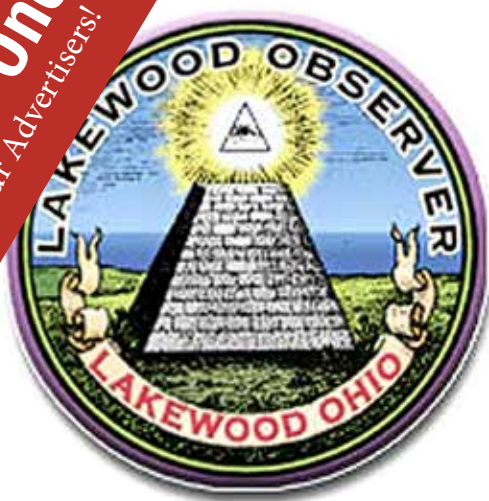


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THE LAKEWOOD OBSERVER

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Volume 19, Issue 7, April 5, 2023

Parents Suggest Other Options To Protect Current Music And Physical Ed Programs

by Betsy Voinovich

If you're not up to speed on the situation, here it is: In elementary school, extra curricular activities like art, gym and music are called “specials.”

The Lakewood City School District recently decided to add two new specials: STEM and Digital Literacy. They assigned these new subjects equal weight with the exist-

ing specials and decided that to include the new specials the time allotted for the existing ones must be cut in half.

The problem is that all of the specials don't have equal weight.

In an effort to create “equity” among the specials offerings for elementary students, the District will make it more difficult for kids to learn in every subject by drastically reducing the amount of time they spend on two subjects that aren't like the others: music and physical education.

Studies show that when children are exposed to music education at an early age, it affects their brain development, literally creating new neural pathways of understanding. Like any new language, it takes regular practice to be effective.

Studies also show that young children need to move during the day, to stimulate their bodies with physical education in order to better stimulate their minds. The studies that show the increase in obesity in children speak for themselves.

Each of these subjects allow children to rewire and refresh their minds and bodies

in order to better apply themselves to every subject they're taking during the day.

Educators have known about the importance of music and physical education for a long time. When parents found out that after several committee meetings the District had decided to cut in half the time that their children have to spend in these two subjects, they were alarmed.

The Lakewood City School District is known for its music programs and many expressed dismay at the fact that the District is considering removing the elementary school building blocks that make that program possible.

They have been making their feelings known in every way possible, attending board meet-

ings and speaking up during the 3 minute time slots allotted, calling, writing letters and emails to school board members, and starting a petition.

No one is questioning that there is validity to offering primary students STEM and digital literacy lessons. The objection is to the way it is being structured.

Parents, teachers and other residents have been proposing other schedule breakdowns that illustrate how the hours for music and gym could be preserved.

When comparing the length of the Lakewood elementary school day to school day lengths in surrounding districts, Lakewood parents

continued on page 4

Superintendent Listen & Learn April 18

by Christine Gordillo

Superintendent Maggie Niedzwiecki's last Listen & Learn of the school year will be on Tuesday, April 18 at 6 pm at Taft Center for Innovation, 13701 Lake Ave. Listen & Learns are a chance for parents and community members to speak directly with the superintendent about any concerns or thoughts about the District. As a bonus with this final session, a tour of Taft will be provided afterward for those who may want to see our Board of Education offices, which in 2019 underwent a complete renovation from a former elementary school. The session will conclude by 7 pm. Feel free to drop in any time!

Summer To Success:

Summer Jobs For 14-18 Year Olds In Lakewood



Lakewood teen Parker participated in the U.O.U. Summer jobs program in 2022.

by Kate Ingersoll

Lakewood teens! Want to earn \$13.50 an hour this summer while learning new skills? Apply now for the Youth Opportunities Unlimited Summer Youth Employment Program.

Current eighth graders (age 14 by June 1) through high school seniors are eligible

for this six-week, 25 hours per week experience. Worksites are with nonprofit organizations and small businesses within five miles of your residence.

The deadline to apply is May 1, 2023. To learn more, visit www.youcle.org/syep or call the Summer Jobs Info Line at 216-776-3900.

CORRECTION

In the last edition of the Lakewood Observer (March 15, 2023, Volume 19, Issue 6) in the article "Parents Protest Gutting Of Music And Physical Education Programs In Lakewood Elementary Schools," Art was left out of the description of the specials rotation. Part of the impetus for the change was to find a way to get more Art time, which is only taught for one quarter. Additionally, the article stated that the Digital Literacy classes would be taught by Library Media Assistants who are not certified teachers. The Digital Literacy classes will be taught by Library Media Specialists who are certified and part of the LTA. All three current Media Specialists hold Masters Degrees and have previous classroom teaching experience.

LHS Teachers Get Emergency Training From Lakewood Fire And Police



Lakewood Fire Department teamed up with Lakewood Police to take the time to show teachers ways they could save lives if a student should get injured with a puncture wound.

It was clear how hard the teachers worked to understand what was in the safety bucket, and how to use the items correctly. The bucket contains a variety of things that can be used in an emergency, from simple accidents to class lock downs. As always Lakewood Fire and Police did an amazing job working with the teachers.

THE MAYOR’S CORNER

Looking At Bringing The Circulator Back

by Mayor Meghan George

Many of us fondly remember the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority’s (GCRTA) Community Circulator service that existed in Lakewood for over a decade in the late 1990s and early 2000s. This flexible transit program provided affordable fares and convenient access to destinations across our city, with a focus on those who faced mobility issues, especially our seniors and disabled. The program was highly used, extremely popular with its riders, and deeply mourned when it went away. Now, with the support of a grant from Cuyahoga County, the City of Lakewood is pursuing a study to determine whether some service like the Community Circulator could ride again.

Since 2009, when RTA eliminated the Community Circulator program in a budget-motivated move, there has been ongoing dialogue about whether the service could be resurrected. As one of the most dense cities between New York and Chicago, Lakewood certainly has the critical mass of population to justify the service. In addition, our high number of seniors who lack personal vehicles and may not be able to



RTA Circulators have been gone, could Lakewood bring them back?

walk significant distances suggest that a circulator would be in high demand. With all this in mind, our Planning and Development Department approached Cuyahoga County to explore whether dollars might be available to hire a consultant to develop a feasibility plan. That grant application was successful, and we hope to kick off that planning process soon, and explore community needs, potential

demand, possible revenue sources, and models for service. On behalf of the City of Lakewood, I want to extend thanks to Cuyahoga County Councilman Dale Miller, whose support was crucial to our

successful grant submission. Councilman Miller has a deep understanding and personal focus on the needs that a renewed community circulator can address. We appreciate his vision and his support. It’s important to keep in mind that at this stage, the City of Lakewood is only committed to exploring the feasibility of the renewed circulator. We will be engaging key stakeholders in this process to make that determination. That begins with you – our Lakewood residents – but it also extends to possible partners, including the GCRTA, the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA), Cuyahoga County, the local philanthropic community, and others.

My office and the Planning and Development Department will continue providing updates on the process as it moves forward.

Save The Date For The
2023 State Of The City Address!
Please join us at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 13th
at the Cove Community Center



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CITY COUNCIL NEWS

Lakewood City Council's Use Of American Rescue Plan Funds

by John Litten

editor's note: The following letter was submitted to Council at the most recent Committee of the Whole meeting:

RE: American Rescue Plan Funds and City Council Priorities

Dear Colleagues:

As you know, the City of Lakewood has been awarded a generous amount of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to be designated by the end of 2024, and drawn down by the end of 2026. City Council has worked diligently with the George Administration to utilize those funds for their many intended purposes, including a majority portion going toward our aging sewer and waste water treatment infrastructure.

In discussions with the George Administration, understanding their priorities and where they are both similar and different from those of City Council, I propose the following allocations of these one-time funds:

Allocate \$600,000 to a shared City Council purpose. This is one we would collectively vote upon, and could take the form of multiple projects, one project or a shared project with the administration or another entity.

Allocate \$1,400,000 to divide amongst the seven members of City Council (\$200,000 each) to help tackle emerging needs that may exist in individual wards or within individual priorities of City Council Members. Sharing and collaboration amongst members and the administration is not only allowed, it is encouraged.

Allocate or defer \$1,000,000 for the next City Council to utilize in 2024 and beyond, acknowledging that the needs of now and later may differ, and that these one-time funds do have a long window.

While this communication seeks to designate a total of \$3,000,000 in ARPA funds to city council's discretion, it also acknowledges that Lakewood's needs and challenges are those of both the executive and legislative branch to tackle. This shared purpose is important. We ought not view a priority of the administration as "already taken" if shared resources might be beneficial and vice versa.

Likewise, for outside funding of priorities, we ought to consider if there are other, easily accessible funds from another source for the same purpose. Where Cuyahoga County has an existing ARPA priority, we might defer to those funds rather than using our own,

for instance.

While there are nearby examples of ARPA funds being reclassified out of revenue replacement, we should still prioritize and promote projects that are within the scope of allowable ARPA guidelines. Similarly, as has been made clear, these are one-time funds. Thus, projects and proposals ought to be made with this in mind. Projects

that would add funding requirements upon the city beyond the use of these ARPA funds should not be considered. Examples include creating additional city positions, departments or other annual burdens.

Lastly, I propose a shared application process, so that our residents, non-profit organizations, city departments and others have a sole means to apply for funding as opposed to as many as seven different methods. This will also assist our council office in organizing projects and finding similarities.

I look forward to further discussion, but more importantly, I look forward to how we can work together for the betterment of life in Lakewood, Ohio.

Sincerely,

John Litten
Council President, Ward 3



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LAKEWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY

April Events At Lakewood Public Library

by Lisa Calfee
Film- Signs of Humanity (2016)

Presented by Director Willie Baronet
Wednesday, April 5, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.
Main Library Auditorium
Over the years, artist and professor Willie Baronet has purchased thousands of signs created by people living on the streets. In 2014, Baronet and three other filmmakers went on a cross-country trip and interviewed more than 100 people. "Signs of Humanity" is a documentary about this trip that explores homelessness, compassion, humanity and the idea of home.
Join filmmaker Willie Baronet as he leads us in the screening of his film presented in collaboration with One Community Reads.

Meet the Author - "Hidden History of Cleveland Sports"

Book by Marc Bona
Wednesday, April 12, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.
Main Library Auditorium
Cleveland sports history goes well beyond The Shot, The Fumble, The Drive and so many other ignoble moments. Many of the city's most illustrious sports tales are long-forgotten chapters of tribulations and tragedy, of fleeting fame and enduring milestones. From basketball to boxing, hockey to Heisman, journalist Marc Bona chronicles more than a century of unremembered tales. Bona is a features writer for cleveland.com and The Plain Dealer. Books will be available for sale and signing at this event.

Lakewood Public Cinema - "Vertigo" (Alfred Hitchcock, 1958)

Saturday April 15, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.
Main Library Auditorium
A retired police detective (James Stewart) is hired by a rich businessman to shadow his wayward wife (Kim Novak). He pursues her all over San Francisco, eventually falling in love and becoming obsessed with her. Sexual obsession has always been a major theme of Hitchcock's. With Stewart as his surrogate, this obsession has never been more obvious, or more personal. Terry Meehan presents a new series, Hitchcock's Best (1958-1963), introducing each film with an original video followed by audience reaction and a lively discussion.

Knit & Lit Book Club

April 18, 2023 "Just Mercy: A Story of Justice" by Bryan Stevenson
Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m.
Main Library Meeting Room
Come share your passion for great literature and show off your knitting, crocheting, counted cross-stitch, embroidery and quilting works-in-progress.

Booked for Murder Book Club

April 20, 2023 "The Memory Man" by David Baldacci
Thursdays at 7:00 p.m.
Main Library Meeting Room
If you share a passion for mystery, join the group each month to discuss your favorites and selections made by group members.

Meet the Author- "A Life in the Wings"

Book by David Spero
Wednesday, April 26, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.
Main Library Auditorium
David Spero has been a manager to Michael Stanley, Joe Walsh, Yusuf Islam (Cat Stevens), Dickey Betts, John Fogerty and a close friend to Jackson Browne and Glenn Frey. From cue card holder on the Upbeat show when he was thirteen years old to becoming one of the pioneers in the new FM Radio format, his career has spanned sixty years. He has stood 'in the wings' of some of rock and roll's top acts. Books will be available for sale and signing at this event.

Children's And Youth Services Programs

by Jeffrey Siebert
Pre-school Story Time

For You and Your 2 to 5-Year-Old Pre-schooler
Main Library- Tuesdays, April 4- April 25, 2023
10:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m.
11:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
Wednesdays, April 5- April 26, 2023
11:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
Madison Branch- Thursdays, April 6- April 27, 2023
10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
This pre-school story time is ideal for walkers, new talkers, and learning early literacy skills. You and your toddler and preschoolers will enjoy short books, songs and rhymes. The focus is on skills with your participation as a model. Registration is required.

Just Baby 'N Me

For You and Your Birth to 24-Month-Old Baby
Wednesdays, April 5- April 26, 2023
10:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m.
6:00 p.m.-6:30 p.m.
Thursdays, April 6- April 27, 2023 10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
Just Baby 'N Me is a lap-sit story time ideal for babies from birth through early walkers. The focus is on rhymes, songs, finger plays and exploring short books together. Registration is required.

Pajama Party

For You and Your 2 to 6 Year-Old Child
Tuesdays, April 4- April 25, 2023
6:00-6:30 p.m.
Make the Library a part of your bedtime routine with an evening story time. Children are encouraged to wear their favorite pajamas and bring their stuffed animal friends to snuggle. Join us as we wind down for the night. This four-week story time is ideal for walkers, new talkers, and learning early literacy skills. You and your children will enjoy short books, songs and rhymes. The focus is on skills with your participation as a model. Registration is required. Register once for all four weeks.

Family Weekend Wonders

Main Library- Fridays and Saturdays at 10:30 a.m.
Madison Branch- Fridays at 10:30 a.m.
Looking for weekend entertainment for the whole family? Look no further! Drop in to the Library's special weekend story time. Your whole family will enjoy these programs full of enthusiastic stories, engaging activities, entertaining music and clever crafts. Family Weekend Wonders Drop-In Story Time is offered every weekend throughout the year and features a different theme each week to keep things engaging. No registration is required.

Adapted Story Time

For You and Your 3 to 7 Year-Old Child
In this story time, children with varying learning styles and abilities will learn with their caregivers in a safe, supportive environment, where respect and appreciation for differences is encouraged. This thirty-minute story time is designed for children who may not be flourishing in a traditional story time experience. Siblings may also attend. Please register each child who will attend. Registration is required. Register online at <https://connectingforkids.org/library>.

To sign up for any program, register online at lakewoodpubliclibrary.org/youth or call (216) 226-8275, ext. 140.

Parents Suggest Other Options To Protect Music And PE

continued from page 1

discovered that Lakewood's elementary school day is a full period shorter than almost every other district. Increasing the length of the elementary school day by one period would accommodate all of the specials easily.
A different plan shows how lengthening the elementary school day by only 5 minutes could accommodate the additional specials.

Another possibility is that STEM learning, which is more of an approach to learning than it is a stand alone class, be incorporated into existing math and science lessons. Several educators who have experience with STEM learning in elementary schools have spoken to the Board

and made the point that at this early level, STEM is most effective and appropriate when integrated into classroom lessons. If STEM was not classified as a special, and was incorporated into the curriculum, there would be more time in the day for extracurricular activities.
All of these suggestions have been brought before the Superintendent and the Lakewood Board of Education and on Monday night, the parents were more passionate than ever. One teacher and former Lakewood resident, Abbie Norman, summed up what every parent was saying:
"Building the plane while it's in the air is not the best policy, especially with our amazing kids and our amazing programs here. We can do better than that."

She quoted Board Member Shaughnessy from a couple weeks ago: "We don't have to tear down one program to lift the other ones up." We don't have to tear down the music program to build up the other specials... What I'm asking is, please, slow

down, reconsider, collaborate with the community, and find a better way to get what you want without tearing down a program that has been built over the past 40 years by all these amazing people here. It is so important. Slow down."

Some FAQs About District Specials Change

continued from page 5

principles and the opportunity to apply math skills will be present in the STEM special.
Will there be any changes to the instrumental music program?

No. The instrumental program will continue to begin in 5th grade.
We appreciate you taking the time to read and hopefully, this has provided a better understanding of what the new schedule will entail and the reasoning behind it.

FORUM

Some FAQs About District Specials Change

by Christine Gordillo

In February, the Lakewood City Schools administration announced that it would accept the recommendation put forth by a co-facilitated committee tasked at evaluating our elementary specials rotation. The recommendation was to revise the schedule so that students will experience the current specials of art, music and physical education each week throughout the school year and to introduce two new specials - STEM and Library - Information and Digital Literacy - to the rotation. We hope that this list of FAQs will clarify some of the questions and/or concerns that have been raised in the community and with our administration and Board of Education members:

What prompted this change?
Our classroom teachers and specials teachers advocated for our team to take a look at our specials schedule to see if we could provide students access to offerings throughout the entire school year and to see if there were ways to preserve classroom time (currently library visits and lessons from our STEM teachers are taking time from them).

A presentation given to the Board of Education by the two co-facilitators of the specials schedule committee, Director of Teaching and Learning Steven Ast and teacher Jessie Holland, goes into detail about the reasoning behind the change (presentation is available at lakewoodcityschools.org). The committee that developed the new schedule included classroom teachers, specials teachers, a student wellness specialist, principals, and district administrators.

What is Library - Information and Digital Literacy?
Library - Information and Digital Literacy will focus on the following areas:
An introduction to the library focused on how to use the library to support learning in the Lakewood City Schools and beyond.

The ability for students to check out books on a routine basis from the library in order to foster a love of reading.

Research Skills and Information literacy - Students will learn how to evaluate different sources of information (written and electronic) and make determinations about what is a good source or bad source of information.

Digital Citizenship - Students will be introduced to the various elements of digital citizenship. Digital Citizenship can be identified as the norms of appropriate and responsible behavior with regards to the use of technology at home and within school/work.

Media Balance and Well-Being - Students go beyond screen time to explore the impact their digital lives can have on their well-being and relationships while learning to balance media in their everyday lives.

Privacy and Security - Students learn how to protect personal information and gain a deeper understanding of their data privacy rights so they can advocate for themselves and others.

Digital Footprint and Identity - Students consider the benefits and

risks of online sharing and explore how a digital persona can affect one's sense of self, reputation, and relationships.

Relationships and Communication - Students reflect on how to build positive relationships, avoid risky online talk, and understand why some topics and conversations can best lend themselves to certain mediums.

Cyberbullying, Digital Drama and Hate Speech - Students take on these tough topics and play the active role of upstander to build positive, supportive online communities and combat online cruelty.

News and Media Literacy - Students identify credible and trustworthy information sources and reflect on their responsibilities as thoughtful media creators and consumers.

Technology Skills - Students will be provided an overview of their Google Apps for Education account and the features it entails (docs, slides, sheets, Gmail, etc.). Taking into consideration online testing begins in the 3rd grade, students in the earlier grade levels will be provided time to develop keyboarding skills.

Career exploration
Supporting students' work toward all of the competencies of the Vision of a Lakewood Graduate

Who will teach the Library - Information and Digital Literacy classes?

The class will be taught by licensed teachers from the Lakewood Teachers Association that hold at minimum a bachelor's degree and have met the requirements set by the Ohio Department of Education. While we will be adding additional members to the library team across the District to better serve our students, our current three library media specialists collectively have over 50 years of service along with previous teaching experience.

How will each current special be affected?

Art
Currently students receive art instruction every other day for one grading period

In the new schedule students will receive art instruction once a week for the entire school year

Library
Currently we have three librarians serving 11 buildings and there is not a systematic approach to teaching Library - Information and Digital Literacy, digital citizenship, internet safety, technology skills, and some of the library standards. Teachers can sign their class up for a visit to the library, which can include the reading of a story and a book checkout.

The new schedule provides students with weekly instruction and time to learn about the library, its resources, ways they can support and enhance their learning, technology skills, library standards, information literacy, and internet safety and digital citizenship by a teacher serving only two buildings that can also support the learning taking place in the classroom.

Music

Currently our students K-4 receive general music instruction every other day all school year and students in 5th grade can take instrumental music.

Our new schedule does not change students' access to instrumental music at 5th grade. General music will meet once a week all school year.

Physical Education
Currently our students receive three grading periods of physical education on an every other day basis (opposite of music).

The new schedule gives students access to physical education once a week throughout the entire school year.

STEM
Students currently receive approximately two STEM lessons a month.
On the new schedule, STEM will be a once a week all school year.

What is the STEM special?
Students will gain valuable experience with and a strong understanding of the design process through problem-solving and project-based learning experiences that will provide learning of technology and engineering principles while expanding their application of science and mathematics. Adding dedicated time to STEM fulfills a

promise made during the 2020 levy campaign to expand STEM offerings. This was based on a survey where 77% of respondents selected STEM expansion as the most preferred use of taxpayer money among eight other options offered.

Will any jobs or funding be cut for the specials that are losing instructional time?

No.
Will choir still be an option for our elementary students?

Yes, and with three of our music teachers now available to support our music programs in different ways. We are working with the music team to see how they can potentially include a vocal option during the school day and/or support programming at the middle school and high school. We have asked the music department for its recommendation and will work with the department to determine the best ways to best serve our students.

Will math instruction be shifted to the STEM special?

No, there will be no change to classroom math instruction, but math

continued on page 4

Community Must Be Consulted On Changes To Elementary School Specials Schedule

Dear Editor:
The Lakewood City School Board was presented with a recommendation to change the specials rotation at the elementary schools. The change brings drastic cuts to current music and PE classes. At the March 20, 2023 board meeting, each board member referred to the presentation provided at the Feb 21st meeting as the source that will answer all questions the community has raised. In reviewing the video, 02/21/2023 Lakewood City Schools Board of Education Meeting - YouTube, and the presentation, there are a few items that should be further clarified to the community.

The co-facilitated committee of fourteen members met three times from November 2022 to January of 2023. The committee of specials and classroom teachers and administration explored what was being done in other districts. There was no research or in depth analysis of recommended course instruction for our youngest learners to figure out which specials provide the best foundation; they just explored ideas from other districts. One would think curriculum changes should warrant more consideration than what the neighbors are doing. Interestingly the districts are not noted in any capacity so one cannot determine which districts or how many were referenced. What made the scale on the rotations chart as "most common" vs "very few"? How do these other districts compare to Lakewood for population, teacher specialization, median income?

The committee members voted on a recommended schedule at their third meeting, with the 5-day rotation earning 57.1% of the vote. So, 8 committee members out of 14 determined the schedule for the upcoming school year. Eight associates determined that offering PE, Music, Art, STEM, Library/Digital Literacy once a week for each was the best course of action for our students. One wonders if the Physical Education and Art teachers that are noted for interest in year round instruction are content with only 40 minutes of instruction a week. Yes, it is year-round, for one 40 minute class a week.

PE class helps keep students active, teaches healthy habits, coordination, provides a welcome outlet for all that energy. It will be curious to see how having 1440 minutes of PE a year will continue to do so as effectively as the current 2700 minutes do.

The parent survey sent in November indicated that 315 people favored a year-round rotation with a potential addition of STEM. This community should be surveyed about the 5-day rotation that provides 40 minutes of a given special in a week. The rotation that would be replacing the current 100 minutes of music, PE, and art a week, from 3600 minutes of music a year to 1440 minutes. This should be open for public discussion and feedback.

A petition appealing to the board has been started at <https://chng.it/TcN6pGv2>
Thank you.
Lisa Majeski

LAKEWOOD SCHOOLS



Students Enjoy Trout Release Project

by Christine Gordillo

The trout eggs were given to the school by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources in January. The AP class then raised them in the 60-gallon tank in the classroom until they were given permission by the ODNR to release them the first week of March.

The release was made possible by the state Trout in the Classroom (TIC) Program, which provided a tremendous opportunity for our students to witness the growth of trout from the egg stage to the fingerling stage (2-4 in.)

Said AP teacher Rita Chahda-Gonzalez: “The exciting thing was seeing them take ownership of all the testing and monitoring, and most importantly the release of the baby trout into a state-designated lake or stream, each one to face the hazards and challenges of life in the wild.”

Chahda-Gonzalez said the trout program is much more than just releasing the trout: “I have been privileged to be part of a conservation effort and teach about the needs of an aquatic organism that is a keystone species and well-fished fish from our Great Lakes,” she said.

According to Chahda-Gonzalez, it is common knowledge that Lakewood is about 500 miles south and west of “real” trout water. Except for a small pocket of native and genetically dis-

tinct brook trout stranded by the last glacial retreat in the northeast corner of the state, trout, as far as we know, are not native to Ohio. Therefore, rainbow trout must be grown and placed in cold water streams as does the anadromous steelhead trout (a stain of rainbow trout) that run from Lake Erie to its tributaries each spring and fall. This requires clean water and proper habitat and food; all of which are closely monitored in the classroom aquarium.

The Trout in Classroom Program in Ohio is promoted and supported by the state chapters of Trout Unlimited, and the Ohio State Council of Trout Unlimited and is supported and sponsored in part by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR).

The motto of TIC is “connecting students with their watershed.” Trout Unlimited sees TIC not only as an excellent environmental education tool but as a means of building a sense of environmental responsibility into the next generation of caretakers of our streams and lakes.

The program also provided Lakewood students valuable real-world experience and was a great reflection of our global citizen and collaboration competencies of our Vision of a Lakewood Graduate!

LHS Students Earn Top State Reflections Honors

by Christine Gordillo

Congratulations to four Lakewood High students whose artwork was honored at the state level in the PTA Reflections art recognition program! Junior Edie Barcelona leads the list as the recipient in the high school dance choreography category of an Award of Excellence, Ohio PTA's highest honor. Her piece will move on to national judging.

Also earning recognition from the Ohio PTA, all in the literature category, were juniors Ashley Van Gunten, Olivia Diemert and Reagan Bratko. Ashley earned a second-place Award of Out-

standing Achievement, Olivia earned an third-place Award of Merit and Reagan earned a 2nd Honorable Mention.

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

Elementary Schools’ Specials Petition

by Betsy Voinovich

The petition titled “Keep the elementary specials rotation discussion open! 40 minutes is not enough!” launched on March 21st and in less than 2 days had 500 signatures. It now has over a thousand.

Here is what it says:

The new elementary schools spe-

cials rotation cuts PE classes by over 50% and music classes by 60%.

All K-4 students will only have 36 PE classes each year, instead of the current 67 classes a year, 36 music classes instead of the current 88.

The 5 day rotation of PE, Music, Art, STEM, Library/Digital Literacy means our youngest learners only receive one 40 min class of each during the week. Teachers will divide their time between two or more buildings each week, doubling their class load with half the time to teach.

Triumphant Wrestlers



Congratulations to our two state wrestling qualifiers, Gillian Coulson and Zayna Muntaser! Zayna is our first Regional girls wrestling champ and Gillian finished 4th!

Lakewood City School administration needs to reconsider this decision. This schedule should not be implemented for the 2022-2023 school year.

An innovative specials rotation schedule should be based upon:

- Data and detailed research to understand which specials are most beneficial by age group.
- Teacher input from all elementary grade levels.
- Open community discussion and feedback.
- Student well-being and growth.

You can find the petition at this address:

<https://www.change.org/p/keep-the-elementary-specials-rotation-discussion-open-40-min-is-not-enough?signed=true>

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LAKEWOOD SCHOOLS OBSERVED



Rotary Speech award winners (from left): Ari Frischauf, Edie Barcelona, Zoe Pace and Hutch Reed.

LHS Students Sweep Rotary Speech Contest

by Christine Gordillo

Lakewood High School juniors swept the top four spots of the Speech category in the 78th Annual Rotary Club of Lakewood & Rocky River Speech, Music, and Visual Arts Contest sponsored by Beck Center. 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. Awards are given for first through fourth place.

Leading the way was Edie Barcelona, who won \$750 and the right to move on to the district finals on April 22. Rounding out the top four were Ari

Frischauf (\$500), Zoe Pace (\$300) and Hutch Reed (\$250). This is the second straight year for an LHS speech sweep!

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?

Congratulations to all our Lakewood High School winners!

From The Superintendent: Increased Police Presence In School Buildings

by Maggie Niedzwiecki

Dear Lakewood Families:

In an effort to do all we possibly can to make our buildings as safe as possible for our students and staff, the District will be partnering with the City of Lakewood to increase the presence of police officers in our buildings.

Next week, our two student resource officers - Officer Betts and Officer Jameson, along with other officers assigned to the Special Operations

Unit, will be giving tours to all dayshift officers through each of our school buildings so all officers will have knowledge of each building layout and know how to get to specific areas in the shortest time. This will not only help our police officers be more familiar with our building layouts, in the event of a crisis it also will provide an excellent opportunity for our city's police to

continued on page 11

Connecting For Kids April Programs In Lakewood

by Lorilynn Wolf

Programs are offered in partnership with Lakewood Family Room & Lakewood Public Library and funded by the Healthy Lakewood Foundation. Due to grant funding, these programs are only open to Lakewood residents. Register at www.connectingforkids.org/outings, via email: info@connectingforkids.org or Call/Text: 440-570-5908.

Anxiety & Attention Family Support

This event is two pilot programs in one and is designed for families and their children ages 7-12 with concerns about mental health or low support needs disabilities. Kids will explore themes connected to mental health through age-appropriate activities led by Amy Mobley, MSW, LSW, CDCA of Clear Perspective Therapy. In another room, caregivers will have the opportunity to meet with CFK staff and connect with other families facing similar concerns. To register, go to connectingforkids.org/outings Thursday, April 13, 6:30 p.m. Lakewood Public Library, Main Branch

Inclusive Play & Connect

Hands-on play and support program for families with children ages 0-6 with or without disabilities.

Thursday, April 27, 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Lakewood Family Room, Cove Community Center

Programs below are open to all, regardless of residency. Register online:

www.connectingforkids.org/register, via email: info@connectingforkids.org or Call/Text: 440-570-5908.

Music Therapy & More

This program is designed for families and their children, ages 0 - 6 years, who are struggling in an area of development. Join us for a hands-on program designed to teach families how to use music to improve their child's academic, motor, communication and social skills as well as behavior. This program is led by a Board-Certified Music Therapist. connectingforkids.org/music

Saturday, April 15, 9:30 a.m., Lakewood Public Library, Main Branch

Parent Match Connect

Would you like to meet other parents who have similar experiences to your own but are further along on the path? Would it be nice to have someone to share your joys and frustrations? Do you just need someone who "gets it" and can listen? If so, attend Parent Match Connect where you'll meet our Parent Match Volunteers who will introduce themselves and their stories. Afterward, we'll break into small groups to give you the opportunity to connect with the volunteers as well as other families.

Thursday, April 20, 6:30 p.m. Lakewood Public Library, Main Branch

Lorilynn Wolf is the Communications Director for Connecting for Kids.

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LAKEWOOD IS ART©

LHS Artists' Work Chosen For Governor's Exhibit

by Christine Gordillo

Congratulations to the five Lakewood High and West Shore Career-Tech students whose artwork was selected to be part of the Ohio Governor's Youth Art Exhibition in Columbus. The work of Sophie Boyer (two pieces), Corey Johnson, Clare Morrissey, Mia Szymczyk and Lila Wright will hang in the exhibition at the James A. Rhodes State Office Tower in Columbus during April and May.

Sophia, Clare and Lila are students of Dayna Hansen, and Corey and Mia are in Anne McQuay's Media Art & Design class in the West Shore Career-Tech District.

From the 8,069 regional entries, 1,300 were selected to enter the state judging.

Judges received more than 8,000 entries from high school students across the state and from those the judges selected 348 pieces to be part of the exhibition.

In addition to the six pieces selected to be shown in Columbus, 26 other pieces of art by LHS and West Shore Career-Tech students were honored at the regional competition and moved on to state judging. The students who earned regional recognition are: Duniya Abukhalil, Kayla Baire, Sophie Boyer (4 pieces), Eliza Dreger, Turner Gilliland, Grace Hildebrandt (4 pieces), Corey Johnson, Ella Kalinowski, Rosie Lipka, Fiona Loudermilk, Nicholas Mariani, Ethnee McKissick, Clare Morrissey (4 pieces), Bee Rohrs, Mia Szymczk, Lila Wright (2 pieces)

The Ohio Governor's Youth Art Exhibition, now in its 53rd year, is open to all of Ohio's high schools, both public and private. Its purpose is to provide all budding young artists of the state with opportunities to advance their talent, whether that be through scholarships or simply experiencing the process of entering their work in a competition.



Lila Wright's "Flower" was also among the six pieces selected for the exhibit.



Sophie Boyer's "Rusty Bucket" photograph will hang in the Governor's Youth Art Exhibit.



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LAKEWOOD IS ART©

60 Bowls Art Gallery Featuring The Work Of Two Lakewoodites



by Jim O'Bryan

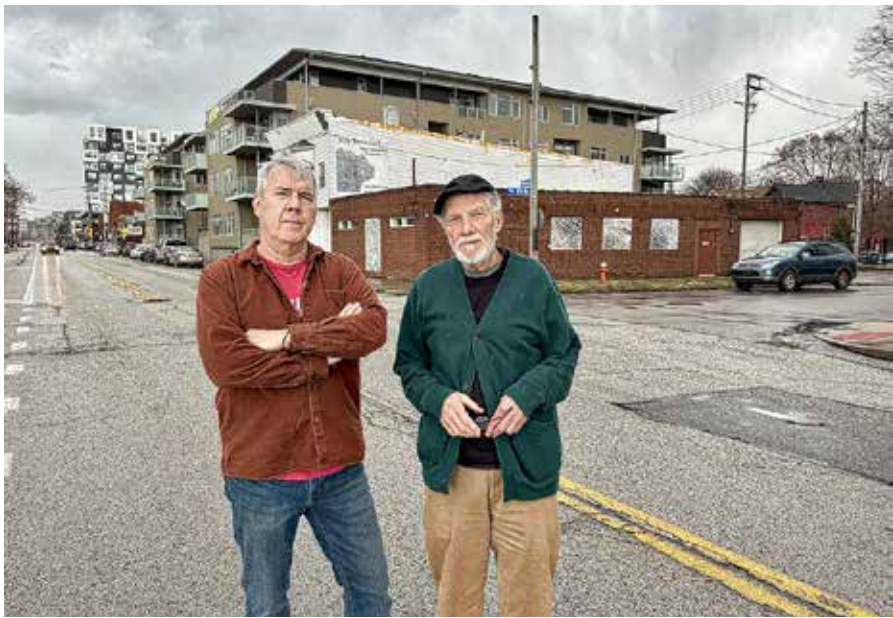
Last weekend, longtime Lakewood resident, entrepreneur, and LHS Graduate, Gary Thomas returned to his old spot, the original home of Ohio City Pasta, which he has turned into 60 Bowls Art Gallery, at 3125 Detroit Ave. To kick off this grand opening, Gary chose LHS Grad, Cooper School

of Art Grad, Roger von Golling, to be the singular artist to start this venture. Longtime friend to Gary and the writer, Roger has spent the last 3 decades in Boston, working, painting, living and creating a ton of amazing art. The show runs through May, and can be seen through appointment. Good work boys!

Above, a photo of the large back room filled with some of the many large pieces created by Roger von Golling during his recent time in Boston, Massachusetts. Below, Gary Thomas, owner of Ohio City Pasta, stands in front of the original home to OCP, now known as 60 Bowls Art Gallery, 3125 Detroit Ave. When asked about the next show, he replied he had it lined up, but after that he would wait to open it again until another artist moved him.



Roger von Golling speaks with another Lakewoodite, Michael Gill, editor and founder of the Collective Art Network's CAN Journal, and a damn fine artist in his own right. No one knows more about Northern Ohio Art than Mike. Always great seeing him out at an event.



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LAKEWOOD CARES

Community West Foundation Awards
Nearly \$800,000 in First Quarter

by Maria Estes

The Community West Foundation Board of Directors started the year strong awarding \$641,334 in first quarter grants to nonprofit agencies that are located in Cleveland, Western Cuyahoga and Lorain Counties. An additional \$156,000 was distributed through their Community Impact Fund bringing the grand total to \$797,334. The Community Impact Fund was established for donors who want to invest alongside Community West’s mission knowing that contributions would be distributed directly to grantees quarterly.

For the first quarter, Community West Foundation provided grants to nonprofits that align with their mission areas of food provision as well as assistance for refugees and immigrants. These grants could not come at a more urgent time given the reduction in SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) benefits for 673,000 Ohioans. “We are hearing the warning from our grantee partners who provide food assistance services to our community,” commented Marty Uhle, Community West Foundation President and CEO. “We are expecting to see a large increase in need at food banks and pantries as a result of this change.”

In addition, there are multiple major developments with refugees and immigrants across the world that are bringing newcomers to the Cleveland area. Community West is confident that our grantees are positioned to assist with their arrival.

Organizations receiving grants
for their food programs include:

- Christ Church Episcopal, Oberlin
- Collaboration Station
- Drink Local Drink Tap
- Greater Cleveland Food Bank
- Hunger Network of Greater Cleveland
- Pathways Enrichment Center
- Second Harvest Food Bank
- Society of St. Vincent de Paul
- St. Augustine Community Cupboard
- The Village Project
- Trials for Hope
- West Park United Church of Christ
- West Shore Meals on Wheels
- West Side Community House
- Westlake United Methodist Church (Food Centers)

Organizations also receiving grants include:

- Building Hope in the City – Hope Center for Refugees
- Camp Imagine – Summer camp for children with disabilities
- Catholic Charities, Migration and Refugee Services – Legal service for refugees and immigrants
- Esperanza, Inc. – Adult education for the Hispanic community
- Fund for Our Economic Future – Collaboration of philanthropic funders and civic leaders supporting economic growth in the region
- Joshua and Caleb Leadership Center – Programs for refugee mothers and their children
- The Refugee Response – Programs and services for refugees and immigrants
- U.S. Committee for Refugees &

Immigrants – Case management/wellness services for new refugees and immigrants

About Community West Foundation:

The mission of Community West Foundation is to advance the health and well-being of our community. The staff and Board of Directors are guided by the words in Matthew 25:35-40. While their grantmaking is based on these teachings, they are not affiliated with any particular religion. Their grantees, friends and donors come from diverse faiths and practices.

For more information, contact Community West Foundation at 440-360-7370 or visit communitywest-foundation.org

From The Superintendent:
Increased Police Presence
In School Buildings

continued from page 7

build relationships with our students. Once the initial walk-through tours are complete, a member of the police force, including our SROs, will begin doing daily walk-throughs of each of our school buildings. The walk-throughs will be contingent on the availability of officers as other duties may occasionally take precedence. We anticipate the walk-throughs should begin the week of April 10.

Our principals will be making an announcement to the students on Monday alerting them that the police will be in the building. Parents/guardians may want to mention it to their student(s) as well.

We are grateful to have such a cooperative relationship with our City government and safety forces and are appreciative of their willingness to work in tandem with us to accomplish our common mission of keeping us all safe!

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Superintendent

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LAKEWOOD OBSERVER

Lakewood League of Women Voters
100th Anniversary 100 Pillars Spotlight: Janis Ford

by Cindy Strebis

Janis Ford lived in Lakewood from the age of two through high school. Her parents ran a small printing enterprise from their home until the operation got successful enough to open a shop on Madison Avenue.

In her senior year at Lakewood High, Janis was called into the Principal's office where she was told that she had been chosen the Presidential scholar. She had no idea what that was and with good reason. It was the inaugural year of the United States Presidential Scholars Program where one boy and one girl from each state was chosen to be recognized and honored as one of the nation's most distinguished graduating high school seniors. Janis had been selected to represent the state of Ohio. "I'm compulsive obsessive, so I do well and test well and I am studious. But I mean

seriously, I take my Dad's view: you can't pick the top two students in any state. But it was fun. It was my first airplane ride to Washington D.C. They set up tables on the White House lawn and served us hamburgers from silver tureens."

Janis took her "junior year abroad" in her sophomore year at Wooster College. She studied German at the Universidad de los Andes in Bogotá, Columbia. Janis left Wooster after her sophomore year. "I had to make a living so Mom and Dad sent me to secretarial school. When I finished, I didn't know where I wanted to go but I knew there weren't any jobs in Cleveland. I got a book from the library called Finding Your Best Place to Live in America. It was a series of quizzes and when you finished it told you the best place to live. The answer was Fargo, South Dakota. I said 'I don't think so,' and

tried again. The next time it recommended Seattle, Washington, and so I went." Janis spent the next 30 years there. When she retired, she moved to Cincinnati where her brother lived. "Turned out that wasn't a good move. Cincinnati is all sunshine. I grew up in cloudy Cleveland and lived the rest of my time in Seattle, known for its rain. So after two years, I moved back to Lakewood.

"At the urging of Janet French, I joined the League in 2015. When I joined the chapter was dying. Kathy Kosiorek had been chair for about seven years. She's the only reason we still have a chapter. It was more of a social group. We met once month for lunch in various restaurants around Lakewood. The only thing we were really doing was voter education and candidate forums. This was our core mission and we did it, and did it well.

"The 2016 election turned things around. People started getting interested because Lakewood was not interested in the newly elected President. Lisa Cech and I worked up a brochure for new members. We emphasized participating, not just attending. And the people coming in were much younger and used to multitasking and over-working themselves. The League is good for that — they will take every second they can, but it's usually well worth it.

"I co-chaired with Mary Warren. My goal was to have the youth take

over, but we were a little afraid that they would be activists, and the League is not an activist organization. It's an advocacy organization. But they got it and get it and are doing a good job. We put them to work as soon as we could and it worked. Kathy Kosiorek, Lisa Cech and I wrote new guidelines and kept them as basic as possible. I was part of our chapter's transition. We didn't do everything right but a surprising amount worked. We have good people who are willing to work."

In addition to voter education, the League takes positions on dozens of local and national policy issues from Agriculture and Air Quality to Waste Management and Water through a process of study and consensus. "I love the studies. On a national level we looked at dark money and constitutional amendments. For Ohio, we studied primary elections and considered ranked choice voting. Most recently, I participated in LWV Ohio's Ohio Criminal Justice Study, working on the subcommittee studying the re-entry of former inmates."

Legal Aid Can Help With
Estate Planning, Upcoming
Free Brief Advice Clinic

by Tonya Sams

Most people hope to live a long, healthy, and happy life. But what do you do when the unexpected occurs such as injury, sickness, or even death? One way to prepare is through estate planning. An estate plan can provide peace of mind by addressing important aspects of your medical and financial life, and ensuring that your loved ones have the tools they need to comply with your wishes. Here are a few areas that you may need to consider:

Advance Directives: These documents instruct healthcare providers on what to do if you are unable to communicate due to injury or illness. Examples of advance directives are Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care and a Living Will.

When creating a Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care, you are naming a person to make decisions regarding your medical needs if you are unable to.

A Living Will is a document that states the medical treatment that you would like to receive in the event that you are unable to communicate, are terminally ill, or are rendered unconscious. This includes stating if you would like to have life sustaining treatment. You can also use this document to declare if you would like to be an organ or tissue donor.

Because both Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care and the Living Will specify different areas regarding medical care, it is good idea to have both documents.

Durable Power of Attorney: This document is different from a Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care. A Durable Power of Attorney (durable POA) names a person, referred to as the "attorney in fact", to be responsible for

a person's affairs if they are unable to. This could include decisions about taxes, housing, banking, benefits and more. The person creating the durable POA still has the power to make decisions, but the "attorney in fact" is there to assist them in carrying out those decisions.

Will: A Will is different from a Living Will. While a Living Will addresses medical issues, a Will addresses the other aspects of your life if you were to die. This would include who would get custody of your children, who would be named beneficiaries, who would inherit your property, how your assets would be distributed and more. Without a Will, the court would make these decisions which, at times, can be a long process.

Need help with estate planning? The Legal Society Aid Society of Cleveland will be hosting a free Brief Advice Clinic focused on Estate Planning on April 29 from 9:30-11 a.m. at Fairhill Partners, 12200 Fairhill Road, Cleveland, OH 44120.

At the April 29th Brief Advice Clinic, attorneys and volunteers will be on hand to answer questions regarding: Basic Wills; Financial and Healthcare Powers of Attorney; Living Wills/Advanced Directives; Transfer on Death Paperwork; Foreclosure; Public benefits; Consumer/debt problems; and other civil legal issues

Cannot attend this one on 4/29? Legal Aid hosts many other free legal advice events and you can bring your questions to any upcoming Brief Advice Clinic, simply visit lasclev.org, go to the "Events" tab, then "Clinics" and pick a date good for you. Have other questions? Call Legal Aid at 888-817-3777 or seek help 24/7 at lasclev.org.

Tonya Sams is the Development and Communications Assistant at The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland.

Senate Minority Leader Antonio And Senate President Huffman Meet With Spiritual Leaders In Cleveland

by Nickie Antonio

In March, I met with Senate President Matt Huffman, Pastor Larry Harris, Bishop Eugene Ward and other spiritual leaders in Cleveland to discuss the concerns and challenges facing our community in Cleveland and potential policy solutions.

This meeting took place mere days after the heartbreaking loss of Demetrius Dunlap, a 7-year-old boy in Cleveland who had accessed a loaded gun within his reach and shot himself. I shared my frustration with the panel about the issue of gun safety and the multiple attempts made by the Ohio Senate Democratic Caucus to institute sensible gun reform. Unfortunately, the nullification and weakening of existing gun laws have contributed to more widespread criminal activity and youth violence. Last General Assembly, I was a co-sponsor of the Defend Our Children Act, Senate Bill 351, which would have established background checks on firearms, raised the age of purchase to 21, and strengthened safe storage laws.

Pastor Anthony Small, representing Starlight Missionary Baptist Church, raised his concerns about voter registration laws and the posi-

tion that senior citizens will be placed in now that an expired driver's license is not a valid form of photo ID to vote. It's not always easy or convenient for senior citizens to renew their driver's licenses, especially if they no longer drive. This concern stems from House Bill 458, legislation that passed in December and will require voters to present a valid, unexpired photo ID in order to vote, and places restrictions on mail-in voting, absentee ballots, and early in-person voting. President Huffman and I both agreed that there is still work that needs to be done on the front of voter rules and voter access.

As policymakers, we must do everything we can to support people in the electoral process. I will continue to advocate for policies that ensure Northeast Ohio is the best place to work, grow and call home.

State Senator Nickie J. Antonio (D-Lakewood) is honored to be serving in the Ohio Senate, representing District 23, and in leadership as the Minority Leader. She has been a dedicated champion of workers' rights, high-quality education, local governments, equal rights for women and the LGBT community, health care for all, and fighting the opioid crisis.

LAKEWOOD OBSERVER

Colin Dussault Honors Memory And Legacy Of Friend And Cleveland Baseball Icon John Adams

by Colin Dussault

In honor of my friend John Adams who recently passed away, I will be releasing a tribute Two-Song CD later this week. Adams was a fixture on the Cleveland sports and music scene for decades. He spent nearly 50 years attending Cleveland baseball games and played his drum at nearly 4,000 major league contests from his perch high up in the bleachers at Indians and Guardians games.

John was also a co-founder and inaugural President of the Cleveland Blues Society. Among his many accomplishments with that organization was the “Blues Cruise” which he thought of and bankrolled with his own money. I was one of the first musicians to agree to work with John on his crazy adventure on the high seas of Lake Erie. The Blues Cruise has since sold out every year since its inception back in 2013. This year, the 2023 Blues Cruise will be held in honor of John’s memory and will feature some of the original bands and musicians from that first night on the water.

I played harmonica and sang, along with guitarist Jim Tigue, bassist/vocalist Eroc Sosinski and drummer Jimmy Stamper. We recorded, mixed and mastered a cover version of John Fogerty’s “Centerfield” at Suma Recording on February 15, 2023. The song, with new lyrics which I composed about my friend John, is called “Left Centerfield,” and will be released on April 7, 2023 in time for Opening Day at Progressive Field. Money from the sales of the Two-Song CD will be donated to johnjadamsscholarship.org a non-profit 501(c)3 charity that John Adams created to support the arts here



Eroc Sosinski, Colin Dussault, Jimmy Stamper and Jim Tigue Suma Recording

in Cleveland. The fund is overseen by Confiance, LLC which I am working in direct alliance with.

The CD titled “LEFT CENTERFIELD-A TRIBUTE to JOHN ADAMS” will feature two versions of the song “Left Centerfield” based on “Centerfield” by John Fogerty with the new lyrics. (The song was licensed for release through Lionfish Music Publishing).

The two versions of the song found on the CD consist of an acoustic band track with me performing lead vocals and harmonica, Jim Tigue on guitar,

Eroc Sosinski on bass and backing vocals and Jimmy Stamper on drum. The radio edit features me on vocals with Eroc on backing vocals accompanied by a full band electric backing track.

Jim Tigue and Eroc are well known throughout Northeast Ohio musical circles for their years on the scene with the bands Tie-Dye Harvest, Wish You Were Here, Sugar Magnolia, Jim and Eroc Classic Rock Duo and my Colin Dussault’s Acoustic Side Project.

Eroc also spent over 20 years as the bass player with Michael Stanley Band (MSB), The Resonators and the Mid-Life Chryslers.

Jimmy Stamper, along with his wife, was the owner of the Tam-O-Shanter on Detroit Avenue in Lakewood for many years (now Booth’s Midtown Tavern) before opening Stampers on Lorain Avenue (which is now Nuevo Acapulco). Stamper is also an accomplished drummer having worked in the bands Slick Pickle and the Ida Red

Band, who, incidentally have a reunion concert coming up at the Mercury Lounge in Lakewood. Perhaps he is best known locally, regionally AND nationally as the fan seen at Cleveland Indians and Guardians games holding up his Chief Wahoo signs.

I am very proud of the fact that I was granted permission from the Cleveland Guardians to incorporate two live radio and tv broadcast calls into the song. The first of which is Tom Hamilton’s trademark “WAY BACK!” home run call and the other is Herb Score’s final out call from Lenny Barker’s perfect game. Both of these events are referenced in the song. I was actually at the perfect game as a child and still have my ticket stubs framed and signed by Lenny Barker. They hang proudly in my home office.

The CD boasts a 16 page full color booklet with an essay about John Adams written specifically for this project by Cleveland writer Greg Cielec. The booklet also features background information about the song as well as other photos of John that capture his life and story in a very nice and collectible disc package design. This limited edition is sure to be very collectible and highly sought after by Cleveland sports fans.

The CD and other information can be found at www.johnjadamstribute.com and or www.colindussault.com

The CD was made possible by the generous support of many area businesses including: Elk & Elk law firm, H-Jack’s Plumbing, Lakewood & Rocky River Dairy Queen, The Rush Inn Lakewood/Avon, Sturgeon Plumbing, Mullens on Madison, Collision Bend Brewing, Fat Head’s Brewing, Corvette Lounge, Fairview Tavern, Blue Turtle Tavern, Market Gardens Brewery, Cleats Club Seat Grille, Vertical Sound, Speedpro Imaging Cleveland West, Voodoo Brewing, Barrio and Immigrant Son Brewing.

Musician/Bandleader Colin Dussault is a 50-year resident of Orchard Grove Avenue from Lakewood, Ohio.



APRIL

ARIES: All the Zodiac signs are doubly blessed this month because BOTH Jupiter & the Sun are showing up in a singular house. The Ram, no stranger to being on the go, akin to the Energizer Bunny, will be hopping from one egg to another, & winning the race.
TAURUS: The Bull will want to stay “IN” his Bull Pen this Easter, catching up on some R&R; skip the Easter Egg Hunt & order some fine wine & glazed ham, & save room for the carrot cake.
GEMINI: The Twins are right at home with friends & groups; you’ll be hippity-hopping around town, catching up with your clan of rabbits around the

neighborhood, with your ginger-beer.
CANCER: The Crab is making quite a name for itself in the career corner, put on your finest Easter Bonnet & strut your stuff; there’s plenty of time to get home & enjoy deviled eggs.
LEO: The Royal Duo is leaving the Jungle on Easter toward foreign shores; you’ll be bringing in Easter with the Cadbury Crème Eggs in Britain; get some Nyetimber, sparkling bubbly.
VIRGO: Your Luck is on a roll - remember the Gratitude Train doesn’t stop at Easter; share the Lucky Year of the Rabbit with friends & family, put a lucky charm in their Easter basket.
LIBRA: You’re in the height of your glory this Easter sharing your

Chocolate Easter Bunnies with your partnerships, both business & personal; put on the Rabbit charm, you’ve got plenty.
SCORPIO: Better take it easy this Easter, my dear Scorpion; too much of a good thing might find you under the weather; watch the parade from your deep-down-under cave “just be.”
SAGITTARIUS: The Centaur loves a good adventure; this Easter might have you riding that horse through the Metroparks, looking for your Snow White – the magic kiss is your weapon.
CAPRICORN: The Goat has no choice but to hop right on out of that office of yours & head to the home-stead; all your eggs have been dropped

off in the basket of Home & Hearth; take heed.
AQUARIUS: The neighborhood is busy with all the chick-a-dees hopping ‘bout town, trying to collect the most eggs spread throughout the city, remember it’s not how many; it’s the chase.
PISCES: The Fish is counting his money this Easter, & rightfully so; all that swimming from pond-to-pond this past winter has collected quite a nest egg for that sunken treasure chest.
Eva Starr, the local astrologer, has been studying the moon & stars since she could read. You can reach Starr at evastarr.com.

LAKEWOODALIVE

LakewoodAlive Unveils “Knowing Your Home” Schedule For 2023

by Jacqueline Bon

When it comes to your home, you are never alone. There’s no better time than now to take proper care of this important investment, and LakewoodAlive is here to help you every step of the way.

LakewoodAlive announces the schedule for the 2023 edition of “Knowing Your Home,” a free educational series focused on sustainability and home maintenance best practices empowering homeowners to tackle necessary repairs and improvements. Orchestrated by LakewoodAlive’s Housing Outreach Program, this series is designed to benefit a wide range of residents:

- Those considering a home DIY project
- Those planning to hire a contractor
- Those simply interested in better understanding how their home works

This popular home maintenance program is celebrating a decade of programming. This season features a collection of 13 workshops taking place from April through November led by experts within the industry. These workshops will cover a wide range of topics designed to educate residents regarding improvements and best practices for their homes. The best part? Each workshop is open to the public and free to attend.

The workshops comprising the 2023 schedule are held at unique locations around the community. Most



are presentation format and those that can be held on location aim to offer a hands-on feel, providing homeowners step-by-step direction on how to complete specific repairs. The goal of this presentation is to help remove the guesswork from the daunting task of home repair and improvement projects, getting the work done correctly the first time, saving your precious time, sanity and money.

The 2023 season commences with “Creating a Sound Investment” on Thursday, April 20, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. This kick-off workshop for the 10th season of Knowing Your Home will feature a panel discussion focused on shedding light on the process of larger home improvement projects, giving you the strength and encouragement

to move forward.

The season continues with “Solar 101” on Thursday, April 27. Join LakewoodAlive and Solar United Neighbors for a workshop about going solar! This will be a great opportunity to learn about the benefits of solar and programs that are available to Cuyahoga County Residents. This workshop will focus on solar energy and its benefits for your home. They will highlight technology, economics, financing and more.

Registration is also open for “Best Shrub and Tree Pruning Practices” on Saturday, May 13. Join LakewoodAlive and local arborist, Alan Shauck for a hands-on workshop where participants will learn about the best approach to pruning and maintaining your shrubs

and trees.

“We are proud to be celebrating a decade of Knowing Your Home Workshops,” said Allison Urbanek, LakewoodAlive’s Housing & Internal Operations Director. “This educational series has grown considerably over the years and transformed to meet the needs and interests of Lakewood’s residents. We truly hope this free series provides helpful guidance for taking care of the beautiful old homes we love so dearly!”

Now in its 10th year, LakewoodAlive’s “Knowing Your Home” series draws hundreds of attendees annually. Visit LakewoodAlive.org/KnowingYourHome to learn more. Our workshop series is generously supported by: City of Lakewood, Cleveland Lumber Company, First Federal Lakewood and Lakewood Public Library.

Please consider donating to LakewoodAlive to support this workshop series along with the other programs offered through the organization that helps us to accomplish our mission of fostering and sustaining vibrant neighborhoods. We appreciate your support.

To reserve your free spot for these free upcoming websites visit LakewoodAlive.org/KnowingYourHome or call 216-521-0655.

Jaqueline Bon is the Communications & Design Manager at the LakewoodAlive. She enjoys the people, places, and events that make Lakewood a uniquely beautiful community.

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FORUM

Walmart Supercenter Should Be Built At The Holespital Site

Walmart should build a supercenter at the former Lakewood Hospital site. That would benefit everyone in Lakewood and nearby cities.

Imagine saving 30 to 40 percent on groceries and everything else. They probably wouldn't require tax abatement either.

In the 1990s, Tops supermarket was on Detroit where Giant Eagle is now. There was a Rego's Stop 'n Shop across the street. Giant Eagle bought that, tore it down and built a Get Go. There was another Regos on Clifton just east of W. 117th. It also is gone. And there was a Bi-rite supermarket on Madison Avenue in Birdtown.

There is not nearly as much competition as there was. So prices are higher.

Lakewood is already one of the most densley populated cities in the country. We don't need more residential development.

So it would benefit all the residents if Walmart built a store on the site.

Either that or they should build another hospital there.

Jeffrey Andrasovsky, Lakewood



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