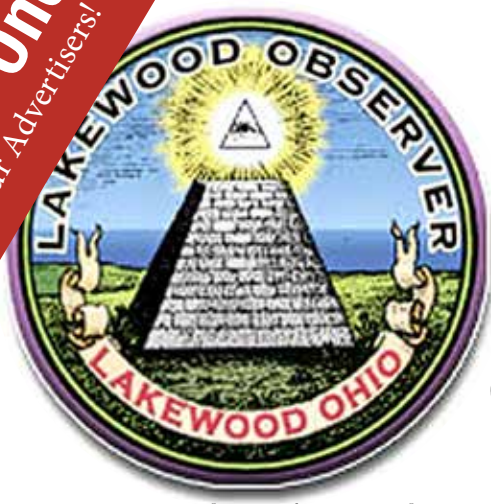


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THE LAKEWOOD OBSERVER

Founder of Award Winning Observer Community-Written Newspapers & Websites

Volume 19, Issue 10, May 17, 2023

“Those that fail to learn from history are doomed to repeat it.” Winston Churchill



Left to Right: Maggie McGann, Alexandra Horton, Grace Lamparyk, RYANNE EISNAUGLE, Samantha Hudak, Jaxon Riley, Cassidy Cipollo, Madeline Kratz, and Madalynne Sorge with Bert Wirtz (in photo)

Lakewood Kiwanis Awards \$145,000 In Scholarships For 2023

by Anna Bacho

Trumpets

Lakewood Kiwanis Scholarship Foundation is proud to announce our 2023 recipients for this year's graduating high school seniors. The following 15 graduates are being awarded fourteen \$10,000 and one \$5000 for vocational, for their academic, citizenship and leadership abilities. Thank you to all the applicants. This scholarship fund is funded through the efforts of The Kiwanis Club of Lakewood. The Lakewood Kiwanis Swing Dance and legacy donations were just two of our major fundraisers.

The winners of the 2023 Lakewood Kiwanis Scholarships are: Lauren Barber - Lakewood HS, Ethan Brown - St Ignatius HS, Cassidy Cipollo - Home School & Tri C College Credit

Plus Program, RYANNE EISNAUGLE - Lakewood HS, Alexandra Horton - Lakewood HS, Samantha Hudak - Lakewood HS, Madeline Kratz - Lakewood HS, Grace Lamparyk - Lakewood HS, Brendan Litten - St Edward HS, Maggie McGann - Lakewood HS, Jaxon Riley - Lakewood HS, Jordan Rossen - Lakewood HS, Madalynne Sorge - Lakewood HS, Lydia Watkins - Lakewood HS, Bert Wirtz - St Ignatius HS.

The Kiwanis Club of Lakewood is the leading service organization in Lakewood and last year we celebrated 100 years of service. We also support Lakewood High Key Club, Harding Builders Club, K Kids Club's at Grant, Horace Mann, and Horizon B&A Care at Harrison and Emerson. #KidsNeedKiwanis

Anna Bacho is a member of Lakewood Kiwanis.

HLF Welcomes Applications For Board Of Directors Position

by Kate Ingersoll

Currently, the Healthy Lakewood Foundation (HLF) has one open position on its Board of Directors. As part of an ongoing self-evaluation process, the HLF Board is prioritizing the recruitment and nomination of a young person of color (ages 21-35) to join its Board of Directors.

HLF holds as a core value that the diversity of its members and partners is one of its greatest assets. By recruiting and supporting members with diverse



backgrounds, lived experiences, skills, and areas of knowledge, the Board seeks to engage a range of perspectives to address the challenges and opportunities encountered in grant making. The board recognizes that greater understanding is

continued on page 11

Lakewood Loses One Of Our Best

Patty Ryan Left Her Mark On Lakewood

by James Ryan

Patty Ryan was a 33-year citizen of Lakewood. She had been the CEO of the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce until July of last year, having to resign due to health reasons. Patty had been diagnosed in 2016 with breast cancer, and succumbed to this disease this past Saturday.

Patty was not a native to Lakewood. She grew up in Findlay, Ohio, went to Miami University, and in 1990 she and her husband Jamer moved to Lakewood when his job was transferred here from Indianapolis. She got her Masters in Human Resources and Labor Relations from Cleveland State in 1993, but stayed home to raise her 3 daughters, a husband, and three Golden Retrievers. That didn't mean she wasn't working for her community. Patty was involved in Pre-school PTA, Sunday school at St. James Parish, and was instrumental in starting the Lakewood Toy Lending Library. She volunteered at Lakewood Catholic Academy and was for years a Girl Scout leader. There are about 20 growing trees covering Arthur Avenue from a private purchase she organized in 1995 when the older trees on the street began to fall.

In 2005 Patty began her work with the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce. In 2012 she succeeded Kathy Berkshire as the Chamber CEO, a job she continued until this past July. What is now Lakewood Alive was sponsored by the Chamber and helped to thrive. During her time at the Chamber, many of our favorite Lakewood traditions were either started or revived. The Spooky Pooch parade, Light Up Lakewood, and the annual Taste of Lakewood were all results of her hard work and dedication. Patty served on the board at Lakewood Hospital, Lakewood Alive, and was involved in countless Lakewood projects such as the Downtown



The always cheerful Patty Ryan on her bike, in front of her office at the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce.

Business Alliance, West End Merchants Association, and the Beck Center.

Patty never wanted to take credit for any of these accomplishments, preferring to credit all those volunteers she convinced to work to make them successful. If you were a friend of Patty's, she got you working on something. It was a favor to her, but it benefited all of Lakewood. If you see a "Shop Small" sign,

or a Chamber sticker in a business window, it was Patty who tirelessly promoted these programs within the city.

Patty wasn't big in stature, and was soft-spoken. That doesn't mean she didn't stand out in what she dedicated to Lakewood, and what her efforts accomplished. In these she was a giant.

James Ryan is a Lakewood resident and business owner.

Update On Bike/Scooter Share Program

by Meghan George

Following an initial one-year pilot period, the City of Lakewood has decided to pause participation in the Cuyahoga County Bike/Scooter Share Program.

During the pilot period, over 11,000 scooter rides took place, followed by an in-depth community survey to gather

feedback, gauge support, and assess impact. Additional community input was received in the way of unsolicited emails, phone calls, and social media posts. All of this data and feedback was analyzed in detail.

The City observed sustained concerns voiced by residents and business owners. continued on page 11

THE MAYOR’S CORNER

Lakewood Is A Safe Space, Thank You LPD

This week is National Police Week, a time established by President John F. Kennedy and the US Congress in 1962 as a way for us all to honor America’s law enforcement community. In Lakewood, we are fortunate to have a fantastic team of officers at the Lakewood Police Department (LPD) serving us every day and keeping us safe. Police work is not easy – the hours

by Mayor Meghan George

de-escalation and crisis intervention training, but LPD’s leadership refuses to rest on their laurels and continue bringing new ideas to their work. Recently, LPD announced the introduction of the Safe Place Program, which partners with local

Department, and a number of others across the U.S. and beyond have begun to integrate it. I’m proud of our police department for being one of the first in the State of Ohio to adopt this program, and I urge local businesses to consider joining the effort. I know it

will make a difference. LPD also recently was awarded a significant grant from the Community West Foundation to purchase a large number of automated external defibrillators (AEDs), ensuring that all officers patrolling our streets will have one in their vehicle. This adds to our officers already carrying items such as NARCAN/Naloxone spray for overdose victims to help our safety forces be prepared for anything. I want to thank the Community West Foundation for its generosity and support and our LPD leadership for pursuing this opportunity. As we all go about our business this week, I encourage you to think about the service the brave and dedicated men and women of our Lakewood Police Department provide to us, day-in and day-out. If you see one of our officers out and about in the next few days, consider giving them an extra word of thanks during this special week. I know they will appreciate it.



This photo was taken for the recent Lakewood Police recruiting drive. Lakewood Police are looking for good people to join their ranks. Lakewood’s finest make us proud.

can be tough and the work itself can be both dangerous and demanding. I know we all appreciate what our LPD team does for the community. While May is a special time for officers across the nation, it is also “business as usual” for the officers, who are always focused on keeping everyone safe. Locally, the Lakewood Police Department (LPD) continues to provide some excellent innovations in adding to the ways they approach police work. I’ve spoken before about things like our

Lakewood businesses willing to place the “Safe Place” sticker in their window. This allows anyone who is experiencing harassment or threats to step inside, contact police, and stay safe until officers arrive. The program is aimed at those who are frequently victims of targeted threats and violence such as our LGBTQ community. Our officers will be contacting businesses, and those interested will receive training from LPD. The Safe Place Program originated with the Seattle Police



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 Lakewood Observer

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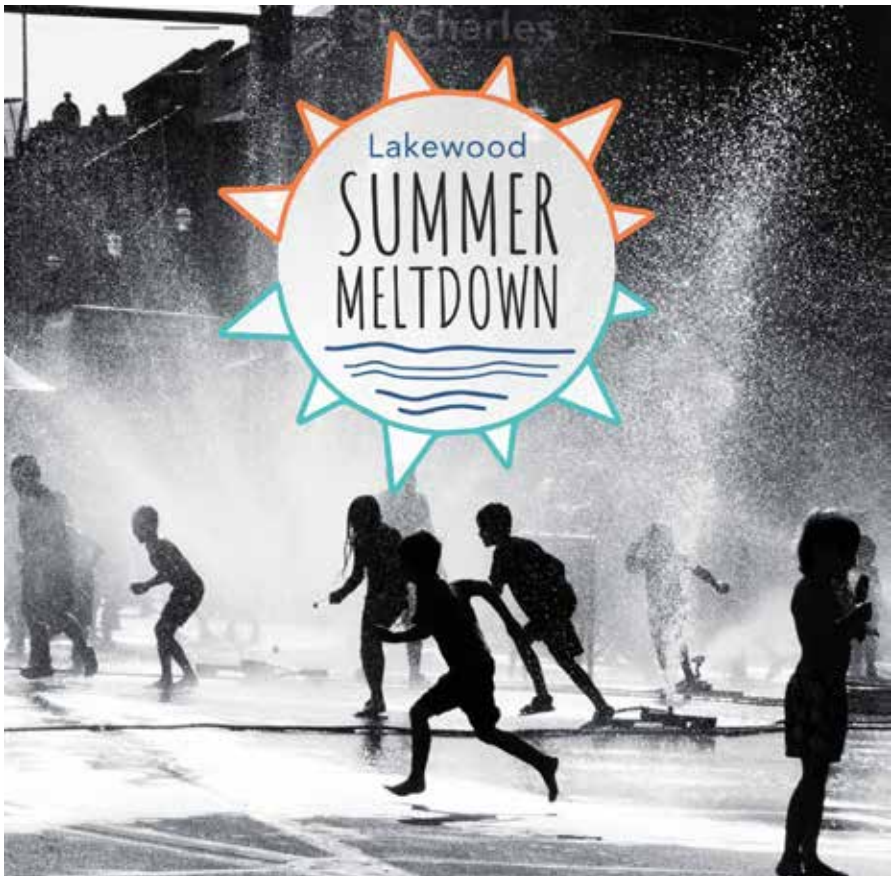
LakewoodAlive Announces Return Of Lakewood Summer Meltdown On July 15

by Jacqueline Bon

The biggest block party in the city is poised to heat up Lakewood this summer once again. The Lakewood Summer Meltdown, sponsored by Melt Bar and Grilled and presented by LakewoodAlive, returns to Downtown Lakewood for its 15th year on Saturday, July 15 from 4 to 10 p.m.

The Summer Meltdown represents one of the region’s most highly anticipated street parties. A summertime celebration of our city’s vibrancy, this free community event draws nearly 15,000 attendees from across Northeast Ohio to the heart of Lakewood each July.

This fixture on our city’s summer calendar takes place on Detroit Avenue in Downtown Lakewood between Marlowe and Arthur Avenues. The Summer Meltdown features a 5K race sponsored by Cleveland Clinic, 1 Mile Family Fun Run and Walk sponsored by Lakewood City Schools Community Recreation and Education Department, street festival, outdoor activities, games, food vendors, beer garden, live music and more.



Now is the time to secure your Meltdown 5k registration and start training! The price for the Meltdown 5K increases on the day of the event, so buy early and save. In the spirit of celebrating the 15th Summer Meltdown, the first 50 sign-ups will be discounted to \$20 followed by a pre-sale rate of \$30 and day-of \$35. These races serve as a fund-

raiser for LakewoodAlive.

Families will love the street festival component, which features a variety of local small businesses and nonprofit organizations, many of which offer interactive opportunities. Activities range from the “Water Moose” sprinkler park to fitness activities to a skateboard park.

Canned cocktails and beer sponsored by Lakewood brewery, Immigrant Son will be featured in the Gary K. Bish Memorial Beer Garden sponsored by First Federal Lakewood. Live music by alternative rock band Front Porch Lights on the Meltdown Stage sponsored by Cleveland Property Management will delight the crowd as dusk turns to nightfall in beautiful Downtown Lakewood.

For more details about the Lakewood Summer Meltdown, visit lakewoodalive.org/meltdown

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

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**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.

Lakewood Public Library

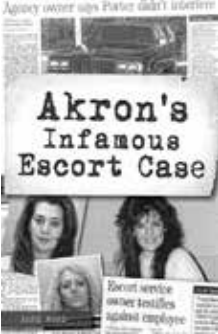
June Events At Lakewood Public Library

by Lisa Calfee

Meet the Author – “Akron’s Infamous Escort Case”

Book by Jane Bond
Wednesday, June 7, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.
Main Library Auditorium

“Operation Red Light” was launched by a special unit to investigate two escort services in Akron. “Akron’s Infamous Escort Case” is the true story of a crime investigation that destroyed careers, ruined reputations, broke up marriages, led to allegations of police corruption and challenged the justice system. Author Jane Bond is the former judge who presided over this complex case in the late 1990’s which has left many unanswered questions and the murder of a young woman still unsolved. Books will be available for sale and signing at this event.



Lakewood Public Cinema - “Psycho” (Alfred Hitchcock, 1960)

Saturday, June 10, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.
Main Library Auditorium

A real estate office worker (Janet Leigh) has been entrusted with an envelope full of cash to take to the bank. She takes the forty grand, and then takes it on the lam. On the way to meet her boyfriend, she stops at a roadside motel. After a friendly chat with the weirdly amiable clerk (Anthony Perkins), she begins to have second thoughts. She decides to come clean and return the money. There’s nothing like a nice shower to wash away the guilt. Terry Meehan continues his series, Hitchcock’s Best (1958-1963), introducing each film with an original video followed by audience reaction and a lively discussion.



Meet the Author-”Mary Brewster’s Love Life”

Book by Kathryn Hauelsen
Wednesday, June 28, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.
Main Library Auditorium

Nineteen women sailed on the Mayflower in 1620. A year after anchoring in Cape Cod Bay only four of them were still alive. One of them was Mary Brewster. Learn about this remarkable woman’s dedication, faith, and resiliency in “Mary Brewster’s Love Life.” This work of historical fiction is based on the true story of Mary’s adventures that took her from a sleepy English village to stepping aboard the Mayflower and on to Plimouth Plantation. Author Kathryn Hauelsen is one of Mary Brewster’s thousands of descendants, a retired pastor, a blogger at HowWiseThen.com and a writer of seven published books and dozens of articles. Books will be available for sale and signing at the event.



Knit & Lit Book Club

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.
June 20, 2023 “Lessons in Chemistry” by Bonnie Garmus

Booked for Murder Book Club

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.
June 15, 2023, “The It Girl” by Ruth Ware

Children’s And Youth Services Programs

by Jeffrey Siebert

All Together Now Summer Reading Club

Friday, May 12, 2023 through Monday, August 14, 2023
Main Library and Madison Branch
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.

Build A Bear Story Time

Wednesday, June 7, 2023, 11:00am - 12:00pm , Main Library Activity Room
Thursday, June 8, 2023 / 11:00am - 12:00pm / Madison Branch Children’s Program Room

For Students entering Kindergarten through Second Grade
A special inclusive themed story time where students will make their own stuffed rainbow teddy bear, name their teddy bear and receive an adoption certificate. Registration is required.

Madison Branch Teen Robotics Camp

Monday, June 5, 2023- Thursday, June 8, 2023, 2:00pm-4:00pm, Madison Branch Meeting Room

For Teens Entering Sixth through Twelfth Grade
You and a partner will build and program LEGO MINDSTORMS EV3 robots to conquer challenges using block based coding and ultrasonic, touch and color sensors. No prior coding experience is necessary, but your team will be counting on you, so make sure you can attend all four days! Registration is required.

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.

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

An Educational Forum By The Lakewood Chapter Of The League Of Women Voters Of Greater Cleveland

Woman’s Access To Reproductive Healthcare In Ohio:

by Cindy Strebig

Please join the Lakewood, Bay Village, Rocky River, Westlake/North Olmsted, and Fairview Park Chapters of the League of Women Voters of Greater Cleveland on Tuesday, May 23 from 7-8:30P at the Lakewood Public Library (15425 Detroit Ave. Lakewood, Ohio) for a public forum.
This educational forum will be a moderator-led, panel discussion on access to reproductive healthcare in Ohio. Panelists from the legal, legislative, medical, media relations, religious,

and democracy-preservation communities will update the audience with their knowledge and expertise. The conversation may explore the history, current state, and future possibilities of access to reproductive healthcare.
This is not a debate. It is intended to educate the community with the most current information available. Voters are encouraged to attend, gather, and evaluate the data to make informed decisions for themselves.
Cindy Strebig is a Community activist and concerned citizen.

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LAKEWOOD SCHOOLS

Middle School Teams Earn Top Mock Trial Honors

by Christine Gordillo

Garfield and Harding middle schools participated in the statewide Middle School Mock Trial Showcase sponsored by the Ohio Center for Law-Related Education on April 28. It was the first time since 2019 the showcase was held in the state courthouse in Columbus after three years of conducting the competition by Zoom. Teams from both schools won multiple "Best Attorney" and "Best Witness" awards!

Garfield's two teams together won two out of four possible "Best Attorney" awards and two of four possible "Best Witness" awards. Harding's two teams won two of four "Best Attorney" awards and two of four "Best Witness" awards.

Garfield's "Best Attorneys" were Liam Callahan and Zenovia Parkanzky. Harding's "Best Attorneys" were Sam Parker and Hank Janko. Garfield's "Best Witnesses" were Ona Bukys and Charlaice McDonald. Harding's "Best Witnesses" were Clover Griggs and Bridgid Sutliff.

Team scores are ranked into three tiers. Two dozen teams from districts across Ohio competed over two days, and only seven teams scored in the top tier. Both Garfield and Harding teams scored in the top two tiers. Both Garfield teams received a rating of "Superior" and both Harding teams received a rating of "Outstanding."

This year the middle school mock trials were based on the book "Holes" by Louis Sachar in which a main character suffers from a family curse that puts him in the wrong place at the wrong time.

In the competition, each middle school team subdivides into a prosecution and a defense squad, and prepares



The Garfield and Harding Mock Trial teams in Columbus.

for two different trials against other Ohio middle schools. Students take on the roles of attorneys, witnesses, and bailiff/timers. The trials take place in front of real attorneys who act as trial judges and who rate teams on case understanding, professional demeanor, oratory skills and understanding of trial technique and courtroom procedure. Garfield and Harding had two trials running simultaneously in the morning, and repeated that schedule in the afternoon!

Special thanks to attorney Sarah Cleves, a Lakewood resident and senior claims attorney with ABA Insurance Services, Inc., who acted as a legal advisor for Garfield's teams, coached by Colleen Gromek.

Garfield's seventh grade participants were Rocco Awad, Ona Bukys, Kyle Bunsey, Liam Callahan, Emma R. Collins, Mia Dugan, Emma Dugan, Alvena

Eh, Ivry Gunka-Woten, Rowan Johnson, Sophie Kovach, Luke Mackert, Gabriella Markiewicz, Charlaice McDonald, Elise Moran, Hailey Murawski, Zenovia Parkanzky, Christopher Pongracz, Kayleigh Saunders, Elizabeth Spear, Olivia Schumacher-Syvuk, Bipraviyani Thapa Chhetri, Lilith Toke, Landon Vincel and Emma Vinkovic.

At Harding, Sonja Kreps, Lisa Batkiewicz, and Nicholas Avila-John guided their 7th and 8th grade teams along with help from countless attorneys and judges present during the week of playoffs that decided Harding's teams. A special thank you to Dan Shields who

not only judged during the playoffs but also coordinated the attendance of many of the lawyers and judges.

Harding's 8th grade students participating were: Maeve Andrews, Niko Banfield, Nathaniel Gage, Mikayla Jaissle, Solomon King, Harper Kinder, Sean Miller, Sam Parker, Hazel Smith and Bridgid Sutliff.

Harding's 7th grade students were: Aiden Barrett, Gabe Chaney, Ally Demaline, Peyton Diemert, Clover Griggs, Hank Janko, Jack Janko, Alana Johnson, Julia Myers, Charlie Rogalski, Charlotte Rogalski, Madeline Sheils and Alden Therrien.

WordStage Presents "Oscar Bram And Walt"

by Tim Tavcar

On Saturday, June 3rd at 7:00 p.m. in the Wright Chapel of the Lakewood Presbyterian Church WordStage Literary Concerts presents an intriguing program about the visits Oscar Wilde and Bram Stoker made (on separate occasions) to the then controversial American Poet Walt Whitman.

Wilde was on a yearlong tour of various cities in the Untied States sent by Richard D'Oyly Carte, the producer of Gilbert and Sullivan's operettas in Britain and America. Their latest creation, "Patience" which spoofed the heightened fashion of the Aesthetic Movement was personified by Wilde. The 27-year-old Wilde accepted a generous offer to do a tour where he would expound on the principals of aestheticism, largely because it afforded him the possibility of meeting Whitman, who, Wilde felt, was American's greatest poet and self-promoter nonpareil.

Several years later, Bram Stoker, who was the manager of the great actor Henry Irving's Lyceum Theater was arranging a tour of several American cities, and he seized the opportunity to book performances in Philadelphia, largely so he would visit his literary idol, Whitman who lived just across the river in Camden, New Years. Stoker had already written letters to Whitman and had become a champion of



Whitman's "Leaves of Grass," which, even in a highly edited edition, caused great controversy in Britain. The conversations between these men gives a fascinating glimpse into the craft of literary creation, the manufacturing of a public persona and the celebration of sensuality in poetry, the arts and in life.

For tickets and information visit our website at www.wordstageoh.org or call 440-857-0717.

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

Grant Students Become Boxitects

by Christine Gordillo

Earlier this month, Grant students took their Vision of a Lakewood Graduate focus on collaboration to the ultimate degree as they all became "boxitects" and worked together to build a cardboard city! Students beamed as they watched their design ideas come to

life as a pet shop, castle, dog house and more!

The project was inspired by the book "Boxitect", read schoolwide, and came together thanks to the leadership of Grant Elementary School PTA - Lakewood, Oh and generous donations from Larsen Architects and Dimit



LAKEWOOD SPORTS OBSERVED

Dr. G's Ranger Round Up: Softball/Baseball

by Dr. Charles Greanoff

5/11/23 Lakewood vs. Akron

Poetry imitated softball today, and when all was written the unlikelyest of players—freshman defensive specialist Addison Garrett—had delivered the clutch hit (a sixth inning single scoring Ella Bower, who had led off with a single) to propel the Lakewood Rangers to a hard fought 3-2 OHSA Tournament win over Akron Firestone. Addison was pressed into batting duty due to a spate of recent injuries, but who would have known that while watching her drill a run-scoring single to right center? This "surprise" was matched by the most expected of efforts—a complete game by Mia Carroll-Greeves. The record setting all-star pitcher and the solid roll player were the main authors of this poem. But it's a team game, and everyone chipped in

Not to be overlooked was the play of senior catcher Charlotte Beno—the best catcher in the GLC and the consummate student athlete. A National Honor Society officer who proudly sported her OSU gear today at the NHS Breakfast, Charlotte gunned down a would-be base stealer with a perfect throw to sure-handed shortstop Kylee Blinky in the top of the 6th to snuff out a Firestone rally. She also doubled

and scored on Mia's double in the first inning to get the Rangers on the board. Grace Hart, yet another NHS officer (University of Cincinnati), walked several times, helping advance runners that eventually scored.

They needed everything today, and the Lakewood defense met the challenge and then some. Second baseman Gaby Carroll-Greeves made multiple fine plays, as did first baseman Ella Bower. Fittingly, the final out occurred when Gaby, steady as they go, fielded a grounder and calmly threw to Ella to send the Rangers and their nerve-racked fans home with smiles all around.

Every close play in the field went Firestone's way, but from my eye they were all good calls. With that and multiple starters sidelined and a tough (and classy, I might add) opponent, the frustration could have easily gotten to Lakewood. Instead, the Rangers played an errorless game, got their usual stellar pitching, and a freshman defensive specialist who rarely hits drives in the winning run. Long Lakewood.

5/5/23 Lakewood vs. Normandy

On a lingeringly cold May evening, the Lakewood Rangers Baseball/Softball teams won 2 of 3 (the boys

split with Normandy and the girls beat them). While the Baseball team was dropping the first game 5-0, the Softball team won 7-2, led by freshman Ella Bower, who threw seven 2-hit innings and struck out 6, aided by sparkling defensive plays by 2nd baseman Gaby Carroll-Greeves, center fielder Lauren Barber, and 3rd baseman Emily Potoczak. First baseman Mia-Carroll-Greeves led the offense with 3 hits and 4 RBI, while Lauren and senior catcher Charlotte Beno each had 2 hits and an RBI.

About a half hour later, the Lakewood Baseball team started slowly, taking a while to get their bats going, but when the dust at home plate finally settled (lots of close plays there tonight) the 44107 crew put up 8 runs in the last two innings to win going away, 8-2. Starter Logan Ellis pitched 4 2/3 strong innings, before giving way to senior Luke Jablonowski (another #50), who pitched 2 and 1/3 scoreless innings for the win. In the fifth, the Rangers tied it on an RBI singles by Leo Sonosen and Aidan Maxwell. Then, with two out, Colin McCrone once again delivered at a crucial time, breaking an 2-2 with an RBI single to left. Colin later delivered the knock out blow with a 2-run single in the bottom of the 6th. Mason Ivinskas, Luke Mason, Keegan Schroeder

and catcher Ben Jablonowski—who once again was rock solid behind the plate—also chipped in offensively for the Rangers.

The wins were fun, the loss was not (I managed to miss it) but the best part of this night was our Lakewood community, especially our future Lakewood Rangers. Seeing all the youth players in the Lakewood Community Baseball Association ring the field before the game was that magic moment that weaves the connection between our past, present and future (I was the oldest Ranger in attendance, and it so happens I wore #5 for the Purple and Gold). As is always the case, many of our Softball players joined other fans to cheer on the home team. Both squads are in contention in the GLC-East (Girls 8-2, Boys 6-2) and hope to make deep playoff runs. No matter how the season turns out, however, it's a joy to watch student athletes compete fiercely while carrying themselves with class and respect. Tonight was a great community celebration of a very special community with amazing, generous hearted people. The Lakewood Rangers are one team, from one town, that gives it all.

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- Keep your home (carpets, upholstery) clean and wash your bedding often.
- Keep your pets clean and groomed to help reduce buildup of pollen, dirt and other irritants that they may pick up outdoors.
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LAKEWOOD SCHOOLS

Get Your Car Washed And Support Music And Performing Arts In Lakewood!

by Sarah Winters

Wash your car and do some good!
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provides resources (programming, classroom materials, and more) to our teachers and scholarships for students for private lessons, camps, and more across all levels in the District.
And tell your friends, family, and neighbors to go get their car washed!
Thank you to our good friends at Sgt. Clean Car Wash for their generosity!
https://www.fundraiser.vip/tickets/purchase/2023_lakewood
Thank you!
Sarah Winters is a parent and member of Lakewood Music Boosters.

Lakewood Project 20th Reunion Concert

by Emma Carson, LHS '20,

On May 28th, twenty years of Lakewood High School alumni will return to the Lakewood Civic Auditorium to perform in The Lakewood Project 20th Reunion Concert. With a theme of "Modern Rock," the first act of the concert will be performed by the group's current high school members. Alumni will join current students on stage in the second half of the concert, performing favorite songs chosen by alumni including "Carry On My Wayward Son," "Don't Stop Believin," and "Beat It." Previous members of The Lakewood Project will be traveling from across the country to perform together in a celebration of music, community, and Lakewood history.

The Lakewood Project Rock Orchestra was formed in 2003 as an innovative, cutting-edge approach to music education. The group features a rhythm section complete with drums, keyboard, electric guitar, and electric bass. The string section features two electric string quartets and two acoustic string quartets with double basses and harp. The group has performed at venues across the country. The Lakewood Project regularly performs three concerts a year, including at Lakewood Park on July 4th.

For twenty years, The Lakewood

Project has inspired a lifelong love of music-making in its members. An impressive number of Lakewood Project alumni have established successful careers as musicians and music educators, with many others making a secondary income through music. As part of the reunion weekend, current members of The Lakewood Project will have the opportunity to attend a networking dinner, forming connections and gaining career advice with alumni working in many different fields.

The Lakewood Project 20th reunion will be an event that you do not want to miss. Come celebrate the strong and vibrant history of music in Lakewood with twenty years of Lakewood Project alumni.

Those interested in attending the concert may purchase tickets at the door (\$15 adult, \$10 student), or online at <https://www.payschoolsevents.com/events/details/25206>.

Young musicians interested in The Lakewood Project may register for "Rock On" string camp, run by The Lakewood Project June 20-23. Registration for "Rock On" Camp is available online through the Lakewood Department of Recreation.

Emma Carson, LHS '20, is at CWRU for Music Education, class of '24.

Facility Task Force Update

from Lakewood Schools

Dear Lakewood Families:

The Lakewood City School District is fortunate to have a long history of support and partnership with our families and community in supporting our mission of developing responsible citizens, who are critical and creative thinkers, committed to life-long learning, invested in a diverse society, and prepared for technological and global opportunities. The community support has included the building of excellent educational and athletic facilities for our students' and community members' growth and development.

As educational leaders, we have a responsibility to care for, protect, and maintain our facilities and buildings. Additionally, we have the responsibility to periodically review the use of them and the role they play in helping us achieve our mission in ways that are financially responsible, sustainable, and provide the greatest opportunities for our students' growth.

In February, the District began working with the architectural firm GPD Group to conduct a facilities study in order to assess the current use of our facilities and explore opportunities to maximize our resources. This study includes the establishment of a Facility Study Task Force to provide feedback and develop recommendations for facility improvements. The task force, composed of staff members, administrators, parents, city officials and community members, has been meeting regularly with GPD to understand existing building conditions and use and review educational programming needs and enrollment projections. This process includes an examination of possible options for how we may use or repurpose our existing facilities in order to effectively and efficiently serve our students now and in the future.

As the work of the committee is shared, you may hear of various options

for our facilities under consideration. Please know that at this point in time, any options being considered are just that - options. Over the coming months, there will be opportunities to understand and provide feedback on any options that are seriously being considered before any final decisions are made.

The District is hopeful that the outcomes of the study will provide valuable information and recommendations that can help guide the District in planning for the future use of our facilities. The facility study and work of the Facility Study Task Force will continue into the summer and next school year. No changes as a result of the work are expected before the 2024-25 school year.

As we move through this study and future facility decisions, we will remain committed to continuing our partnership with the staff and community, engaging interested stakeholders, and providing excellent educational opportunities for all our students and the citizens of Lakewood.

Thank you,
Lakewood City Schools

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LAKEWOOD CARES

Lakewood:
An Awesome Community
That Supports Family Fun

by Naomi Schiffrik

“Awesome weather, awesome event, awesome people!” That was how one of our student volunteers described “The Grace-est Show on Earth” which was held Saturday, May 6 on the front lawn of Grace Lutheran Church across from Madison Park. This event had a Bounce House, five princesses, Wonder Woman, Super Girl, and carnival games scattered over the lawns with prizes for every player. Hot dogs grilling, popcorn popping and lemonade served up for all the hungry families in attendance. Children bouncing, princesses telling stories, cars being raced, rings being tossed, photos being taken, and balloons being turned into animals. SO MUCH FUN!

We could not have done it without you. Shout out to our neighbors Angelo’s Pizza, 13715 Madison Ave. and Donut Pantry, 14600 Madison Ave. for their generous gifts for our prize basket drawings. Three Lakewood families were super excited to see those gift cards in their baskets. Shout out to all the volunteers from Lakewood Lutheran School, Lutheran High School West and Grace Lutheran Church.

Shout out to Fairytale Foundation, a non-profit that trains and outfits high school students to dress up and assume the role they are playing. They offer multiple characters without any additional costs. One of the princesses is a



Lakewood High Student who is enrolled in the Career-Tech Early Childhood program. As a non-profit, Fairytale Foundation donates the fee they charge for attending your event to a charity of your choice. We selected the Lakewood Community Service Center to be the recipient of the donation.

Shout out to all the families that came to the carnival. It was nice to meet you. If you weren’t there, you were missed. But we’ll see you next year.

Naomi Schiffrik was born and raised in Lakewood and graduated Lakewood High School in 1968. Currently she is administrator for Grace Preschool, 13030 Madison Ave., Lakewood. She started the preschool 42 years ago when it was in the former Lutheran Church across the street. It is now held in Grace Lutheran Church. She was a teacher in Cleveland Public schools and several Lutheran schools for more than 35 years and is happily married for 50 years, a mother of 3 and grandmother of 6.

Madison Park Master Planners
Seek Input From Kids

City of Lakewood

The City of Lakewood, Ohio - Municipal Government and the Cuyahoga County Planning Com-



mission are working together on creating a Madison Park Master Plan and yesterday they turned to experts on what makes a good park: the kids! As part of the community engagement process, Harrison students were asked about their likes and dislikes when it comes to park features. Splash pad? Yes! Fitness course? Yes! Picnic pavilion? Maybe. Students loved adding their input for the future shape of this neighborhood resource.

Carpenter
Song

by Ralph Hutchison

A musician moves her hands today
over the wood where yesterday,
her maker -- her instrument
maker --
moved her own hands
and her carpenter's plane
in that same rhythmic
human way.

Ralph Hutchison is a simple computer programmer, living in the city.

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LAKEWOOD CARES



Left to right: son Chris, grandson Ian, daughter in law Sandy, son Michael, Arlene, grand-daughter Aubrey, great granddaughter Tiegan, grandson Joshua, grandson Michael. All last names are Montgomery.

Lillian Montgomery Turns 90

by Chris Montgomery

My name is Chris Montgomery and I am writing about my mom who turned 90 last May 7th. My mother is first generation, born to parents who emigrated from the Austro-Hungarian Empire in the 1920s. She grew up in Collinwood and moved to Lakewood with my father in 1963 and has lived at the same house ever since. She bore and raised six sons: Michael born 1955, Thom born 1956, me 1957, Robert 1960, Douglas born 1962 and baby Martin, born 1963, died 1964. She is a regular churchgoer of the Catholic church. On Saturday May 7th she turned 90 years old.

My father's name was Eddie Gene Montgomery (dob 12/25/1930). He sadly passed in 2015. My mother met him after she graduated from high school in Collinwood, Ohio in 1948 and attended Cleveland State. He was from Texas and she was forming a country dance club and recruited him because he was the only person she knew from the South who knew square dancing. They fell in love and married in 1952 (IIRC) and eventually moved to Lakewood from Collinwood, buying a home on Westlake Avenue where they raised all of us boys. She is the second child of three daughters and the only surviving daughter as my Aunt Ruthie passed away last month. She has been more than a mother, leading a women's bowling league - which won a trophy - in the early 70's, volunteering with my Dad at the



Lillian Montgomery and her husband Eddie Gene Montgomery.

Lakewood YMCA, teaching catechism for the St. James Catholic Church, and being a professional photographer for a local corporation that gave me my scholarship to Rice University, and finally being a longtime paralegal for a lawyer in Lakewood until she retired in the 80's. She has spent sixty years as a member of our community.

Her life means the world to me, my brothers, and all those who know and love her. Her name is Arlene Lillian Montgomery, but we know her as Lillian.

Chris Montgomery was born and raised in Lakewood Ohio. He was an honor student at LHS and a graduate of Rice University 1980 with a J.D. from CSU Marshall College of Law. He currently practices in Vermont.

Rabbi Lader Retiring

By Julia DiBaggio

Lakewoodite Rabbi Enid Lader is retiring from being the spiritual leader of Beth Israel – The West Temple, located in Cleveland's west side, effective June 20, 2023. Rabbi Rachel Brown will take over beginning July 1, 2023.

During the weekend of May 19th and 20th, Shabbat services will have live musical performances, Friday evening Musical Erev Shabbat Service featuring the Ross Family String Quartet & Festive Oneg and Saturday Shabbat Morning Service with members of the Afro-Semitic Experience & Kiddush. The weekend celebration concludes with a retirement party with music by the Yiddishe Cup Klezmer Band.

Rabbi Lader served in her current role for thirteen years. In addition to serving Cleveland's west side Jewish community, she was involved with many multifaith groups that provided her with a platform to share a Jewish perspective with people who are non-Jews. Lader is a social justice activist involved in RAC Ohio, a coalition of Reform clergy across Ohio and Greater Cleveland Congregations. Her community leadership was recognized in 2018 as one of 18 Difference Makers by the Cleveland Jewish News, as well as the Academy for Jewish Religion for thirteen years of service. Lader previously led Beth Israel – The West Temple as Jewish Educator, volunteer religious school teacher, and high holiday choir



Rabbi Enid Lader

director.

Beth Israel – The West Temple continues the legacy of female leadership. In 1972, Rabbi Sally Priesand, a graduate of Beth Israel's religious school, became the first woman ordained to the rabbinate in the United States. Board President Walter Wright says, "Rabbi Enid Lader is a pillar at The West Temple who has been a community leader in various roles for 40 years. Filling her shoes will not be easy, but Rabbi Rachel Brown is very welcoming and already embraced by our congregation."

Julia DiBaggio is the Vice President, Board of Directors of The West Temple.

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LAKEWOOD WRITES IN

HLF Welcomes
Applications For Board
Of Directors Position

continued from page 1

possible among those who bring diverse perspectives and lenses through which to examine issues and opportunities.

HLF takes seriously its responsibility to create a culture that honors and supports each member's inherent value, contributions, and perspectives. The HLF board and staff are responsible for ensuring that diversity, equity, and inclusion are central pillars of its governance.

At this time, only Lakewood residents can be considered for this open position in order to maintain a board composition whereby at least 2/3 of members are Lakewood residents per the organization's by-laws.

HLF provides an optional meeting stipend for members to reduce financial barriers to Board service. This stipend includes reimbursement for

travel, caretaking, and miscellaneous expenses related to attending Board meetings and events.

If you have previously applied for an HLF Board of Directors position, your application will be considered in this current review process.

Interested candidates can learn more about the opportunity on HLF's website at <https://healthylakewood-foundation.org/board/> and apply for the position online. Please reach out to HLF's Executive Director, Kate Ingersoll, with questions.

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

Are Lakewood
Parks Open?

by Jeff Fritz

By all appearances, the park is open. There are kids running around. There are adults walking the paths. There are cars and bicycles.

This was the scene on Easter Sunday. One problem: the restrooms were locked. Not such a big problem for people who came by car. They can drive home and use the bathroom. But a potential problem for those who walk to the park.

People with overactive bladders and similar afflictions are out of luck. Some will avoid going to the park that their tax dollars are paying for.

Is a park really open if the restrooms are closed?

Jeff Fritz enjoys exercise, politics, economics, writing jokes and songs and reading non-fiction.

Big Business:
Not So Fashionable

Dear Editor,

It is crucial we take action against big businesses in order to preserve our one home: Earth. Fast fashion has dominated the industry and capitalizes on consumer addiction. With devious marketing ploys, companies are able to brainwash citizens into buying countless goods without addressing the detrimental effects. We are faced with this tragedy of the commons where consumers and companies take advantage of shared resources giving rise to a complete lack of control over this human created catastrophe. Just because an item is cheaper and can be accessed effortlessly does not mean it is better. These items are produced with harmful materials that are not made to last, inducing excessive amounts of waste. A continued lack of regulations

leads to large corporations exploiting consumers and our environment's shared resources.

Companies will force the responsibility on you and continually lack the fundamental accountability that they should embody, but their entitlement and disregard for others can only be stopped with government involvement. Now is the time to implore lawmakers to enact policies that promote sustainability rather than overproduction and consumerism. Vote for individuals who care about holding big businesses accountable and prioritize the environment over the economy.

Sincerely,
Catherine Hilow
Catherine Hilow is an Undergraduate Student at Lehigh University and a proud resident of Lakewood, Ohio.

Update On
Bike/Scooter Share Program

continued from page 1

ers alike over poor and often dangerous rider behavior as well as complaints regarding clutter and obstruction of the public right of way (especially sidewalks) and private property by rental scooters and bicycles. These concerns were seen as actually making Lakewood less pedestrian friendly. Overall, this critical feedback meaningfully outweighed positive feedback and observed benefits.

Importantly, the level of support for continuing the program seen in the community survey actually dropped by 30% when compared to a previous survey conducted before the pilot program began. These comparative statistics and the overall feedback received led the City to conclude that the program should be placed on hiatus

while further planning efforts proceed to assess issues and concerns and continue to holistically explore the issue of transportation in our community.

The City of Lakewood remains committed to supporting multimodal forms of transportation that present meaningful alternatives to automobiles. Presently, the City is conducting a Transit Feasibility Study to examine opportunities for local fixed route and on-demand services as well as an Active Transportation Plan to enhance and expand walking and biking opportunities and pedestrian safety. The information gathered from these two planning efforts will inform the City's ultimate decision making on any future participation in the Bike/Scooter Share Program.

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LAKEWOOD HISTORY

Second Oldest House In Lakewood Falls To The Wrecking Ball

by Jim O'Bryan

This past month I have been watching for the house down the street from me to go under the wrecking ball.

The house had been wearing the shameful RED X box for over a year. The mark is a warning for all that the house was unsafe to enter. This could have been for a number of issues, and unfortunately this house was nearly checking all the boxes on the unsafe sheet.

Having grown up in the neighborhood, I was aware that the house was old. Coming home last week I saw a puff of smoke in that direction and a flash of yellow. I grabbed my camera and ran off to watch. Good sport for a retiree.

By the time I was two blocks away, I could see just how fast it was coming down. It seemed to disappear right in front of my eyes.

When I got there the last walls were coming down. Other people who lived nearby were arriving at the scene. Everyone was shocked at how fast the home was demolished. Then we found out why:

The house had been red-boxed for unsafe floors, stairs collapsing, water damage, mold, insect damage and everything and anything that would make a house unstable.

Dave Kasper who was visiting a friend across the street said, "As soon as I heard the commotion I came out. By the time I had my phone out,

it was almost down." We have Dave's video online, and you can watch the second half of the house come down in 45 seconds.

Then Shawn Cresante, also a neighbor posted his video, and with it, the information that the house was the second oldest house in Lakewood. Of course the oldest house in Lakewood is the city-owned Nicholson House, "managed" by the Lakewood Historical Society.

There was much outcry as Lakewood lost another piece of our history. To be honest, there is not much love of historical buildings in Lakewood these days. Especially since the gentrification bug bit.

It turns out that the house was built in 1854 and appears on many old maps of Lakewood. If you look at the 1885 map you can see that the rest of "Elm Street" was filled with many of the homes that are still on the street. Elm was the original name of that section as Riverside continued down what is now Graber, and the 3-block Elm Street became Riverside.

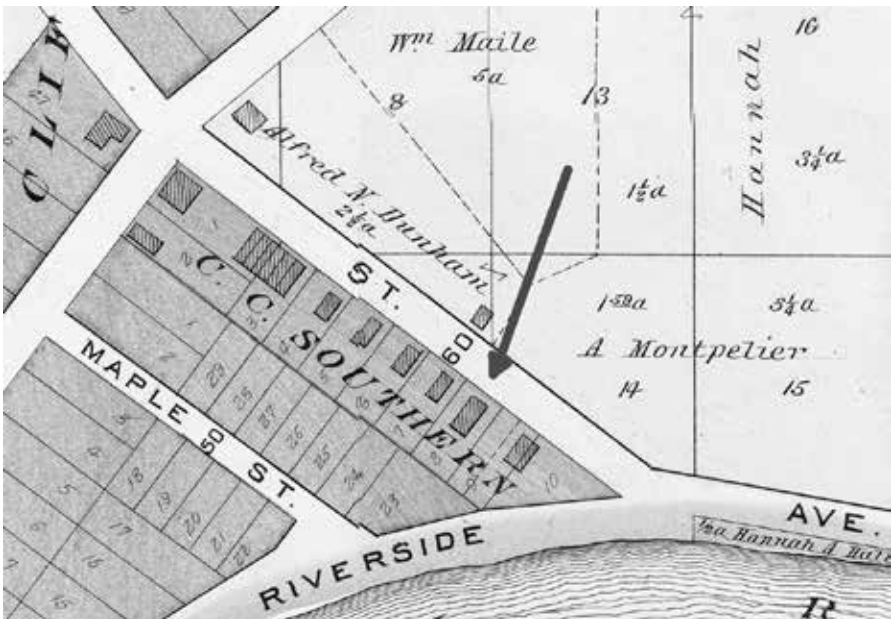
I spoke with some members of the historical society who indicated that they were aware of the house, its age, and the cost to acquire and or fix it. No offers were on the table.

The current rumor is that a new house will be built there, which makes sense as the Scenic Park/ Riverside section of Lakewood is experiencing a new boom, as people realize just how great the area is, with some of the best views on the west side and great access to the Emerald Canyon, and the bars of the West Side District.

Craig Bell, long-time resident and music legend said, "Frank Foster and his wife lived next door (to the now demolished house) when Tom Bell and I would deliver the neighborhood papers in the 1960s. We helped Frank care for his house & yard."



The house moments before the demolition started. The red box with a white X in it means the house is unsafe for humans. This is to warn people of rotted floors or unsafe wiring in case the police, firemen or someone else enters the property.



By 1885 the west side of then Elm Street was built out. The house on the east side of the street is still there. When the Graber switch was made lots 10, 9, and 23 were joined and subdivided differently.



LAKEWOOD TRAVEL

First Time In The Favelas, Brazil

by Fernanda Quiroga

It was my first trip alone to another country. I was very excited about being in a place where they speak another language, Portuguese, which is very similar to Spanish, so I wasn't afraid of trying to speak, until got there, oh gosh! It was hard! Like I did understand almost everything but speak it? Not easy.

I stayed in a hostel with the intention to connect with other travelers and make some friends, that's how I met Yuri, Brazilian, street Artist. He was getting into the hostel with a bag full of cans of spray paint while I was asking directions to find a farmers market in the reception. He was on the phone talking about some project in the Favelas! and I was like: Yes, Favelas.

On my way to the farmers market, I was planning how I'd talk to him and make him take me there, because it is very hard for foreign people to get in. You must ask whoever runs the place for permission which is unusual and it's very dangerous.

Around 7 pm, one of the guests, Nicolas, from Chile too, asked me if I wanted to go to a party in the street with live music, I asked if Yuri would join us, and he said yes. Nico thought that I had a crush on Yuri lol... Maybe! I was sure that we would become friends and I'd convince him to take me to the Favelas. It was my goal, like a dream, and I had a plan!



Helena, Waldo, Fernanda. Pedra do Sal, Rio de Janeiro 2015.

That night we went to "Pedra do Sal" at the entrance to a Favelas, full of people from everywhere, mostly Brazilian people of course, with live music, a lot of drums, food, and drinks.

I met Waldo who is a singer of samba rock, very interesting and great to dance to. And Helena, she is an amazing dancer. I was so impressed by her dance that she started teaching me. I loved it so much that at the end of the party I realized that I lost one of my sandals, good thing they were cheap lol.

When we were on our way back to the hostel, Yuri said that I'm a person full of joy, and I share that very well, so I thought, this is my opportunity! ... I replied to him, "Would you like to visit the Favelas?" He was surprised and said: "I didn't know that you were interested in that, it's dangerous! But I didn't care, I was so excited about the adventure.

Next morning after getting breakfast, he invited me to try to get in. He had to ask if they would allow me, but since Yuri knew them, I was very confident.

When we got there, I remember there was a big hill, with a lot of houses everywhere, and a big white wall and a big black front door and a lot of people around. They were very curious about me there. Because they know their people, any stranger is easy to notice.

Yuri made me wait outside while he went to ask, and said "Do not move" and what did I do? I followed him, and my bad! There were a lot of big men, with guns and bags of things that I didn't recognize. I got frozen, scared and I just reacted saying, "Hola Amigos!" with a big nervous smile and they asked me with a mad expression if I was Argentinian, and I said: "Noooo, Chilena chi chi chi le le!!!" And they started laughing at me and saying, "Amiga Bem-vindo." So long story short, they loved me! and allowed me to visit the favela anytime, just no photos.

We started walking with Yuri though the favela. It was unique to see a culture that doesn't believe in government, and has their own rules, like

the police do not go there— they can't get though The Favelas. They have like another city inside, even with clothing stores.

It was very nice how children reacted to my presence there, they were naughty and shy trying to get a "Hi" or in Portuguese "Oi" from me and when I said it back, they were laughing and playing. I had this idea of bringing some candy from Chile so that I could share something from my country, and they were very happy, inviting me to play soccer and we ended up singing a song in Portuguese that they taught me. My heart was full of joy.

As we kept walking, we met Joao, a kid around 9 years, he wanted to me talk in Spanish and he was repeating me trying to learn. He was very sweet, kind of a mini tour guide, he explained to me that there was a lot of violence, like it was normal. His way of speaking

was like he was way older. He took me to the top of the Favela to see the view of all of Rio de Janeiro, it was amazing!

A few hours later Joao asked me if I could walk with him home because he was late and his mom would not get mad if she saw me, so I said why not?

A big coincidence was that Yuri was about to start a new art painting on the wall right in front of Joao's house, so while Yuri was taking some measurements for his project, I went to say Hi to Joao's mom to help him out. Marissa, I will never forget that beautiful smile, when she saw me, instantly that smile Enlighted me! She hugged me and then looked at me and said: "What a brave lady, my neighbor told me about the curious Chilean visitor and here you are! Welcome to my home, you want to have dinner with us?" I was honored by her and of course I stayed. Her home was cozy and humble, and made me feel at home.

Around 7 pm it was starting to get dark so Yuri and I went back to the hostel. On the way back he invited me to go again before I went back to Chile so I could visit Marissa again.

I went before my trip back to Chile, and she made this frozen açai for me, OMG! It was delicious and refreshing. We spent the afternoon with Joao and his mom, helping Yuri and playing music.

They may think that for me it was just another trip, but I will always remember them, their smiles, their happiness even in their situation. makes me think about how important it is to appreciate simple things, sometimes we put so much of ourselves into thinking about what we desire, but we forget to value what we have.

CityMusic Cleveland Concludes 19th Season With A Grand Finale Concert In Lakewood

by Michelle Gehrmann

Haydn's elegant Cello Concerto in D soars under the bow of Edward Arron, together with orchestral works by Schubert, Mendelssohn and Chen Yi as CityMusic Cleveland's 2022-23 concert season comes to an end.

The final performance will take place at 3:00 p.m., May 21st at Lakewood Congregational Church located at 1375 West Clifton Boulevard.

CityMusic is delighted to welcome guest soloist and cellist, Edward Arron, a graduate of the Juilliard School and frequent performer on American Public Media's Performance Today. "We are thrilled to conclude our season with such a talented soloist and an exciting program," said Eugenia Strauss, CityMusic Cleveland's Executive Director. "Our free concerts and making classical music accessible to all has always been a cornerstone of our mission, and we look forward to celebrating our 20th

anniversary by continuing to bring world-class music to Northeast Ohio's communities." This concert is free and open to the public. No advanced tickets or reservations are required.

For more information on the concert series, please visit <https://www.citymusiccleveland.org/current-season>.

About CityMusic Cleveland

CityMusic Cleveland is a professional chamber orchestra dedicated to making classical music accessible through free concerts and innovative programming throughout Northeast Ohio. CityMusic is also committed to advancing arts education access. The Clurie Bennis Children's Outreach Series presents interactive arts programs that tell unique cultural stories, performed in schools and libraries in Cleveland neighborhoods. For more information and to make a donation, visit citymusiccleveland.org.



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LAKEWOOD OBSERVER



“Calendar” Film Features
5 O’Clock Lounge
In Lakewood

by Nick Muhlbach

Finding the perfect location for filming can be a daunting task, but when we were recommended the 5 O’Clock Lounge, we knew we had struck gold. With its inviting atmosphere and versatile spaces, the 5 O’Clock Lounge proved to be the ultimate backdrop for our upcoming film. The bar was brimming with character, and was the perfect location for our custom made alcohol bottles. We knew we had found the perfect setting for our film.

Not only did the 5 O’Clock Lounge provide us with a stunning backdrop for our birthday scene, but its concert area in the back also offered a second

versatile location for the film. We cannot recommend the 5 O’Clock Lounge enough. Its welcoming atmosphere and accommodating staff made filming a joyous and seamless experience. We are grateful to Angelo and the 5 O’Clock Lounge for opening their doors to us, and to the city of Lakewood for providing us with such an amazing place to film. Mark your calendars! Our film, “Calendar,” will be screening on May 27th at 7:30 pm, at Atlas Lakeshore 7 (22624 Lakeshore Blvd, Euclid, OH 44123). Don’t miss your chance to see the 5 O’Clock Lounge and Lakewood on the big screen.

Nick Muhlbach is the Director and Executive Producer of “Calendar.”

Local Hero Receives
Fire Service Citizen Award



Left to right: Lakewood Fire Marshall Ryan Fairbanks, Fire Chief Tim Dunphy, Jorge Ragghianti, and Mayor Meghan George.

from City of Lakewood

On April 28, Jorge Ragghianti received the 2023 Ohio Fire Service Citizen Award from the State Fire Council at a ceremony in Columbus. Mr. Ragghianti was nominated for this award by the Lakewood Fire Department for his heroism in the lifesaving

rescue of two children trapped in a burning vehicle in Lakewood. Pictured are Lakewood Fire Marshal Ryan Fairbanks, Fire Chief Tim Dunphy, Jorge Ragghianti, and Mayor George. Congratulations Mr. Ragghianti! You are a true hero!



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LEGAL NEWS

Changes To Ohio Law May Increase Chances Of Eligibility For Record Sealing Or Expungement Of Criminal Records

by Tonya Sams

In April, changes went into effect in Ohio to the record sealing and expungement law. This allows even more people to be eligible than before.

The first change was clarifying the true definitions of “record sealing” and “expungement.” An expungement erases a criminal record. The record will be almost non-existent to most public and all private entities. When a person’s record is sealed, they are not obligated to reveal a conviction when applying for a job and depending upon the nature of the job, most employers will not be able to see the criminal record. Some public entities may be able to see the sealed record. In both cases, once a case has been sealed or expunged, the conviction is viewed as never happening.

Other changes to the record sealing and expungement law are the expanded list of offenses that are now eligible and shortened wait times to be eligible to apply.

There are some convictions that are not eligible to be sealed or expunged including sex offenses that require registration (there are some exceptions when registration is no longer required), felonies that involve violent acts, 1st and 2nd degree felonies, three or more 3rd degree felonies in one case, those involving domestic violence or a protection

order being violated, crimes against children under the age of 13 (does not include the failure to pay child support, which can be expunged or sealed), and traffic and OVI/DUI offenses.

Before a conviction can be sealed or expunged it must first be discharged. Discharged means that the terms of parole or probation have been met, the term of a jail or prison sentence has been completed, and all payments of fines and fees that was a penalty of the conviction have been made (unpaid court costs should not cause an application to be denied). After the case has been discharged, there is a waiting period. The length of the waiting period depends upon the offense that was committed.

Lauren Gilbride, Managing Attorney at The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland, said that a common question is what is the cost of getting your record sealed.

“It should not be more than \$50,” said Gilbride. “The Public Defenders Office or Legal Aid can help with a waiver if eligible.”

You can get assistance from an attorney or apply on your own for record sealing or expungement. Before applying gather as much information as possible on all criminal cases, past and present. This includes information on convictions, arrests, dismissals, nolle

and bills. The Clerk of Courts is a good place to start to gather this information.

After filing, you may be required to appear before the court for a hearing. When applying there is a possibility that the prosecutor may object to your filing. If a court hearing is scheduled, be prepared to respond to the prosecutor’s objection and explain why your application should be approved.

For those who are not eligible for either expungement or sealing of a criminal record there are other options - either a pardon or a Certificate of Qualification for Employment (CQE). A pardon is when the governor forgives

someone for a crime and they can no longer be penalized for it. The Court of Common Pleas will give someone a CQE to help them overcome obstacles to getting employment.

To learn more about expungement and record sealing go to Expungement and Record Sealing - Office of the Public Defender (cuyahogacounty.us)

To learn more about the CQEs, visit <https://lasclev.org/cqe/> and <https://drc.ohio.gov/cqe/>. If you are eligible for a CQE, Legal Aid may be able to help. Call Legal Aid at 888-817-3777 during normal business hours or apply online 24/7 at <https://lasclev.org/contact/>.

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The Back Page

LAKEWOODITES

ROB MASEK

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