security guard immediately called 911 and began administering

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## A Busy Couple Weeks For Lakewood Fire Department

photo by Jacob Chabowski



This was a "typical" call! Most people have no idea how much Lakewood Fire and Police work. While none of it is routine, they train and perform extremely well when put to the test. Thank you Lakewood First Responders for all of your efforts.

## Quick Police Work Sees Shooter And Driver Arrested

by Jim O'Bryan

Two weeks ago shots rang out at Madison Park back by the parking lot. A fight believed to be over a girl escalated to one of the protagonists going to his car and returning with a gun. He shot the other 18-year-old in the chest twice and took off in a car driven by a friend.

While the victim was rushed off to Metro Hospital, law abiding Lakewoodites stood around Madison Park in disbelief.

Outcry was immediate as it had been a couple rough weeks for crime in Lakewood, a city normally known for its community involvement, great



Emmanuel M. Cedeno schools and parks.

While the community organized meetings, the police went to work solving the crime.

By the next morning they had found the owner and

driver of the car that took the shooter away, Corey M. Froberg. He was charged with Complicity to Attempted Murder, a first-degree felony.

The following morning the alleged shooter, Emmanuel M. Cedeno (18 years of age) of the City of Lakewood, was found hiding out at the Holiday Inn in Westlake. He has been charged with Attempted Murder, a First degree felony.

Thank you to everyone at the park that helped with the kids, families and bystanders. And thank you to Lakewood Police and Fire for another job well done.

## It Is Time For Equal, Community-Centered Representation In Lakewood - Laura Rodriguez-Carbone

## Announcing My Candidacy For Lakewood City Council At-Large

by Laura Rodriguez-Carbone

Over the past year, our country has faced insurmountable odds. COVID-19 has underscored the need to refocus on strengthening public health and our economy. The reckoning of racial injustice ingrained in our public systems calls us to walk a path toward equity and belonging for all people in our community.

A world where the COVID-19 pandemic is still present in our landscape leaves us with decisions to make about how to solve some critical issues -- how to prevent and prepare for future public health and economic emergencies, where unemployment and infection from COVID-19 already threaten the lives of our residents -- how to maintain and build confidence and equity into our city's functional objectives and systems as our city moves toward a post-pandemic life where we are more conscious about the disastrous affects of racism, bias and discrimination --how to support, without further job loss, expanded economic growth benefiting all Lakewoodites--and how to give direction to



Laura Rodriguez-Carbone

our collective moral purpose as a city, engaging residents collaboratively in the work and opportunities that lie ahead.

These are among the critical issues of 2021. And it is based on these issues that Lakewood residents must make a choice for their future this fall.

For 20 years, I have been in the service to Lakewood, Northeast Ohio, and to the United States. First as tutor, then as an educator and civil rights advocate for the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights and then leading Community Outreach for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services

and the Federal COVID-19 Response (formerly Operation Warp Speed). I have traveled across the country, working collaboratively among public officials, emergency management agency directors, doctors, public and private transportation providers, researchers, non-profits, healthcare providers, and the community at-large to save lives, minimize the spread of the pandemic, and protect health, access to care and critical services for high-risk patients and seniors. I have served on no less than 21 boards, Task Forces, Coalitions, and Think-Tanks in Northeast Ohio, working to address community issues

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# The Mayor's Corner

## Zero Tolerance For Crime

by Meghan George  
Mayor of Lakewood

As we move through the month of April, I would like to address the unfortunate incidents that have occurred in our community and update you on the measures my administration is implementing to ensure the health and safety of our citizens during this time.

On the evening of April 13th, an 18-year-old male was shot near the south side of Madison Park and transported to MetroHealth Hospital. Our first responders were quick to intervene, with our Division of Parks security guard immediately reacting and both Lakewood Police and Lakewood Fire Paramedics arriving soon after. I hope for a speedy and complete recovery.

Lakewood Police are currently

conducting their investigation of this incident and are implementing measures to ensure that similar incidents do not occur, including increasing patrols throughout the entire community, enhancing and expanding our security cameras, providing seven-day-a-week police presence at Madison Park, and addressing our citizens' fears and trauma through community-wide response initiatives.

Lakewood has a zero-tolerance policy for violent crime. If you possess or try to use illegal firearms or other deadly weapons, you will be caught and prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

Our parks should be a place of community and growth and friendship, not violence. We are fully committed to take whatever measures

are necessary to put an end to the increase in crime we have seen in recent months. I, Lakewood's Police Department and Fire Department, and the rest of my administration are working diligently to ensure your safety and the integrity of our community. I would like to remind our residents that if you see anything that you are suspicious of, please call the Lakewood Police non-emergency number at 216-521-6773 or 911 in the case of an emergency.

I am grateful for the trust you have put in us. Lakewood is our home, and we will not rest until we have exhausted every avenue to prevent events like these from occurring in Lakewood. These events do not define Lakewood, and our residents' have proven that our resolve will guide us out of this difficult time and, ultimately, create a stronger Lakewood.



## City Of Lakewood Responds To Violence At Madison Park

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first aid to the shooting victim until Lakewood Police and Fire EMS arrived. Our Police Department also reacted quickly and continues to investigate this crime. I was on-hand at the police station for hours last night, as leads were worked through and progress was made on the investigation. That work is not only important in providing justice for this victim, but in providing safety and restoring security for our Lakewood community.”

“To the criminals bringing this violence to our community, a warning: Lakewood is not a place for violent criminals. If you have or use illegal firearms in Lakewood, we will prosecute to the fullest extent the law allows. Our Police are in our parks right now and they will continue to be there. Our Police are patrolling Lakewood. We are ready.”

“To the Lakewood community, a commitment: While there is no absolute way to prevent random acts of violence, I have made it clear to our Police Department that Lakewood is not a place for criminals to come with their guns and settle disagreements. Lakewood is our home and our expertly trained Police Department will protect it.”

“The measures we are taking in response to recent violence in our community are the following:

**Increasing patrols,** across the

community and in the parks, specifically in Madison Park, in response to other incidents. There were two officers in the area of Madison Park in the hour before the incident.

**Deploying** a dedicated police presence at Madison Park seven days a week during peak hours to monitor activity, deter any visitors with ill intent, and provide immediate response should any situation arise.

**Enhancing security cameras** throughout the City, where appropriate, to assist our police officers in responding, apprehending, and prosecuting criminals. Our cameras have been essential in apprehending suspects in other recent gun violence.

**Addressing the trauma** caused by these recent incidents via community-wide response efforts.”

Police Chief Kevin Kauchek added, “The Lakewood Police Department is grateful for the cooperation of the community in resolving the recent spate of gun violence that has spilled into Lakewood. As we have always said, if you see something that seems out of place, please call the Lakewood Police non-emergency number at 216-521-6773 to have an officer dispatched, or in an emergency dial 911.”

Lakewood Police Department is staffed by sworn officers who are experts in Crisis Intervention Training and other techniques to reduce the

necessity for use of force. Since 2015, major violent crime has been decreasing annually in Lakewood.

Mayor George added, “The Police Department and I look forward to working with the community and City Council in using all the tools available to us to prioritize public safety. Lakewood, similar to regional and national trends, has seen an increase in gun-related crimes. We are committed to getting and keeping guns out of our parks and off our streets.”



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fax: 216-521-9518

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FRIDAY: NOON - 10PM

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Upcoming Submission Deadline

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# Skin testing can identify sources of allergies.



**DeVon Preston, MD**  
Cleveland Clinic  
Lakewood Family Health Center

As the weather warms up, so do allergies triggered by environmental allergens like tree, grass and weed pollen.

“About 1 in 6 Americans suffer

from allergies caused by their immune system reacting to a substance it views as harmful. Symptoms like itchy, watery eyes and runny noses caused by environmental allergens including pollen, animal dander, dust mites or mold are the most common reason we see people in allergy clinic,” says DeVon Preston, MD, an allergy/immunology specialist who treats patients at Cleveland Clinic Lakewood Family Health Center.

A visit to an allergist/immunologist is recommended if allergy symptoms persist for more than a week or two despite the use of over-the-counter medications including antihistamines and nasal spray.

“Following a complete medical history, we

conduct a skin or scratch test by applying extracts of different allergens to an area of the patient’s skin, typically on their back. Using a device that pricks the skin, we introduce the allergens. If the patient has allergies, we’ll see a reaction within 15 minutes. Those reactions appear in the form of a red, itchy bump similar to a mosquito bite or hive,” says Dr. Preston.

Once allergies are identified, a treatment plan that includes a combination of medications and avoidance measures can be formulated to control symptoms. If this approach isn’t successful, allergen immunotherapy is another option. Allergies can’t be cured, but immunotherapy is the closest thing to it. Patients are injected with small doses of an allergen, with the dose increasing over time, to teach their immune system to tolerate the allergen.

*To schedule an appointment with Dr. Preston or another Cleveland Clinic allergy/immunology specialist, call 216.444.6503.*



# Cleveland Clinic Eye Care in Lakewood.



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Cleveland Clinic  
Medical Outpatient Center

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- Medical eye exams, including diabetic eye exams
- Care for irritated, red, and painful eyes



**Weston Tuten, OD**  
Cleveland Clinic  
Medical Outpatient Center

While COVID-19 is still in our communities, the safety of our patients

and caregivers remains our top priority, and we continue to:

- Limit and screen patients and visitors through temperatures checks and thermal scanning.
- Conduct extensive cleaning of our facilities with EPA-approved disinfectant products.
- Require masks for routine appointments/procedures for all patients, visitors and caregivers, even if they’ve received a COVID-19 vaccine.

Dr. Bingham see patients 13 and older and Dr. Tuten see patients 6 and older at Cleveland Clinic Medical Outpatient Center, 16215 Madison Avenue, in Lakewood.

*To schedule an appointment with Dr. Bingham or Dr. Tuten, call 216.237.5888. Virtual Visits may be an option.*

# Pieces of Hope for Autism

In honor of National Autism Awareness Month, the 46 Panera Bread bakery-cafes in Northeast Ohio are hosting the annual “Pieces of Hope for Autism” campaign.

From Monday, April 12, through Friday, April 30, proceeds from each puzzle piece cookie sold will be donated to Cleveland Clinic Children’s Center for Autism.

*Puzzle piece shortbread cookies can be purchased in the Cleveland, Akron and Canton area Panera Bread bakery-cafes or preordered online at [panerabread.com](https://panerabread.com) or on the app.*

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City Of Lakewood

Approach To Violence In Lakewood:  
Intersectional & Holistic Safety Approaches  
From Council Members Kepple, Neff And Shachner

The following communication was submitted to  
Lakewood City Council on April 19, 2021

Dear Colleagues,

Recently, a confluence of events and circumstances has led many community members to express fears about their safety. We too share your concerns and feel the anxiety associated with the recent violent crimes. We hear and share worries over rising gun violence, vehicle thefts and car jackings, harassment and violence against women, racial violence and health inequities, substance abuse, and speeding and reckless driving. Research indicates that many of these crimes and behaviors are interconnected and have been exacerbated across the nation by the stress and economic hardship of the COVID-19 pandemic, yet we cannot rely on the reduction of COVID to diminish them. We must be proactive and forward thinking. While these safety issues may not be unique

to Lakewood, our response to them can and should be unique and rooted in our community's values. As we look toward a post-pandemic future, we recommend the following intersectional, preventative measures to augment the work of our traditional safety forces and ensure the safety of all Lakewood residents, workers, and visitors.

1. We recommend the formation of an Intersectional Safety Task Force, or Safety 360 Task Force, made up of diverse members of the Lakewood community with a combination of lived experience, social services knowledge, mental health training, anti-racist expertise, and public safety background to engage with City leadership including the Police, Fire, Human Services and Planning Departments to consider safety from a holistic lens together and to recommend preventative and proactive measures that Lakewood can take such as education and awareness campaigns, hiring personnel such as a separate Public Safety Director, community stewards, or park ambassadors.

2. Consider use of American Rescue Plan Funds to implement research-based gun violence prevention strategies such as those suggested by the research of Everytown for Gun Safety including street outreach programs, group violence intervention, and community-driven crime prevention through environmental design. The environmental design strategy combined with street outreach programs are particularly promising approaches to reclaim our parks as gun-violence free zones. In fact, Councilmembers Tess Neff and Sarah Kepple have spent the last three weeks in conversation with members of the administration and community regarding implementing similar strategies.

3. Schedule regular opportunities for the Administration, Division Directors and Chiefs to update Council about concerns, achievements, and requests for support regarding safety.

Safety is a broad and deep-reaching concern affecting all Lakewood community members, including, but not limited to, residents, business owners, City safety forces and human services, Council, and the Administration. We therefore request that this communication be referred to the Committee of the Whole, the Anti-Racism Task Force, and any other relevant groups so as to invite the most inclusive input and discussion.

Sincerely,  
Councilmember At-Large, Sarah Kepple, Councilmember Ward 2, Jason Shachner, Councilmember Ward 1, Tess Neff

City Public Art Funding Available

by Ian Andrews

The City of Lakewood is providing up to \$5,000 for artists to be matched with businesses and building owners to install permanent murals and up to \$2,500 for temporary lighting installations that help activate spaces. Applications are due no later than April 29.

The application is very simple and the city already has artists signed up and ready to work with businesses and building owners . All you have to do is take a photo of the wall on your building that you'd like to see a mural, fill out a few questions on page 3 of the application app and send that with the photo to City Architect Allison Hennie at [allison.hennie@lakewoodoh.net](mailto:allison.hennie@lakewoodoh.net). You can also call Allison with questions at 216-529-7679. If you are do not own your building, you can still apply! You simply need permission from the building owner.

Once you send your info, the city will work to help pair you with an artist to then work together to craft a vision for public art at your space.

All details and info are located here: <http://www.onelakewood.com/publicart/>

Thanks to the administration and council for investing in public art. Please consider taking advantage of this program!

It Is Time For Equal, Community-Centered Representation  
In Lakewood - Laura Rodriguez-Carbone

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surrounding hunger, job readiness, health and nutrition, anti-racism, education, and public transportation.

Racial justice protests have brought forward a sobering and needed dialogue about race, inequity, and the need to improve authentic and full inclusion of residents of color into the fabric of our community. We cannot do this without representation for people of color on city council. I believe that Lakewood voters have a historic and critical function to perform in the 2021 fall election, as the decisions made in the next 4 years will be among the most important in our city's history. It is with this in mind that I begin my campaign to represent you as the first woman/person of color on Lakewood City Council. I am asking for your support and your vote as we work together toward a Lakewood that is more accessible, more secure, and more inclusive of the needs of all its residents.


I would be honored to have your support and input. You can learn more about me and join our campaign at [www.lauraforlakewood.com](http://www.lauraforlakewood.com).

Laura Rodriguez-Carbone is a first generation Hispanic Ameri-

can and is a candidate for Lakewood City Council, At-Large in 2021. She is currently Co-Chair of Lakewood's Anti-Racism Task Force and part of the Board of Directors for the Fedor Manor Senior Living Community. Laura is the Midwest Regional Health Leader for the Federal COVID-19 Response (Formerly Operation Warp Speed) working to increase equity of representation in treatments for COVID-19 in communities of color.

She and her husband, Christopher have been residents of Lakewood for five years and own their home on McKinley Avenue.

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# Inside City Council

by Jason Shachner, Ward 2 Councilmember

## April 5th City Council Meeting Rundown

Lakewood will be receiving \$50.29 million in emergency funding from the American Rescue Plan signed by President Biden last month. We will discuss the possible uses for these funds at a future Finance Committee meeting. I am interested to know if these funds can be used for such things as mitigating the necessary future water rate hikes per our Integrated Wet Weather Improvement Plan, providing rent or down payment assistance, and providing home improvement assistance.

**Director of Planning & Development** Shawn Leininger, on behalf of the Administration, requested that Council formalize the Public Art Task Force as the Public Art Advisory Board. The Public Art Task Force was established in 2015 and subsequently provided guidance on the City’s public art strategy which resulted in the Spectacular Vernacular Public Art Program, numerous partnerships with local organizations, and the incorporation of public art in our facilities, parks, and streetscape projects. Formalizing the Public Art Task Force will ensure that we are able to continue to sustain the City’s public art program.

**Mayor George** informed Council that NOPEC awarded Lakewood \$147,149 in grant funds to assist us in achieving greater energy efficiency and to expand energy infrastructure. We have previously used funds from NOPEC to replace streetlights with energy-efficient LED lights. A portion of these funds are from the Community Event Sponsorship Program and such funds will be provided to LakewoodAlive to support its Front Porch Concert Series.

## Curtis Block Building Roof Repair

The City awarded Sibley Inc. a \$40,000 contract to repair the roof of the Curtis Block Building. The contract is to be paid out of the Economic Development Fund. This necessary repair should slow the water infiltration, while the City continues to work with stakeholders to determine the best way to preserve the building. The City is currently

working with CASTO regarding the building’s preservation, with the goal of preserving the building in its entirety.

## El Arepazo Latino

It looks like the former Burgers 2 Beer location on Detroit Ave. is not going to be vacant any longer! El Arepazo Latino is planning to serve a mix of Latin foods starting at the end of May. To learn more, please read the recent Cleveland Scene article at <https://tinyurl.com/6m28ewpn>. I am excited to welcome this new addition to our community.

## Kauffman Park Upgrades

The Planning and Development Department notified City Council that Cuyahoga County awarded the City a \$50,000 Community Development Supplemental Grant to be used for Kauffman Park upgrades! This grant will be used to pay for a portion of the water pump feature and the picnic shelter. The Planning and Development Department has worked closely with the community for years and was excited to announce that construction of the new additions to Kauffman Park should begin this summer. The new additions include:

- replacement and relocation of the playground equipment, adding nature play elements;
- adding a water play feature (hand pumps and channels);
- adding a new picnic shelter;
- repurposing the grass blade decorative bike racks;
- adding a new 6ft asphalt path around the play area with pedestrian scale lighting;
- looping the existing water line to improve function; and
- replacing the asphalt path into the park from the parking lot with an ADA compliant concrete pathway.

Thank you to the Planning and Development Department staff and community members that made this all possible!

## Madison Park

I was saddened, horrified, and furious to learn that another shooting occurred at Madison Park. Many of you have contacted me to share your con-

cerns, fears, and recommendations on how to ensure that Lakewood remains a place where all feel welcomed and safe - thank you. I am heartened by the influx of engagement that has resulted from these events and am taking the time to carefully consider each and every recommendation I have received from community members.


I do not support the permanent removal of the basketball hoops as a solution to the recent criminal activity, as I have repeatedly stated. I have yet to be presented or find any evidence that there is a causal link between basketball courts and criminal activity, in general. Last week, Mayor George notified members of Council that it was Chief Kauchek’s recommendation to temporarily remove the hoops. Mayor George shared the facts and circumstances behind this decision, and I found her explanation reasonable and appropriate. Unfortunately, I cannot yet share the reasoning behind this

decision because it could jeopardize an ongoing investigation. I respectfully ask for your patience as the investigation continues and I am confident that, when appropriate, Mayor George will share why this decision was made.

Safety is at the very foundation of what makes Lakewood a place that we love and why so many aspire to live here. Councilmembers Sarah Kipple, Tess Neff, and I have submitted a communication to Council outlining how we would like to see this issue approached. You can find the communication at <https://tinyurl.com/pv3jshpw>.

**Jason Shachner is the Ward 2 Lakewood City Councilmember. He is currently serving as an Assistant Prosecuting Attorney in the Lake County Prosecutor's Offices' Criminal Division. He can be reached at Jason.Shachner@lakewoodoh.net or at (216) 714-2150.**

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# Lakewood Education

## Lakewood High School Mock Trial 2021

by Amelia Leonard and Dan Shields

This spring the Lakewood High School Mock Trial team competed in the District competition sponsored by the Ohio Center for Law Related Education (OCLRE). The trial case for this year was State of Buckeye v. Micah Opressa. The issue was whether or not Opressa could withdraw a guilty plea in the case from a year earlier due to misconduct on the part of the prosecution.

All in all the students worked hard for over three months, on their own, to prepare for this competition. They overcame a number of challenges to perform and thoroughly impressed the judges in both competitions.

For the first trial, the Defense team was led by Attorneys Cameron Werek (co-captain, 9th) and Jana Evans (9th), with Emily Jarecke (9th) playing the role as the defendant Micah Opressa, and Leah Campbell (co-captain, 9th)

playing the role as defense witness Corey Abrams. The second trial was conducted by Attorneys Grace Lamparyk (10th) and Meredith Wheeler (10th) for the Prosecution, with witnesses Alexandra Hodson (10th) as Prosecutor Justice Okafor and Mimi Nee (9th) as Detective River Foley. The bailiff and timekeeper for the 2021 LHS team was Sofia Rivera-Bitner (10th), who juggled both roles successfully for both trials.

This year the team was led by first year faculty advisor Mr. Joe Lobozzo, who worked tirelessly to assemble the team and coordinate with OCLRE. The Lakewood team had a very strong showing in both of their trials, scoring well against each school. Amelia Leonard, one of the attorney advisors, said "the students did an amazing job, not only by forming their own team, but by

conducting a completely different type of trial. Like their counterparts in the justice system, the mock trial program was completely online, with the judges, students, and advisors all working virtually. Our Lakewood students really stepped up to compete in this new environment."

Dan Shields, another legal advisor, added "this was so different than any other year. Not only was the competition virtual, but we had a very young team, as all of our 2020 team members had graduated. We are very excited for the future of the LHS Mock Trial, as we will have a young but experienced team for next season."

Mock Trial is open to all high school students, and we welcome 8th graders who will be freshman at LHS this fall. Mock Trial begins in October.

## Dr.G's Lakewood Rangers' Baseball Round-Up

by Dr. Charles Greenoff

**Wed April 14**

Lakewood Baseball (7-2, 5-1 GLC) sweeps Parma 17-6, 9-3. Mason Ivinskas and Will Hyatt winning pitchers. Jameson Supinski with HR, multiple extra base hits and many RBI. Supinski's HR, and inside the park effort, came at a crucial time for the Rangers in game two, helping regain momentum. Great team effort today. Carlos Cintron played two excellent games at short, David Coleman got two hits in one inning, and Collin McCrone and Sully Stoits pitched well in relief

**Sun April 11**

Every baseball game has a different rhythm. The 8-6 win by the Lakewood Ranger Baseball Team (5-2, 3-1 GLC)

over North Olmsted was all about pitching, with senior Hubert Carlin notching the win (4 innings, 2 earned runs) in his first career start. Junior Lucas Winters threw 1 1/3 innings in his first appearance of the year (1 run) and sophomore Sully Stoits closed for the Rangers, allowing 2 runs in an inning and 2/3. neither earned. Weekend non-league contests are won—or lost—in large part by pitchers that aren't among the top two or three on the staff. Each of these guys came through today—and Sully also chipped in with an RBI hit. Sophomore Lucas Jablonowski had the key hit that helped the Rangers.

It was a good day for Ranger Baseball, as the JV and Freshmen also won. The program is strong.

## District Earns Best Communities For Music Education Award

by Christine Gordillo

Lakewood City Schools has once again earned the Best Communities for Music Education designation from The NAMM Foundation for its outstanding commitment to music education and support from the Lakewood community. Lakewood is one of 686 districts from across the country and only 46 in Ohio to earn the prestigious award.

The Best Communities for Music Education (BCME) recognizes outstanding efforts of teachers, administrators, parents, students and community leaders who are making music part of a well-rounded education for every child in their communities. The District answered detailed questions about funding, graduation requirements, music class participation, instruction time, facilities, and sup-

port for the music program. This year there were also questions about how our staff adapted instruction during remote instruction due to the pandemic.

This award recognizes that Lakewood City Schools is leading the way with music learning opportunities for all grades and that our Board of Education and community are committed to continuing the excellent legacy of music education in our schools.

"We are thrilled to continue to receive this honor each year. It is a reflection of the dedication and talent of our music teachers as well as the passionate support of our Music Boosters and the Lakewood community, which has always highly valued the arts and our music program," said Superintendent Mike Barnes.

## LHS Students Sweep Rotary/Beck Speech Awards

by Christine Gordillo

Lakewood High juniors swept the top four spots of the Speech category in the 76th annual Rotary Club of Lakewood & Rocky River Speech, Music, and Visual Arts Contests sponsored by the Beck Center for the Arts. Leading the way for the talented talkers was Eva Strazek, who earned \$700 and moved on to compete in the District competition April 10. Rounding out the top four contestants were Andre Hallenburg (\$500), Abby Hirsch (\$300) and Sidney Bacon (\$250).

Contest participants are students from the five Lakewood and Rocky River high schools including Lakewood High School, Lutheran High School West, Magnificat High School, Rocky

River High School, and St. Edward High School. The speech contestants were asked apply the principles of Rotary international's Four Way Test to a current ethical issue. Students are challenged to identify a topic they feel passionate about and to adopt a point of view from which they will seek to persuade others. The Four Way Test includes the questions:

Is it the truth?  
Is it fair to all concerned?  
Will it build goodwill and better friendships?  
Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

Great job by all the contest participants!



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# Lakewood Education

## Outstanding Career-Tech Students Recognized

by Christine Gordillo

Congratulations to the 14 West Shore Career-Tech students that were recognized in an April 15 ceremony as the Lakewood/Rocky River Rotary Outstanding Students for 2021. Each of these students were chosen for their exemplary accomplishments in the classroom, school activities, clubs, athletics and service in the community. Each student exemplifies traits of leadership, dedication, responsibility, caring, community involvement, and initiative.

West Shore Coordinator, Bill DiMascio praised the students, say-

ing, “This year has been a year like no other in our lifetimes and in education. To be named as an "Outstanding Student" this year says just a little more about you as a student and a person. You are able to adapt and overcome. So many in our community, state, and nation are in need. I hope you will use your talents--your ability to rise above adversity to help and serve others. Look for opportunities to serve others in your future educational experiences, careers, and communities. We need you to continue to be "outstanding"! We are so proud of you!”

### This year’s recipients are:

- Auto Technology: Ryan Duffy, Bay High School
- Construction Trades: Matt Dacek, Bay High School
- Culinary Arts: Madison Lacquement, Lakewood High School
- Early Childhood Education: Ella Villafane, Lakewood High School
- Electronic Engineering: Mason Orlando, Lakewood High School
- Engineering/PLTW: Aidan Erway, Lakewood High School
- GFS: Jacqueline Underman, Westlake High School
- Health Careers: Hay Nay Lwi, Lakewood High School
- Media Art & Design: Gabby Toms, Lakewood High School
- Medical Office Management: Shamsa Abdullah, Lakewood High School
- Networking: Sean McHugh, Lakewood High School
- Sports & Exercise Science: Muzafar Ali, Lakewood High School
- Theatre Arts: Sarah Whitkofski, Lakewood High School
- Wyndham: Tomaserin Larocque, Lakewood High School

## It's Déjà Vu All Over Again

by Bob Soltys

As Covid-19 ravaged the world this time last year and physicians and scientists urged us to wear masks and to keep at least six feet away from others, conspiracy theories and misinformation abounded. A year and over 500,000 American deaths later, it’s déjà vu all over again as many people hesitate to get vaccinated against Covid-19 because they’ve heard it will damage their DNA.

The vaccines do not use DNA (Deoxyribonucleic Acid) and they do not affect or damage DNA. The Covid-19 vaccines use fragments of mRNA (messenger Ribonucleic Acid), which is not DNA. The mRNA fragments in the vaccines stimulate our bodies’ immune systems to develop antibodies against the Covid-19 virus because those are genetically identical to the mRNA in Covid-19. Those antibodies will remember how to fight the virus if we are infected in the future.

Another objection to getting vaccinated is that stem cells are used in the vaccines. However, while the Johnson & Johnson Covid-19 vaccine was produced by growing the virus in fetal cells during vaccine development and manufacturing using the PER.C6 line, the vaccines themselves do not contain stem cells or pieces of DNA. The vaccines produced by Pfizer and Moderna did not use a fetal cell line to produce or manufacture the vaccine.

Other objections include claims that “Covid/Coronavirus has been around for 90 years” and “90 percent of people recover from Covid.”

Frank Esper, M.D., a pediatric infectious disease specialist at

the Cleveland Clinic, observed that although coronaviruses have been around for centuries, only two groups of them – alpha coronaviruses and beta coronaviruses - infect human beings. The other two groups do not infect human beings.

According to an article in the American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, Covid-19 evolved from a beta coronavirus and is among the deadliest infectious diseases to have emerged in recent history. See Am. J. Trop. Med. Hyg. 2020 September 103(3): 955-959. Thus, while the broader group of coronaviruses has been around for hundreds of years, Covid-19 is a specific virus that has not been around for 90 or more years, and its threat to us is real. Finally, not everyone recovers from Covid-19, and even those who do or who do not have symptoms can transmit the virus to other people. Some of those other people may not recover.

While some people who received the Johnson and Johnson vaccine developed blood clots, as of this writing on April 14, we don’t know what caused those blood clots. And there are two other vaccines against Covid-19.

As Yogi Berra said, “It ain’t over till it’s over.” For the pandemic to be over, all of us must do our part. In addition to wearing a mask and keeping a safe physical distance, getting vaccinated against Covid-19 is doing your part to make this pandemic be over.

**A former Navy officer, Bob Soltys earned a degree in biology from Indiana University. He divides his time between Lakewood and Paris.**



## Superintendent Barnes' Message On Incident At Madison Park

April 14, 2021

### Dear Families:

As many of you already know, last evening there was a shooting incident at Madison Park that happened at a time when many of our students were there enjoying the park with their families or practicing with their teams. We are extremely thankful that nobody besides the gunshot victim was hurt. Thank you to the adults present who helped move the children to safety.

We know that this is a traumatizing event for those who were at the park and to a lesser degree for those of us in the community as well. If you think you or your child need to speak with someone to process what happened, please reach out to your building principal and he or she can connect you with the Bellefaire JCB, Ohio Guidestone or Cleveland Clinic therapists that are in the building or one of our own school counselors/psychologist trained in crisis response. Listed below and in the files attached are some resources that may be helpful for your family. The Mental Health section of our Family Hub on the District website will continue to be updated.

As we have always done, we will work closely with the City of Lakewood and the Lakewood Police Department moving forward to keep our students safe and our community secure.

**Respectfully,  
Mike Barnes  
Superintendent**

### RESOURCES:

**National Child Traumatic Stress Network:**

**Helping Youth After Recent Shooting  
Age-Related Reactions to a Traumatic Event**



## Giant Inflatable Flowers Take Over Lakewood

by Andrea Wedren

Hope Blooms Ohio is a creative marketing campaign developed by the Beachwood High School Marketing/Junior Achievement students to inspire hope and uplift our local and global communities through a pop art installation featuring five 20-30’ inflatable flowers that encourages visitors to walk through the inflatable garden.

In addition to the inflatable flowers, a 10'H x 15'W inflatable backdrop provides a colorful backdrop for photographs. Each location has 200 die-cut signs that represent each flower and visitors are encouraged to take the yard signs home with them to continue to spread HOPE.

Previous locations included Cleveland Public Square, Beachwood High

School, Mayfield High School and Chagrin Falls.

The challenge for the class this year was to come up with a program that could safely be planned and implemented, keeping social distancing and at-home learning in mind. The marketing students worked with David Scherba, the owner of Inflatable Images. Located in Brunswick, Ohio, Inflatable Images designed and manufactured the flowers. The name of each flower represents the mission of Hope Blooms Ohio: Unity, Love, Health, Blossom, Inspire, and Joy.

Communities that are interested in hosting Hope Blooms Ohio can contact Greg Perry at gwp@beachwoodschools.org



Lakewood Cares

# Ready To Start Your Quit And Begin Your Life?

by Mary O'Donnell

There are always hard life decisions that have to be made throughout life. Making the decision to quit smoking and vaping for good is a tough one to make. There are many reasons to quit such as the impact that it has on your body and the impact on your pockets. Not only is it bad for your health but it is very financially draining which could be a reason to quit. But taking that first step is crucial to succeeding in goals such as this.

Tobacco companies want to get people addicted to their product, especially teenagers. They want to hook teenagers to get long term customers so they advertise these products to make consumers more likely to buy their products. By producing colorful packaging, different flavors, and good advertising on many different platforms like social media it intrigues the younger generation. This is the main reason why teens start using tobacco. Teens' brains are not done fully developing so it has a greater impact on these young users, even worsening their anxiety. The dopamine that is released when using nicotine is what makes people crave more. Nicotine has a great impact on learning and memory since not only does it affect the brain, but it affects your lungs by making it difficult to breathe. With people that already have respiratory problems vaping could make it worse and affect your

lungs sooner than later in life. Looking at all the negative consequences that come from starting to vape you should think before taking that first hit.

There are many hardships that come along with your journey of quitting. The media reports began to appear about people, especially our youth, being hospitalized with serious lung disease which is caused by vaping. While we know it is hard to go cold turkey there's ways to step in the right

direction, so let's approach it from a different standpoint. The vape device itself is dangerous to the user, these appliances overheat and explode which has resulted in serious injuries to all users. Alongside that your loose batteries that aren't separated from other metals like coins or keys corrupt the device from the inside. Then replacing the batteries if they experience water damage is more money out of your pocket. Lastly, teens charge their

vape with any charger nearby which can also damage the vape. This leads to malfunctions which end teenagers up at the medical care center!

We all enjoy different journeys throughout life but the journey of using tobacco products must come to an end! If you don't realize you're doing more harm than good than maybe some brief ideas could convince you to stop. For instance non-smokers will be more interested in going on a date with you. More seriously, you can begin to protect your brain, lungs and every other organ in your body! Also, it's a money saver since you could save up to \$600 a year. You won't need to hide it from your parents, teachers or boss. Other factors to take under consideration include you won't smell like smoke, be hooked for life, feel as stressed, and labeled as a smoker.

All it takes is some motivation and the right mindset to really be committed to quitting so now you must be asking, "How do I start?" Lucky for you we have the tools to help you succeed during this journey. Taking the time to start My Life, My Quit could transcend your life and change your habits for the better. This free, non-judgemental support team is here for you and you only! Join the thousands of teens that have started and don't regret a moment of it. You can text "Start My Quit" to 36072, or call and chat with your coach at 855.891.9989 for emotional support throughout your quit!



Mary O'Donnell, Hay Nay Lwi, Noreen Kyle

## The Effects Of Nicotine On The Teenage Brain

by Hay Nay Lwi

We are seniors in the West Shore Health Careers Program at Lakewood High School. We are writing to educate and inform teens about the harmful effects of vaping on the development of the teenage brain. In December 2018, the U.S. Surgeon General declared youth vaping an "epidemic." So what may seem like a once-in-a-lifetime decision will affect your body and

brain permanently. As a teenager you finally have some freedom or control over life, you can make decisions for yourself, but sometimes those decisions will leave a long-lasting impact on your body. As vaping has become more and more popular in youth, we have been seeing negative long-term effects on the developing teen brain.

While nicotine may feel good at the moment, long term it negatively

affects your body. Your brain becomes hooked and addicted leading to the use of more serious drugs in the future. Once you are addicted your mood and personality may start to change. You may be cranky or stressed because your brain is craving that sweet taste of nicotine while the rest of your body is screaming for help. Nicotine has mood-altering effects that can temporarily mask the negative symptoms of mental illness, putting people with mental illness at higher risk for cigarette use and nicotine addiction.

The brain doesn't fully develop until the mid-late '20s. This means during those years the brain is more vulnerable and it can be affected by many things including smoking/vaping. Smoking during adolescent years increases the risk of developing cognitive impairment and psychiatric disorders later on in life. These risks also include nicotine addiction, mood disorders, and permanent lowering of impulse control. Gaps between the nerve cells are called synapses. Nicotine also changes the way they are formed, which can harm the parts of the brain that control attention and learning. Nicotine causes cells to release dopamine which travels across the synapses. When the dopamine is transferred it gives the users a feel-good high feeling. After repeated exposure to nicotine, the brain cells change and its effects reduce the body's ability to release its own natural pleasure-giving chemicals. It pretends to be one of the

brain's natural chemicals that regulates our mood and body by fitting into our brain receptors. So basically, nicotine just plays tricks on your brain.

Thinking about quitting now? My Life My Quit is a free program that offers teenagers such as you or someone you may know that wants to quit smoking/vaping. This program provides one-to-one help to quit. It is free and confidential and it helps you live the life you want. Start by texting "Start My Quit" to 3072 or call 855.891.9989. You can also go on the website and chat with a coach. It's not too late to start quitting. Quit now before it's too late!

## TODAY Could Be The First Day Of Your Smoke-Free Life

by Noreen Kyle

The time for adult tobacco users to quit smoking is now. In 2016, 1.26 million adult Ohioans were current smokers. Tobacco use can significantly weaken an individual's immune system, allowing them to become more vulnerable to illness and disease. In light of COVID-19, public health research has indicated that individuals that use tobacco are at a higher risk of experiencing severe COVID-19 symptoms due to the decrease in immunity and potential damage to the upper respiratory airways.

For adults that are ready to make a change to quit smoking, free help is available. The Ohio Tobacco Quit Line is a free and confidential telephone service that provides coaching and support to all Ohioans at least 18 years or older that want to quit tobacco. Enrolled participants can receive up to

eight weeks of nicotine replacement therapy (NRT), if desired. Telephone counseling, web-based chat, and text-messaging are available for enrollees.

Adults who are looking to kick-start a healthier tomorrow can enroll today at 1-800-QUIT-NOW.

The Westshore Enforcement Bureau (WEB) and the Westshore Young Leaders Network (WYLN) is a local drug task force focused on improving the health and wellness of community members in the six western suburbs of Cuyahoga County.

*Noreen Kyle is a School Prevention and Education Specialist for the Westshore Enforcement Bureau. The Westshore Young Leaders Network is dedicated to implementing strategies aimed at preventing and reducing youth substance use while encouraging healthy life choices in the Westshore Communities.*

Reviews Of Recent Releases By Local Bands, Pt. 114

continued from page 9

he's doing and also that he hasn't just lost his touch or something). That can't be found here, however. This sounds like a warmup rather than the actual content. And another thing: I looked up 'Ley Lines Bandcamp' to get the correct URL to put here and I couldn't even find it because too many other things came up with that or a similar name; I actually had to type out the title of this thing to find the right page. There's a saxophonist credited on here but I couldn't make out any saxophone on here. What gives? 1/5 (sonnedecker.bandcamp.com)



# Lakewood Is Art And More

## Praise Bob Petric: Reviews Of Recent Releases By Local Bands, Pt. 114

by Buzz Kompier

**Ley Lines - This Rock In My Kitchen Used To Have A Purpose - Sonnedecker Records - 3 songs - cassette, digital**

As I've openly admitted before, I'm not a huge fan of freeform improvisational music for the most part (a category which Ley Lines definitely falls under), but I can appreciate it when it's well done and has some evidence of care put into it (see my review of Leaking from about a month ago—a group which also features Ley Lines' guitarist Noah Depew). This is not that. "Screen Damage" is aimless noodling for an aimless amount of time and goes absolutely nowhere. I would say that "Non-Essential" lives up to its title other than that would be the kind of tired joke people probably expect of me and that it's actually the most interesting track here. It's a very quiet one, with a vaguely eerie vibe provided by a far away noise that kind of sounds like a church bell but eventually turns out to be a guitar. There's a brief moment as well where there's a metallic rattling noise that sounds like a pull chain being dragged around a bowl. Those mildly interesting details aside, it also goes on far too long and nothing happens in it. "Peer-to-Peer Performance" is more undefined wandering that takes forever to start and even then you can barely call it a start. Eventually, something resembling music creeps in, with Noah playing a repetitive two-chord progression accented by Jayson

Gerycz rolling the cymbals. Before this can build into anything cool, however, Jayson goes off into his own world again with little regard for any kind of structure or even interplay between musicians and the whole thing just devolves again—and that's the real problem here. For something like this to work well, there really has to be some aural evidence to the listener that the musicians are working together towards something, even if it is free improvisation. I don't hear it here. Both Noah and Jayson come up with some interesting things here and there on this tape, but instead of playing off one another it largely sounds like they're each only listening to themselves. I don't question either of their skills as musicians— as show-offy as I may find Jayson's playing to be, I would never deny that he's a very good drummer. And Noah is an excellent musician as well— given what I've seen and heard him play on a variety of instruments and in a variety of contexts over the years, I think that's absolutely unquestionable. He's really, really good. However, none of that comes through in this project. And maybe what's most weird about it to me is that both of them are definitely capable of making interesting music in the free-form improvisational context— I've seen both of them do it (and again, read my Leaking review for recent evidence that I do genuinely believe Noah knows what

continued on page 8

## Letter To The Editor Traffic Noise In Lakewood

by Tony Bruzas

The city of Lakewood has a lot to offer its residents. Good schools, beautiful parks, excellent library, great city services, vibrant downtown, wonderful restaurant scene, the list goes on. These things make Lakewood a desirable place to live and create a good quality of life. However, that good quality of life has been diminished in recent years by excessive traffic noise.

Illegal and defective exhaust systems on cars, trucks and motorcycles have increased dramatically over the last few years and have reached a point where it has become a nuisance at best and a health hazard at worst. In 2011, the World Health Organization released a report titled, "Burden of Disease from Environmental Noise" "The authors concluded that 'there is overwhelming evidence that exposure to environmental noise has adverse effects on the health of the population' and ranked traffic noise second among environmental threats to public health (the first being air pollution). The authors also noted that while other forms of pollution are decreasing, noise pollution is increasing.

How does it affect your health? The Australian Academy of Science reports that, "Exposure to prolonged

or excessive noise has been shown to cause a range of health problems ranging from stress, poor concentration, productivity losses in the workplace, and communication difficulties and fatigue from lack of sleep, to more serious issues such as cardiovascular disease, cognitive impairment, tinnitus and hearing loss."

Health issues aside, excessive noise has a direct effect on property values and is the number one reason people cite as a reason to move.

We live in a population dense city that has a lot of traffic so some noise is to be expected. It is the illegal and defective exhaust systems that are exacerbating the problem. Sound data taken on Clifton Boulevard in August of 2019 shows that a vehicle with a defective or illegal exhaust system drove by an average of once every 10 minutes. The result is a cacophony that makes simple things like holding a conversation difficult if not impossible.

Would you like to improve the quality of life in Lakewood? Contact the mayor or Lakewood City Council and request that they do something about it.

*Tony Bruzas has been an engineer at the NASA Glenn Research Center for 20+ years and a Lakewood resident for 10 years.*



President Joe Biden with Senator Nickie Antonio (D-Lakewood) in 2018.

## Senator Antonio Shares American Rescue Plan Details

by Nickie Antonio

Over the course of the Covid-19 pandemic, lives have become upended as businesses, schools, and state and local governments have lost revenue for vital programs in our community. However, I am pleased to announce that as of March 11th, help is on the way thanks to the American Rescue Plan. I wanted to share the details of this legislation and what it means for Senate District 23.

First, the American rescue plan allocates over \$5.6 billion to the state of Ohio. These necessary funds will assist in vaccinations, Covid-19 testing, education funding for schools to re-open, and the ability for the state to make up for lost revenue. The rescue

plan will also provide over \$200 million in essential capital improvement projects throughout the state. Additionally, the plan prevents more than 300,000 workers from losing benefits like unemployment compensation and pandemic unemployment compensation (PUA). This protection of worker benefits helps weather the economic storm due to the pandemic, and I commend the administration's commitment to our social safety net.

I am also very proud to announce over \$87 million in direct aid to cities/ municipalities in our district. The relief for our local governments will help with infrastructure, city ser-

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Lakewood Observer

Susannah Selnick, And Friends Of Madison Park  
Speak Out Against Closure Of Basketball Courts

by Susannah Selnick  
A Lakewood Citizen's Response to the City's Reaction to Recent Violent Crime

I, like all of my fellow Lakewood-ites, am saddened and outraged by the string of violent crimes that have occurred in our City in the last few weeks.

But, I am equally saddened and outraged at the response of our City leaders in the wake of these tragic events.

Basketball courts do not cause gun violence. Guns cause gun violence. The City's response to close only these courts, sends a very clear message: Keep "others" out, so long as we are protected. And if this is not the intended message, then why did the City not also force the closure of Game On or the Metro PCS store where two other violent crimes occurred in the last month? Or why not close the roads to cars where individuals have recently been carjacked at gunpoint?

Basketball courts provide a welcoming, free, recreational space for children and adults to exercise, socialize, and have fun. It just so happens that two of these violent crimes in Lakewood in the last month have occurred on a basketball court.

And, as it so happens, these now-closed basketball courts are in the heart of Birdtown, a neighborhood of Lakewood that is historically the most racially diverse in our city, and one that sits on the border of our neighboring City of Cleveland, which also has a more diverse population than our own.

In a time where people of color are experiencing daily trauma with news of police brutality, where collectively as



Created in 2014 when the city "temporarily" closed the basketball courts at Kauffman Park, they never reopened. They say this is temporary too.

a nation we are on the brink of accepting our racist histories and working towards reconciliation, our City has chosen to remove a part of our parks that are meant to offer refuge and community, especially for our youth.

This response is cowardly. To call it even a band aid solution to a prob-

lem would be giving it too much credit. This response is tone-deaf and irresponsible and needs to be condemned.

The problem here is gun violence. The answer is not to merely "Keep it out of my backyard," but to find solutions that eradicate the problem at the root. We need to be engaged with County

and State task forces who work to mitigate violent crimes in our region. We need to be pressuring our State and Federal legislators to enact meaningful gun control reform.

The answer is not more police and more cameras. The answer is leveraging our resources collectively to make substantive change for all. The answer is rolling up our sleeves and doing the hard, yet necessary work, to be uncomfortable in conversations, but to do so to save the lives of our children, and to move towards a more racially equitable community.

Join me in telling our Lakewood City leaders that they need to do better. This issue of violent crime will not just go away with these types of reactionary tactics. We must condemn the response of our City and demanding a comprehensive, proactive, anti-racist response to ending gun violence.

Susannah Selnick is an experienced community leader who has spent her career creating unique development strategies for social mission-driven organizations and advocating for entrepreneurs and visionaries. Currently, she works as the Vice President for Community Development at Jon Thomas Consulting – serving difference-makers and change agents throughout the world. Susannah serves on the Friends of Madison Park community group, Advisory Board for the Lakewood Family YMCA, is the Voter Services Chair for the Lakewood Chapter of the League of Women Voters, and is a Committee Member on the City of Lakewood Citizens Advisory Committee.

Susannah received her Bachelor's of Arts from Case Western Reserve University, and her Master's of Business Administration from Cleveland State University. Prior to her work with nonprofits, Susannah worked for local healthcare organizations including Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine and University Hospitals. While at CWRU School of Medicine, Susannah performed HIV, cancer, and influenza research.

Senator Antonio Shares American Rescue Plan Details

continued from page 9

vices, revenue offsetting and more. The breakdowns of these funds from the federal government are as follows.

- Brook Park: \$3.6 million
- Brooklyn Heights: \$290,000
- Brooklyn: Over \$2 million

- Cuyahoga Heights: \$120,000
- Lakewood: Over \$50 million
- Linndale: \$30,000
- Middleburg Heights: Over \$3 million
- Parma: \$24.25 million
- Parma Heights: \$3.88 million

This funding does not include the \$239 million in direct assistance to the Cuyahoga County government which will aid multiple housing and infrastructure projects. This federal funding is an important first step in Ohio's post-Covid road to recovery.

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Plain	\$7.50	\$9.00	\$12.00	\$13.00
1 Item	\$8.00	\$9.75	\$13.00	\$14.50
2 Items	\$8.50	\$10.50	\$14.00	\$16.00
3 Items	\$9.00	\$11.25	\$15.00	\$17.50
4 Items	\$9.50	\$12.00	\$16.00	\$19.00
Deluxe	\$10.00	\$12.75	\$17.00	\$20.50
Extra Items	\$1.00	\$1.25	\$2.00	\$2.50
Chicken	\$2.00	\$2.50	\$3.50	\$4.50
Extra Cheese & Special Toppings	\$1.50	\$2.00	\$3.00	\$4.00

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Lakewood Living



photo by Jim O'Bryan

Ann Wise holding Mayor George's Proclamation celebrating her 100th Birthday, surrounded by her three sons with her sons, Tom, Dave, and Bill at Brennan's Party Center.

Honoring The Vibrant Anne Wise On Her 100th Birthday

by Debra O'Bryan

Mayor Marghan George issued a Proclamation to honor and recognize Anne Wise on the occasion of her 100th birthday.

WHEREAS, Anne was born on April 10, 1921 on Plover Avenue and grew up in Lakewood's Birdtown neighborhood and,

WHEREAS, she and her husband Bill got married in 1946 and later moved to Westpark to raise their three sons, Tom, Bill, and Dave; and,

WHEREAS, she was a loving mother who worked hard to care for her family. When her kids went to school, she always managed to keep herself busy. She spent some time as a school bus driver and worked with a catering business; and,

WHEREAS, a few years after her beloved husband passed, Anne moved to the Richard Hilliard House in 1998. During that time, she worked for the Cleveland Hopkins Airport transporting cars. She was also quite involved with her community at the Richard Hilliard House, where she was secretary on the Board of Managers for a few years; and,

WHEREAS, Anne has always been a real party girl and never needed much

of an excuse to socialize! She is always there, whether she is playing cards with friends, attending seasonal get-togethers, or spending time with family; and,

WHEREAS, her friends will tell you that she is vivacious and smiling all of the time. She once really enjoyed swimming, but now you can find her walking, at least 2-3 times a day; and,

WHEREAS, Anne has shared many great moments with family and friends, and we wish her many more vibrant years spent with her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

NOW, THEREFORE, I Meghan F. George, Mayor of the City of Lakewood so hereby deem it an honor and pleasure to extend this Proclamation to Anne Wise for the occasion of her 100th Birthday.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Lakewood to be affixed this 1st day of April 2021

A special thank you to Anne's friend Cis Speer who supplied the information to the city to make this proclamation possible. When she asked Anne how she felt about all the plans being made for her birthday she said, "It is not her but GOD who made it possible."


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