

Free – Take One!  
Please Patronize Our Advertisers!



# THE LAKEWOOD OBSERVER

**“Democracy is not a spectator sport.”**

Marian Wright Edelman

Proud Member Of The Observer Media Family Of Community Written And Owned Newspapers & Websites

Volume 17, Issue 17, September 1, 2021

## Selena Colon Pleads Guilty To Four Counts In Mercado/Close Deaths

by Jim O'Bryan

A story that we have all been following since that tragic morning of February 21, is what would happen to the young woman that caused the

death of two of Lakewood's much loved children.

The day after we went to press Selena Colon had her first day in court, with attorney Kevin Spellacy by her side.

She stood silently in front of the judge and in a much different tone than was originally taken pled guilty to two counts of aggravated vehicular homicide.

**Story on page 3**

*Re-Elect Tristan Rader -*

## Public Service With Passion And Purpose

by Tristan Rader

I launched my first campaign for Lakewood City Council four years ago at St. Charles Green, an informal greenspace across from my house. And I was honored when Lakewood voters selected me to be their representative. This year, I decided to run for re-election for the same reason I've made a lot of decisions in my life—because I want to help the best I can to create the most good for the most people.

First and always, I have a passion for helping people and have dedicated myself to constituent services. I am available and responsive to all those I



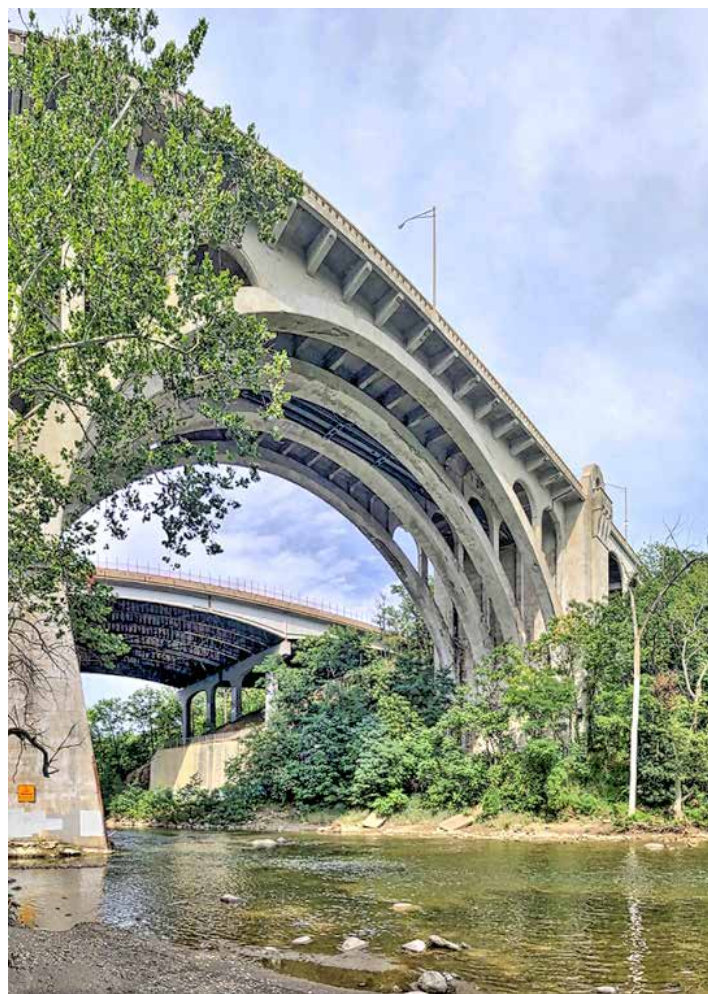
Tristan Rader

serve because people need a direct line to the government that they rightfully own. Those that know me well know that I often say: I have one phone

number, it's my cell, call me any time. I have the most open of open-door policies. And people know when they call me, I pick up, and I'm there for them.

Through honest dialogue, we can address small problems and large ones, and we have done so. We committed the city to 100% clean energy. We instituted the Lakewood Tree Education Advisory Board to engage the city in rebuilding our tree canopy. We developed a lead abatement education program, and we ended breed-specific legislation. We implemented a \$15 minimum

**continued on page 5**



*Tuesday August 17, a 19-year-old girl took her life by jumping off this bridge. Another true American tragedy. Thoughts and prayers to the friends and family. For anyone contemplating this fate...*

*Speak with someone today*

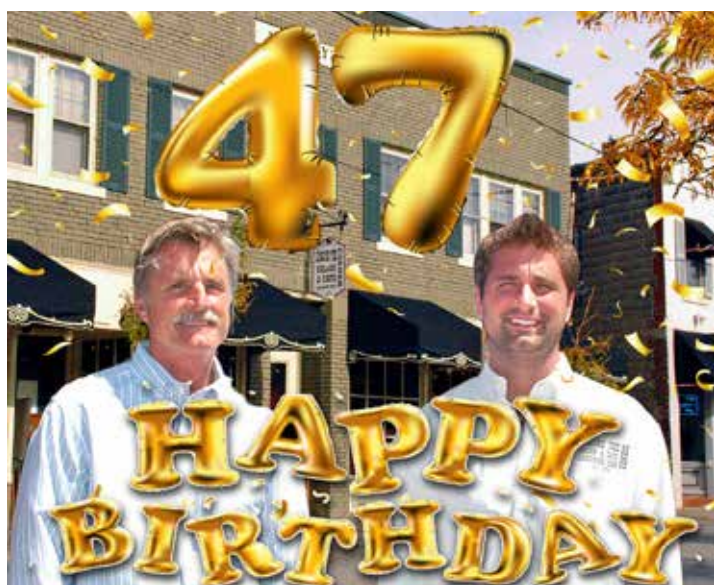
**Help Is Available**  
**National Suicide Prevention Lifeline**

Available 24 hours, English and Spanish, Learn more

**800-273-8255**

*Around The Corner Turns 47!*

## The First Family Of Entertainment And Fun, Celebrate 47 Years



Join the Krivosh's Thursday, September 16th. The tradition carries on with nickel beer and complimentary buffet with a DJ from 4 to the 7pm. Doors open at 3pm. Get a free ATC Anniversary T-shirt with purchase of food/beverage.

## Don't Miss Marching Band Festival September 18

by Saskia Romeo

Weeks before most students headed back to school this year, members of The Lakewood Ranger Marching Band were hard at work preparing music and choreography for not only the fall football season, but also their highlight performance event, the 34th Annual Lakewood High School Marching Band Festival, set for Saturday, September 18 at First Federal Lakewood Stadium.

This event, the band's biggest fundraiser of the year, kicks off with the Parade of Bands at 6 pm, followed at 6:30 pm by on-field performances by 10 of the best Northeast Ohio marching bands! This

year, the Ranger Marching Band, led by director Clinton Steinbrunner and assistant director John Blasko, will be joined at the festival by bands from Aurora, Beachwood, Bellevue, Brush, Eastlake North, Lake, Olmsted Falls, Strongsville, and Wickliffe. And of course, the Lakewood Ranger Marching Band will be performing joined by members from the alumni marching band!

**continued on page 8**

## Baby Bargain Bonanza Set For September 18

by Betsy Voinovich

Lakewood Early Childhood PTA is holding its annual re-sale event on Saturday, September 18th at Garfield Middle School. Baby and Children's clothing (sizes newborn to 10), shoes, baby gear, toys and games, books and outdoor equipment will be arranged on tables for your shopping enjoyment. Early Bird admission is between 8:30 and 9:30am for \$5. 9:30am to noon admission is \$1.

*If you would like to sell your items you can register today at [lecpta.com/bbb](http://lecpta.com/bbb).*



The Mayor's Corner

# Mayor's Corner: Lakewood On The Rise

by Meghan George

It has been a joy to see children and teens walking to school this week in Lakewood. The start of the school year is always a time of hope, and it's clear that parents keep choosing our city as the place to raise their families because of the quality of life Lakewood offers. I look forward to continuing to work with the school board to ensure



Mayor Meghan George at work.

the entire state. With our efforts to add single family homes on available lots on residential streets and more dense multi-unit housing on commercial corridors, Lakewood will add hundreds of homes in the next 2 -5 years. We expect to grow, and we will do so in smart ways that ensure our community continues to provide excellent services and continues to be a great place to live.

Those census numbers are important for key federal funding that our city uses for essential services, like keeping our streets in shape. But beyond the bottom line, these Census numbers also confirm something that I think we all feel these days in Lakewood – that we are a city on the rise and a destination of choice. The best is yet to come for this city we all love to call home.

ARE YOU  
PRACTICING  
SAFE SIX?

6'

6'

6'

MASKING  
For A Friend

LAKWOOD  
OHIO

the City and the School District maintain our strong partnership and provide families with the services and amenities they expect and deserve. We are the only local district that does not bus children, which speaks to our highly walkable city and our smart planning on where to locate schools. With so many children walking to school, please remember to pay extra attention as our young ones traverse Lakewood streets on their way to and from each school each day.

With so many young families continuing to make Lakewood their home, our city is on a trajectory for future growth and continued prosperity. I hope that you have seen the data about Lakewood that was released recently by the US Census. It's good news for our city and shows that we are headed in the right direction.

Each year the census bureau issues estimates for populations in cities across the country. And for the past five years, those forecasts have put Lakewood's population below our true number as shown by

the official 2020 Census data that was recently released. We exceeded those census estimates by over 1,500 people and once again, our population topped 50,000. That makes Lakewood the third largest city in the county and one of the top 20 in

**THE LAKWOOD OBSERVER**

Your Independent Source for Lakewood News & Opinion

Published twice a month with a current circulation of 10,000+ copies. The paper is made available free of charge and can be found at over 130 business locations within the City of Lakewood and on our website. The views and opinions expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the publisher and staff. Copyright 2021 • AGS/The Lakewood Observer, Inc. All rights reserved. Any reproduction is forbidden without written permission.

The mission of the Lakewood Observer is to attract, articulate, and amplify civic intelligence and community good will in the city of Lakewood and beyond.

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

<b>Upcoming Submission Deadline</b>	<b>Publish Date</b>
September 10, 2021	September 15, 2021
October 1, 2021	October 6, 2021

**www.lakewoodobserver.com**  
**216.407-6818 OR 216.339.2531**  
**PO BOX 770203, Lakewood, OH 44107**

**Lakewood Observer**

<b>PUBLISHER</b>	<b>EDITOR IN CHIEF</b>	<b>ASSOCIATE EDITOR</b>	<b>ADVERTISING</b>
Debra O'Bryan	Margaret Brinich	Betsy Voinovich	Sales Manager
			216.407.6818

ADVISORY BOARD - Heidi Hilty, Jeff Endress, Jim Crawford, Steve Ott, Margaret Brinich, Betsy Voinovich

OBSERVATION DECK BOARD - Jim O'Bryan, Dan Alaino, Betsy Voinovich, Steve Davis, Raul Montejero

ILLUSTRATIONS - Rob Masek, Jim O'Bryan, Greg Orosz,

PHOTOGRAPHY - Miguel DeJesus, Buzz Kompier, Missy Porterfield Ted Nagel, Debra O'Bryan, Jim O'Bryan, and Channel 5 News

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS - Jacqueline Bon, Laura Rodriguez-Carbone, Miguel DeJesus, Camille Rose Dickson, Andrea Fisher, Mayor Meghan George, Christine Gordillo, Dr. Charles Greanoff, Kate Ingersoll, Emma Jochum, Karen Karp, Buzz Kompier, Matt Kuhns, Rosalyn Matthews, Ted Nagel, Debra O'Bryan, Jim O'Bryan, Tristan Rader, Mitchell Robida, Saskia Romeo, Eva Starr, Nic Starr, Lia Serpico, Missy Toms, Betsy Voinovich, and Danielle Zann

**WEST END TAVERN**

**18514 Detroit Avenue**  
**Lakewood, Ohio 44107**  
**phone: 216.521.7684**  
**fax: 216-521-9518**  
**CURRENT HOURS OF OPERATION**  
**MONDAY - THURSDAY: 4PM – 10PM**  
**FRIDAY: NOON - 10PM**

**WEEKEND BRUNCH RETURNS**  
**SATURDAY 11 A.M. TO 2 P.M.**  
**ALA CARTE BREAKFAST/LUNCH FEATURING:**  
**SUNDAY 10 A.M. TO 2 P.M.**  
**GOURMET ALA CARTE BRUNCH**  
**BRUNCH A 30-YEAR LAKWOOD TRADITION**

**The Lakewood Observer is produced by volunteers/residents of Lakewood.**  
If you'd like to help this history-making 17-year-old project continue to publish the words, stories and images of fellow Lakewoodites follow the QR Code to the Member Center and sign up at [www.lakewoodobserver.com/members](http://www.lakewoodobserver.com/members).  
If you'd like to advertise with us contact: [production@lakewoodobserver.com](mailto:production@lakewoodobserver.com).  
**Subscribe to the digital edition by sending a request to [thelakewoodobserver.digital@gmail.com](mailto:thelakewoodobserver.digital@gmail.com) with "SUBSCRIBE" in the subject line.**



News

# Selena Colon Pleads Guilty To Four Counts In Mercado/Close Deaths

by Jim O'Bryan

In Judge Sutula's Court today, Selena Colon age 23 plead guilty to four of the seven counts including:

**Count 1** - Aggravated Vehicular Homicide a 2nd Degree Felony - Possible sentence 2-8 years, \$15,000 Fine, and License Suspension 3-5 years.

**Count 2** - Aggravated Vehicular Homicide a 2nd Degree Felony - Possible sentence 2-8 years, \$15,000 Fine, and License Suspension 3-5 years.

**Count 5** Aggravated Assault a 3rd Degree Felony - Possible sentence 12 - 60 months, \$10,000 Fine, and License Suspension.

**Count 7** - Driving while under the influence. 1st degree misdemeanor - Up to 180 days in county jail, or 3 day intervention program. Fines of \$250, - \$1,250 1-3 year list suspension

Judge Sutula explained that what he hands down are mandatory sentences, with no time off for good behavior, etc. and that the courts and the jails can extend the sentences if they feel it is warranted through a couple of new laws on the books, but these new laws are also headed to the Supreme Court.

This means Selena Colon, age 23 could receive up to 25 years in jail, no parole. And fines of over \$50,000 plus restitution including civil lawsuits.

Max and Alejandro's parents were in the courts today.

Sentencing will follow interviews with all parties.

Stay tuned.



Selena Colon stands before Judge Sutula with her attorney, Kevin Spellacy.



The Mercado family who were in court, at the dedication of the park honoring their son Alejandro Mercado and Max Close.

BEYOND  
JUICERY + EATERY

WRAPS  
SALADS  
SMOOTHIES  
RAW JUICE

BEYONDJUICERYEATERY.COM  
SCAN TO VIEW ALL LOCATIONS AND OUR MENU

ORDER ON  
BEYOND  
DOORDASH  
GRUBHUB  
UBER  
eats

ORDER  
DELIVERY  
DOWNLOAD THE APP

NOW OPEN 15008 DETROIT AVE, LAKEWOOD OHIO / 216.471.8609

ENDORSED BY THE PLAIN DEALER

Sara  
Fagnilli  
FOR JUDGE

Only Sara Fagnilli has the right experience  
to be our Lakewood Municipal Court Judge

"...Fagnilli stands out for her experience and solid  
knowledge of the sort of cases, both civil and  
criminal, likely to come before her as judge."

"...Fagnilli seems to have been preparing for the  
job of Lakewood Municipal judge during  
three decades of municipal work"

July 9, 2021

VOTE AUG 17 - SEPT 14

SaraForJudge.com

Paid for by Sara Fagnilli for Judge



# Lakewood Public Library

## Children/Youth Events At Lakewood Public Library

by Nic Starr  
Virtual Storytime

For all ages  
Join Lakewood Library staff members virtually as they read children's picture books and share songs, rhymes and finger plays.  
View these exclusive videos from our website at lakewoodpubliclibrary.org or through our Facebook at facebook.com/lakewoodpubliclibrary.  
Virtual Author Visits  
For all ages  
Join local authors and illustrators virtually as they share and read some of their own children's books.  
View these exclusive videos from our website at lakewoodpubliclibrary.org or through our Facebook at facebook.com/lakewoodpubliclibrary.

Homework Help  
For Students in Kindergarten through Eighth Grade  
August – May i Monday-Friday, 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
Main Library Homework Room and Madison Branch  
Students who need a little extra help with homework or just want a cool place to work can come to the Library for Homework Help to get assistance and to use the Library's resources. Students can use their library card to check out a Chrome Book to use in the Library and have access to a variety of school supplies including

## Lakewood Girl Scout Troop Builds Little Library For Lincoln Elementary



by Darcy Brosky  
Girl Scout Troop 70188 built and installed a Little Library at Lincoln Elementary. The project will help the girls earn their Bronze Award, the highest award available to Junior Girl Scouts. Stop by to take a book or leave a book and to see what these girls accomplished.  
Darcy Brosky is the Leader of Troop 70188.

## Virtual Meet The Author Events

by Andrea Fisher

In September  
Lakewood Public Library will premiere three exciting new virtual Meet the Author events in September. You can watch these programs on facebook.com/lakewoodpubliclibrary and twitter.com/lakewoodlibrary on Thursday evenings at 7:00 p.m.

pencils, pens, crayons, markers, calculators, protractors, and more. A library staff member is on hand and available to provide homework assistance with everything from spelling words to solving math problems. No registration is required.

September 16  
Veteran news reporter Paul Orlousky talks about his five decade career in his book "Punched, Kicked, Spat on and Sometimes Thanked: Memoirs of a Cleveland TV News Reporter." Paul shares colorful and funny stories from behind the scenes.

September 23  
Watch local author Marie Vibbert talk about her science fiction debut "Galactic Hellcats." In the book, an all-female space biker gang form a bond when they travel to another planet to rescue a prince.

September 30  
Teacher and football coach turned bestselling author, Dan Largent talks about his series featuring Cooper Madison, a former professional baseball player. Cooper finds himself in Cleveland and in love in "Before We Ever Spoke and After Edgewater." Readers will enjoy the love story, along with some suspense, and plenty of North-east Ohio references.

If you miss the premiere, the videos will also be available on the Library's website lakewoodpubliclibrary.org  
Make sure to follow us on Facebook and Twitter to stay up to date on library news, programs and events.

HOME ALONE  
PET SITTING, INC.

In Home Pet Care  
While You Are Away  
Experienced  
Veterinarian Technician  
Bonded & Insured  
216-548-1543  
djmhokin@gmail.com  
homealonepetsittinginc.com

AROUND THE CORNER

Lakewood's Best Patio To Party On!

Book your fundraisers and special events With Us!

Tuesday and Sunday are \$2 Taco Nights  
Best Brunch In Town! Saturdays at 11am & Sunday 9:30am  
Mondays - Buy One, Get One - Black Angus Burgers  
Wednesdays - Try our \$5 Menu!

18616 Detroit Avenue  
216.521.4413 • www.atccafe.com

EATERY  
DRINKERY  
FUNNERY

NUNZIO'S Pizzeria

Fresh Authentic Italian Cuisine  
Pizza • Pasta • Sandwiches • Salads • Wings

Visit Sicily Without Leaving Home

Since 1990 • 31 Years in Business!  
Now Serving 4 Locations!  
Lakewood, Cleveland, Akron, and Parma

OPEN:  
Monday - Thursday  
4pm - 3am  
Delivery till 3am  
Friday - Saturday  
4pm - 3:30  
Delivery till 3:15  
Sunday  
2pm - 1am  
Delivery till 1am  
17615 Detroit Avenue • 216-228-2900 nunziospizza.net

PIZZA	Small 6 cut 9"	Medium 8 cut 12"	Large 12 cut 16"	Party Tray Half Sheet
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

Available Items: Pepperoni, Sausage, Mushrooms, Onion, Green & Red Bell Peppers, Anchovies, Ham, Bacon, Fresh Garlic, Black Olives, Hot Peppers, Ground Beef, Pineapple, Jalapeño Peppers Special Toppings: Artichoke Hearts, Fresh Tomato, Broccoli, and \*Chicken



Lakewood

Re-Elect Tristan Rader -

Public Service With  
Passion And Purpose

continued from page 1

wage for all city employees and created an affordable housing strategy. We dedicated a brand new park for the first time in decades, invested \$50 million into our wet weather infrastructure, and dedicated over \$3 million to park improvements, all while balancing the budget.

I am especially proud of some of the initiatives which have promoted preservation, sustainability, and transparency.

For a government to function on behalf of the people, it must be transparent, accessible, and accountable to all residents. That's why I prioritized reforming our public records policy and adding a public records portal to the city's website. Because of these efforts—which earned the Ohio auditor's highest rating for open and transparent government—the people of Lakewood can now know exactly where to obtain their public records and can get them in a timely manner.

When I announced my first campaign in front of St. Charles Green, I made a commitment to protect the environment, including protecting green spaces in our community like the one where we gathered that day. I worked with the community and



Council member Tristan Rader (right) with his wife Caitlin.

passed legislation last year to protect that area and create the city's newest public park. We dedicated this park to one of Lakewood's heroes, Bernice Pyke, who fought to get women the vote and became one of Ohio's first woman elected officials.

continued on page 10



Ready to get  
**your spirit on?**

Support Lakewood City Schools every time you make a purchase when you sign up for a Lakewood School Spirit Debit Card!

Why Choose A School Spirit Debit Card:

- Lakewood City Schools receive half of the \$10 annual fee each year
- \$0.01 from every purchase made with your card will be donated to the school district
- Show your school spirit every time you use your card!

Stop by the Lakewood branch and ask to order your School Spirit Debit Card.

Lakewood Branch  
14806 Detroit Ave.  
Lakewood, OH 44107



FFL.net



EQUAL HOUSING LENDER • MEMBER FDIC

GORDON TOWER  
INSURANCE

Our Knowledge Is Your Best Protection

You've worked hard this year. Finding the right insurance company shouldn't mean even more labor. Here at Gordon Tower, we do the heavy lifting for you, finding the best coverage for both your dollar and your peace of mind.

Take a load off this labor day, and give us a call. You've earned it!

14701 DETROIT AVE, SUITE 362  
LAKEWOOD, OHIO

•216-663-7777•

Lakewood's #1 Choice for Insurance Needs



# Foodwood

## Shop + Eat + Unwind LKWD Event

by Danielle Zann

We know that many in our community have been affected by the pandemic this year, including small businesses like retailers and eateries. While some were able to modify hours of service and decrease staff in order to stay open, others were forced to close temporarily. Some permanently. Despite the hardships all around, Lakewood residents have truly embodied eat local, shop local. And for that we are grateful.

As a THANK YOU for your continued support of the local fare in our town, please join us between 16000 – 19000 block of Detroit Avenue for an evening filled with shopping, dining and plenty of unwinding. On Friday, September 10th, 2021, merchants on the western half of Detroit Avenue will be extending their store hours and have joined up with neighboring eateries to offer \$5 off your purchases beginning

at 6pm. Simply present your receipt of purchase from one of the participating locations (see below) and enjoy this sweet reward.

All the Joy, Burning River Coffee, Cleveland Vape, Cleveland Vegan, CouCou Sentiment, The Designer Consignor, Eclectic Cleveland, GV Art + Design, Lakewood Antique Mall, Milo & Me, Sacred Hour Wellness Spa, Simply Sugar & Skincare ... and more!

Bring your family and friends and be sure to stop into your favorite shops and restaurants... Or explore!

For more information regarding participating locations and discount details, check out our Facebook and Instagram @ShopEatUnwindLKWD and don't forget to follow for updates.

See you then!

*Danielle and her husband are Lakewood residents who recently opened a retail shop in town.*



*We missed you...*

**Welcome back to India Garden!**



**ONLY \$13.95**

**We will be serving Best Indian Cuisine Lunch Buffet.**

**OPEN DAILY**

Mon – Fri 11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.  
Sat – Sun 12:00 – 3:00 p.m.

**Spice your week with us!**

Reservation Highly Recommended: 216.221.0676

**18405 Detroit Road**

[www.IndiaGardenCleveland.com](http://www.IndiaGardenCleveland.com)



## Halloween Flea Market And Prom

by Emma Jochum

Black Market Records and The Buckland Museum of Witchcraft & Magick present the 7th annual Halloween Flea Market, Saturday, October 16th from Noon to 6 PM.

Vendors will be set up at Now That's Class, 5 O'clock Lounge, and The Foundry Concert Club, (indoors and outdoors, dress according to the weather!), selling arts & crafts, home decor, props, toys, oddities, DVD+VHS, makeup, clothing, jewelry, snacks, and All Things Halloween!

There is a suggested donation of \$1 for entry. All ages are welcome, bring the kiddos out to trick or treat at the tables. The Foundry kitchen will be open during the event, come hungry!

### Confirmed vendors:

**@ Five O'clock Lounge (11904 Detroit Ave):**

Adri Does Tarot, Al's Arcana Cabana, Ceremony Vintage, Far Out Designs, Haus Of Sin Cosmetics, Jewelry By Jenny, Miscreant and the Muse, Ofrenda Prints, Waxing Moon Candle Shop

**@ The Foundry (11729 Detroit Ave):**

Balaam Boutique, Buckland Museum of Witchcraft & Magick, Crescent Moon Baby, Death Comes Lifting, Demonly Designs, Ghoodles Doodles, Ghoulishly Odd Shop, Goddess Elite, Matsugay, MMH Productions, mzcandles, Ramen Shaman Art, Secure Shadows, Sick, Sad Soap, Tattoos by Magda, Terror Cotta, The Cuddle Cult, The Hallowed Crumb, WickedEye-

Woodworking, Woodcremation  
**@ Now That's Class (11213 Detroit Ave):**

Adore Afterlife, As Above So Below Bakery, Bushmen of the Dark Woods, Counting Worms, Death Drip Apparel LLC, Deci Belfry Art, Eerie Cleveland Horror, Eric Kapitan - Horror Author, Funerary Fabrications, Hellbent for Lather, Lenora's Emporium, Mercutio's Ghost Productions, Michael S. Vassel - Author, Recluse, Rock N' Rummage, Smoke & Sugar, Stuffed Hot Cocoa Bombs, Vileconsumption

Join us at The Foundry for ZOMBIE PROM immediately following the Halloween Flea Market from 7pm-2am. (This is an 18+ event). Prizes for best costume, photo backdrop for prom pics, live drag & burlesque performances, crowning of the zombie prom Queen, and snacks for sale from Raisin Hell Vegan. Come dance to all your favorite spooky jams!

**Tickets:** <https://zombie-prom.eventbrite.com>





**Lakewood Seventh-day Adventist Church**

**Community Service Center**

**We are open by appointment only!**

**1382 Arthur Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio 44107**

Behind Taco Bell. Enter through school glass doors.

Providing **FREE** gently used adult & children's clothing and shoes, household items, books, videos, and toys

To schedule an appointment, please call between 10am and 8pm

**Barbara at 727-902-2808**

**or Eddie at 216-577-3693 (alternative)**

*Please bring bags to carry the items you choose. Face mask and gloves required.*

*No children are permitted in the Center at this time.*



Lakewood Cares

Healthy Lakewood Foundation To Host Virtual Community Meeting On September 22

by Kate Ingersoll

The Healthy Lakewood Foundation (HLF) invites the Lakewood community to a virtual public meeting on Wednesday, September 22, 2021 at 7:00 PM. This will be the organization’s third community meeting and is an opportunity to learn about HLF’s work over the past year as well as upcoming plans for grantmaking, collaboration, and community engagement.

Board members will report on the work of HLF committees and the



foundation’s grantmaking over the past year. The meeting will highlight a few grantee organizations and the challenges faced in addressing community needs during the ongoing pandemic.

Khalilah Worley Billy, HLF’s Interim Board President explains, “The resilience and adaptability of our grantee partners in this second year of the pandemic is the most important story we can share right now. Despite ongoing obstacles, the staff and volunteers of these organizations have responded to the evolving needs of Lakewood residents with creativity, compassion, and resourcefulness. This meeting is an opportunity to highlight their work and commitment.”

The meeting will be held via Zoom. All attendees must register in advance. More information about the meeting and registration link are available on the HLF website.

Following registration, a meeting confirmation will be sent via email that contains instructions to log in to the Zoom meeting or dial in telephonically.

About the Healthy Lakewood

Foundation: The Healthy Lakewood Foundation (HLF) is a 501(c)3 non-profit community foundation. HLF was created to ensure remaining assets from the conversion of the Lakewood Hospital will continue to benefit the health and wellness of residents in the City of Lakewood. HLF was established in September 2018 as part of the master agreement following the closing of Lakewood Hospital. HLF was formed from the Foundation Planning Task Force and through its recommendation to the City of Lakewood and the Lakewood Hospital Association.

To learn more about HLF, visit <http://healthylakewoodfoundation.org>, or email the foundation at [info@healthylakewoodfoundation.org](mailto:info@healthylakewoodfoundation.org).

Kate Ingersoll is the Executive Director of the Healthy Lakewood Foundation.

Sarah Kepple And Kyle Baker For Lakewood City Council

by Missy Toms

I am pleased to endorse current Councilperson Sarah Kepple and candidate Kyle Baker for Lakewood City Council. I have known both for several years and have observed their strong leadership in public service.

Sarah Kepple has proven to be a responsive advocate for the values I hold. We had been friendly acquaintances when we travelled together to the 2017 Women’s March in Washington, DC. That trip introduced me to the passionate progressive that Sarah is. Soon after the March, Sarah formed

Action Together Lakewood Area, a group of citizens standing up for health and safety in our community. We wrote postcards, made phone calls, and organized demonstrations around issues like gun control, the Affordable Care Act, racial justice, and voting rights.

When Mayor George’s Council seat opened up, Sarah took a leap and moved from private citizen to public

Read the rest of this endorsement and others at: [lakewoodobserver.com](http://lakewoodobserver.com)



ELECT **Tess Neff**  
JUDGE Lakewood Municipal Court

As a 33-year resident, dedicated public servant and attorney, Tess is committed to keeping Lakewood safe and a wonderful place to live.

Respected Among Attorneys, Judges and Community

- Only Tess has performed the job of a judge in Lakewood Court as a Magistrate and Acting Judge.
- Only Tess has judicial experience in two courts, she is trusted to make fair decisions.
- Only Tess has the experience of running the operations of a large complex court.

Vote the best experienced choice!

[www.tessforlakewood.com](http://www.tessforlakewood.com)

VOTE IN THE PRIMARY SEPTEMBER 14!

Paid for by Tess Neff for Judge



# Lakewood Education

## Don't Miss Marching Band Festival September 18

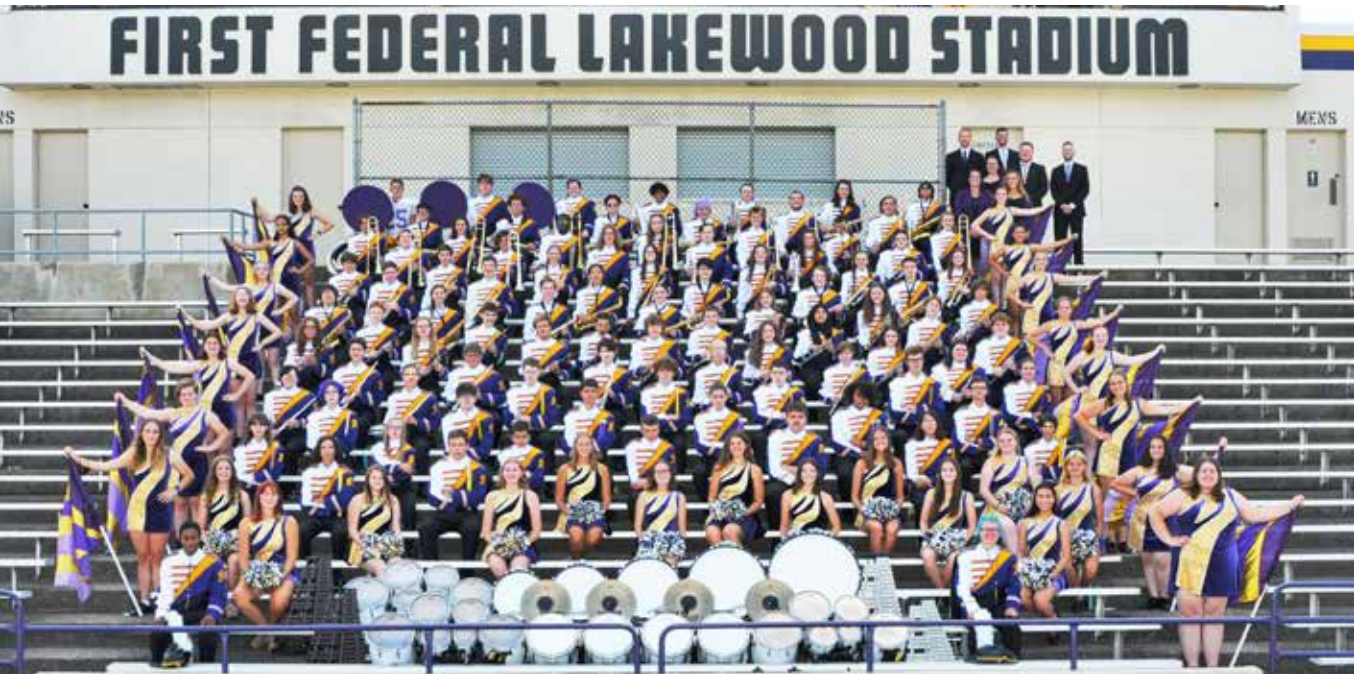


photo by Lifetouch

continued from page 1

Tickets can be purchased online at <https://sites.google.com/lakewoodcityschools.org/lhsbands>.  
Online ticket prices are: \$9 for

adults, \$7 for seniors, \$4 for older students, and free for children 12 and under. Tickets can be purchased with cash at the gate, for \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors, \$5 for older students, and free for children 12 and under.

Please come out and show your support for this community treasure! It's a fun event for the whole family! There will be concessions and a chance to win cash in the 50/50 raffle.

## Employment Opportunities: Lakewood Recreation

by Mitchell Robida

The Community Recreation and Education Department has employment opportunities for the Event Staff position. Event Staff are the direct representative of the Lakewood Board of Education and the Lakewood City Schools Community Recreation & Education Department during non-school hours. The primary duties and responsibilities are, but not limited to, the monitoring and managing of all facility events, ensuring the safety and well-being of all participants.

The ideal candidate for the position of Event Staff will have knowledge of school facilities, the ability to establish priorities and work independently, without direct supervision. This position is part time, approximately 15-20 hours a week, nights and weekends may be required.

Interested candidates should submit an Employment Application, which is available at [www.lakewood-recreation.com](http://www.lakewood-recreation.com) under Resources and Important Forms, to: The Lakewood City Schools Community Recreation and Education Department, c/o Mitchell Robida, 14100 Franklin Blvd., Lakewood, OH 44107.

## Dr. G's Ranger Round-Up

by Dr. Charles Greanoff

**Girls' Soccer**

On a steamy August night at iconic Garfield Stadium, the Lakewood Girls Soccer team won a hard fought 1-0 victory over the North Olmsted Eagles. Junior Goalkeeper Lauren Barber was flawless in goal, making several difficult stops to keep the Rangers tied or in the lead. Defensively, junior co-captain Sam Hudak thwarted several Eagle chances with her usual aggressive and sure footed play. Junior Nettie Doren had several chances, as did senior Sylvie Ballou, before Doren converted several minutes into the second half. Congratulations to Coach Nagel and the entire squad on tonight's win. Go Rangers!

**Football:**



photo by Missy Porterfield

Lakewood Varsity lines up against Bay Rockets.

in my view was the best game he's every played in his stellar career for the Purple and Gold. Some yards, some runs, matter more than others—such as the first of his three touchdowns. With Lakewood trailing 10-7 early in the 3rd quarter, Hakeem ran off left tackle, found a seam, and split the Bay defenders for a 73 yard touchdown run. From then on, the Ranger workhorse chewed up the clock, getting both tough inside

yards and big chunks on the outside. Two more touchdowns from number 3 and the game was sealed.

But football is a team game, and though it won't happen here, the entire squad deserves a mention. In fact, for all of Hakeem's heroics, the Ranger defense came up big when it mattered most, holding the Rockets to a field goal after they had recovered a fumble at the Ranger 10. Hakeem then delivered TD number one with his 73 yards burst, after which junior linebacker Josh Bohurjak picked off a pass, setting up Hakeem next TD. Late in the third quarter, after stopping Bay on 3 downs, the Ranger drove for the final TD—another Quran run—capped by a 2-point conversion run by Senior QB Lucas Winters. (Lucas put Lakewood on the board in the first Quarter with a strike to junior Eddie Gillick.

As always, the LRMB and cheerleaders did their part, in what was a deeply satisfying win against a tough opponent. The Bay band was terrific, and as always they were great hosts. In this classic American Football clash between two organic, community based teams, happily the guys from 44107 won this one. Go Rangers!

the Root cafe  
15118 detroit ave  
lakewood, ohio 44101  
216.226.4401  
www.theroot-cafe.com

espresso bar  
bakery  
organic  
vegan  
vegetarian  
local  
kitchen

**Roman Fountain**  
Pizza & Subs

**ORDER ONLINE @ [ROMANFOUNTAIN.COM](http://ROMANFOUNTAIN.COM)**

Roman Fountain is one of the most well-known and loved pizzeria in Lakewood, Ohio. Roman Fountain has been serving up pizza since the mid 1950's with award winning pizza, calzone, stromboli, subs, pasta, wings, and salads.

Whether carryout or delivery, we provide your family with the freshest of toppings (over 25 to choose from) on our pizza. With dough and sauce made daily from our own recipe and freshly grated blend of mozzarella & provolone cheese, we provide a great pizza for you and your family

At Roman Fountain you can find all your favorites:

- Pizza
- Calzones
- Stromboli
- Salads
- Pasta
- Subs
- Wings
- Appetizers
- Desserts
- Dinners

To see our menu or coupons please go to [www.romanfountain.com](http://www.romanfountain.com)  
Or stop by at  
15603 Detroit Ave  
Near the corner of Lakeland Ave

Call us at 216-221-6633



# Lakewood Observer



## Lakewood High And St. Joseph Academy Girls Soccer Help Feed Cleveland

by Ted Nagel

On August 13, Lakewood High School Girls Soccer team hosted St. Joseph Academy in a charity soccer game to benefit the Greater Cleveland Food Bank. After collecting over 300 food items, the storm came rolling in and the varsity game was postponed.

After some hasty coordination, the game was played on the following Monday giving the teams' supporters an extra opportunity to give. The final tally for the food drive was over 450 food items weighing in at close to 500 pounds of food to help local families. Kim Barber was the Lakewood

mom who honcho'd the effort while her daughter Lauren Barber was the Lakewood player of the game in goal. St. Joe's won the game 2-0 in a closely fought contest. The ultimate winners

are the families helped through the efforts of the families of our soccer community. Thank you all!  
*Ted Nagel is the Lakewood High School Girls Varsity Soccer Coach.*



It isn't often in politics that two candidates competing for the same office will publicly declare their support for one another. (Photo by Matt Kuhns)

## Rader And Rodriguez-Carbone: Let's Vote For Progress Together

by Matt Kuhns

Finding ways to work together is what we know will make Lakewood a better place, and as candidates for City Council, we want to express our commitment to a shared, inclusive vision. Councilperson Tristan Rader has helped make local government more transparent through a reformed public records policy, and taken initiative on affordable housing, and renewable energy.

Laura Rodriguez-Carbone has been a community leader throughout her life, serving on the Federal Covid Response team, as co-chair of Lakewood's Anti-Racism Task Force, and as chair of the Ohio Democratic Party's Hispanic and Latino Caucus. On Sept. 14, we hope you will vote to re-elect Tristan Rader, and vote for Laura Rodriguez-Carbone, who would be the first person of color elected to office in Lakewood's history.

### Ready For All Your Family's Dental Needs

#### 5 Great Reasons To Call Us

- 1) Convenience... We'll see you immediately and fix your problem now!
- 2) Money... We are affordable and will help you with your insurance.
- 3) Fear... Do not worry, our work will be done comfortably
- 4) Time... We realize your time is valuable. We will not keep you waiting.
- 5) Our Promise... We stand behind all the work we do.

**WE ACCEPT MOST FORMS OF INSURANCE INCLUDING MEDICAID.**

**Lakewood Dental Group**  
**216.221.0300**  
**17117 Detroit Ave.**  
**Lakewood, OH 44107**



# Lakewood Community

# *Our Lakewood Progress: The Lakewood Community Relations Advisory Commission (LCRAC)* **Survey And What It Says About The New Post-Pandemic Normal**

by Laura Rodriguez-Carbone

During the height of the pandemic last year, the world seemed to transform through lockdowns, mask mandates, jarring news reports and the long separation from friends and loved ones. We learned some valuable lessons, learned to slow down, showing kindness and care for our neighbors. Parents spent more time with their kids. For those of us fortunate enough to work from home, we turned our attention to our physical and mental health and learned to appreciate the smallest blessings we used to take for granted. Front line workers, from grocery cashiers to nurses, bore greater burdens to help keep the rest of us safe. Still others lost jobs, family members, and friends, grieving without the support we so often need in hard times.

Yet we proved to ourselves how resilient we are as a community, and treated one another with compassion. As our country continues to race back to “normal” we are faced with the reality that the continued presence of COVID-19 means that things cannot be quite the same, and there are some critical choices we can make as a community to make sure we navigate the continuing pandemic, and thrive on the other side of it.

During the pandemic, LCRAC surveyed Lakewood residents to



*Laura Rodriguez-Carbone*

“advance respect for diversity, equality, and bonds of mutuality...to ensure Lakewood remains a great place to live and work for everyone.” The survey spanned a variety of backgrounds, ages, ethnicities, and years lived in the city. At the same time, the most recent Census numbers show that Lakewood beat expectations and stayed above the 50,000 population threshold, ensuring that our city remains eligible for critical Federal funding. This shows that Lakewood is a place people want to be, and the LCRAC survey results help to confirm what people across our city have been saying for a long time: To continue our success, we need to focus on affordable & accessible housing, ensuring everyone can enjoy Lake-

wood's public spaces and businesses, addressing racial bias while fostering appreciation for diversity, and helping our neighborhoods become more engaged.

The pandemic presents unique challenges to our future, and some of the most critical decisions that will shape Lakewood for the next decade will be made in the next four years.

Ensuring Lakewood has affordable, accessible housing for all will ensure those that want to live and contribute to our community can. Building back better health for our residents is critical to restoring Lakewood's public health infrastructure in new ways that reflect our new world. Helping more communities access disease-preventing care will help us manage our intergenerational health needs through the continued presence of this and future pandemics. Investing in a strategic economic focus on small business longevity and opportunities for new entrepreneurs of color will foster greater diversity and investment in our community.

Finally, the fact also remains that the diversity of Lakewood is not rep-

resented in city leadership. Majorities of Black and mixed-race respondents report that they have witnessed racism or discrimination in Lakewood. As the co-chair of Lakewood's Anti-Racism Task Force, I am confident in our community's commitment to make our city a place where all feel welcome. This survey both reinforces our strengths and clarifies our opportunities. While there is much work ahead of us, I believe our work together will make Lakewood that much stronger in the decade to come.

*Laura Rodriguez-Carbhone is a candidate for Lakewood City Council, At-Large. She is currently Co-Chair of Lakewood's Anti-Racism Task Force and serves on the Board of Directors for the Fedor Manor Senior Living Community. Laura is currently the Midwest Regional Outreach and Communications Lead for Combat COVID, working to increase access to treatment options and equity in clinical research in communities of color.*

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

*Re-Elect Tristan Rader -*  
**Public Service With  
Passion And Purpose**

continued from page 5

The residents of Lakewood recognize that responsible and renewable energy is good for the environment and our city's bottom line. Working with my colleagues and the community, I helped lead efforts to commit our city to 100% clean, renewable energy for city facilities by 2025 and community-wide by 2035. Shortly afterward, we added 650kW of solar to power to four city buildings.

These examples of progress in our community, along with many others, provide tremendous momentum for the future. One more initiative I am excited about is our Climate Action Plan. It will allow us to fulfill our clean energy commitment and continue to

serve as an example of progress for the rest of Ohio.

I am humbled and honored that voters chose me to represent them on Council. Together, we have accomplished much in the last few years, but my pledge to work for a better Lakewood for all continues. The opportunities to build upon what we've done and forge an even brighter future for our city and all of our residents are exciting. That is why I am running for re-election to Lakewood City Council, and I ask for your vote.

*Tristan Rader is a Lakewood City Council Member At-Large and is running for re-election in the September 14 primary. He can be reached at 440-315-2852.*



# Learn. Play. Discover.

The St. Augustine Child Enrichment Center, rated five stars by Ohio's Step Up to Quality program, provides a safe, loving and nurturing atmosphere where children can learn, grow and develop.

Limited spots  
now available in  
3-5 year old  
preschool rooms!



Call 216.939.7681 today to schedule a tour!  
7801 Detroit Avenue, Cleveland, OH | [staugministries.org/cec](http://staugministries.org/cec)

**WALL TO WALL TRANSFORMATIONS**  
*FULLY INSURED, FREE ESTIMATES*



**PLASTER REPAIR**  
Specializing In Plaster And  
Lathe Restoration

**216-255-8529**



Lakewood Good Living



Everything in the pot ready to boil.

Straight Out Of The Garden  
Garden Fresh Tomato Sauce

by Debra O'Bryan

The end of Summer brings bushels of tomatoes from the garden. A good way to use them up is to make sauce. Yes, it's time consuming and will take you almost an hour just to get it on the stove to cook down for another 3-4 hours. It is so worth it. Nothing compares to the fresh taste and pride that you grew everything in the pot. All measurements are estimated, I learned how to do this at the hip of my Aunt Jo. Best cook I ever knew. She never measured anything and neither do I.

Go out into the garden and fill an 8 QT Pot with freshly picked tomatoes. Rinse and remove the stems and the green spot under the stem with a paring knife. Score the bottom of the tomatoes with an X. Fill the pot half way with water and bring to a boil. Slowly add the tomatoes by slotted spoon or hand to prevent splashing. Blanch the tomatoes for a few minutes, you will see the skins pulling away. \*Smaller ones cook fast.

Remove the tomatoes from the water with a slotted spoon and place in a large colander. Drain the water. Put the colander over your now empty pot. Let cool so you can handle them. Now comes the fun part. Drain any water that has accumulated again from the pot. Now with clean hands, (you may want to wear gloves because of the acid) one by one remove the skins and gently

pull apart the tomato in your hands to remove most of the seeds. (This is important, you don't want a sauce loaded with seeds!) Work over the colander and drop the skins into the sink lined with newspaper for easy cleanup. The tomato "meat" that you're left with in your hand goes into a bowl. \*Don't fret, some will practically dissolve and that's okay. Repeat until your done. Set aside and reserve a cup and 1/2 of juice that drained from the colander into the pot. Run the juice through a sieve to strain remaining seeds. (Refrigerate any remaining juice and treat yourself to a fresh Bloody Mary )

Starting with a clean 6 qt heavy pot, saute onions and peppers in olive oil until almost translucent. Add garlic and cook until fragrant and lightly golden. Dump in all of your tomatoes. You can cut them up before adding, but it's not necessary, they will break down. Add your seasonings, the reserved juice, and plenty of fresh basil. Bring to a boil, then turn down to a low simmer. Now is the time to add browned meat if desired. ( Sausage, meatballs, or bone in skinless chicken thighs.) Cover and cook for approximately 2-3 hours. Everything should be soft and broken down. Adjust seasoning if necessary. Remove lid or vent for the last hour to reduce the liquid. Serve over pasta or some of that eggplant from your garden.

Homegrown Tomato Sauce

- 1/2 Bushel of Tomatoes
- Olive oil (enough to lightly cover bottom of pot)
- 2 cups Chopped Onion
- 5 Banana Peppers seeded and chopped
- (You can omit or add any kind) I like to throw a cayenne or two in there as well.
- 5-6 cloves of Garlic finely chopped
- 2 Tbs Italian seasoning (dried basil, oregano, rosemary, and thyme)
- 3/4 Cup loosely packed freshly chopped Basil
- 1 Tbs Kosher Salt
- 2 tsp Ground Pepper
- 2 Tbs Sugar

If adding meat, use about 1 1/2 lbs. browned in olive oil to sear in the juices.

You can add ingredients from your pantry as well to suit your taste. Capers and olives goes great with chicken for a Caccitore.

Buon Appetite.

Rock On Outdoors At Legal Aid's  
"Jam for Justice" Concert  
On September 22

by Camille Rose Dickson

Last year, The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland helped nearly 15,000 people in Northeast Ohio who were facing eviction, unemployment, educational barriers, and more during the COVID-19 pandemic. As Legal Aid staff and volunteers continue to extend justice in our community, they need your support – and there is a rock-and-roll way to show you care.

The organization's annual "Jam for Justice" is on September 22, 2021. This year, the festival-style concert is outdoors on the front lawn of the Great Lakes Science Center. Sing along to all of your favorite hits in person or from the comfort of your home with the virtual ticket option. The event features law students, attorneys, judges, and their other professional friends from Northeast Ohio who moonlight as rock stars.

To show your support for Legal Aid's mission and Jam for Justice this year:

**Make a gift at** <http://www.lasclev.org/donate> or by texting "LAS GIFT" to 216-242-1544

**Join us in-person - a \$50 ticket** (donation to Legal Aid and includes 1 drink + light dinner)

**Stay-at-home** and hear about the show later - a \$100 ticket (donation to Legal Aid and includes a Jam for Justice treat from Cleveland-in-a-Box!

This is an all-ages event! Those 21 and over will receive a wristband for the bar. Children under 18 get in free with an adult ticketholder. To request a child ticket, call 216.861.5590.

Performers at Jam for Justice 2021 (in alphabetical order):

- Faith & Whiskey
- Luke Lindberg and Hung Jury
- The No Name Band
- Out of Order
- Razing the Bar
- SIX sometimes SEVEN
- State Road

Band members include Ohio Supreme Court Justice Michael Donnelly (Faith & Whiskey) and Case Western Reserve University's law school dean Michael Scharf (Razing the Bar), among others.

Legal Aid thanks numerous local sponsors for their continued support in helping make this event a reality, especially Presenting Sponsor Accellis Technology Group and Platinum Sponsors Taft/ and Tucker Ellis LLP.

See more details about the bands (including full band rosters, professions, and what instruments they play) at <http://www.lasclev.org/2021Jam>. Follow #Jam4Justice2021 for more updates. And, visit [www.lasclev.org](http://www.lasclev.org) for more information Legal Aid's work to extend justice throughout Northeast Ohio.



Paid for by Tristan Rader for City Council

VOTE SEPT. 14 – RE-ELECT

**TRISTAN RADER**

to Lakewood City Council At-large

**Endorsed by Senator Sherrod Brown and**

Lakewood Mayor Meghan F. George

City Council President Dan O'Malley

Cuyahoga Councilman Dale Miller

State Senator Nickie Antonio

State Rep. Michael J. Skindell



Lakewood Is Art©

Everything's Stupid Anyway:

Reviews Of Recent Releases By Local Bands, Pt. 118

by Buzz Kompier

**Hawkbaby - Stupid Music For Stupid People - My Mind's Eye - 8 songs - 12"**

Hawkbaby finally follow up their demo tape from a few years ago with their debut vinyl outing. A true supergroup here, even if you wouldn't know it from the personnel listed on the back: members of The Darvocets, Magic City, Sockeye, a Perverts Again fill-in...the list goes on! Musically, the band is somewhere between The Darvocets and Magic City– the late '70s/early '80s punk stuff, Dead Kennedys, Dangerhouse, that kind of thing, but also leaning more towards hard rock and some more out there stuff a lot of the time, especially given the keyboards. Paul (guitarist) is a big Wall Of Voodoo fan, I've been told. Some of these, I am almost completely certain, are repurposed Magic City songs. I know "Cazadores" is and something about "Hologram" sounds awfully familiar too. I won't hold it against Paul or anything, in fact I like when people steal their own riffs, but it's worth noting. Of course, it's always a delight to hear Larry Alien sing, which we've been lacking since the demise of Wetbrain and the disappearance of Drum Machine– no one does it quite like him! My favorite Larry moments here were at the coda (following a fake ending) of the opening "He Said She Said" where he's almost making dolphin sounds (Larry? Dolphins?) and on "Shovin It," which might be my favorite song on here– it's got an intro with what I am pretty sure is an acoustic guitar and some tasteful keys. I'm as shocked as you are. Lyrically, it's a continuation of the Doctor's (professor of alienology) work in the Darvocets and Wetbrain– though I think the best moment is when he drops the fake-deep classic "real eyes realize real lies." I didn't know Larry was on Tumblr. (I've looked this up and apparently it's a Tupac quote– my point stands: didn't know Larry was into Tupac!). "Pop Punk Saved My Life" is not a pop punk song, but is another highlight for being a pure dumb rock song with a nice outro where we're informed all the things the narrator is no longer, including hardcore, metal, straight edge, and a skateboarder. Paul plays some hot leads on here (the guitar solo on "Sit Back, Relax, Enjoy" is a highlight) and the rest of the band is pretty good too. Matt, or Hairy, or Rick, or



whatever the drummer is called is very good at what he does. It's not my favorite work by any means of most of the people involved, but that said, it would be hard to top some of their past musical achievements. I'll also add that I didn't really like it at all at first, but it grew on me with repeated listens, so bear that in mind, I suppose.

3/5  
(My Mind's Eye is at 16010 Detroit Ave. in Lakewood)

**The High Season - The High Season - Sound Of The Sea - 10 songs - CD, digital**

This is the latest band from Alan Grandy (probably best remembered from the Terrible Parade, but also from his work in Sputnik, Fits Of Hail, and on his own), joined here by Jeff Harmon on drums and harmony vocals. It's not completely removed from some of Alan's past music, particularly his more acoustic stuff, but this band takes a far more country angle on things. There are a couple instrumentals, one of which is an Ennio Morricone cover, there's a bad novelty song called "Cold Potato" (look, I guess if you're doing a country band you have to have a 'funny' song, but that doesn't mean I have to like it), and decent songwriting and nice harmonies throughout. It's pretty laid back, at times even sounding like two pals playing on the front porch, which can be a good thing. Most of

to actually be on any TP record) and "Big World." "She Don't Care About Time" is excellent, maybe my favorite song here, but it doesn't sound like a country song. It sounds like an acoustic alternative rock song with some nice slide guitar and a banjo solo. And there's nothing wrong with that! They're hardly the first to do it. On the other hand, "Big World" becomes a slow waltz and doesn't work so well for me, but maybe that's just because I know and like the original version so well. Maybe the most successful song here is the closing "Too High To Get The Lowdown," which both feels like it was legitimately written as a country song but also delivers Alan's songwriting charm and personality all the way. (I liked "Eyes Wide Open" in this category too, and it kinda reminds me of Ray Price for some reason, but it goes on for over five and a half minutes and that's just not right.) It's a nice little record, and fans of the Terrible Parade (or Alan's other past work) should certainly check it out. 3/5  
([soundofthesea.org](http://soundofthesea.org))

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.

The Lakewood Observer Serving  
Lakewood Residents & Businesses Best, For 16 Years  
In Print & Online  
And Now In 20 Other  
Communities!  
Isn't it time you joined with  
this history making,  
award winning project?

CALL  
216.407.6818  
TODAY!

WOODSTOCK  
Smoke Joint

Cleveland  
MAGAZINE  
BEST OF  
CLEVELAND  
2016  
BEST BARBECUE  
Winner

BBQ WHISKEY BEER  
\$5 MULE MONDAYS  
\$2 TACO TUESDAY  
\$6 WING WEDNESDAY  
\$12 RIB THURSDAY  
HAPPY HOUR 4-7 P.M.  
ALWAYS SMOKING...

KITCHEN HOURS  
MONDAY – THURSDAY – 4PM–10PM  
FRIDAY – 4PM–11PM  
SATURDAY – 12PM–11PM  
SUNDAY – 12PM–9PM  
BAR IS OPEN LATER...  
HAPPY HOUR MONDAY – FRIDAY 4 PM – 7 PM

13362 MADISON AVE.  
LAKEWOOD, OHIO + (216) 226-8828

Celebrating Over 16 Years of Free Speech and Intellectual Diversity in Lakewood, Ohio: [www.lakewoodobserver.com](http://www.lakewoodobserver.com)



Lakewood's Star Gazer



SEPTEMBER

**Aries:** Let up on the gas pedal this month Ram...we know you're always driving in the fast lane, the Sun is shining on your house of Health...just want to make sure you make it to the finish line.

**Taurus:** Some action in the Bull Pen's romantic corner this month, throw that red cape out the window, & opt for some red roses instead, your creativity is in full force, along with children.

**Gemini:** Lots of activity around the home front for the Twins, you may be considering a trip overseas, or some involvement with foreign affairs, career is a bit foggy, keep your eyes open.

**Cancer:** Networking is the name of the game for our Crabs, hit the books, the PC, create a Zoom class, you've got the green light, buy a lotto ticket, luck with money coming from another source.

**Leo:** Your finances are getting a boost this month, throw a huge party in that Jungle of your Lion/Lioness, Lady Luck has also landed in your house of relationships, personal & business.

**Virgo:** Take care of your physical being this month, with the Sun shining on Virgos, you've got some extra energy coming your way, just because you feel like Superman though don't try flying.

**Libra:** There is quite a bit of action behind the scenes, go into your think tank this month, but remember when

you finally come out behind closed doors you will have to make a decision.

**Scorpio:** Come out of your cave Scorpion, this month the Sun is shining on your groups, organizations, & friends, home & family are also getting a lucky boost from benefic Jupiter.

**Sagittarius:** Career is getting a boost for the Centaur this month, aim that bow & arrow right at the Bulls-eye & you'll see results, spend some time networking, & dive into some journaling.

**Capricorn:** Jupiter is shining on the Goat's finances this month, your perseverance has paid off, there's some interest in foreign affairs as well, maybe

a study program overseas, hmmn...

**Aquarian:** Your health is your #1 focus this month Aquarian, get thee to the gym, do Yoga by the Lake, or just walk the Metroparks, everything in moderation, focus on transformation.

**Pisces:** The Sun is shining on the other side of the pond for the Fish, personal/business relationships take center stage, however, your luck comes from working underwater.

*Eva Starr, local astrologer, has been studying the moon & stars since she could read. Starr can be reached at [evastarr.com](http://evastarr.com)*

TROY BRATZ

Real Estate Agent

Residential / Commercial

Lakewood Resident

216.702.2196

TroyBratz@KW.com

@TroyBratzKW

kwELEVATE

KELLERWILLIAMS.

SOLD

SELL now for top dollar

BUY for your future

INVEST in the community

A VOICE FOR SENIORS IN OUR COMMUNITY

ELECT KEITH DAVEY

FOR LAKEWOOD CITY COUNCIL-AT-LARGE

- Expedite the development of the former Lakewood Hospital site.
- Hire More Police Officers (6-8) immediately.
- Expand transportation options for seniors. Bring back the Circulator.
- Increase recycling for residents.
- Restore trust and transparency in Lakewood City Government

PROVERBS 3:5-6

PLEASE VOTE SEPTEMBER 14



Lakewood Observer

Native Couple Live Mohican Dream

by Miguel DeJesus

Halfway between Cleveland and Columbus in the heart of Ohio's Mohican Valley, lies a magical oasis straight out of a fairytale. The Mohicans Treehouse Resort and Wedding Venue inhabits 77 private acres of beautiful indigenous landscape overlooking rolling hills and winding roads.

The hotel is owned by husband and wife team, Kevin and Laura Mooney whose childhood memories of spending time on the Mohican River and its surrounding woods left an indelible impression. In 2005, they took a leap of faith and purchased a portion of wooded land in the village of Glenmont. The couple has deep roots in our community. Kevin grew up in Lakewood, went to St. Edward High School, and Laura went to Lakewood

High. Later on, Kevin ran a successful financial consulting business for 15 years right in our backyard on Madison Avenue.

The couple built several cabins in their newly purchased acreage but then changed focus after seeing a book about treehouses. In 2011, they collaborated with Pete Nelson, the host of Animal Planet's Treehouse Masters, on early treehouse designs. The family business has since expanded significantly to include cabins, treehouses, and a breathtaking wedding venue which quickly became the property's crown jewel and one of the most sought-after wedding venues in the Midwest. Their most recent addition -- Treehouse Provisions, is a virtual/ghost kitchen in Cleveland's West Park neighborhood that specializes in gourmet fast food and catering.



The White Oak Treehouse

The resort boasts a luxurious cabin collection consisting of 10 state-of-art treehouses, including The Silver Bullet (a 31 foot Airstream trailer treehouse), 4 grounds cabins, and 2 country homes. Sustainability is evident throughout the property with repurposed and recycled features including 100-year old barn siding, reused windows, doors, and cabinets and artisan-crafted hand-hewn beams. These vintage elements are complimented by lavish touches, including

chandeliers, high-end furniture, and luxurious bedding. New projects in development include a glamping tent treehouse, a tiny house, and a 2nd Airstream ground cabin.

The Mohicans Treehouse Resort and Wedding Venue falls in a distinctive category of destinations ideal for couples and families looking to escape their daily routines for a quick, safe, and easy getaway during these unpredictable and precarious times.



Little Red Treehouse featured in "Treehouse Masters."

St. Augustine Health Campus

Volunteer Opportunity

by Lia Serpico

Imagine having a medical appointment, being confined to a wheelchair with limited function and a transport company drops you off and picks you up later. You are there alone, with some sight, hearing or cognition limitations and no family to go with you. You might not be able to understand the doctor and when your appointment is over, you are just sitting alone, hoping

that they didn't forget about you.

Resident Escorts accompany our residents from the nursing home to their appointment and back. Resident escorts are often the feet, hands, eyes, ears for the resident and make them feel safe and secure when away from their familiar surrounds. We are seeing an increase in the number of off-site medical appointments since COVID shut things down last year.

Resident appointments are usually scheduled a few weeks in advance.

We reach out to Resident Escorts to see if you are available on that specific date and time. If so, you will meet a resident here at St. Augustine, ride with them in the transport van and stay with them throughout their appointment. When you return, you will escort the resident back to their room and give any paperwork and any details you are aware of from the appointment to their nurse.

Most appointments times are in the early part of the day. Length of appointments can vary.

Contact the Volunteer Dept. at 216.939.7602 or [dcarns@st-aug.org](mailto:dcarns@st-aug.org)

Dana Carns is the Director of Advancement for the St. Augustine Health Campus.

Elect Laura Rodriguez-Carbone To

Lakewood City Council At-Large

by Rosalyn Matthews

On Sept. 14, 2021, there is a critical primary election for the three At-Large Lakewood City Council positions. As a proud Lakewood resident, I want to see our community continue to thrive as we confront challenges that many other communities across the country share. Lakewood is unique in so many ways; our beautiful lakefront, our diversity, and our wealth of small businesses have made our city one of the best places to live in Ohio. Building a future for Lakewood that is inclusive, capable of responding to public health needs, and supportive of our business community will help ensure our city is strong for the generations to come. I believe Laura Rodriguez-Carbone is a leader for Lakewood's future, and I

hope you will join me in voting for her in this upcoming election.

Lakewood's small businesses, a crucial source of tax revenue for our city, have struggled throughout the pandemic. Laura knows we need to prioritize support for our small businesses, which is why she has proposed an Economic Recovery Office to help ensure the federal funds Lakewood will receive prioritize small businesses and help address economic equality in our community. Implementation of this Economic Recovery Office will help to put the key infrastructure in place to support small business now and in the future.

**Read the rest of this endorsement and others at: [lakewoodobserver.com](http://lakewoodobserver.com)**

painting

**Neubert**  
PAINTING

Serving Northeast Ohio Homeowners since 1975

Quality Painting.  
THAT'S ALL WE DO!

Call us at  
216-529-0360  
for a Free Consultation!  
[neubertpainting.com](http://neubertpainting.com)

**BENTLEY**  
WEALTH MANAGEMENT OF  
**RAYMOND JAMES®**

**MICHAEL A. BENTLEY**  
Vice President, Investments

Bentley Wealth Management of Raymond James  
159 Crocker Park Blvd, Suite 390 // Westlake, OH 44145  
O 440.801.1629 // C 216.513.0933 // F 440.801.1636  
[www.bentleywealthmanagement.com](http://www.bentleywealthmanagement.com) // [michael.bentley@raymondjames.com](mailto:michael.bentley@raymondjames.com)

© 2016 Raymond James & Associates, Inc., member New York Stock Exchange / SIPC. Raymond James® and LIFE WELL PLANNED® are registered trademarks of Raymond James Financial, Inc. 16-BR3AP-0073 TA 04/16



LakewoodAlive

# Registration Is Now Open For LakewoodAlive’s 14th Annual Spooky Pooch Parade

by Jacqueline Bon

Attention dog lovers! Tickets are now on sale to register your dog(s) for the 2021 Spooky Pooch Parade. This popular canine celebration is back in-person in a new location. LakewoodAlive’s 14th Annual Spooky Pooch Parade takes place on Saturday, October 16, from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. at Madison Park in Lakewood’s Birdtown neighborhood.

Sponsored by Discount Drug Mart, the family-friendly Spooky Pooch Parade consists of a free-to-attend festival at Madison Park, a parade along Madison Avenue and surrounding streets and an awards presentation. A favorite autumn tradition for Northeast Ohio dog lovers, this community festival represents a one-of-a-kind event within the region, providing a tail-wagging good time for canine and human guests alike.

Festivities get underway with the Spooky Pooch Festival beginning at 12:30 p.m. at Madison Park, during which attendees can enjoy entertainment, children’s games and dog-related vendors.

The dog parade commences at 2 p.m. Dogs of all shapes and sizes dressed in their finest Halloween fashions will strut their stuff as judges will award prizes including Best Pooch & Child, Best Pooch & Adult, Best Pooch



& Group, Spookiest Pooch and Best in Show. One lucky winner will receive one year’s worth of free dog food courtesy of Pet’s General Store. Contestants must register and participate in the parade in order to be eligible to win a prize.

Pre-registration is \$10 per dog and

day-of registration is \$15 per dog. Multiple dog discounts are available with pre-registration only. Humans are free. This community event takes place rain or shine, and proceeds from the parade benefit LakewoodAlive, community centered nonprofit organization.

“We are thrilled to host the

Spooky Pooch Parade at Madison Park as Kauffman Park undergoes major improvements,” said Ian Andrews, Executive Director of LakewoodAlive. “This annual celebration of canines, costumes and community will make for a fun and memorable day at the park.”

More information about Spooky Pooch Parade will be unveiled in the coming weeks. To learn more and register your dog(s), please visit: [LakewoodAlive.org/SpookyPooch](http://LakewoodAlive.org/SpookyPooch).

The 14th Annual Spooky Pooch Parade is generously supported by the following sponsors:

- Title Sponsor:**  
Discount Drug Mart
- Top Dog Sponsor:**  
City of Lakewood
- Dedicated Dog Sponsors:**  
Inn the Doghouse | Milo & Me | Pet’s General Store
- Poochy Sponsor:**  
Lakewood Public Library, Madison Branch

*Jacqueline Bon is the Marketing & Development Coordinator at the LakewoodAlive. She enjoys the people, places and events that make Lakewood a uniquely beautiful community.*

# Lakewood Community Festival Set For Madison Park

by Karen Karp

Celebrate family, community and cultural heritage at the 33rd annual Lakewood Community Festival on Saturday, September 11, 2021 at Madison Park, 13029 Madison Avenue. The day of fun and activities for the entire family will take place from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., rain or shine.

The festival is known for a delicious array of nationality foods including stuffed cabbage, pierogis, potato pancakes, kielbasa with kraut and more. There will be pizza, of course, and alternative selections as well. Save room for kolaches, baklava and other traditional ethnic pastries, plus ice cream and other desserts.

For the kiddos, the festivities will include an inflatable obstacle course, balloons, crafts, games and hands-on



The iconic green and white tent at the Lakewood Community Festival.

giant bubbles.

Keep a look out for the team from the Rocky River Nature Center. They will provide the opportunity to discover and learn about the wild animals



There will be games and prizes for the kiddos.

who make Ohio their home.

Throughout the day, musical entertainment will be provided by 2 Guys 12 Strings (11 a.m.), Frank Moravcik and the Band (noon), Crawley and Sofranko (1 p.m.), The Polka Pirates (2 p.m.), The Top Rail Band (3 p.m.) and The Jobs (4 p.m.).

The festival, sponsored by the Lakewood Community Festival, Inc. and the City of Lakewood, is traditionally the last event of the summer. Proceeds from the festival are donated to various Lakewood community organizations.

*Karen Karp is a member of the Lakewood Community Festival Committee.*

Keep SARAH KEPPLE on Lakewood City Council



ENDORSED BY







Visit [keppleforcouncil.com](http://keppleforcouncil.com)

Paid for by Friends of Sarah Kepple



# The Back Page



## Carabel Beauty Salon & Store

Full Service Salon For Females

**Color Your World**

**Spice up your life for Red heads!**

**Add Pink highlights to your Natural Grey hair for fun.**

**New tones for Classic Blondes.**

Follow Us On Facebook To See Accessories and New Ideas!

CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT FOR BEST SERVICE.  
FREE PRIVATE PARKING. CHECK WITH ID OR CASH

**15309 MADISON AVENUE • 216.226.8616**

## Skettle Automotive

15501 Madison Avenue, Lakewood, OH

**NOW OPEN ON SATURDAY**

**Tim Skettle Owner, Technician**

Formerly at Steve Barry Buick

For an appointment CALL

**216.226.5993**

# health markets

The Smarter Way to Shop...

- Health
- Medicare
- Small Group
- Life Insurance
- Supplemental
- Long-Term Care
- Retirement

Call today for your FREE QUOTE!

**216-228-0765**

[www.clevelandinsurance.info](http://www.clevelandinsurance.info)

16506 Detroit Rd. Lakewood, OH 44107

**Carl Lishing** Licensed Insurance Agent

HealthMarkets Insurance Agency is the d/b/a, or assumed name, of Insphere Insurance Solutions, Inc. which is licensed as an insurance agency in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Not all agents are licensed to sell all products. Service and product availability varies by state HMIA000589

## A ticket out of help tickets

It's not fantasy.  
It's Cox Business Cloud Solutions.

**End-user help desking.** Help tickets. So, so many help tickets. They never stop and they stop you from tackling the big stuff. Well, get this. Cox Business Cloud Solutions will take over your help desk, taking all those help tickets off your plate. That's right, users come directly to us instead of you. And we deliver some of the best response times and first-call-resolution rates in the industry. Go ahead. Have a little cry. Then give us a call.

**Let's Talk Reality**  
[coxbusiness.com/cloud](http://coxbusiness.com/cloud) | 866-961-1075

**COX**  
BUSINESS®

Cloud  
Solutions

Seamless Migration | End-User Help Desk | Included Co-Management | All-In Pricing

PAD107499-0011

## Are you facing a legal problem that impacts Health? Housing? Family? Money? Employment?

Contact Legal Aid!

Browse legal information or apply for help 24/7 online: [www.lasclev.org](http://www.lasclev.org)

Or, call 888.817.3777 during most business hours.

Legal Aid thanks the Healthy Lakewood Foundation for its outreach support!