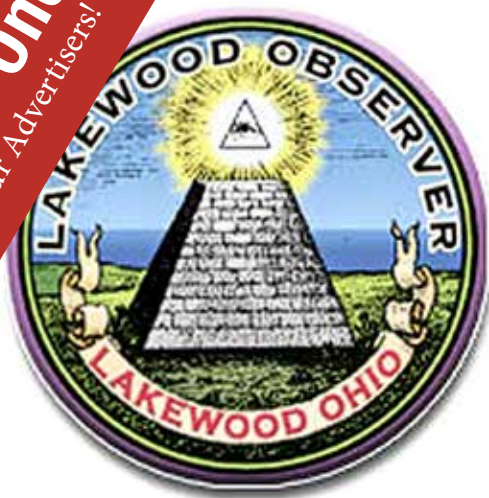


Free - Take One!
Please Patronize Our Advertisers!



"To those accustomed to privilege equality feels like oppression." - Ruth Bader Ginsburg

THE LAKEWOOD OBSERVER

Founder of Award Winning Observer Community-Written Newspapers & Websites

Volume 19, Issue 8, April 19, 2023

Mayor Meghan George's

State Of The City Address 2023

Mayor Meghan George
Thursday, Apr 13, 2023
Cove Community Center

OPENING

Good Evening. It's great to see you all here tonight. First, a big thank you goes out to Boy Scout Troop 287 from St. James for providing us with a color guard and leading us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Each year I look forward to this opportunity as a chance to celebrate some of our recent successes in the City of Lakewood and to talk about where we are headed. Last year, we were here not only to talk



about the State of the City, but also to enjoy the grand opening of the beautiful new Cove Community Center. It's a space

that has truly realized the community's vision as the hub of our human services work and providing an important

and flexible community gathering place. I'll have more to say about all the good things that have been happening here in a few minutes.

But before moving on, let's recognize the local elected officials who serve our Lakewood community and have joined us

here tonight:

I would also like to pause and thank City Council President John Litten. John has served the City of Lakewood for 8 years and has demonstrated servant leadership

continued on page 4

House Principal Named New West Shore Director

by Christine Gordillo

The Lakewood Board of Education at its April 3 meeting approved Yakoo Badat as the next coordinator of career-technical education beginning Aug. 1, 2023. Badat will replace Bill DiMascio as the next leader of the West Shore Career-Technical District, a Lakewood High-based consortium of the Lakewood, Bay Village, Rocky River and Westlake school districts.

Badat has served as a house principal at Lakewood High School since he joined the District for the 2010-2011 school year. Before coming to Lakewood, Badat served as 9th grade principal at Cleveland Metropolitan School District's John Marshall High School, where he also served as an intervention specialist.

In addition to his work in secondary education, Badat brings a wealth of global experience to any position he holds. In addition to serving as a Peace Corps volunteer in West Africa in his younger days, Badat also founded in 2013 the Nanze Children's Services in Malawi, Africa. Nanze's mission is to provide initiatives in education, water, and poverty reduction for Malawians.

Said Human Resources



Yakoo Badat

Director Jeff Schlade in his introduction of Badat to the Board: "In over 13 years working on behalf of Lakewood's High school students, Yakoo Badat has continued the goal of not only achieving the highest educational standards for secondary students but he also encourages open communication with both parents and our Lakewood community."

Badat has an undergraduate degree in Communications from John Carroll University; and earned his teaching licensure and a master's degree in curriculum and instruction from Cleveland State University. And most recently, Badat was awarded a doctorate of education from Liberty University.

Badat is eager to begin his new role with the District. "I am

honored to be part of the West Shore Career-Technical District and look forward to maintaining dynamic programming and partnerships to give our students practical experience," Badat said. "We are eager to serve them and are excited to see them grow."

photo by Julia Kompier



On April 5th, LHS students, teachers and some administrators took to the streets in protest of gun violence, and especially gun violence in schools.

Hayes Mural Created By Every Single Student



We're so impressed with the mural students at Hayes created under the direction of art teacher Diane Westerburg. It was truly a schoolwide effort as each grade level was assigned a color scheme and each student contributed one leaf to the tree. Each leaf was made up of unique patterns and designs with variations of their assigned grade level color scheme. The end result is bloomin' beautiful!

THE MAYOR’S CORNER

Get To Know Our Park Ambassadors

As the weather warms up, Lakewood is a lovely place to enjoy spring, especially in our high-quality public parks. The City of Lakewood continues to invest in those parks to ensure that our residents have great experiences with recreation and relaxation in our greenspaces. That includes physical improvements, such as the rebuilding and modernization of Foster Pool, but our investments also include staffing of our parks. This year, you will see a new presence in our five most heavily used parks –Lakewood Neighborhood Safety Specialists, are now working as park ambassadors in those locations to provide additional capacity, helping ensure

safety and a welcoming presence. Similar “ambassador” programs that have elements of service and safety work have been implemented across the country and locally by various cities, wards, neighborhoods, and/or community development corporations, including at least a half dozen in Cuyahoga County. The ambassador model uses trained and easily recognizable personnel to maintain a stable, friendly, non-hostile presence in parks while also using principles to identify and report potential issues or concerns before they arise or escalate.

by Mayor Meghan George

The ambassadors’ scope of work aligns with our efforts in Lakewood to provide innovative safety services in addition to a traditional uniformed officer presence to maintain and increase safety in our city. Leadership at the Lakewood Police Department has been involved in helping us fine tune the parameters of this program to ensure its success and a seamless partnership between our officers and our ambassadors. Through this new program, we can continue to make the highest and best use of City dollars, providing a presence in parks while allowing our officers to focus on specific police work. Our Lakewood Neighborhood Safety Specialists are outfitted in purple and gold and present during warm weather months in Lakewood, Madison, Cove, Kauffman, and Wagar parks, seven days a week during peak hours. They will traverse the parks

on foot and bicycle, and their duties include: being on the lookout for (and serving as a deterrent to) problematic behavior and activity; answering questions for and welcoming park patrons; helping to keep our parks clean; and reporting potential public works or security issues to City staff or safety forces when needed. The Neighborhood Safety Specialists program is a pilot this year, done through a contract with Block-by-Block, the company that provide ambassadors to other local clients. We will evaluate the outcomes of the pilot after the season wraps to determine effectiveness and how to proceed in the future. As you venture out into our wonderful Lakewood parks this year, keep an eye out for our new Neighborhood Safety Specialists – please take the time to say “hello,” get to know these friendly ambassadors, and welcome them to our community.

Jimmy Gallagher’s Let’s Help The Homeless Fundraiser

by Jim O’Bryan

This May 15th, at the West End Tavern, one of Lakewood’s most loved characters has convinced some of his many, many friends to stop by and feast on Angelo’s Pizza and Draft Beer and Wine courtesy of the West End Tavern. Jimmy Gallagher knows how to have fun and throw a proper party, his friends in Dirt McGirt have offered to stop by and entertain all with their special brand of music. All proceeds will be going to Lakewood Community Services Center, the best place in Lakewood to send funds to help the homeless and those in need. Jimmy has also asked Trish Rooney and the staff of LCSC if some of the money can be directed to help the pets belonging to homeless and those in need. Of course the answer was “YES” as LSCS has a long history of helping feed and care for everyone in the family that could use help when things get tough, including the four-legged members. Stop by for pizza, beer, music and a great time socializing with fellow Lakewoodites, and together we can help the homeless.



18514 Detroit Avenue
Lakewood, Ohio 44107
phone: 216.521.7684
fax: 216-521-9518
Lakewood’s favorite tavern!
A great place to dine and relax with friends

Hours of Operation

Tuesday - Wednesday
4:00 PM – 2:30 AM

Thursday & Friday
11:30 AM – 2:30 AM

Saturday Sunday
11:00 AM – 2:30 AM 10:00 AM – 2:30 AM

OUR FAMOUS WEEKEND BRUNCH
Saturday 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM
Sunday 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM



THE LAKEWOOD 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 2023 • 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!

The Lakewood Observer is a product of citizen journalism, which means it is a completely community-written paper. We are looking for volunteer writers, photographers, designers, and illustrators. It doesn't matter if you're a professional or an amateur, our editorial staff will be glad to help you through the process. Register to our Member Center at lakewoodobserver.com where you can submit stories, press releases, letters to the editor, photos, cartoons, drawings, etc. No need to register to post online calendar items or classified ads. Questions? Email our Associate Editor at betsy@lakewoodobserver.com.

www.lakewoodobserver.com

216.407-6818 OR 216.339.2531
PO BOX 770203, Lakewood, OH 44107

 **Lakewood Observer**

Upcoming Submission Deadline April 28, 2023 May 12, 2023	Publish Date May 3, 2023 May 17, 2023
---	--

PUBLISHER Debra O’Bryan	EDITOR IN CHIEF Margaret Brinich	ASSOCIATE EDITORS Betsy Voinovich Emily Kompier	ADVERTISING Sales Manager 216.339.2531
-----------------------------------	--	--	---

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

ILLUSTRATIONS - Rob Masek, Jim O’Bryan

PHOTOGRAPHY - Matt Bixenstine, Katelyn Boden, Jean Brinich, Cleveland Press Archives, Lynn Donaldson, Dick Goddard, Christine Gordillo, Dr. Charles Greanoff, Julia Kompier, Jim O’Bryan, Naomi Schiffrik, and Tim Tavcar

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS - Anna Bacho, David Baas, Matt Bixenstine, Katelyn Boden, Jean Brinich, Donna Childs, Lynn Donaldson, Larry Faulhaber, Mayor Meghan George, Christine Gordillo, Dr. Charles Greanoff, Kevin Kelly, Buzz Kompier, Shawn Leininger, Jim O’Bryan, Susan O’Donnell. Paula Reed, Tonya Sams, Naomi Schiffrik, Jeffrey Siebert, Tim Tavcar, and Betsy Voinovich



The Lakewood Observer is produced by volunteers/residents of Lakewood.

If you’d like to help this history-making 19-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.

If you’d like to advertise with us contact: production@lakewoodobserver.com.

Subscribe to the digital edition by sending a request to thelakewoodobserver.digital@gmail.com with “SUBSCRIBE” in the subject line.

Isn’t it time you joined this effort to report community news while preserving our history?

CITY COUNCIL NEWS



Spring Stroll And Arts Brunch

by Paula Reed

On Sunday, May 7, from 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Downtown Lakewood Business Alliance is proud to premiere a new event to give a fresh spring twist to the concept of our ever-popular Chocolate Walk. Spring Stroll is a progressive brunch that celebrates the arts as attendees stop at 12 locations served by 14 business owners in Downtown Lakewood, each offering a brunch item and an arts component. Sip a Mimosa or a Lavender Lemonade while you enjoy a different art medium. The unique variety of artists will offer their works for sale as well as for enjoyment during the walk.

We're bringing the fun outdoors, too! Be sure to catch the high-energy performance of the St. Edward's Trash Talkers at Cotton!

Spring Strollers will also be given a Downtown Lakewood Business Alli-

ance canvas tote containing gifts and coupons from local merchants and will be entered in a raffle to win a piece of art from Images Gallery.

Spring Stroll tickets are \$35 and can be purchased at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/downtown-lakewood-spring-stroll-tickets-532396621627>. Tickets sales are limited to 200--get yours now before they sell out! 21 and over, please.

Stops on the Spring Stroll are: Aladdin's; Avenue Home; Blossom; Cotton with Veterans Logistics; Forage; Geiger's; Images Photographic Art Gallery; lion and blue; Melt Bar & Grilled; Rozi's Wine House; Sauced Taproom with Edward Jones; and Tea Lab.

Be on the cutting edge & attend the first annual Spring Stroll & Arts Brunch--get your tickets before they're gone!

Ascension Market, Free Bike Clinic And Rodeo Now Adding A Solar Telescope For Viewing

by Susan O'Donnell

Are your closets full? Have your children outgrown their toys? Are there too many purses hanging in your closet? Are you ready to declutter or downsize? Are you a crafter? Are your children hankering to ride about town on their bikes? Do you want to talk to Lakewood Police Officers about bike safety in our community? Are you interested in the upcoming total solar eclipse that will pass directly through the Cleveland area in 2024?

You need to come to Church of the Ascension from 10am until 2pm on Saturday May 20th. Enjoy a spring day outside on our beautiful idyllic grounds with activities for all ages.

*Bring your treasures and crafts to sell on the large front grounds at Church of the Ascension, right on Detroit Ave., with lots of Lakewood foot traffic. Reserve your table today! Call 216-521-8727 to make your reservation. A free will offering is appreciated but not required. In case of rain the sale will proceed from inside our church hall

*Bring your Bikes!! Start your family's summer in bikeable Lakewood with bike safety. Bike Lakewood will host a bike rodeo in one of our three

parking lots to teach safety skills. Lakewood Police Safety Officers will be there to register bikes and talk about bike safety. Free bells and bike accessories for your children. A bike safety check will be available through church and community volunteers.

View the sky with a solar telescope. Get ready for the 2024 Solar Eclipse. The Black River Astronomical Society will provide a solar telescope for viewing with the guidance of an astronomer.

Arts and Crafts for children in our playground behind the church.

Join us on our beautiful front lawn and huge property to sell your treasures, teach your children bike safety, meet and register your bikes with the Lakewood Police Officers. And to top it off a solar telescope will be available to view the skies. Come and enjoy the Lakewood Community. An inexpensive grilled lunch will be available.

A full day of fun for the community at Church of the Ascension.

Church of the Ascension is an Episcopal Church at 13216 Detroit Ave. Lakewood

Phone: 216-521-8727 "God Loves You. No Exceptions."

Great Rates, Right Here

13-Month CD*

4.84% APY

12-Month MMA**

4.59% APY



Visit [FFL.net/ratespecial](https://www.ffa.net/ratespecial) or a branch to open an account today!

FFL.net



EQUAL HOUSING LENDER • MEMBER FDIC

*Annual Percentage Yield (APY) is 4.84% for the 13-month certificate; and is accurate as of 03/24/2023. At maturity, the 13-month certificate will automatically renew for a term of 12-months. Promotional rates available for new money only. New money is defined as money not currently on deposit with the bank. Funds must remain on deposit for the term of the certificate. A penalty for early withdrawal may apply. Fees could reduce earnings. The minimum to open the certificate of deposit is \$500. This special is available for a limited time and is subject to change without notice.

**The promotional Annual Percentage Yield (APY) for balances \$0.01-\$24,999=0.35%, \$25,000.00 or more = 4.59% and is accurate as of 03/24/2023. Minimum balance to open is \$25,000. A minimum average daily balance of \$25,000 is required to avoid a \$15 monthly service fee. The promotional APY is locked for 365 days. After 365 days, the variable interest rate is subject to change and will be determined by the interest rate being offered on the Select Money Market Account. The Select Money Market account tiers in effect as of 03/24/2023 are as follows: \$0.01- \$24,999.99 the APY is 0.35%; \$25,000-\$99,999.99 the APY is 0.60%; \$100,000-\$249,999.99 the APY is 0.70%; \$250,000 or more the APY is 0.80%. If the account is closed before the 365 days, a \$50 fee may be assessed. No more than a total of 6 preauthorized, telephone, ACH, check, POS or Internet transactions may be made from this account per month. Fees could reduce earnings on this account. Promotional rates available for new money only. New money is defined as money not currently on deposit with the bank. Other restrictions may apply. Promotional offer subject to change without notice. Contact a branch representative for full details.

STATE OF THE CITY 2023

continued from page 1

during his time on council and in the community. This is John’s last State of the City, and I would like to recognize John for his work and partnership over the years.

As we kick off the State of the City, I also need to express my gratitude to the fantastic team of directors that serve our community at City Hall. Their expertise, collaboration, dedication, and leadership are on display every day and the results they achieve are evident throughout the City of Lakewood. We are also lucky in Lakewood to have very talented and dedicated staff in all our departments doing the day-to-day work for our citizens. Directors and all Lakewood employees that are here today, please stand and be acknowledged for your hard work and dedication.

I’m happy to report to you that the state of our City is strong, something we can all be grateful for after recent years of uncertainty and stress for all of us.

If you would have told me just a few months after being elected as mayor that we would face a global pandemic, I would have thought you were trying to scare me out of taking this job. But, three years later, here we stand, thriving as a city and a re-committed as a community of neighbors that care for each other. Sometimes the pandemic seems like a distant memory, other days it continues to directly impact us. Thankfully, in Lakewood, our efforts allowed us to come out of the pandemic in a healthy position. Our small business rent relief program kept our thriving small business community from faltering during this time of great uncertainty. We can be proud to say 227 Lakewood small businesses are still here today, providing services, jobs, and taxes that help make our city vibrant. Our rental assistance program helped keep 3000 people in their homes. And with unprecedented \$47 million American Rescue Plan Act dollars or ARPA dollars, we are able to make wise, strategic decisions with the dollars, and position Lakewood to remain fiscally responsible and stable for the foreseeable future.

SERVICES

Part of what makes Lakewood so stable and desirable is the emphasis we place on high quality services and maintaining housing quality. Our public works, building and housing, and planning and development departments are leading the way on this work.

In Public Works, our hardworking team continued to do a fantastic job maintaining and improving City buildings and our top notch system of parks. Lakewood is incredibly dense. With 217 streets and 180 miles of sidewalks, and 74 acres of parks – it takes an incredible amount of effort to do this work day-in and day-out. I want to specifically thank our Public Works team for all they do. And, I want to include a word of welcome to our new public works director, Chris Gordon. Chris has done a wonderful job of stepping into the shoes of recently retired

Director Roman Ducu.

In 2022, we resurfaced 3 miles of roadways, planted over 400 new trees, and responded to the usual number of emergency issues with our aging infrastructure. As I often say, we all love our historic city and the charm that goes along with that – but it also is a lot of work to keep some of that aging infrastructure in good shape.

One key focus for Public Works each winter is making sure we deal with snow and ice. We were lucky to have a mild winter this year, but we were prepared. The City developed its first formal and fully integrated Snow and Ice Control Plan to fully align and clarify our strategy across departments and increase capacity. Aspects of the plan range from ways to deploy more plows on City vehicles to policy changes that ensure additional personnel to cover holidays and weekends and efforts to support homeowners in keeping sidewalks walkable.

Another way that we aim to keep Lakewood beautiful, is by maintaining quality housing that offers a range of options for a diverse population. We often refer to Lakewood as the City of Beautiful Homes. It’s an accurate slogan, and we can be proud of how we have maintained our historic character and quality that make Lakewood special. We continue to be a place where people from all walks of life, all backgrounds, and all incomes can find a place to call home and enjoy high-quality services.

The City facilitates private development of new market rate units, which relieves market pressure on our existing housing stock. By working with developers to introduce a diversity of new units – from the infill cluster homes currently under construction on the former gas station on Lake Avenue to larger scale housing projects moving ahead by developers along major corridors like Detroit and Madison. Projects like Studio West are an example of this type of development that made major headway last year. We also continue to advance the Downtown Development site with our partner CASTO. When complete, this project is expected to introduce the largest number of new residential units in 50 years. Thank you to Director Shawn Leininger and your team for your hard work.

Over the last year, the City continued to build on another strength in this area – our building code and inspection work. Under the leadership of Building Commissioner Chris Parmalee, the building and housing department worked hand in hand with the Law and Planning Departments to update building codes, adding more significant penalties for violations in large buildings and requirements that large buildings and parking structures regularly obtain a structural engineer’s report on building conditions. We instituted the first survey process to formally and regularly assess the condition of all of the 1,500 commercial buildings in Lakewood. Others are noticing our performance – Lakewood’s Building and Housing Department received an Hon-

orable Mention for 2022 by the Ohio Board of Building Standards Award for Building Department Excellence. The Lakewood Building Department was recognized for its dedication to customer service, effective response to the pandemic, and recruitment efforts to bring individuals into the code enforcement profession.

FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY AND TRANSPARENCY

Fiscal responsibility and transparency continue to be a fundamental pillar of everything we do at City Hall. Our top priority is to make sure that we get maximum value and impact for every one of your tax dollars. Our finance team are doing an excellent job supporting this goal, and it is being recognized by outside parties.

This past fall we received the Auditor of State Award with Distinction for the third consecutive year, a recognition that less than 5% of state and local governmental entities audited by the State receive. This award speaks to our deep commitment to fiscal excellence and integrity as the stewards of your public dollars. We also received the Government Finance Officers Association Award for Excellence in Financial Reporting and the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for the second consecutive year – only the 6th time Lakewood has achieved this status. I’m very proud of our Finance staff, led by Director Peter Rancatore. Thank you for your hard work and commitment.

With the scale of our operations in Lakewood, it is an impressive achievement to have such a strong financial performance.

Keep in mind that Lakewood is one of Ohio’s top 20 cities in population, and the third largest in Cuyahoga County. We have an annual budget of over \$209M. And we have 519 employees. So, making sure things operate smoothly with our finances is a major task, as well as human resources. I want to thank our Director of HR, Claudia Dillinger, and her whole team for doing an excellent job keeping us in compliance and navigating all the needs of our employees. The City of Lakewood was actually named a best in class employer last year by a national insurance and risk management group based on the efforts of our HR department and our overall approach to employment matters.

SAFETY

Along with fiscal and HR excellence, safety remains a top priority for the City. It is foundational to everything we do, and we take a broad view of how to maintain and improve public safety. It’s not just about the number of police officers on the street - that is important (and we actually increased our officer capacity this year) but a safe Lakewood has many layers. Our approach to safety includes being creative and innovative while thinking about the safety of our community holistically. In this past year, we have implemented several initiatives to do just that.

First, we launched the Neighborhood Paramedic Program this

past August. With support from the Healthy Lakewood Foundation, we were able to incorporate a program in our Fire Department focused on proactive, preventative care and interventions. In 2022, we kicked off the program by focusing on fall prevention for senior citizens, using neighborhood paramedic visits to prevent trip-and-fall situations within residences. For context, in 2021 alone, Lakewood EMS responded to more than 650 calls for senior citizens experiencing injury from a fall, with over half serious enough to require EMS transport. In less than a year since our new program began, Lakewood’s Neighborhood Paramedic – Mike Sanders – has been in touch with 170 individuals, and performed 40 in-home consultations that have led to the elimination of fall risks.

For our youngest residents, we were excited to bring back the Car Seat Fit Stop program. Once a month, Lakewood parents can bring their car seats to our fire station to ensure proper installation. This program is proving to be popular and filling a need as registration for these monthly events fill up almost as quickly as they are posted. Dozens of Lakewood families have already taken advantage of this free service that keeps children safe. Our Lakewood Fire Department is also working on offering citywide training for any Lakewood resident interested in learning CPR, something each of us should do. I want to thank Chief Dunphy for his leadership and efforts to innovate, and his entire team for keeping us all safe.

As I noted before, last year we increased our authorized officer capacity for Lakewood’s Police Department. This was a strategic move that will prevent any loss in capacity in our roster of officers as we face a number of expected retirements in the department and also deal with an industry-wide talent gap as police work has faced a shortage of talented individuals interested in the job. By raising our authorized number by 4 officers, we can proactively recruit and retain officers to make sure we have no gaps and we maintain officers on patrol and doing follow-up and crime prevention work. Best of all, we were able to dedicate some federal ARPA dollars to this initiative, allowing us to implement this new policy with no negative short-term budget implications.

I’m proud of our police department for continuing to explore forward-looking police tactics and policies. One I want to highlight is our department’s commitment to crisis intervention training and implementation within our police department. At the end of 2022, our police force had 27 personnel – from patrol officers to dispatchers to command staff – who were specifically trained in crisis intervention tactics and interactions, which help safety personnel recognize when they are dealing with someone facing mental illness and help to stabilize that person. Our statistics show that when our department encounters people in crisis - which happens hundreds of times each year– we are able to avoid arrests, and instead

STATE OF THE CITY 2023

connect people to the help they need. I applaud Chief Kauchek for continuing to pursue our shared goal of steadily increasing the number of officers fully trained in CIT techniques.

Another exciting program that we will roll out this summer is the Lakewood Police Department’s SAFE PLACE program. This innovative model, developed by the Seattle Police Department, is a community-based approach to safety and policing that builds relationships within our community to assist victims of hate crimes, harassment, and bullying. Our officers will begin meeting with and training local businesses and organizations interested in providing a convenient “safe place” for victims of hate crimes and harassment. This model has been adopted by over 300 law enforcement agencies across the country, and I am proud that Lakewood is among the first in the State of Ohio to roll out this program.

The concept of doing our best to make Lakewood a safe place is always top of mind for me and our safety forces. That’s why we are so focused on being prepared and having the right training for our first responders. All of us have heard so many stories recently about concerning events across our state and our nation – from the train derailment in southern Ohio to the horrifying shootings happening in so many communities in America. Lakewood has been fortunate to avoid these situations, something we fully intend to maintain – but we also remain vigilant and committed in our efforts for our safety forces and our community to be prepared for anything.

On that note, I would like to mention that in a state where a majority of legislators are more concerned about assault weapons and high capacity magazines than they are about protecting the well-being and safety of school children, I particularly want to thank Representative Skindell and State Senator Antonio for their work and leadership in Columbus fighting for common sense gun safety reform.

I also want to pause here to recognize our IT department and Director Mike Coletta’s team, who play an important and generally unseen role in so much of our safety work at City Hall. One example I want to highlight is their impact on helping our safety forces with support on communications equipment and capacity. We all are grateful for the IT team. Mike has also done a fantastic job helping Lakewood secure grants to underwrite the costs of technology and equipment, such as radios and cameras.

Undoubtedly, our parks and greenspaces are some of the most treasured places in our community. Last year, the City began working to implement a park ambassador program in partnership with the Block by Block Ambassador Program. With the groundwork laid last year, when the weather gets warm our new Neighborhood Safety Specialists will begin staffing Lakewood parks on foot and bicycle to provide a stable, friendly, presence. Their duties will include

being on the lookout for and serving as a deterrent to unwanted behavior and activity to identify and report potential issues before they arise or escalate. Ambassadors are already in our five largest community parks: Lakewood, Madison, Cove, Kauffman, and Wagar in the warmer months, seven days a week from 1:30-10:00 p.m. Please take the time to get to know these ambassadors and welcome them to our community. I also want to note that the Block by Block agreement was negotiated by our new law director, Ernie Vargo, who joined City Hall after a distinguished career at Baker Hostetler and has been a great addition to our team. Welcome aboard, Ernie.

PARKS & AMENITIES

Speaking of our parks, in 2022 the City continued to invest dollars in maintaining and improving our fantastic system of greenspaces. One project I am sure we are all excited about is the Foster Pool Revitalization. Following the 2022 summer swim season, the City began construction on a multi-million dollar project to completely rebuild and revamp this beloved community asset. When soon completed, Foster Pool will incorporate new features that create a more useful and friendly environment for people of all ages and swimming abilities - from our young ones taking their first lessons to athletes looking for a full workout. The new pool will have improved accessibility, a new competition and recreation pool, a water play amenities area, a splash pad, and bathroom renovations. The project also solves a longstanding leakage issue that caused an annual loss of one million gallons of chlorinated water. I’m sure we all can’t wait to dive in when the weather warms up.

Another beloved Lakewood recreation space is Winterhurst Ice Rink, which has served our community, first as an outdoor amenity beginning in the 1930s, and since the 1970s with two year-round, indoor ice rinks. Over time, the needs and priorities of residents for using Winterhurst have evolved, and we have recently issued an RFQ to explore the best model for operating the facility. There is an opportunity to adjust use of Winterhurst to make sure it aligns with community goals. We are excited about the next chapter for Winterhurst.

This year, we are also launching a planning effort to explore more access to our greatest and most breathtaking asset - Lake Erie. The City is undertaking a Lakewood Park Waterfront Access Feasibility Study to determine how we can realize more elements of the Lakewood Park Master Plan, which envisioned multiple points of access to the lake, possibly even a pier. I encourage you all to take part in the public engagement process and share your thoughts. The ultimate goal is to provide more people with more opportunities to enjoy the waterfront.

In other “green” initiatives, the City continued its commitment to evolving our municipal fleet of vehicles, with older gas powered cars being

replaced by fully electric or hybrid vehicles.

The City also updated our tree plan last year and planted over 400 new trees, with a special focus on our parks and areas with less canopy coverage.

In an effort to keep our Lake and the Rocky River healthy and clean, Lakewood is also working hand in hand with the Ohio EPA on an agreement to improve our clean water infrastructure. To that end, we have dedicated a major portion of our ARPA dollars to reduce the burden on our ratepayers of implementing that plan. The City’s integrated wet weather improvement plan (IWWIP) was actually adopted years ago, but we formally entered our agreement with the EPA this past year, and have now dedicated \$25 million of those federal funds to advance the plan, an investment that will pay off for decades.

In a related project, last year the City also began construction on a new Berea Road facility serving multiple purposes, including recycling and refuse services and an updated facility for the humane treatment of stray animals. The project also allows space to be freed up for the buildout of our water and sewer infrastructure in the Metroparks. By modernizing our recycling center, we will provide a streamlined facility where residents can drop off both nontraditional waste – from hazardous waste items to tires and construction debris – as well as process recyclables. Our new animal shelter will ensure the safe and humane treatment of animals that do not have a home or whose owners can no longer care for them. Both of these needs have been on the City’s radar for years. I’d like to thank our area’s representative, Councilman Dale Miller, as well as all of County Council, for hosting us and considering our request for support.

While we are on the subject of our animal shelter, I also want to pause briefly and thank all of our staff and our Lakewood volunteers, including LASWAB and CCLAS, who pitched in with time and resources during the holiday season to address an animal crisis in one of our homes where 40 beagles were being kept in unsafe conditions. It was a huge lift by many caring people to provide for the dogs in the short term, and I’m happy to report that they have all found happy new homes and are out of City care. This whole episode speaks volumes about how deeply Lakewood cares. Our City Hall team is currently working with the Citizens Committee for the Lakewood Animal Shelter, the Lakewood Animal Welfare and Safety Advisory Board, and others to discuss what lessons can be learned from this case to proactively address animal welfare moving forward.

As I draw to a close, one year ago, we cut the ribbon on this beautiful new facility. Since then, it has become what this community had envisioned: a bustling, welcoming community center with programs and activities for all ages, from seniors to families to youth. In just this past year, this building and department has served over 1,000 people (adults and children), delivered over

18,000 meals, provided over 20,000 check-ins to our seniors, and provided thousands of hours of programming from everyone from our youngest residents to our seniors. In addition to the phenomenal programming here at Cove, our Human Services Department, led by Director Chad Berry, work hand-in-hand with other city departments and organizations throughout the area to ensure residents are connected to resources. That includes everything from including senior nutrition, transportation, and activity programs; the Lakewood Family Room; Help to Others (H2O) youth program; community-based social work services; and the juvenile diversion program. You can also find flexible meeting spaces here available for residents. This place is truly a gem for Lakewood.

CONCLUSION

Thank you for joining us tonight to talk about the State of our City. It’s an exciting time for Lakewood, and we all have a part to play in keeping our momentum going. I look forward to working with you all in making that happen.



the Root cafe
15118 detroit ave
lakewood, ohio 44116
216.226.4401
www.theroot-cafe.com

organic espresso bar
bakery
vegan
vegetarian
local kitchen

LIBRARY AND MORE

Lakewood Public Library Children's And Youth Services Programs

by Jeffrey Siebert

All Together Now Summer Reading Club

For all Children and Youth Up to Those Entering Twelfth Grade

Age appropriate goals include thirty books for our youngest children, ten hours for elementary school students and thirty hours for middle school and high school students, broken down into manageable parts to enable all readers to complete their goal. Readers may participate online and/or in person and must visit the Library to collect rewards. Finishers receive a certificate of completion and a new book to keep. Registration is required.

Friday, May 12, 2023 through Monday, August 14, 2023

Main Library and Madison Branch

Family Weekend Wonders

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.

Main Library- Fridays and Saturdays at 10:30 a.m.

Madison Branch- Fridays at 10:30 a.m.

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

Keep Lakewood Beautiful To Host Annual Earth Day Cleanup On April 29th

by Matt Bixenstine

Spring has sprung and there's no better time than now to celebrate the beauty of our planet while giving back to our community. Join Keep Lakewood Beautiful for our annual Earth Day Cleanup taking place Saturday, April 29th, from 9 to 11 am at Madison Park (13201 Madison Avenue).

The Keep Lakewood Beautiful Earth Day Cleanup offers an opportunity to clean up litter in Madison Park and spruce up surrounding public areas along the Madison Avenue commercial corridor, including the Historic Birdtown Neighborhood. Trash bags, vests, buckets, tongs and gloves will be provided to participants.

This year's cleanup event also features:

Free tree saplings giveaway

Ceremonial tree planting with the City of Lakewood's forestry department

ment

Rust Belt Rider Compost Information and Sale

To participate in this year's event, simply join Keep Lakewood Beautiful on April 29th. No advanced registration is necessary. Check-in will be located in the public space in front of the pool house, and parking is available in the park's north lot off of Madison Avenue.

"On behalf of the City of Lakewood and our entire organization, we are excited help usher in spring with one of our flagship community events, our annual Earth Day Cleanup," said Melissa Meehan, Keep Lakewood Beautiful Chairperson. "We take a great deal of pride in helping to beautify our community, and we hope you are able to join us at Madison Park on April 29th."

Matt Bixenstine enjoys all things Lakewood, especially walking his basket hound through Madison Park.



WordStage Presents "Diamonds - The Poetry Of Baseball"

by Tim Tavcar

In honor of a new season of "America's Game," WordStage is pleased to present "Diamonds" - a celebration of the Boys (and Girls!) of summer. From Ernest Thayer's iconic "Casey at the Bat" to Grantham Rice's "Casey's Revenge," baseball has inspired some of America's greatest poets and writers to create dozens of dazzling works of literature, both praising and damning this annual rite of spring.

The words of Franklin P. Adams, Marianne Moore, May Sarton, Gregory Corso, Lawrence Ferlinghetti, and many more, extol the excitements, sorrows and memorable moments of this marvelous game.

"Diamonds - the Poetry of Baseball"

will be performed at the Wright Chapel of the Lakewood Presbyterian Church - 14502 Detroit Ave., Lakewood, Ohio at 7: 00 p.m. on Saturday, April 29th. Tickets may be reserved by calling 440-857-0717 or by purchasing them with cash or check at the door. Tickets are \$20 General Admission/\$15 Seniors/\$10 Students.

For more information about this and other WordStage performances through the 2023 Season please visit www.wordstageohio.org.

Tim Tavcar is the Producing/Artistic Director of WordStage Literary Concerts in residence at the Wright Chapel in the Lakewood Presbyterian Church.



Join Keep Lakewood Beautiful for our annual Earth Day Cleanup taking place Saturday, April 29th, from 9 to 11 am at Madison Park.

AROUND THE
HEATED PATIO

Book your
fundraisers and
special events
With Us!

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

CORNER
EATERY
DRINKERY
FUNNERY

Roman Fountain
Pizza & Subs

GIFT CARDS
AVAILABLE!

ORDER ONLINE @ 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
Or stop by at
15603 Detroit Ave
Near the corner of Lakeland Ave

Call us at 216-221-6633

LAKEWOOD SPORTS OBSERVED

Dr. G's Ranger Round Up - Girls' Softball

by Dr. Charles Geanoff

April 14, 2023
Lakewood vs Olmsted Falls

On a sunny, coolish afternoon made for softball, the Lakewood Rangers (7-1, 4-0 GLC-East), behind the strong pitching of freshman Ella Bower and the hitting of the Carroll-Greeves sisters, defeated Olmsted Falls 3-1. Ella allowed just three hits and struck out nine, surrendered no walks, and was in command for the entire game. The Ranger offense struck early and late. In the first inning, after Charlotte Beno lined a double to left, Mia Carroll-Greeves turned around a belt-high fastball, and when it finally landed over the right-center field fence, Lakewood led 2-0. In the 6th, with Madison Comer on second after singling and advancing on an error, freshman Gabby Carroll-Greeves singled to right center, plating a much needed insurance run. Defensively, the Rangers were solid, led by freshman shortstop Kylee Blinky, who made several fine plays. Third baseman Emily Potoczak, center-fielder Lauren Barber and Madison Comer also made key plays.

Mia and Ella had terrific games, but this was an entire team effort. The last two days not only provided wonderful competition, but also represent



Mia Bower and Ella Mia Carroll-Greeves during the Rangers/Olmsted Falls game.

a celebration of dedicated student athletes playing a sport that they love. Here's to all the parents and coaches that have nurtured this passion over the years. This group is a joy to watch and so easy to root for. Hope to see you tomorrow at the North Lot. Long Live Lakewood.

April 7, 2023
Lakewood vs Strongsville

On this frigid spring day, it took a great team effort for the Lakewood Softball team (4-0) to pass their first tough test of the year, as the Rangers prevailed 10-8 over Strongsville. Timely hitting, solid pitching and some key defensive plays did the trick, but it was the play of three freshman

that led the way. Winning pitcher Ella Bower pitched three middle innings for the win, and had the key hit of this see-saw game. With Lakewood ahead 6-5 in the 5th, Ella turned a high two strike fastball into a towering left centerfield bases-loaded triple that cleared the bases and extended a lead the Rangers would never relinquish. The go ahead hit had been struck earlier by freshman second baseman Gabby Carroll-Greeves, who also made a key defensive play earlier. Freshman short-stop Kylee Blinky had a stellar game on offense and defense, and used her bat to help stake Lakewood to an early lead. Junior pitcher Mia Carroll-Greeves started and finished, logging 4 solid innings, and also had a hit in the Rangers 5th inning rally. Seniors Charlotte Beno (who caught her usual strong game) Lauren Barber, Junior Madeline Magda and sophomore Madison Comer also chipped in offensively. Comer also made an outstanding run-saving catch in right. Congratulations to Coach Yousko, his staff, and the entire team for prevailing over the cold and a tough Mustang squad today. The present, and future are bright for our Lakewood Rangers, thanks to talented student athletes—younger and older—who are team players committed to working hard at their craft. Long Live Lakewood.



Mia Carroll-Greeves and Ella Bower during the Rangers/Olmsted Falls game.

LAKWOOD DENTAL GROUP

We Accept Most Forms Of Insurance

17117 Detroit Ave. • Lakewood, Ohio

216.221.0300

5 Great Reasons To Call Us

1. CONVENIENCE...WE'LL SEE YOU IMMEDIATELY AND FIX YOUR PROBLEM.

2. PRICE...WE'RE AFFORDABLE AND WE WORK WITH YOUR INSURANCE.

3. TIME...WE KNOW YOUR TIME IS VALUABLE, WE DON'T KEEP YOU WAITING.

4. FEAR...NO NEED TO WORRY ABOUT PAIN, OUR WORK IS DONE COMFORTABLY.

5. OUR PROMISE...WE STAND BEHIND ALL THE WORK WE DO.

CALL AND MAKE YOUR APPOINTMENT TODAY!

Summer Camps

Kids Connection

Safety Town • Strings on Fire • Rock on • Sports Camps, Football, Basketball, Soccer, Volleyball, Running

Summer Swim Lessons go on sale May 16 at 10 am.

14100 Franklin Blvd. Lakewood, OH 44107

(216) 529-4081 • www.lakewoodrecreation.com

follow us on facebook.com/lkwdrec • twitter.com/lkwdrec •

LAKEWOOD IS EDUCATION

Congratulations To Vision Of An Educator Honorees, Harrison Elementary Head Custodian Sarra Boggs And Lakewood High English Teacher Katie Spies

by Christina Gordillo
SARRA BOGGS

Harrison Elementary head custodian Sarra Boggs relies on Vision of a Lakewood Educator competencies such as critical and creative thinking, collaboration and empathy as she juggles the varied responsibilities needed to keep the building clean and operating smoothly. Sarra says she enjoys the variety of her job and the fact that there is never a dull day. Unexpected situations and problems often pop up, prompting Sarra to be flexible, problem solve and think critically about a solution. Those unexpected moments also challenge Sarra to have a growth mindset, something she embraces. “There are always new things to learn. You have to be resourceful,” says Sarra, who joined the District in 1999 and has been at Harrison since 2008.

Staff members’ empathy and support for each other is high and for Sarra, that extends to the students as well. She loves talking with the students who are often curious about her job duties. She approaches her job and her interac-



tion with students with kindness and respect, treating the students as she would her own four children.

For Sarra, Harrison is like a second home. She takes pride in maintaining the Quail Avenue school because she knows that it holds a special place in the Birdtown neighborhood.

“I love how it’s the heart of the Birdtown community,” says Sarra. That



extra care is noticed by Sarra’s nominator, Operations manager Ed Deblock. According to Ed: “Sarra is always trying to make Harrison look its best for the students, staff and community.”

KATIE SPIES

Like any good educator, LHS English teacher Katie Spies strives to inject the right amount of rigor and expectations into her classroom. She also believes

in creating a classroom environment that emphasizes empathy, communication, collaboration, inclusivity and community and works hard to foster that.

This is most evident in her collaborative work with the staff and students in the MILES program. Since last school year, Katie and her students have been building relationships with the MILES students by hanging out together every other Friday just getting to know each other through talking, board games and other activities. Katie was instrumental in a Special Olympics event held at Lakewood High last spring where her students were matched with a MILES buddy to participate in events.

Her class recently supported the MILES students performing in their class’ Poetry Cafe and they in turn will come join Spies’ students in acting out scenes from Macbeth that the students have re-imagined with their own modern day spin.

For Spies, the community-building is a means to ensure students feel seen, heard and cared for so that they can grow both in and out of the classroom. She extends that sentiment to her work with her building’s Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging Committee, the LHS Peer Mediation group and Best Buddies program, which brings neurotypical and neurodivergent students together.

Katie is one of the staff members that has stood out for LHS Principal Joy Morgan in her first year at the school. “Katie brings an even voice, an open perspective and a strong work ethic each day to LHS. She is an asset to both staff and students and we are thankful to have her at LHS,” Principal Morgan said.

A Thousand Signature Petition Delivered To BOE As Parents Plead For Honesty And A Mutually Satisfying Solution

by Betsy Voinovich

At last night’s meeting, Lakewood parent Lisa Majeski presented the Lakewood School Board with a petition of over a thousand signatures of community members asking that the Board reconsider their decision to institute a new elementary school specials policy that would cut music and

phys ed by more than half.

Her presentation was preceded by two community members who summed up the situation. Maplecliff resident Angela Clunk came to the microphone to “express her disappointment with the lack of outreach regarding the decision...” In referring to the survey sent out by the Board

she said: “I feel like the survey was an attempt to act like they were getting some input but there was maybe already a decision made...” The main question she said was “what initiated the changes. Is it trying to make things better for the kids or teachers or families? Is it a budget thing? I’m asking you to be more honest. That way we could know what the end goal is.”

Dr. Birch Browning came next commenting that while he was pleased that at the last meeting Board members mentioned that they’re still listening, he’s disappointed that (the situation) has turned personal, “where it’s either you’re for us or against us and I think that’s unfortunate for ALL of us.” He made it clear that those who are “disappointed by the reduction of the number of music minutes are not against digital literacy instruction or STEM... It’s been framed as an either/or and I think that’s a false dichotomy.”

As many have said, there are other ways to include the different specials offerings than the one that the Board has decided upon. STEM could be integrated within the teaching of math and science which, as elementary STEM teachers speaking at previous meeting stated, is a more optimal way to introduce STEM to this age group. Dr. Browning brought up the idea of adding time to the schedule: “The

school days in Lakewood elementary schools are shorter than all of our surrounding districts. That seems like a possible solution.” He added that “as a union person I understand that that makes for other issues. That’s coming up, right?” He was referring to upcoming contract negotiations which would be a place where ideas about extending the school day could be hammered out.

As the last community speaker in the one-way communication session, Dr. Browning addressed his final comments to the Board: “The only way we’re going to find a mutually satisfying solution is to continue communicating and listening even when we don’t want to hear what we’re being told.”

Board president Callahan thanked the speakers for their communication and proceeded with the next agenda item.

We missed you...

Welcome back to India Garden!



ONLY \$14.95

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

LAKEWOOD CARES



Lakewood Outdoor Basketball Committee Keeps Track Of The Hoops At Madison Park

Lakewood Park MVD hoops had more than 60 youth come out last Saturday night!

Coach Manny is an LOBC Youth Mentor and here he is keeping track of which team is up next.

Get a team of 3 or 4 and let 'em know.

Games flow pretty quick up to 11 so the rotation can keep rolling. Younger youth are usually on the half court farther north and older youth usually on the one further South.

Look for the teal LOBC shirt to find a Youth Mentor - most evenings.

Lakewood Kiwanis Spring Swing Dance April 22

by Anna Bacho

Join us for the second annual Spring Swing Dance fundraiser for the Kiwanis Club of Lakewood. Swing City Big Band will entertain from 7:30 to 10:00 at the Masonic Temple (15300 Detroit). Light snacks will be served and there will be a cash bar for beer and wine, along with other beverage options.

Last year everyone had a great time on that smooth floor dancing to all the music selections or just kicked back and listened to the great songs. So put on your dancing shoes and have some fun. Tickets can be purchased ahead at [wwwLakewood Kiwanis](http://www.LakewoodKiwanis.org) or our FB event page. 50/50's and sideboards will be offered that night.

Lakewood Kiwanis Foundation uses this fundraiser to help distribute over 10,000 books to kids in Lakewood. Help us make our goal to serve the families in Lakewood.

#KidsNeedKiwanis

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

Lakewood's #1 choice for interior and exterior 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

NUNZIO'S Pizzeria

Visit Sicily Without Leaving Home

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

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	\$8.25	\$9.75	\$13.25	\$14.25
1 Item	\$9.00	\$10.75	\$14.50	\$16.00
2 Items	\$9.75	\$11.75	\$15.75	\$17.75
3 Items	\$10.50	\$12.75	\$17.00	\$19.50
4 Items	\$11.25	\$13.75	\$18.25	\$21.25
Deluxe	\$12.00	\$14.75	\$19.50	\$25.00
Extra Items	\$.75	\$1.00	\$1.25	\$1.75
Chicken	\$2.25	\$2.75	\$3.75	\$4.75
Extra Cheese & Special Toppings	\$1.75	\$2.25	\$3.25	\$4.25

AVAILABLE TOPPINGS: Pepperoni, Sausage, Mushrooms, Onion, Green Peppers, Red Peppers, Anchovies, Ham, Bacon, Fresh Garlic, Black Olives, Hot Peppers, Ground Meat, Pineapple, Jalapeno Peppers
SPECIAL TOPPINGS: Artichoke Hearts, Tomato, Broccoli, Chicken

Lakewood Seventh-day Adventist Community Service Center

1382 Arthur Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio 44107
Behind Taco Bell. Enter through school glass doors. Ring doorbell.

Shop our aisles for **FREE** gently-used adult & children's clothing, shoes, household items, books, videos and more.

**New Center hours: Tuesday mornings 10:30 am - Noon
Thursday evenings 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm**

Please bring own bags.

[https:// www.lakewoodsdachurch.org/](https://www.lakewoodsdachurch.org/)

Make Every Day Earth Day

RUST BELT RIDERS

Food Scrap Composting
Neighborhood Drop-Off..... \$10/mo Curbside Pick-Up..... \$30/mo

learn more

LAKEWOOD CARES

Update On Winterhurst Ice Rink Operations

by Shawn Leininger and David Baas

The City of Lakewood has decided to seek proposals for a new operating agreement for the Winterhurst Ice Skating facility. The new agreement is expected to be in effect in the second half of this year.

Since 1931, Winterhurst has been a beloved community asset and key

recreation facility for the people of Lakewood. The City’s overarching goal for Winterhurst is for the facility to act as an affordable, inviting, community-focused ice rink that first and foremost serves the needs and priorities of the people of Lakewood. After careful consideration of the existing operations and whether the current model is meeting community goals, the City



believes that it is in the best interests of the people of Lakewood and the users of Winterhurst to explore an updated model for operation of the facility.

The City’s Planning & Development Department recently issued a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to begin the process of identifying and selecting an operator that aligns with the City’s overarching goals for the Winterhurst facility. An updated set of operating parameters

and desired programmatic support will be part of the selection process. The City also will be engaging Lakewood residents, the local hockey and skating communities, and other key users to ensure that the City’s vision and the updated operating model align with the priorities of the community.

Responses to the RFQ are due on April 21, 2023. The most qualified operators will be identified and then invited to submit a formal proposal to serve as the City’s operator of the Winterhurst facility. It is anticipated that a selected operator will be presented to City Council for approval this summer.

As this process moves forward, the City will continue to provide updates and information on the status of the future vision for Winterhurst. For more information on the RFQ process please visit www.lakewoodoh.gov/winterhurst-operator-2023 or contact us at planning@lakewoodoh.net or (216) 529-6630.

Shawn Leininger, AICP, is Director of Planning & Development, and David Baas, AICP, is the Assistant Director of Planning & Development for the City of Lakewood.



Mayor Honors Anne Wise On Her 102nd Birthday!



Anne continues to enjoy life and participates in morning exercise daily at Haven at Lakewood Assisted Living Community. Anne is the proud matriarch of her family, mother of three sons, she also has two granddaughters, six grandsons and currently nine great grandchildren!



YOU'RE INVITED

Join us for the seventh live cooking demonstration!

WHEN & WHERE

Tues. May 2nd @ 2pm
Cove Community Center
12525 Lake Avenue

FEATURING

Ross Keller
Chef/Owner
Italian Creations



“Recovery means living my truth and being well in it.”

Addiction treatment works, people recover.

Connect with treatment today.
Call **216-623-6888** or **988**



Learn about recovery.



Terri in recovery since March 26, 2018



LAKEWOOD CARES

West Shore Career-Tech Students

by Lynn Donaldson

On April 3, the Rotary Club of Lakewood and Rocky River hosted the 25th annual West Shore Career-Technical District Outstanding Student Awards at its weekly luncheon, at which 14 recipients were honored for their dedication, leadership, and accomplishments in their career-technical programs.

West Shore Career-Technical District Education Coordinator William DiMascio spoke highly of this year's nominees, saying, "Career-technical education students are the driving force of innovation and progress in our society. Being recognized as an outstanding student by Rotary is a testament to their hard work, dedication, and commitment to excellence. We are so proud of these students and their accomplishments."

Each award recipient is automatically nominated for the "Career-Technical Student of the Year" award, which will be announced later in the school year at the annual Career Passport Assembly.

The 2022-23 Outstanding Student Award recipients are: Avery Darroch, automotive technology; Eric Barber, business management; Jayden Thompson, community-based program, Gordon Food Service; Hunter Tate, community-based program, Wyndham; Grant Ospelt, construction trades; Christian Reyes, culinary arts; Rebecca Frolo, early childhood education; Tyler DiLoreto, electronic engineering technology; Say K-Pyu Moo, health careers; Muriel Bourn, media art and design; Sophie Wilmot, medical office management; Victor Cottrell, networking and cybersecurity; Alexa Colburn, engineering technol-



West Shore Career-Technical District Outstanding Student Award recipients honored by the Rotary Club of Lakewood and Rocky River on April 3 are joined by Mrs. Maggie Niedzwiecki, superintendent, Lakewood City Schools; Ms. Liz Anderson, assistant superintendent, Rocky River Schools; Mr. Rob Winton, principal, Rocky River High School; and Mr. Ramsey Inman, assistant principal, Bay Village High School.

ogy, Project Lead the Way; Eli LaDue, sports and exercise science; and Grace Lamparyk, theatre arts.

West Shore Career-Technical District encompasses Bay Village, Lakewood, Rocky River, and West-

lake. WSCT will serve 439 students in its workforce development programs in the upcoming 2023-2024 school year.

We Are Off To The Races Again:
Dinner, Silent And Live Auction Fundraiser

by Larry Faulhaber

The Members of the Rotary Club of Lakewood Rocky River Sunrise invite you to join them at the Second Derby Themed Fund Raiser on Friday May 12, 2023 from 6:00 to 9:00pm at The Umerley Hall of the Rocky River Civic Center behind Rocky River City Hall. Last year there were many winners, as the event raised over \$20,000 from nearly 200 attendees! Many local community agencies and organizations benefited from the proceeds. The Trials for Hope food pantry in Ohio City on Bridge Avenue was a major beneficiary with a new walk-in refrigerator to allow them to serve more people in need within our community and

neighboring communities. Another major beneficiary was the H2O Program at Lakewood High School to help send some of their students to th (AYF) summer camp.

This year, in addition to support for the Trials for Hope, funds raised will also go to the Lakewood and Rocky River Charitable Assistance programs, 3rd Grade Dictionary Distribution, Youth Exchange Programs (sending dozens of youths to experience other cultures and welcoming dozens of youths into our homes and schools), birthday bags and school backpacks for foster children, Emergency Shelter Boxes and more.

For only \$30 per person, or \$240

for a table of eight, attendees will be treated to a served dinner and have the opportunity to win valuable and attractive art and entertainment items. There will be a silent and live auction, as well as several raffles! A cash bar will be available throughout the evening. Individual ticket price: \$30 or a Table of Eight: \$240

Make your check for tickets or table payable to Lakewood/Rocky River Sunrise Rotary Foundation and mail it today to: The Lakewood Rocky River Rotary Foundation P. O Box 16684 Rocky River, Ohio 44116

Larry Faulhaber is Public Image Committee Chair for Lakewood Rocky River Sunrise Rotary Club.

60

Years & Counting

O'Neill Healthcare

LAKEWOOD

1381 Bunts Rd | O'NeillHC.com

Nestled within a 5 star CMS rated Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation Community!

• Independent Living available

• Hospice Care

• Full calendar of social event and activities year round

• Delicious, home cooked meals

• Individual care plans designed for senior safety

Please contact Halle at (216) 912-0800 or aldir.lw@oneillhc.com

Bay Village | Fairview Park | Lakewood | Middleburg Heights | North Olmsted | North Ridgeville

Celebrating Over 17 Years of Free Speech and Intellectual Diversity in Lakewood, Ohio: www.lakewoodobserver.com

LAKEWOOD OBSERVER



Southwest Corner Of Detroit And Arthur Through The Years...

Above: From our archives, a 1917 panoramic photo of St. Paul's Lutheran Church. You can see what was the "new library" in the background. To the left is the copper steeple being removed, as it was sold to another church. All the stained glass was removed and over half ended up at Gethsemane Lutheran Church on Madison Ave. for safe keeping. Today it is CVS Pharmacy.

Summer Time, Pool Time

by Patricia Resor

Since it is almost outdoor pool, beach and lake season in Northern Ohio, it can be an exciting time for everyone. We are lucky to have many communities that are considered "lakefront," along with water sources including ponds, pools, rivers and lakes. With all of the beauty and excitement in these options there are always some rules and considerations that should be learned and respected. It really does not require a lot of water for a drowning incident to happen. Just because someone is wearing a life jacket does not always mean that they get to have access to everything at the facility involving water. Life jackets are sized by weight and should be US Coast Guard approved. An acceptable option for the smaller children are the floaty vests with a zipper in the back and attached arm bands. Any inflatable water wings, rafts, tubes are not always the best or safest option. If they get a hole in them and deflate, they are not going to work. Slides and play structures usually have height requirements and weight limits. Check these out before it is assumed that everyone is eligible to use them. Diving boards are attached to a deeper water area. Safe diving should be happening in about 9

feet or more of water. Everyone needs to be able to swim to access these. Most facilities request or require a swim test before the diving boards can be used. Some pool facilities allow toys such as dive rings or water toys. This does not necessarily mean a full clothes basket of toys to just dump into the water. If you do bring toys with you, be sure to take them with you when you leave. For the smaller children going to the beach or pool, they should always have an adult with them. Teach your littles to make sure they are counting and waiting so someone knows they are ready to jump in. Have them do a people check so they are not jumping or landing on other people. If you are on a boat, kayak, canoe, jet ski or tube, wear a life jacket. Having it next to you on the bottom of the boat does not do any good. Pay attention to the posted warnings and marine flags at the facilities and beaches. They all mean something that is safety related. Respect the water sources. Follow the rules and be safe. Have a terrific summer enjoying everything that is available in all of our communities related to being in, on or around the water in Northern Ohio. Patricia Resor is a lifeguard and learn-to-swim instructor.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Sometimes Less Is More

Your March 15th front page article regarding the Lakewood Board of Education's plan to increase STEM learning in elementary schools shows unintended parallels to the Lakewood Park Waterfront Access Feasibility Study promoted on page 2 of that issue in the "Mayor's Corner." In both cases, people were asked if they supported a popular concept: STEM learning in the schools or access to Lake Erie at the park; and in both cases, they answered "Yes! We want that." However, they weren't thinking of the consequences. When parents understood they would have to sacrifice music and phys. ed, their support for the STEM curriculum cooled. Waterfront access at Lakewood Park contains similar pitfalls. This park is a gem specifically because of the artistic development that has already occurred there. Dumping a sandy beach in front of the Solstice Steps now--as an afterthought--might destroy the aesthetics of the entire shoreline. The red brick, tree lined "promenade" leading back to the zig-zagging stairway at the east end is truly special. It feels very sophisticated for Lakewood, or anywhere in Cleveland for that matter. Edgewater Park is impressive, but the Lakewood Park promenade evokes the old-world charm of cosmopolitan Europe. Lakewood Park should try not to compete with the much larger bathing beaches at Edgewater and Huntington. It already has a municipal swimming pool, a playground, an indoor pavilion and outdoor picnic area, a baseball diamond, skateboard area, a sand volleyball court, a bandstand, and a congested parking lot in the summer. Perhaps the city should concentrate on streamlining what's topside rather than adding waterfront access.

Donna Childs

Post-Pandemic Changes To Medicaid May Impact Coverage

by Tonya Sams

The COVID pandemic caused numerous aspects of our lives to change. This included changes to Medicaid. Medicaid offers health coverage to millions of people nationwide including those with low incomes, disabilities, children, senior citizens, and pregnant women. The federal government created the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) which allowed those who were enrolled in Medicaid before or after March 2020 protections from being disenrolled. Now that Medicaid has returned to pre-pandemic guidelines many enrollees may be in danger of losing their benefits if they have not submitted their Medicaid renewal packets or if they are deemed ineligible for Medicaid. Ohio residents that have had their

Medicaid benefits automatically renewed will receive notice from their local Job and Family Services office notifying them of their approval. Those who are not eligible for automatic renewal will receive renewal packets in the mail, but the packets must be sent back to the county promptly to avoid being disenrolled from Medicaid. This process will continue for all upcoming renewals for the next several months. If you lose benefits, Medicaid allows a 90-day reinstatement period to submit the renewal form to redetermine eligibility for benefits. Completed Medicaid renewal packets can be returned in several ways. They can be returned by mail or by returning a completed and signed renewal packet to the local Job and Family Services office. Individuals may also renew over the phone by call-

ing the Medicaid Consumer Hotline at 800-324-8680, Monday through Friday 8 am. to 4 p.m. Renewals can also be handled online through the Ohio Benefits eligibility portal. Visit ssp.benefits.ohio.gov but only if you have already created a Self-Service Portal account. Otherwise, you must submit the renewal through one of the methods listed above. Even if you can't complete your renewal in the Self-Service Portal, you can still use your account to report changes and upload documents. The portal also allows you to request text and voice alerts regarding updates to your case. Again, applicants can call the Medicaid customer service line at 800-324-8680 for assistance. If you are no longer eligible for Medicaid, there are other options

available for health insurance. You can see if your employer offers coverage, or you can see if coverage is available on the federally facilitated Marketplace at Healthcare.gov or by calling 800-318-2596. Help is also available through a partnership between the Ohio Department of Medicaid and the Ohio Association of Foodbanks. For more information go to getcoveredohio.org or call 833-628-4467 for help with finding new coverage. Having trouble with the Medicaid renewal process or you disagree with your Medicaid termination? Legal Aid may be able to help! Call Legal Aid at 888-817-3777, or complete an online intake 24/7 at laslev.org. Tonya Sams is the Development and Communications Assistant at The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland.

LAKEWOOD IS ART®

Intact:
Reviews Of Recent Releases By Local Bands, Pt. 134

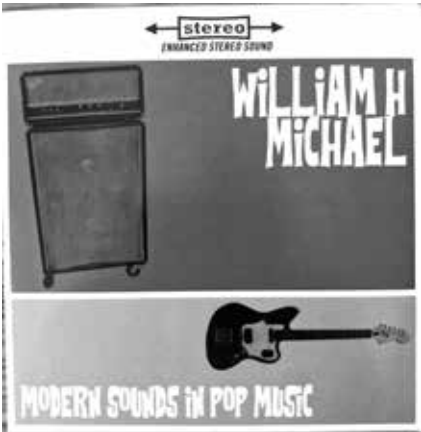
by Buzz Kompier

The Dark - Dressing The Corpse
- Scat Records - 17 songs - LP, digital

Aside from compilation appearances, this is (somewhat surprisingly) the first time The Dark has been released on vinyl. At their best, The Dark played a great hardcore/deathrock/goth mix—think Spike In Vain (also featuring guitarist Robert Griffin) if they weren't quite so weird and a little less all over the place. The stuff here was recorded between 1981 and 1984; at the latest of those dates, at least by my calculations, drummer Dave Araca and bassist Scott Eakin were 16 years old and the other two, the aforementioned Robert Griffin and singer Tom Dark himself were not all that much older. You wouldn't guess that this was a record by a bunch of teenagers, though: they're very locked in, very tight, and very much know what they're doing. It's hard to beat songs like "Fire In The Church," with its dissonant, spiky verses straight into the fastest chorus imaginable, or "The Voice Is Dead / Shattered Trust," which I think best achieves the balance between goth and hardcore here (and I like the weird harmonic sweep thing the guitar does at one point, too). The second half of the album is a little weaker, both because



it contains more of the shorter, faster ones (which aren't bad but all go by so fast it's kind of a blur) and because my biggest issue really comes up here, and that's the source of the tracks. "I Can Wait" (which actually ends Side A and therefore isn't really on the second half, but whatever) is one of their best songs, and there are at least three decent studio versions of it that I know of (all of which are on the "Scream Until We Die" double CD if you can still track that down anywhere)—so why did they choose a pretty lo-fi basement recording here? Same question with some of the live cuts—I know there's a better recording of at least "You Got What You Wanted" (another great track), so why not use it?



I just don't get it, personally. (Note: I do not feel this way about the versions of "Screeching Metal" and "Put Your Hand Through The Plastic," which sound raw but killer and I was shocked to learn were living room recordings until I saw that Matt Lindsay had a hand in mixing them for this record and thought, 'yeah, he could probably pull that off'). There's enough studio stuff to fill a whole LP so it seems unclear to me whether this was supposed to be "here it is, the best compilation of The Dark stuff" (which it doesn't achieve for the aforementioned reasons) or an odds and ends collection, which it also doesn't feel like because half of it is the studio stuff. I don't know. I'm happy to

have it and very happy that Scat seems to be heavily back in the reissue game, but I just think it could've been done in a less confused way and made for a better product. Even so: a solid representation of a great Cleveland band and worth hearing. 3.5/5
(realscatrecords.com)

William H Michael - Modern Sounds
In Pop Music - Eleventh Hour Recording
Company - 6 songs - CD, digital

Brief little EP here comprised of decent alternative rock. Very Replacements-inspired with a sort of heartland rock feel. Four originals (my favorites of which were "Miles Away" and "Sinking Stone"), plus "The Stone," written by people named Pshock and Morrissey (couldn't find any further info on this, but I would bet it's the same Pshock who was in Al & The Coholics with our man WHM) and a good rocked-up rendition of Bill Fox's "Lonesome Pine." Nothing wildly exciting, but a nice listen. 3/5
(eleventhhourrc.bandcamp.com)

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

The Night Of The Twister

by Kevin Kelly

June 8th 2023 will be the 70th anniversary of the deadliest tornado on record that hit Cuyahoga County. After several deadly tornadoes formed that day, back in 1953 in western Ohio, the storm system moved north-easterly towards the Cleveland area. Soon, another twister was seen over the City of Vermilion. The National Weather Bureau issued a 45 minute warning to the Cuyahoga residents of the approaching storm. However, because of the number one show, "I Love Lucy", was playing on the televisions, the network refused to cut in on the program to alert the viewers. The only warning Clevelanders received that day was when all the electricity suddenly went out and by then it was too late.

The twister arrived at Cleveland Hopkins Airport, over the northern runway, with an eerie greenish glow



Cleveland Twister at Hopkins Airport. Photo by Dick Goddard

at the base of the funnel. After passing over the airport, it veered off into Cleveland's west-side neighborhood. The storm devastated a new development, between the Streets of West 130 and West 117, lifting up homes off their foundations and scattering the occupants blocks away. One infant was sucked out of its father's arms and right out of the bedroom window, and was subsequently thrown up against a garage wall, several lots away.

The twister then proceeded to cut a diagonal path of destruction across the city before jumping over the Cuyahoga River and into the downtown Cleveland area. The twister hopped and skipped around the downtown area, destroying several buildings, before flipping over a tractor-trailer at East 55th Street, which seemed to be an act of defiance, before dissipating out over Lake

Erie. The following day, that same storm-system produced an F5 twister in Worcester, Massachusetts, killing close to one hundred people.

What's interesting about that particular year was even though there were a less than average amount of tornadoes breaking out in 1953, there were three monster twisters that destroyed major cities, killing hundreds. Many officials believed that the explosions from increased atomic bomb testing in 1953 in the Nevada Desert created disturbances in the upper atmosphere which produced these giant twisters.

Whoever is interested in learning more about this event, a documentary is being shown on Cox Cable, Channel 45, at 9:PM, Sunday nights. It's listed under "Shocker Enterprises," on the TV guide listings. For more information you can email: Kevin@shockerenterprises.com or Call: 440-888-8327.



Cleveland Press photo of a tornado spotted in Vermillion, Ohio that day.

the Root cafe espresso bar
15118 detroit ave
lakewood, ohio 44101
216.226.4401
www.theroot-cafe.com
organic bakery
vegan vegetarian
local kitchen

LAKEWOOD IS ART©

Remembering Karen Tepley

by Jean Brinich

Remembering Karen Tepley

I never knew you, Karen,
Met you only once before you passed your house on to us
As you and Paul finished your lives elsewhere
You were happy we chose your house
And we are so happy we did, too
And with it came your flowers
So many blooming now...the daffodils and crocuses
Have succeeded the snowdrops
And the tulips are soon to follow
And yes, the Lenten rose!
We heard you labored for hours
Planting and nurturing your gardens
And even those of the neighbors.
You are not forgotten, Karen Tepley.
And for your love of the earth and the joy it can give us
We thank you.



Student volunteers.

"T'was The Day Before Easter"

by Naomi Schiffrik

T'was the day before Easter
And all through God's House
Not a creature was stirring
Not even a mouse.
The tables were filled with projects galore
Coloring, beading, planting and more.
Cookies, cake, fruit punch and treats
Were ready for families to sit and eat.
The clock struck eleven and the children came
To make things, eat cookies and play a new game.
A picture with the Easter Bunny was a surprise
Excitement was seen in the children' eyes.
Then the children gathered to hear a story.
A story of the first Easter glory -
A story filled with great joy
And love for every girl and boy.
While out on the lawn eggs spread like dew
Pink ones, green ones, purple and blue.
Eggs ready for children to find
And share with others to be kind.
The parade was led by the Easter Bunny
Out to the lawn where it was sunny.
Children laughed and ran and had so much fun
It was a little sad to see it all done.
The Easter Bunny waved goodbye
As each child left with a sigh.
Don't worry, we'll be back next year
To be sure we spread more Easter cheer.

A shout out of thanks to the students from Lakewood High School and Lutheran High School West who volunteered and did such an outstanding job to make this event a wonderful time for all the children who came. You guys are awesome. Grace Lutheran Church, Lakewood.

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 // 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

TROY BRATZ

Real Estate Agent

Residential / Commercial

Lakewood Resident

216.702.2196

TroyBratz@KW.com

@TroyBratzKW

kw

ELEVATE

KELLERWILLIAMS.

SOLD

BUY

INVEST

SELL now for top dollar

BUY for your future

INVEST in the community

HAMMER

GROOMING & FOR GUYS

NAILS

THE FIRST LUXURY GROOMING LOUNGE

FOR EXTRAORDINARY INDIVIDUALS.

13333 MADISON AVENUE LAKEWOOD 440-290-1661

Free premium upgrade on any service with your first visit, when you mention this ad.

WOODSTOCK

woodstocksmokejoint.com

LET THERE BE MEAT

#1 BBQ In Northern Ohio 2021 2022 Scene Magazine

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

Recovery is a personal journey of healing and transformation.

* Drop-In Center

* Peer Support Group

* Arts and Crafts Program

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

a non-profit peer wellness center

Phone: 216-251-8265

On Facebook @ futuredirectionscos

futuredirections@ameritech.net

2070 West 117th Street

Cleveland, Ohio 44111



LENNOX

Air is life. Make it perfect.™

The perfect pair for your air.

RECEIVE UP TO \$1,900 IN REBATES

on a complete Ultimate Comfort System™*

OR

Qualified buyers make no payments, incur NO INTEREST FOR 6 MONTHS

when financing a new Lennox system**

That Slife!

Slife

216-220-5710

slifehvac@sbcglobal.net

13729 Madison Avenue

Lakewood, OH 44107

OH Lic #16431

Offer expires June 16, 2023.

*Rebate requires purchase of qualifying items between March 13, 2023 to June 16, 2023 from a participating Lennox® dealer. Contact your local participating Lennox® dealer for promotion details. Qualifying items must be installed by June 23, 2023. This offer applies to residential installations only. Rebate claims must be submitted (with proof of purchase) to www.lennoxconsumerrebates.com no later than July 7, 2023 11:59:59 p.m. ET. Rebate is paid in the form of a Lennox Visa® Prepaid Card. Prepaid card is governed by the Cardholder Agreement, and some fees may apply. Please note that prepaid cards are subject to expiration, so pay close attention to the expiration date of the card. Conditions apply. See www.lennox.com/terms-and-conditions for complete terms and conditions. **Offer available March 13, 2023 to June 16, 2023. All applications are subject to credit review and approval. Not all applicants will qualify. Requires purchase of qualifying Lennox® system and credit approval. No down payment required. If you qualify for this promotion ("Promotion") and elect to participate, Finance Charges (interest) will not accrue for the first six months (Promotional Period), and you will not be required to make payments during the Promotional Period. If you pay the entire amount financed on or before the last day of the Promotional Period (Promotional Expiration Date), you will not have to pay any Finance Charges. However, if you qualify and elect to participate in the Promotion and do not pay the entire amount financed on or before the Promotion Expiration Date, you will be charged Finance Charges starting the first day after the Promotion Expiration Date at an annual percentage rate (APR) of 8.99%, and the balance will be payable in 120 scheduled monthly payments of \$12.60 per \$1,000 of the amount financed. No prepayment penalties. Minimum and maximum amount financed of \$3,000 and \$100,000, respectively. Late charges may apply. Complete terms and conditions and Truth in Lending disclosures will be set forth in the Retail Installment Contract which you should review carefully.

©2023 Lennox Dealers are independently owned and operated businesses.

Celebrating Over 17 Years of Free Speech and Intellectual Diversity in Lakewood, Ohio: www.lakewoodobserver.com

The Back Page



Carabel Beauty Salon & Store

Full Service Salon For Females Of ALL Ages

Prom Hair Is As Important As The Dress
Book Your Appointment Today
Rhinestone Clips, Combs, & Tiaras
to Compliment Your Look

10% off on Seniors Tuesdays
and Wednesdays



Call for an appointment for best service.
Free Private Parking. Check with Id or cash



15309 MADISON AVENUE • 216.226.8616

WE LOVE LAKEWOOD!
We live in Lakewood



ASHLEIGH VACCARO
JOE VACCARO
*We Treat You
Like Family*

Contact us today for a free consultation.
Ashleigh@vaccaroteam.com • joe@vaccaroteam.com

216.731.9500



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

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

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



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

Or, call 888.817.3777 during most business hours.



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