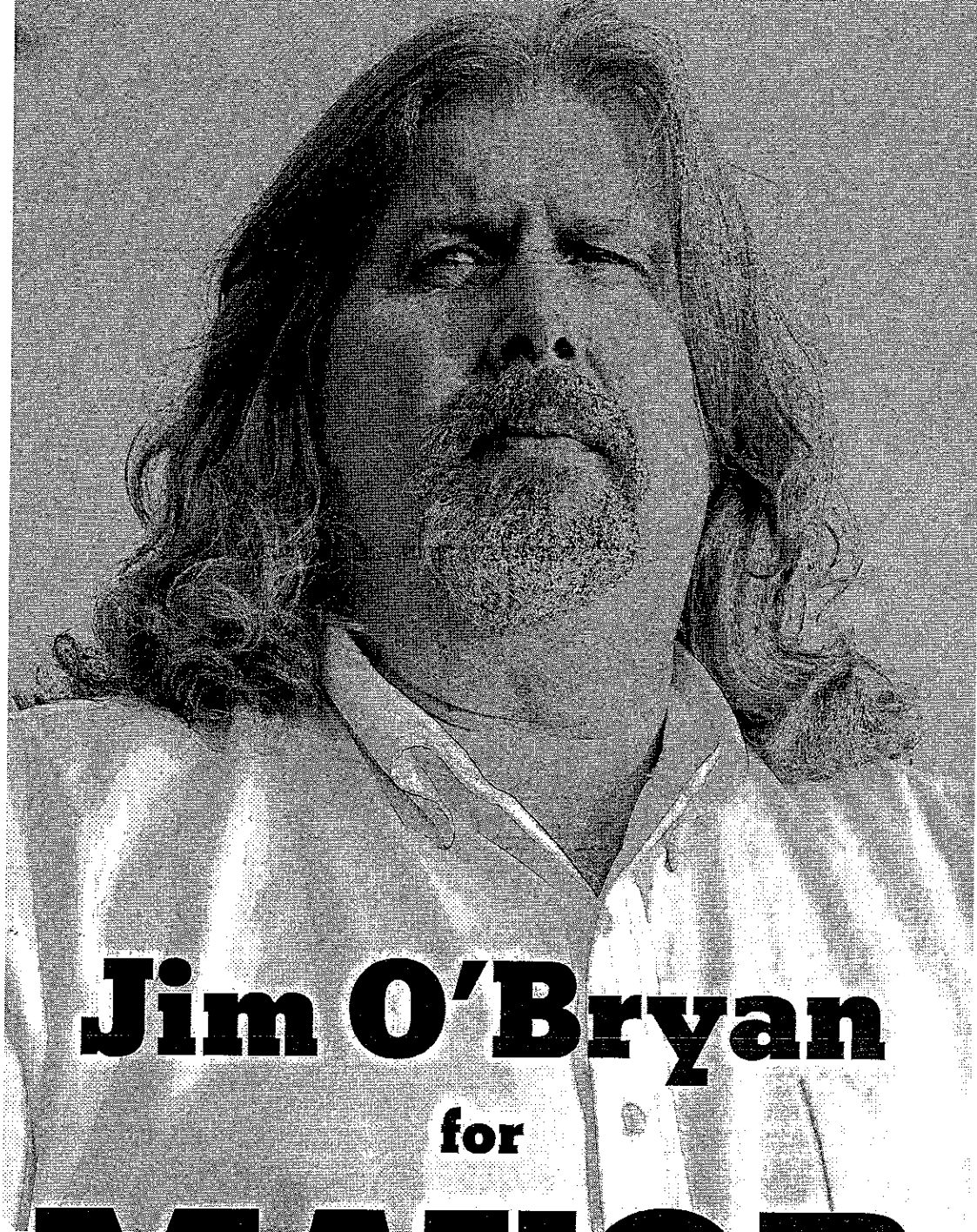


**NEW IDEAS,
RESPECT AND LOVE FOR
COMMUNITY**



Jim O'Bryan
for

MAYOR

(Currently The People's Mayor of Lakewood)

JAMES C. O'BRYAN

1569 RIVERSIDE DR., LAKEWOOD OH 44107, USA 1.216.407.4250

November 2, 2010

Lakewood City Council

To Whom It May Concern,

I am very interested in applying for the job of Interim Mayor of the City of Lakewood. I am sure that most of you know who I am and what I have done, and that alone would get me an interview, and a serious look. But I hope in an interview process to take it deeper, and explain to you why I am the perfect choice to fill the mayor spot next year.

I have tremendous love and respect for the city of Lakewood, and for the hard work of Lakewood City Council, and everyone at City Hall-- that you know. But I also think that Lakewood has maybe a year at best to capitalize on the "Cool" and "Best" kudos we have received.

As a resident, owner of rental property, and the owner of three businesses in Lakewood, I think I can bring to the table a unique perspective that could aid council and the city over the coming year. My experience running my own small businesses gives me the experience with administrating, and working with budgets in good times and bad. But what I bring that is unique to this position is that I am a co-founder and the publisher of The Lakewood Observer which has become the gold standard for civic journalism around the country.

This project was designed to develop, celebrate and attract residents to Lakewood: to highlight the good deeds of its residents, businesses and groups, cultural, institutional, and governmental, to capture its history, and help look to the future. The project has not only highlighted the accomplishments, diversity, and ideas of its contributors, but it has brought them together to create new businesses and projects. When ideas were only seeds needing development, the Observer jumped in and started and spun off groups like Lakewood Is Art, Madison Avenue Merchants Association, Bike Lakewood, LEAF Community, Lakewood Motoring Society and others, from the grassroots, creating their own funding, and sustainability. I know this city from the ground up, inside out, and I have, along with the other founders of the project, made it my business to make sure everyone has a voice, from the city, to the library, to the schools, to churches, to development groups, to our arts organizations, parents, and children.

In a city looking to attract entrepreneurs, businesses and residents, I think I have the right mindset, and qualifications to be the interim mayor of Lakewood, Ohio.

As always, thank you for your time and consideration.

James C. O'Bryan
Resident
Lakewood, Ohio

JAMES C. O'BRYAN

1569 RIVERSIDE DR., LAKEWOOD OH 44107, USA 1.216.407.4250

Goal: Keep the City of Lakewood moving in the right direction for 9 months while bringing a new level of community pride.

1984 - Present: AGS, Inc. - President

A Consortium of businesses under the AGS Banner

AGS Software, Inc. - Creates collaborative software.

Producing community development projects.

AGS Design Studios - Graphics / Signage.

AGS Printwear, Inc. Clothing.

Oversee all aspects of all branches, evaluating staffing requirements, logistics, budgets, and development in three fields which are rapidly changing because of technology.

2004 - Present: The Lakewood Observer, Inc. - Publisher/Co-founder

Hyper local project, that is the beta test for AGS and the other Observer/projects.

Oversee everything from the beginning concept (based on a publication I designed for BP America) to creation of the first and now most successful and long-running civic journalism project in America. Start various ideas/groups - LEAF, MAMA, LIA, Lakewood Motoring Society, etc.

1983 - 1985: Racing for America, Inc.

A non-profit motorsports team competing in the USA, UK, Europe, Asia and Australia

Conceived and developed an "Olympic Style" motorsports team, that eventually caught on in 10 other countries. RFA is still one of the most successful American teams to have ever competed in Asia, and Europe. I handled all aspects of the day to day running of the teams.

Current : I am now an evangelist for the "community paper" and for sustainable community developments projects throughout the region.

Responsibilities : I work with all of our licensees and also conduct meetings about the value of communities owning their own words and resources. I oversee and help in the development of all aspects of our new software, and updates.

Accomplishments : Creating positive movement, development and hope out of very little. I am a veteran of working with groups like JumpStart, The Cleveland Foundation, Tri-C, Cleveland State, etc. in order to bring their attention to Lakewood, the health and sustainability of cities in general within innovative approaches to getting things done.

Awards: 2008 Lakewood Businessman of the Year,
2006 Sherrod Brown Thinkers of the Week, and finalist for the year.
Seven Silver Quills (International Graphic design awards),
2 Resolutions from Lakewood City Hall for the Observer Project and Businessman of the Year.