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Lakewood's Party Of The Year - Starry Night, August 6

Lakewood Arts Festival August 7 • LEAF Night Every Wednesday Night At The LPL

# THE LAKEWOOD OBSERVER

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Volume 6, Issue 15, July 27, 2010

Street Walking Leads To Lakewood's Premier Events

## Starry Night And Lakewood Arts Fest



Ken and Kathy Haber are the recipients of this year's Tim Lasky Award for Public Service. This award was created in Tim's and Patty Lasky's honor for all of the hard work, time, energy and support the Laskys have given to the city. Probably the only family in the entire city that could give the Laskys a run for their money in volunteering are Ken and Kathy Haber. From left to right, Mary Anne Crampton, Kathy Haber, Ken Haber and Tim Lasky. Check out all photos online at <http://lakewoodobserver.com>

## Lakewood Hopes Dog Park Will Sit, And Stay

by Kent Cicerchi & Karen Karp

The lawsuit brought by the City of Rocky River and four residents of the High Parkway neighborhood against the City of Lakewood and the users of Lakewood Dog Park on a complaint of excessive barking finally had its day in court. Actually, eight days, concluding on July 21. The Honorable Carolyn Friedland of Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court will make her decision in the case following the recent bench trial – heard without a jury – after thorough review of the court transcript, statements filed by legal counsel in lieu of closing arguments and evidence presented. The court gave no indication how long the decision would take.

Judge Friedland previously dismissed the case, filed in 2007, on the grounds that Rocky River and its residents could not interfere with legitimate municipal functions of their neighbor, Lakewood. The appellate court disagreed with the application of law to this case and returned it to Judge Friedland for a determination on the facts. In the interim, the parties made multiple attempts to negotiate a settlement but

were unsuccessful. By agreement of the parties, the trial proceeded solely on the issue of barking, omitting the plaintiffs' other allegations that the

park was a source of foul odors and dog biting.

At trial, Rocky River and its

continued on page 10

## Gerry Nelson Named Lakewood Democrat Of The Year

by Karolyn Isenhardt

On Thursday, July 15 the Lakewood Democratic Club honored Gerry Nelson, the former club secretary, and lifelong Democrat as the Lakewood Democrat of the Year. The presentation was made by club President Karolyn Isenhardt and First Vice President Kyle Weigand at the club's annual Summer Supper Steak and Veggie Roast at the Clifton Beach. Gerry Nelson is recognized as a political and social activist and a leader on the ground, where it matters, working with workers and unions, with seniors, with Democratic candidates and throughout the community in Lakewood and Northeast Ohio.

With club members, past honorees and guests looking on, she accepted her award with surprise and modesty. In addition to her recognition by

the club, Steve Inchak, from the office of Congressman Dennis Kucinich, presented her with an entry recorded in the Congressional Record by the Congressman. An excerpt describes Gerry Nelson as "an unreconstructed, New Deal Democrat" that "has long stood for the values of dignity for workers, jobs for all, health care for all, and peace." She is also a former member of the 10th District Congressional staff and was a dedicated team member handling case work and field work serving the people of the 10th with dedication and excellence. The entry concludes by congratulating her "not only for her work in Lakewood, Ohio, but because she represents a lifetime of dedication to others which makes her a great American."

The Lakewood Democratic Club meets the first



Nevan Markling shows he's got game at the Street Walk. Lakewood Outdoor Basketball Committee had 30-50 kids shooting hoops all afternoon. This photo alone should help everyone understand what great opportunities we are missing to build this community without outdoor hoops and more chances for us to work and play together. Stop by <http://lakewoodobserver.com> to see all of our photos!

Thursday of each month at the Woman's Pavilion at Lakewood Park at 7:30pm (social and

sign-in from 7:00pm). For more information go to [www.lakewooddemocrats.com](http://www.lakewooddemocrats.com).



Honoree Gerry Nelson and Steve Inchak from Congressman Kucinich's office who read the Congressman's entry in the Congressional Record about Gerry's honor.



# Calendar Page

*This calendar presents various public Lakewood events and notices for the next two weeks (excluding Lakewood Public Library sponsored events found separately on the Lakewood Library page). Calendar items can be submitted at our website at [www.lakewoodobserver.com](http://www.lakewoodobserver.com) on the Home Page. Whereas this printed calendar listing is limited to non-profit events relevant to Lakewood, our website calendar welcomes all Lakewood events!*

To show thanks for submitting their events to the Lakewood Observer community online calendar, this current listing includes some extra local entertainment and offerings from local businesses.

### Wednesday, July 28

#### Wednesday North Union Farmer’s Market

10:00 AM - 1:00 PM, Kaufmann Park Parking Lot behind Drug Mart, 15412 Detroit

### Thursday, July 29

#### Gray’s Auctioneers 19th and 20th Century European and American Painting Sale.

1:00 PM, Gray’s Auctioneers LLC, 10717 Detroit Ave, Cleveland.  
Auction 34 features over 350 lots of 19th and 20th Century American and European Paintings. The sale encompasses a wide range of subjects, with lots of notes including a remarkable oil on canvas by Augustus Edwin John, Portrait of a Woman in a Land-scape, estimated at \$10,000 to \$15,000. Also offered is a collection of works by eclectic Hungarian artist Andor Sugar. [www.graysauctioneers.com](http://www.graysauctioneers.com).

### Friday, July 30

#### The Producers at the Beck Center - Runs until Aug. 22nd.

Showtimes: 8pm Fridays and Saturdays and 3pm Sundays.  
Beck Center for the Arts, Mackey Main Stage, 17801 Detroit Ave.  
Book by Mel Brooks and Thomas Meehan. To reserve tickets, call the Beck Center at 216.521.2540 ext. 10, or request seats at [www.beckcenter.org](http://www.beckcenter.org).

#### Beck Cafe’ Outdoor Patio Live Music with Charlie Mosbrook

7:00 PM, Live musical guests most weekends and more. Beck Cafe’, 17801 Detroit Ave. Check out Beck’s calendar by stopping by or visit [www.beckcafe.com](http://www.beckcafe.com).

#### Jazz You Like It Doris Long - Joe Hunter - Dallas Coffey

7:00 PM - 10:30 PM, Waterbury Coach House, 13333 Madison Ave.  
Wonderful jazz trio plus - playing traditional jazz in a cozy neighborhood restaurant & lounge. Jazz every Friday at the Waterbury.

#### Front Porch Concert featuring Student Rock Bands

7:00 to 9:00 PM, Lakewood Public Library Main front steps.

### Saturday, July 31

#### Saturday Lakewood Farmers Market

10:00 AM to 1:00 PM in the City Center Park, in front of Marc’s on Detroit Ave.

#### Lakewood Historical Society Salvage Sale

9:00 AM to 1:00 PM at the Skate House, the building behind the Oldest Stone House (14710 Lake Avenue). See Page 22.

#### H2O Clothes 4 Kids SUPER SALE

9:00 AM - 3:00 PM, Lakewood High School - E. Cafeteria  
Over 20,000 items will be available for infants through adults! H2O “Help to Others” middle school campers have been sorting and pricing donated items all summer. Most items priced at 25 - 50 cents! Don’t miss H2O’s 16th annual SUPER SALE! Coats, shoes, jeans, tops, everything your family needs. Proceeds from this sale help fund H2O Summer Service Camp.

#### Title TBD! An Improvised Musical

7:30 PM - 9:00 PM, Bela Dubby Cafe’, 13321 Madison Ave.  
An hour-long improvised musical at Bela Dubby Saturday nights until August 28th at 7:30 p.m. Directed by Giant Portions founder and Cleveland improv legend Marc Moritz, Title TBD draws veterans of Something Dada, Flanagan’s Wake, Rockwell 9, Friends With Benefits, Point of No Return, and Improvment. With a suggestion from the audience and a little musical magic, it all comes to life before your very eyes. Cleveland has never seen the likes of this before! Tickets are \$5.

#### The Winchester Music Hall hosts The Flip Side

8:30 PM, 12112 Madison Ave.  
Acoustic folk-rock band, *The Flip Side*, plays classic folk and rockin’ originals. Tickets can be purchased at door for \$5. Don’t forget to check out The Winchester Music Hall for some of the best live shows in town. Shows regularly run on Fridays and Saturdays with some weekday shows at 8:30PM. [www.winchester.net](http://www.winchester.net).

### Sunday, August 1

#### Summer Band Concerts - Tower City Barbershop Chorus

7:00 - 8:30PM, Lakewood Park Bandstand, 14532 Lake Ave.  
Every Sunday evening during the summer months enjoy free concerts in the park.

#### Make RTA and County Commissioners who control RTA accountable for eliminating daily Lakewood circulator while favoring and funding medical mart.

3:00 PM, Lakewood Public Library, 15425 Detroit Ave., 1st floor multi-purpose room. Free public meeting. Irresponsble RTA escaped accountability for eliminating the daily Lakewood circulator, despite RTA admitting it was most efficient and least costly to RTA of all 12 circulator routes. Call 216-221-2724 to help.

### Wednesday, August 4

#### Wednesday North Union Farmers Market

10:00 AM - 1:00 PM, Kaufmann Park Parking Lot.

#### County Council District 2 Debate on August 4th – Sen. Dale Miller and Tom Jordan

6:30 - 8:30 PM, St. Mary’s Romanian Church Hall, 3256 Warren Road in Cleveland. the Lakewood Democratic Club, the Brook Park Democratic Club and the clubs for Cleveland Wards 18 and 19 will host a debate between State Senator Dale Miller and Tom Jordan, candidates for County Council District 2. See Page 3 for more details.

### Friday, August 6

#### Lakewood Hospital’s 5th Annual Starry Night Gala

7:00 to 10:30 PM (6 PM for VIPs). Belle Ave. tent.

See Page 5 for ad and full story on Page 14.

### Saturday, August 7

#### Friends of Lakewood Public Library Arts Festival Book Sale

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM, Lakewood Public Library, 15425 Detroit Ave.

#### Lakewood Arts Festival

10:00 AM - 6:00 PM, Detroit Ave. from Elmwood Ave. to Belle Ave.  
The 33rd annual Lakewood Arts Festival. More than 160 artists will exhibit their work. See Page 12 & 13.

#### CCLAS’ annual bake sale at the Lakewood Arts Festival

See Page 3 for details.

#### Cinematic Redux at The Pop Shop Gallery

6:00 - 9:00 PM, The Pop Shop/(art)ificial Gallery, 17020 Madison Ave.  
A collection, curated by CHOD, of contemporary works by artists across the U.S. presenting their interpretation of posters for classic films. The wide array of styles shows your favorite movies, like you have never seen them before. Limited prints of these classic posters will be available for all guests. Runs until August 21st, don’t miss out! After party will be held at Mullen’s (located next to the gallery) for all guests of the artists and gallery. 216.227.8440, [www.popshopgallery.com](http://www.popshopgallery.com), [www.whatisartificial.com](http://www.whatisartificial.com)

### Sunday, August 8

#### Summer Band Concert - Lakewood Hometown Band

7:00 PM - 8:30 PM, Lakewood Park Bandstand, 14532 Lake Ave.  
Join us for this free concert in the park. In the event of rain, this concert will be held in the Lakewood City Hall Auditorium, 12650 Detroit Ave.

## Compiled by Mel Page

18514 Detroit Avenue,  
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**West End Tavern presents:**  
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**THE LAKESWOOD OBSERVER**

Your Independent Source for  
Lakewood News & Opinion

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**Become an Observer!**

As a product of citizen journalism, The Lakewood Observer is looking for people, ages 3-100, to get involved in the paper and the city. We are looking for volunteer writers, photographers, designers, and illustrators to help with the production of the paper. It does not matter if you are a professional or amateur, our editorial staff will be glad to help you through the process.

Register to our website Member Center where you can submit stories, press releases, letters to the editor, photos. No need to register to post online calendar or classified ads.

<b>Upcoming Submission Deadline</b>	<b>Publish Date</b>
Sunday, August 1	Tuesday, August 10,
Sunday, August 15	Tuesday, August 24

**[www.lakewoodobserver.com](http://www.lakewoodobserver.com) – 216.712.7070**  
**14900 Detroit Avenue, Suite 205, Lakewood, OH 44107**

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Join the Discussion at: [www.lakewoodobserver.com](http://www.lakewoodobserver.com)

More Events!

Diversity Potluck

by Rev. Paula Maeder Connor

Lakewood is amazingly diverse! Over the years, the Community Relations Advisory Commission of the City of Lakewood has sponsored many DIVERSITY POTLUCKS. These have been a wonderful way to meet and greet people from around the world right here at home!

The next DIVERSITY POTLUCK will be held on Friday, August 13, from 6 p.m. to dusk at the pavillion at Madison Park. Since the outdoor movie for the evening there is “Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs”, the Commission members have decided to suggest spaghetti and meatballs as the main dish. The public is asked to each bring an ethnic dish as a side or to accompany the spaghetti and meatballs. Salads, breads, other main dishes, and desserts are welcome from among a family’s heritage. Please bring vegetarian options, too! Cups, beverages, plasticware, and tableware will be provided.

Get Sweet At Arts Fest!

by Dawn Pyne

The Citizen Committee for the Lakewood Animal Shelter will hold its annual bake sale at this year’s Lakewood Arts Festival.

The festival is Saturday, August 7th from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Look for the CCLAS booth at the corner of Detroit and Belle Avenue. As always, proceeds go to support the Lakewood Animal

At the last DIVERSITY POTLUCK in the spring, about 100 people attended and had a great time at the Women’s Pavillion in Lakewood Park. Yummy food was brought and there was enough for all.

Please make your recipe one that will serve 6-8 people and bring it in a reusable container with your name or phone number on it or a disposable container.

Another past and future program of the Commission is the “Community Conversations” series. The next one will be in mid-October and will focus on “Where do Youth have to go in Lakewood?” with an emphasis on teens and young adults and hospitality concerns. Time and place for the conversation will be announced on August 13 at the potluck in Madison Park.

The Community Relations Advisory Commission is looking for new members. See the City’s website, [www.onelakewood.com](http://www.onelakewood.com) and fill out a nomination form.



Shelter and our low cost spay and neuter program!

Want to donate a sweet treat? Email [cclaspets@gmail.com](mailto:cclaspets@gmail.com)

Nature’s Bin Annual “Dog Days Of Summer” Dog Wash

by Helene Gaidelis

Is Fido smelling Funky? Then you are in luck! Time to spruce up your pup at our annual dog wash. Nature’s Bin in collaboration with CCLAS (Citizens Committee for the Lakewood Animal Shelter) will host their annual “Dog Days of Summer” dog wash on Saturday, August 14th from 10:00 a.m. to 2 p.m. with a rain date of Sunday, August 15th. Proceeds will benefit the Lakewood Animal Shelter.

\Prices for the Dog Wash are \$10 for small dogs, \$15 for medium dogs, and \$20 for large dogs. Dog nail trimming services will also be available. Please make sure your dog is non-aggressive and up to date on vaccinations. Complimentary doggie treats!

Nature’s Bin are located at 18120 Sloane Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio

County Council District 2 Debate On August 4th

by Karolyn Isenhart

On Wednesday, August 4th, the Lakewood Democratic Club, the Brook Park Democratic Club and the Democratic clubs for Cleveland Wards 18 and 19 will host a debate between State Senator Dale Miller and Tom Jordan, candidates for County Council District 2. The debate will be held at the hall of St. Mary’s Romanian Church at 3256 Warren Road in

Cleveland from 6:30pm to 8:30pm. Moderated by Rosemary Palmer, the night will offer residents the rare opportunity to hear both candidates address questions from the attendees before the crucial primary in September. Stuart Garson, the new County Democratic Party Chair will make introductory remarks. The hall has a substantial amount of parking and is handicap accessible.

Open Forum Debate for Cuyahoga County Council District 2

by Scott Sedlak

The West Cleveland Patriots, a non-partisan, non-profit organization, has scheduled an open forum debate for the candidates of the new Cuyahoga County Council District 2 which includes Lakewood, Cleveland Wards 18 & 19 (West Park) and Brook Park. This debate will take place at the Lakewood Public Library Main Branch at 15425 Detroit Ave on Sunday August 15, 2010 starting at 5:30PM. All candidates will be invited and have equal time to speak on the topics. The candidates for District 2 are: Tom Jordan (D) / Dale Miller (D) / Stephanie Morales (I) / John Zappala (R). This event is free and open to the public. Please come meet your candidates for the new County Council. The primary election for this race will be Tuesday September 7, 2010.



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## Lakewood City News

# No More Excessive Idling In Lakewood

by Christopher Bindel

Council President Kevin Butler called the July 19, 2010 council meeting to order at 7:38 P.M. He then turned it over to Mayor Ed FitzGerald who read a communication thanking Virginia Marti Veith, of Virginia Marti College of Art and Design, for being grand marshal of Fourth of July parade as well as congratulating the award winners from the parade. The winners were as follows, Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 249 for Best Color Guard, Brennan's Floral Gift Shop for Best Float, Beck Center for the Arts for Most Original Entry, Emerson Uni-cycle Club for Best Bicycle and the Lakewood High School Ranger Marching Band for Most Spirit. Council passed a resolution congratulating and thanking Virginia Marti Veith and then passed out plaques to the award winning participants of the parade.

Councilman Butler (Ward I) then read a communication asking Council to pass a resolution recognizing St. Edward High School for its accomplishments over the last school year. Butler said that

Lakewood has had a lot to celebrate among its educational institutions and that it would be remiss if it did not recognize those of St. Ed's as well. Some of the accomplishments Councilman Butler points out include the Edsman Newspaper being featured in an article discussing its student staff's efforts, helping students in Baghdad get a paper of their own established in their school; the marching band receiving a superior rating at a state competition; one of the teachers, Stergios Lazos, being named teacher of the year by the American Philological Association; the baseball team won the state championship this year; and students and staff participating in a service day on May 8th to help some of the City's elderly clean up after the horrible wind storm. Council approved a resolution acknowledging St. Ed's. Next Councilwoman Nickie Antonio (At-Large) asked Council to pass a resolution supporting the Uniting American Families Act (UAF) which is cur-

rently being debated in the House of Representatives. The law would add language to the current immigration laws allowing not just a spouse but also a permanent partner to sponsor someone for immigration. This would allow those in same gender relationships to sponsor their partner for immigration the same way a straight person might do for a spouse or fiancé. A Mr. Tim Kempt, a Lakewood business owner and Cleveland resident gave a testimonial about how the current policy has affected both his partner's and his life. Mr. Kempt has been in a long term relationship with his partner but has had to spend 65% of their time apart due to immigration laws. All of their time spent together has been done through travel visas and high travel costs as well as time away from work. Mr. Kempt said that if UAF does not pass he will be forced to leave the US, closing his business and leaving it and the community he has been involved with behind so he can be with his partner.

After a few questions and words of support from Council the members passed the resolution, which will be used to show the House the support there is for the passage of the Act.

Council then revisited a proposed ordinance that was brought to Council several meetings before regarding the excessive idling of vehicles. A form of the ordinance has been in and out of Council for over two years and had finally reached its third reading with council, meaning it could be voted on. The ordinance is geared toward preventing commercial vehicles from continually idling while they are loading or unloading or when they are on break, although it also covers personal vehicles as well. The City does not want people sitting in their cars idling for 10 minutes while someone goes shopping. In fact in the windows of some businesses around town signs asking people not to idle have already begun to pop up.

Members of Council asked a few questions about the ordinance and how it would be enforced. Chief Malley said that the ordinance would be enforced the same way as any other traffic laws and that some discretion as to when it is appropriate would be given to the officers. Council then voted and passed the ordinance.

Councilman Tom Bullock (Ward II) then read a communication from the Public Works Committee regarding the ordinance to create a special improvement district (SID) in Lakewood. With the interest of other municipalities a multi-jurisdictional SID was outlined so all the cities can work together to levy support for the SID and hopefully receive more favorable agreements as

well as govern and manage the several aspects of the SID. Though the legislation introducing the SID was originally an ordinance, due to the change from just being a Lakewood SID to one that covers several cities it no longer had to be an ordinance, but a resolution. The resolution does the same thing in creating the SID but also helps charter, and makes Lakewood a member of, the Cleveland First Suburbs Development Council, Advance Energy, Special Improvement District.

Bullock asked Council to consider passing the resolution on first reading, because only the founding members of the SID will get votes and six other communities have already approved the legislation. As the ordinance had already passed in a different format, Council agreed, substituted the resolution for the ordinance and passed it.

With the recent passage of an ordinance making parking tickets a civil as opposed to a criminal matter, Mayor FitzGerald asked Council to consider a follow up ordinance that would allow the city to pursue all parking tickets issued up to three years ago as civil instead of criminal. There were a few questions asked by members of council as to whether it is possible to remove the tickets from criminal jurisdiction, but they were assured that the tickets can be dismissed from court and then handled civilly. Due to the fact that the preceding ordinance had already passed and is due to take effect August 1st, Council decided to suspend the rules and vote on the ordinance on its first reading. Upon the vote Council passed the measure.

Fire Chief Lawrence Mroz then asked Council to allow him to accept, on behalf of the City, two mobile data computers (MDC) from St. John Medical Center, for the purpose of enhancing medical recordkeeping. Chief Mroz said that the addition of these MDC's will help the City's emergency forces transition to electronic patient care and reporting by this fall. Council agreed to vote on the resolution on first reading and passed it.

After a slightly longer meeting, that covered a lot of business, Council President Butler adjourned the meeting at 9:35 P.M. to start Council's summer break. Council will reconvene on September 8, 2010 at 7:30 P.M. in the City Hall Auditorium.

Council meetings are held every first and third Monday of the month at 7:30 P.M. in the City Hall Auditorium. The next regularly scheduled council meeting will be held on September 8, 2010. For a copy of the agenda or for any other information regarding the Lakewood City Council you can find it at [onelakewood.com/citygovern\\_council.html](http://onelakewood.com/citygovern_council.html).

## Celebrate Medicare's Birthday - Medicare For All

by April Stoltz

The Medicare program has literally been a life saver for thousands of Lakewood seniors by providing healthcare to everyone 65 and over. For those who never had a job that provided healthcare or lost their healthcare when they lost their jobs, turning 65 is an important event signaling they are finally eligible for Medicare coverage and covered doctor visits. This is why it is so important to celebrate Medicare's success and advocate for its future.

Come to Public Square on Friday, July 30th from 12:00-2:00 p.m. for a Happy Birthday Medicare Rally. Join representatives from Sen. Brown's office, Rep. Fudge's office, and Rep. Kucinich's office, along with state Reps. Mike Foley, Michael Skindell and soon to be state Rep. Nickie Antonio in supporting Medicare's success, demanding no cuts to Medicare and Medicare for all.

Why Medicare for all you say? Didn't we just pass a healthcare reform bill?

The healthcare reform bill was an attempt to take on the many injustices millions experience in our current healthcare setup. Losing your healthcare when you lose your job, not being able to get any insurance because of pre-existing conditions, or having to throw a fundraiser to pay for the healthcare

bills your insurance won't cover to name a few. Yet the new reform bill still keeps health insurance plans in the driver's seat leaving Ohioans to pay as much as 31% of health spending on administrative costs and profits to them. This is far higher than in other countries' systems.

A Medicare for all style healthcare plan (a publicly financed universal healthcare system) could save enough on administration to allow healthcare for all Americans without rationing. The "Healthcare for all Ohioans Act" H. B.159 would do just this. It would take our healthcare from the excesses of the market place and treat it as a public good as we do fire protection, public safety policing, and road work.

When it passes all Ohioans would have medical, dental, vision, hearing, prescription drugs, emergency and rehabilitation care with no deductibles or co-pays. There would be no networks so we would be free to choose our doctors and hospitals.

Come join the Mobilize Ohio Movement and the Single Payer Action Network Ohio on Friday, July 30th in Public Square to find out more and get involved. Contact Drew Smith at [drewsmith@gmail.com](mailto:drewsmith@gmail.com), [info@mobilizeohio.org](mailto:info@mobilizeohio.org) and [www.spanohio.org](http://www.spanohio.org).



*Lakewood Hospital presents a five-star evening.*

**Friday, August 6, 2010**

**6 – 7 p.m. VIP Reception, Cocktails & Gourmet Food Stations**

**7 – 10:30 p.m. Beer, Wine & Gourmet Food Stations**

**14519 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood**

Enjoy live music from The Bottom Line Band and take part in our live and silent auctions featuring original works of art from local artists. Experience an evening of radiance while helping to raise money for the Lakewood Hospital Diabetes and Endocrine Center and Lakewood Arts Festival Scholarship Fund.



*Come help create brighter futures!*

Tickets can be purchased online at [lakewoodhospital.org/starrynight](http://lakewoodhospital.org/starrynight) or call 216.529.7009.

Checks and credit cards accepted.

*For more information call 216.529.7009.*



# Lakewood Public Library Events

All Events and Programs Are Free And Open To The Public

## Friday, July 30

LakewoodAlive presents: FRONT PORCH CONCERTS  
Celebrate Lakewood’s rich diversity and youthful talent with live, family-friendly entertainment in front of the Library—Lakewood’s Front Porch! Bring a chair and a happy heart and don’t forget your dancing shoes!  
Vance Music Studios: Student Rock Bands  
7:00 p.m. in front of the Main Library

## Sunday, August 8

**SUNDAY WITH THE FRIENDS: WALLACE COLEMAN’S BLUES**  
He embodies a musical gift that has all but disappeared from the African American musical landscape. After playing harp for the late Delta guitar legend Robert Lockwood, Jr. and traveling the world, Wallace Coleman has come home to play songs that preserve the spirit of Chess Records and reflect his own storied life. Don’t miss your chance to hear this Living Blues Award winner have a ball playing favorite songs for friends.  
2:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

## Saturday, August 14

**BACK TO THE MOVIES: Vintage Hitchcock**  
**The Lady Vanishes (1938)**     Directed by Alfred Hitchcock     Not Rated  
A woman traveling by train to meet her future husband befriends an amiable governess, Miss Froy. Waking up from her nap, she discovers that the lady has vanished. Everyone insists that she never existed! Enlisting the help of a musicologist played by Michael Redgrave, she searches for the missing woman and encounters one suspicious character after another. Why would foreign agents want to harm poor Miss Froy? She’s just a governess, right?  
6:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

**UPCOMING BOOK SALES:**  
**Saturday, August 7**  
**Arts Festival Sale**  
**9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**  
**Friends Book Sale Area, Main Library**

## BOOK GROUPS:

**Thursday, August 12**  
**BOOKED FOR MURDER: The Sweetness at the Bottom of the Pie** by C. Alan Bradley  
Precocious and well-read, eleven-year-old Flavia is an amateur chemist who turns amateur sleuth when a dead body winds up in the cucumber patch. Her widowed father and older sisters don’t pay much attention, so it’s up to her and Gladys (a bicycle) to find the murderer.  
7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Meeting Room

**LEARNING LAB CLASSES:**  
Reservations for computer instruction classes begin the first of each month.  
To register, please stop in or call (216) 226-8275, ext. 127. We ask that all students come to class with a working knowledge of the mouse. If you need help, visit the Technology Center and ask the staff to set you up on our Mouse Training Program. It’s fun, easy and essential to becoming computer literate. All classes take place in the Main Library Learning Lab on the 2nd floor.

**UPCOMING AUGUST CLASSES:**  
Sat. August 7: INTERNET BASICS @ 3:00 p.m.  
Tues. August 10: INTERNET BASICS @ 7:00 p.m.  
Sat. August 14: E-MAIL BASICS @ 3:00 p.m.  
Thurs. August 19: JOB HUNTING WORKSHOP from 10:00a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
Sat. August 21: WEB SEARCHING BASICS @ 3:00 p.m.  
Sat. August 28: WORD PROCESSING BASICS @ 3:00 p.m.

**LEAF COMMUNITY 2010**  
Every Wednesday night at 5:30 p.m. on the Main Library’s Front Porch through the Harvest.

**CHILDRENS & YOUTH SERVICES**  
**WEEKEND PROGRAMS:**  
**FAMILY WEEKEND WONDERS**  
Make the Library a part of your family weekend time with programs featuring stories, activities, music and crafts. Our staff will provide materials and ideas for families wishing to continue reading and storytelling at home. The programs are free and there is no need to register in advance.  
Main Library: Friday: 10:30 a.m., 2:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m.  
Saturday: 10:30 a.m., 2:00 p.m., 4:00p.m.  
Sunday: 2:00 p.m.  
Madison Branch: Friday 10:30 a.m.

**Main:**  
July 30, 31, Aug. 1: All By Myself  
August 6, 7, 8: Shapes All Around  
  
**Madison:**  
July 30, 31, Aug. 1: In the Small, Small Pond  
August 6, 7, 8: All By Myself

**WEEKENDS WITH WEE ONES:**  
**For families with children under 2 years old**  
Spend a part of your family weekend time clapping your hands, tapping your feet, singing nursery rhymes and, of course, sharing books. We will provide materials and ideas for families wishing to continue the fun at home. Programs are offered every weekend throughout the year, and there is no need to register in advance.  
Saturdays at 11:30 a.m. and Sundays at 3:30 p.m.  
Madison Branch Children’s and Youth Services Department

**TAIL WAGGIN’ TUTORS: For children ages 7 – 12**  
Bone up on your reading skills by reading to a dog. Drop in for a one-on-one session with one of our dogs and owners that have been certified through Therapy Dogs International.  
Saturday, August 14 from 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. in the Main Library Multi-purpose Room

## Programs for Youth and Teens

**WHAT NOVEL IDEAS!:** For youth entering sixth through eighth grade  
Need to read before school begins? Participate in book discussions designed to help with your summer reading assignments. Look for dates and titles in the Children’s and Youth Services Department, on the web at [www.lkwdpl.org/sumread](http://www.lkwdpl.org/sumread), and in summer reading assignment packets from Lakewood City Middle Schools.

**MOVIE MAKING MAGIC: For teens entering ninth through twelfth grade**  
With a little creativity and a digital camera, you can create a cinematic wonder. Learn the skills of the Hollywood big shots and get ready to make your own masterpiece.  
Finished films premiere on Saturday, July 31 at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

## SUMMER READING CLUB 2010

**KNIGHTS OF THE READING TABLE:**  
**For children age birth through fifth grade**  
Be it known across the land, all noble, brave and chivalrous readers are summoned to join the Summer Reading Club and choose to complete 30 books or 30 hours of reading. Visit the Reading Club table once a week to collect medieval stamps and tickets toward prize drawings. Receive a certificate, a nameplate and a special reward befitting a knight when you finish.  
Monday, May 10 – Saturday, August 14  
Children’s and Youth Services Department at Main Library and Madison Branch

**DARK DAYS OF KNIGHTS:**  
**For youth entering sixth through twelfth grade**  
Lighten up in the Dark Ages! Join our Summer Reading Club for teens. Choose to complete 30 books or 30 hours of reading and earn prizes. Stop by the Reading Club table to sign up or for more information.

**Monday, May 10 – Saturday, August 14**  
Children’s and Youth Services Department at Main Library and Madison Branch

**CRAFTS OF THE KINGDOM**  
Create medieval-themed crafts fit for kings and queens using modern craft supplies. Drop in for a different craft each week of summer programming.  
Mondays – Thursdays, 11:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m., June 21 – July 29  
Children’s and Youth Services Department at Main Library and Madison Branch

**WORKSHOP WEDNESDAYS:**  
**For children entering first through fifth grade**  
Beat the heat with workshops that are cool. Each week will be a new and exciting program to broaden the mind, build skills and inspire creativity. To register, please stop in or call Main Library (216) 226-8275, ext. 140.  
Wednesday, July 28: Go Green – Make Your Own Library Tote



# Lakewood Library

## SWTF: Lakewood Public Library Presents Wallace Coleman's Blues

by Joan Rubenking

Wallace Coleman, legendary blues harmonica player, will share his musical gift with us on Sunday, August 8th, at 2 p.m., in the Lakewood Public Library Auditorium. Coleman embodies a musical gift that has all but disappeared from the African-American musical landscape. He has traveled the world playing harp for the late, great Robert Lockwood Jr., but Wallace Coleman is back home in Cleveland and still playing songs that reflect his storied life and preserve the spirit of the pioneering blues label of the 50s and 60s, Chess Records.

Wallace Coleman was born in Tennessee, a state where country music still rules the radio waves, but from his youth he remembers listening to the late night blues on Nashville's WLAC station. The songs of musicians like Sonny Boy Williamson, Howlin' Wolf, and Muddy Waters became touchstones and influences for Coleman's

musical development. Many of those recordings featured the guitar playing of Robert Lockwood Jr., with whom Coleman would eventually share countless stages.

Upon moving to Cleveland in 1956, Coleman found a steady day job, but also discovered a flourishing blues scene. Jimmy Reed, Elmore James, B.B. King, and the heroes of Coleman's childhood often played in Cleveland clubs. Coleman, a self-taught musician, entertained his co-workers during their breaks. One of these impressed co-workers brought a cousin to the job-site to hear Coleman, and that meeting sparked Coleman's public debut, a pairing with Cleveland's Guitar Slim at the Cascade Lounge. During his year-long stint there, Coleman came to the attention of Robert Lockwood Jr., who was in the audience. Though he had once said he would never hire a harp player, Lockwood's opinion changed the night

he first heard Coleman play. Wallace Coleman became the first and only harmonica player in Lockwood's band, and for 10 years, they traveled and played in the U.S., Canada, and overseas.

In 1997, Coleman became the leader of his own band, and produced his first solo CD. Three more would follow, including "Live at Joe's," a recording that succeeds at capturing the live feel from inside a studio, with no overdubs, multi-tracks, or other 'slick' tricks. Coleman received his due recognition as his path continued. He was featured in Living Blues magazine, and was named the magazine's Best

Musician Harmonica player in 2002. Coleman is also an Ohio Heritage Fellow Award recipient. His most recent recorded appearance on CD, as a 'special guest,' is on Dave Thomas's CD "Repossession Blues."

Join us to witness and enjoy this master harmonica player on Sunday August 8th, at 2 p.m., in the Library's Main Auditorium. Wallace Coleman is rightfully called a blues legend and has played with the best in his field. This free event is generously funded by Cuyahoga residents through Cuyahoga Arts and Culture and the Friends of the Lakewood Public Library.



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Lakewood Earth And Food Community (LEAF) worked with the Lakewood Library to build this learning garden at the Madison Branch. Here Milo and Owen help library worker and LEAF founder Dan Slife cut the ribbon on the garden.



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## OPEN HOUSE

**August 14, 2010**  
**12:00 - 1:30PM**

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# Lakewood Schools

## LHS A Hub Of Summer Activity

by Christine Gordillo

Although the school year is over, Lakewood High School remains a beehive of activity all summer long. On any given weekday, starting as early as 6 a.m. and running past dark, you will find dedicated young citizens, students, athletes, performers and musicians looking to improve themselves, their group, their community or their team and willing to give up their summer leisure time to do so.

Many of the fall sports teams begin conditioning sessions shortly after school lets out. You can find the soccer teams up at the crack of dawn four days a week to work at improving their team, or the cross country teams running through town in the early morning hours in hopes of getting a

leg up on conditioning for the fall season. And, of course, football begins its twice-a-day workouts in early August and have been lifting weights since school let out. Despite these team conditioning sessions being voluntary during the summer, the turnout is always strong. The golf and tennis teams' seasons begin while many families are still squeezing in their summer vacations in mid-August.

For eight weeks beginning in June, 200 middle schoolers take part in Help To Others' Summer Service Camp at the high school. The camp runs four, two-week sessions and campers fan out across the city to lend a helping hand to other groups in need. If they are not out in the community, they are at the high school sorting mounds of cloth-

ing donated for H2O's annual Clothes 4 Kids sale, which will be held on July 31 at the high school's East Cafeteria.

And for four weeks out of the summer, you can find the LHS Ranger Marching Band in the evenings at LHS stadium practicing its routines in order to be in field-ready shape by the time the first football game rolls around on Aug. 27. Leading up to that season opener, the band will have already performed at the July 4 parade and Cedar

Point to keep them on their toes during the summer. The Lakewood Project rock orchestra also stays busy during the first part of the summer with four-hour practices leading up to their highly anticipated July 4 concert.

Finally, learning doesn't stop over the summer as hundreds of students take on summer classes in order to get ahead of the curve for next year or work on getting back on track in preparation for the coming school year.

## LCA "Race For Excellence" Is August 29th

by Paul Nickels

Lakewood Catholic Academy will launch its school year with the Sixth Annual "Run for Excellence." The 5K Race and Michalko Mile Youth Run are set for Sunday, August 29th, starting on the LCA campus at 14808 Lake Avenue in Lakewood, adjacent to Lakewood Park. Both races are open to participants of all ages.

The action begins with race-day registration from 7:30 until 9:00 a.m. The 5K race begins at 8:30 a.m. followed by the Michalko Mile Youth Run at 9:15. New features to this year's race include chip timing and the distribution of high quality "tech" t-shirts to the first 300 registered runners. There will be awards, post-race refreshments, music and more.

The cost is \$20 for runners who register by mail by August 25 or online by August 26. On race day, the cost to participate is \$25. Special rates for families of four or more and running groups are available. Registration forms, sponsorship opportunities, and further information are available on the LCA website at [www.lakewoodcatholicacademy.com](http://www.lakewoodcatholicacademy.com) or at the Hermes website at [www.hermescleveland.com/roadracing](http://www.hermescleveland.com/roadracing).

Proceeds from the 2010 LCA "Run for Excellence" will support over 25 activities and programs sponsored by LCA's Saints Service Organization, the school's new volunteer group for parents and friends. A portion of the proceeds will also benefit The Women and Children's Shelter program at the West Side Catholic Center.

## Clinics Set To Aid With New Immunization Requirement

by Christine Gordillo

Cuyahoga County Board of Health will conduct three school immunization vaccination clinics in August and September to help accommodate the new state requirement that all students have a Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, pertussus) shot prior to entering 7th grade for the 2010-2011 school year.

All other childhood vaccines will also be available such as Varicella (chicken pox), Menactra (meningitis), HPV, HEP A, HEP B, MMR and Polio.

The dates and times of the clinics are August 3, August 11 and September 7 from 9 - 11 a.m., 1- 4 p.m. and 5 -7 p.m. The clinics will be held at 5550 Venture Drive in Parma.

Childhood vaccines are offered for \$12 per vaccine. No child will be denied a vaccine for inability to pay this administration charge. No appointments are necessary.

## Markling Joins Ashland University College Of Education Faculty

by Kara Goeller

Lakewood School Board Vice-President Matthew John Markling has been appointed to an adjunct faculty position by Ashland University College of Education's Department of Educational Administration. Markling will be teaching "School Law and Ethics" and "Educational Politics, Policies and School/Community Relations" to future educational administrators.

"Lakewood has a rich history of our civic leaders sharing their knowledge and experience with the greater academic community," said Markling. In combining teaching with leadership, Markling joins Lakewood City Schools Superintendent P. Joseph Madak and City of Lakewood At-Large Councilperson Brian E. Powers who teach at the University of Dayton and Baldwin-Wallace College, respectively.

In addition to his Ashland University course load, Markling will be teaching multiple school law courses at the University of Akron during the upcoming



School Board Vice-President Matthew John Markling

summer semester and will continue to provide lectures, in-services, and workshops throughout the State of Ohio.

Markling is serving his first term as an elected member of the Lakewood City School District Board of Education. For more information about Lakewood School Board, please visit [www.lakewoodschoolboardmember.com](http://www.lakewoodschoolboardmember.com).

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# Lakewood Sports

## Ranger Sports

by Erin Fach

### Tackle Football

**Grades 5th & 6th** - Lakewood Recreation Department is taking registrations for children in grades 5th and 6th to participate in the Little Southwest Tackle Football Conference. This is an instructional league where fundamentals and participation are stressed. Players will participate in a 7 game season against teams from Avon, Avon Lake, Bay Village, Fairview Park, North Olmsted, Rocky River and Sheffield. Cost is \$85 per Lakewood resident/\$100 per non-resident. Practice starts early August. All participants must have a current physical on file at the Recreation Department at the time of registration.

**Grades 3rd & 4th** - Lakewood Recreation Department is taking registrations for children in grades 3rd and 4th to participate in the In-House Instructional Tackle Football program. This is an instructional in-house league where fundamentals and participation are stressed. Players will participate in a 5 game season; season format based on number of registrations. Cost is \$65 per Lakewood resident/\$80 per non-resident. Practice starts early August. All participants must have a current physical on file at the Recreation Department at the time of registration.

### Flag Football

**Ages 4-8** - Lakewood Recreation Department is taking registrations for children in ages 4-8 to participate in the Flag Football program. This is an instructional in-house program where fundamentals and participation are stressed. Players will participate in a 5 game season. Cost is \$45 per Lakewood resident/\$65 per non-resident. Games will begin Saturday, September 18th. All participants must have a birth certificate on file at the Recreation Department at the time of registration. Deadline for registration is August 31st. Practices based on coach's availability. Volunteer coaches needed. Interested parents must contact the Recreation Department.

### Cheerleading

**Grades 5th & 6th** - Lakewood Recreation Department is taking registrations for children in grades 5th & 6th. Participants will cheer for the 5th & 6th grade tackle football teams participating in a 7 game season in the Little Southwest Conference Tackle Football League. Cost is \$65 per Lakewood resident/\$80 per non-resident. Practice starts in September. Deadline for registration is August 1. All participants must have a current physical on file at the Recreation Department at the time of registration. R

Register in person at the Recreation Department located at 1456 Warren Road. For more information call the Recreation Department at 216-529-4081. For a complete list of recreational and educational opportunities go to [www.lakewoodrecreation.com](http://www.lakewoodrecreation.com).

**Grades 3rd & 4th** - Lakewood Recreation Department is taking registrations for children in grades 3rd & 4th to participate in the in-house cheerleading program. Participants will cheer for the 3rd & 4th grade in-house tackle football teams participating a 5 game season. Cost is \$45 per Lakewood resident/\$60 per non-resident. Practice starts in September. Deadline for registration is August 1. All participants 10 years of age and older must have a current physical on file at the Recreation Department at the time of registration.

### Cross Country

Lakewood Recreation Department is taking registrations for Cross Country for students in grades 6th through 8th. Participants will run in approximately 10 races. Cost is \$65 per Lakewood resident/\$80 per non-resident. Practice starts toward end of August/early September. Deadline for registration is August 1. All participants must have a current physical on file at the Recreation Department at the time of registration.

### LEBL Open Gyms

Lakewood Recreation Department is offering open gyms for boys and girls in grades 4th through 6th who are interested in participating in the Lake Erie Basketball League (LEBL). The Recreation Department will be entering several boys and girls teams in the Lake Erie Basketball League this fall. The purpose of the LEBL is to provide 4th, 5th, and 6th grade boys and 5th & 6th grades girls the opportunity to play a competitive level of basketball and to learn and enjoy the game. Players will participate in various divisions, representing 27 suburbs of Cleveland, mainly the western and southern suburbs. Players are encouraged to attend these open gym sessions as we begin forming teams. Coaches needed. Open gyms will be held from August 24 to September 23 at Roosevelt Elementary School on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Open gyms are available to Lakewood Students only. Participants will be asked to provide their address, phone number and an emergency contact phone number. LEBL Tryouts will be held September 25 and 26.



Jay Andreani and De'Ante Mitchell from LOBC.

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Lakewood Observer

# Lakewood Hopes Dog Park Will Sit, And Stay

continued from page 1

residents maintained that barking from the park, that is tucked away in the valley adjacent to the MetroParks, has been excessive and; therefore, constitutes a public nuisance (“an invasion of, or an unreasonable interference with, public rights which are common to all members of the general public”) and a private nuisance (“it affects the private personal property rights” of the neighboring Rocky River residents). Legal practitioners generally agree that nuisance law is not black and white; there is no bright line separating actionable behavior from benign annoyances of everyday life.

When questioned about a list of various outdoor sounds that continuously surround them, witnesses from Rocky River concurred: cars and motorcycles in the MetroParks, Interstate traffic, loud low-flying jets, passing trains, service trucks, back-up warning alarms, and chainsaws were acceptable background noises to be ignored. Perhaps somewhat arbitrarily, only dog barking was argued to be intolerable. These same witnesses, however, failed to reach consensus as to why dog barking rose to the level of “nuisance,” be it grating, troublesome, unsettling, upsetting, disrupting, disturbing, distracting, irritating, aggravating or simply annoying. These discontented River residents seemed to want to create yet another variety of nuisance theory based on a standard individual to each of them.

Several of the complainants recorded their observations about the Lakewood Dog Park in personal logs and journals, which had been a bone of contention among legal counsel during the pre-trial discovery process. Rocky River’s attorney had contended that he was not obligated to turn these documents over to opposing counsel. When High Parkway resident Eileen Griffin testified that she had prepared her notes, not to refresh her recollection, but as “proof” of the subject matter, the legal beagles began snapping at one another. This culminated in a time-out, an in-chambers conference, a subsequent ruling that forced Rocky River to share these hundreds of pages of documents with Lakewood and more than a half-day delay in the proceedings.

Carol Buddie, one of the co-plaintiffs, testified to having made hundreds

of recordings, both audio and video, of sounds from the dog park. Judge Friedland permitted her to choose and play nine video clips to demonstrate the barking at its worst. The clips that she chose ranged in length from twenty-one seconds to twelve minutes. None of the clips corroborated any of the residents’ claims that barking was continuous and always present, that residents could hear barking from inside their houses with the windows closed, nor that all of the barking originated solely from dogs inside the dog park. When asked under cross-examination, Ms. Buddie acknowledged that she made one of her clips on December 5, 2009, during a rally held to protest this lawsuit. The number of dogs in attendance at that rally, held nearby but outside the confines of the dog park, far surpassed the number that would have normally been present on a frigid Saturday morning.

Taking the stand, Rocky River Mayor Pamela Bobst spoke in detail about the city’s other noise issues, especially the problem created by low-flying jets departing Cleveland Hopkins International Airport as well as the city’s ongoing efforts with the Federal Aviation Administration to monitor and abate that noise. One of two FAA noise monitors was, in fact, placed in the High Parkway neighborhood. The mayor also testified about the installation of sound barriers along sections of Interstate-90 that run through her city. If there is any merit to the co-plaintiffs’ assertions that they were not disturbed by any other noise prior to the construction of the Lakewood Dog Park, the mayor’s testimony regarding extensive efforts to mitigate other nuisance noise in Rocky River, including on High Parkway, seems to fly in the face of these residents’ statements. Mayor Bobst expressed sincere disappointment that the two cities were unable to cooperatively and collaboratively arrive at a low-cost or no-cost solution to the High Parkway residents’ concerns.

Rocky River called to the stand several hostile witnesses. An adverse or hostile witness is called by and testifies for the opposing party and is presumed antagonistic. Hostile witnesses may be asked leading questions as if under cross-examination.

Lakewood Mayor Ed Fitzgerald

testified as a hostile witness about the decision-making process for deciding where the dog park would be located: adjacent to the city’s Waste Water Treatment Plant or in downtown Lakewood at St. Charles Green. He recalled that the downtown location would have posed problems of limited parking and close proximity (less than 75 feet) to residential property, while precluding future development of the plot for commercial use. Despite petitions both for and against each of the locations, then-Councilman-at-Large FitzGerald voted in favor of his preferred MetroParks location, where the dog park currently sits virtually equidistant from the nearest residences of either city.

Other hostile witnesses were Lakewood Director of Engineering Bill Corrigan, who spoke at an early city council meeting against the St. Charles Green location, and former Lakewood Animal Warden Michael Steward, who testified that he, in seven years, never observed canine behavior at the dog park that required intervention.

Edward Walter, an acoustics consultant, had been recently hired jointly by the cities of Rocky River and Lakewood to perform a sound study at the dog park, in the backyards of High Parkway residences and around the valley’s rim. He was called only by Lakewood to provide expert testimony in the dog park matter. When pressed under cross-examination to address a theory of a Blossom Music Center-like “bowl effect,” (mentioned in a 2004 internal Lakewood memorandum and oft cited by Rocky River counsel but never substanti-

ated with testimony of the memo’s author), Mr. Walter testified that he did not note a “bowl effect” in the dog park. “I would not classify [the dog park] as having an amphitheatrical effect,” he said.

Additionally, Lakewood called to the stand numerous dog park supporters from both Lakewood and Rocky River. Marilyn Mulligan, who contributed original artwork and text for a mailing to fellow River residents to protest the city’s use of tax dollars to pursue this lawsuit, had to defend, under cross-examination, the use of the word “malcontents” in the postcard to describe the resident-plaintiffs. These complainers, “Are using my money to try to close a park that I love... There really isn’t excessive barking,” she said. All parkgoers who testified noted their positive experiences at the dog park. All similarly acknowledged under oath that dogs do bark there, but rarely for more than an average of 10-15 seconds, when either they walk away from each other or humans intervene. “Society would be a lot better if people worked out their disagreements as the dogs do,” observed Lakewood resident Randy Hrabak.

The City of Rocky River and its co-plaintiffs were represented by Attorney Michael O’Shea. Lakewood Assistant Law Director Scott Claussen and Law Director Nora Hurley represented the defendant, the City of Lakewood.

Karen Karp, of Lakewood, and Kent Cicerchi, of Brooklyn, are co-chairs of the Save the Dog Park Committee of the Friends of the Lakewood Dog Park, Inc., the volunteer organization that maintains the dog park.

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Art Festival 2010

# A Look At The Lakewood Arts Festival

by Margaret Brinich

At its inception the Lakewood Arts Festival consisted of artists lining the street set up mostly on card tables. In 2010, over 30 years later, festivalgoers will encounter a very different picture. Full sized art booths and tents will house 174 individually selected artists, live music will fill the air from 11am until closing time at 5pm, and 40 local non-profits and businesses will flank Detroit Avenue showing off Lakewood at its finest. This Lakewood tradition is now estimated to draw 10,000 peo-

ple to downtown Lakewood during the first weekend of August and this year is no exception. Running into neighbors, old-friends and new is par for the course. But to many attendees, what happens behind the scenes to make this classic Lakewood event come together is often overlooked. The Lakewood Downtown Arts Festival, Inc. is the non-profit volunteer driven organization that thanks to a strong history of collaboration with the City of Lakewood, brings LAF to Detroit Avenue every summer. The planning process begins with an open call for artist applications. During an intensive daylong review process, a committee of outside artists and LAF board members critiques slide after slide of artist submissions. The artists selected will come from as far as Florida, Georgia, Illinois and New York to name a few. Six Lakewood artists made the cut this year including Gina DeSantis, ceramics; Yumiko Goto, ceramics; Brian Jasinski, etching; Don Morrow, jewelry; Jennifer Murray, jewelry; and John Musarra, drawing. During the event three artists view every booth individually. The three judges will later compare notes and determine awards for categories such as "Creativity" and "Best New Artist." Each of the eight total awards includes a cash prize sponsored by a local business or non-profit, with "Best In Show" topping out at \$350 courtesy of Lakewood Hospital. The other noteworthy award associated with LAF is the LAF Scholarship. Dedicated to assisting local high school seniors pursuing college degrees in the fine arts, the scholarship has grown from its original \$500 to \$4000 today. Booths are also offered and assigned to various local non-profits and businesses, with this year's event featuring 40 of Lakewood's finest. Stop by one of their tents for refreshments, arts and crafts, and of course a look

into the community building efforts supported through their activities and events. By supporting young local talent through the scholarship fund, providing non-profits and business owners a venue to fundraise and increase visibility, and filling the streets of downtown Lakewood, LAF continues to set itself apart as more than just another festival. The 2010 Lakewood Arts Festival will take place on Detroit Avenue between Belle and Arthur from 10am until 5pm, rain or shine!

## LAF Scholarship Winner



Max Listkowski is this year's winner of the \$4000.00 Lakewood Arts Festival Scholarship. Here he is looking at his art work in the window of Landfall Travel on Detroit Ave. He will be attending the Cleveland Institute of Art this Fall.



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# Lakewood A

Booth			Booth			Booth		
#	Name	Medium	#	Name	Medium	#	Name	Medium
1	Jennifer Li	jewelry	42	Michael Mikula	glass	83	Dawn McCann	
2	Paul Bahm & Judy Bahm	wood	43	Carmen Kennedy	glass	84	Phillippe Claudel Laine	
3	Jill Geddes	sculpture/metal work	44	Nancy Finesilver	ceramics	85	Elaine Lamb	
4	Jim Polk	painting	45	Johnny Lung	painting	86	Herb Thomas	
5	Rita Zidonis	fiber	46	Kelly Crosser Alge	jewelry	87	Donna Ischo	
6	Michelle Ishida	leather	47	Richard Jacobus	sculpture/metal work	88	Susan Begin	
7	Doug Lehnhardt	painting	48	Richard Gallup	photography	89	Christy Hink	
8	Joseph Zewalk	jewelry	49	Don Morrow	jewelry	90	Scott Davidson	
9	Todd Muhlfelder & Joanie Muhlfelder	jewelry	50	Jaime Frechette	enamel	91	Ashley Sullivan	
10	Kelly Burt	addt'l med - paper cut outs	51	Sandra Lang & Walter Weil	ceramics	92	Martha Regula	
11	Ken Becker	photography	52	How Markowitz	painting	93	TJ Potter & Penny Potter	
12	Joe Martino	painting	53	Russ Shaffer	mixed media	94	Molly King	
13	Martin Frolick	ceramics	54	Nancy Markham	photography	95	James Brindle	
14	Danielle Crissman	sculpture/metal work	55	Roger Coast	sculpture/metal work	96	Jessica Roller	
15	Rebecca Mackey	glass	56	Sara Coast	jewelry	97	Rob Szakelyhidi	
16	Pat Bolgar	jewelry	57	B.J. Jordan	jewelry	98	Wayne Dorn	
17	Ezra Giterman	sculpture/metal work	58	Ann Marie Pribish	painting	99	Lois Bosworth	
18	Brian Jasinski	etching	59	Jayne Akison & David Brown	mixed media	100	Jackie Magyar	
19	Ronald Meade	leather	60	Toni Macri-Reiner	ceramics	101	Jeff Hutson & Stephanie Huts	
20	Sarah Martin	fiber	61	David Houser	glass	102	Leslie Greenberg	
21	Patrick Burke	ceramics	62	Michele Cimprich	photography	103	Jenny Gorkowski	
22	Michael Zelenka	glass	63	Kerin Houseburg	mixed media	104	Noreen Miller	
23	Rachelle Bujorian & Tom Bujorian	mixed media	64	Liz DiVincenzo	jewelry	105	Jeff Ondash	
24	Ken Bonnette	painting	65	Cherie Haney	sculpture/metal work	106	Barbara Robertson	
25	Andrew Wender	ceramics	66	Linda Surace & Cara Surace	fiber	107	Dave Zaborowski	
26	Kathy Lapso	sculpture/metal work	67	Ikuko Miklowski	ceramics	108	Patti Monroe-Mohrenweiser &	
27	Barbara Haplea	jewelry	68	Marney Gorman	jewelry		Mark Mohrenweiser	
28	James Reno	ceramics	69	Debra Gleason	mixed media	109	Gloria Gerber	
29	Richard Cihlar	mixed media	70	Kate Disch	leather	110	MikeGuyot	
30	Norman Drake	painting	71	Russell Fullone	wood	111	Diane Castle-Babcock	
31	Joseph Wasko & Tony Naples	additional media - concrete	72	Gerald Yustick	painting	112	Joseph Bower	
32	Linda Grubb	jewelry	73	Patti Fields	jewelry	113	David Bordine	
33	Bernard Perdian	Ceramics	74	Jennifer Murray	jewelry	114	Jt Dunphy	
34	Jen Doss	etching	75	Chris Plummer	etching	115	Kate Bordine	
35	Ginger Wankewycz	printmaking/origami jewelry	76	Cydney Gintert	glass	116	Barbara Lund	
36	Pat Reynolds	fiber	77	Deborah Yorde	fiber	117	Mark Yasenchack	
37	Cindy Kepler	jewelry	78	Michael Davis	photography	118	Valerie Thomas & Dana Shirle	
38	Bob Pozarski	glass	79	Brooke Witt	mixed media	119	Grace Chin	
39	Alan Fisk	jewelry	80	Don Marksz & Lynn Marksz	jewelry	120	Ronald Limpach	
40	R.C. Sanford	wood	81	Barbara Chira	painting	121	Russ Hench	
41	Haidi Haiss	ceramics	82	Gina DeSantis	ceramics	122	John Musarra	
						123	Marita Bitans	



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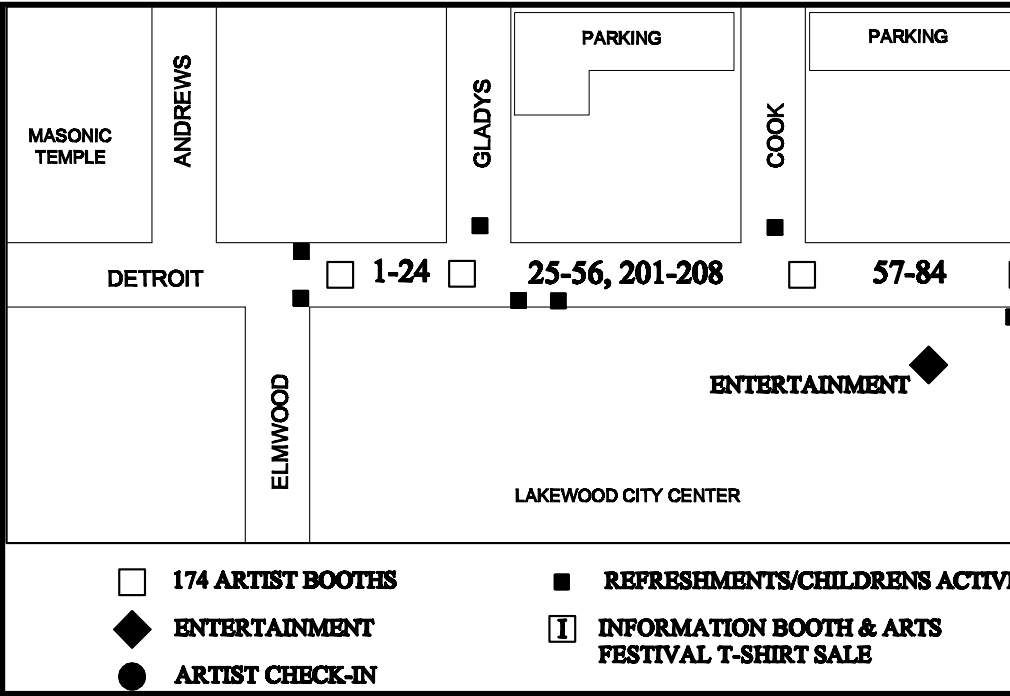
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# Arts Festival

		Booth			Booth		
	Medium	#	Name	Medium	#	Name	Medium
	enamel	124	Michele McCracken	mixed media	165	Matthew Lombardi	jewelry
	fiber	125	James Klinger	ceramics	166	Michelle Hoff	glass
	ceramics	126	David Misalko	painting	201	Jeff Easter	photography
	glass	127	Judith Vierow	painting	202	Laurie Leonard	jewelry
	fiber	128	Bluma Bluebond	jewelry	203	Michael Rumanik	enamel
	mixed media	129	Jorge Fernandini	etching	204	Michael McDonough	wood
	glass	130	Melissa Pottenger	mixed media	205	Don Glick	jewelry
	photography	131	George Fizer Sampson & Charlotte Fizer Sampson	glass	206	Sharon Lee Hanse	mixed media
	painting	132	Bonnie Gordon	ceramics	207	Julie Skully & Frank Skully	wood
	jewelry	133	Karen Taber & Jessica Taber	leather	208	Paul Jira	painting
	jewelry	134	Michael Winston	etching	<b>Names In Bold Are Lakewood Residents</b>		
	ceramics	135	Nancy Notarianni	painting			
	wood	136	Dolores Kopacz	jewelry			
	painting	137	Bob Marks	jewelry			
	ceramics	138	Sandy Kephart	fiber			
	sculpture/metal work	139	Bette Drake	ceramics			
	fiber	140	Shelly Louise Bishop	mixed media			
	jewelry	141	Jan Bowden & Vince Bowden	mixed media			
on	sculpture/metal work	142	Shinichi Sato	painting			
	photography	143	Douglas Sweet	glass			
	jewelry	144	Linnea Lahlum	jewelry			
	etching	145	Jeff Yost	painting			
	photography	146	Thomas Chapman	glass			
	fiber	<b>147</b>	<b>Yumiko Goto</b>	<b>ceramics</b>			
	wood	48	Maria Leng	painting			
&	additional Media - encaustic	149	Christine Weigand	mixed media			
	jewelry	150	Robin Morris & Dan Dunnewold	ceramics			
	painting	151	Gracia Luoma & Aaron Luoma	photography			
	“drawing, printmaking”	152	Ray Bridewell & Amy Bridewell	jewelry			
	ceramics	153	Cameron Tucker	enamel			
	glass	154	Mark Mowen	leather			
	wood	155	Maryann Posch & John Gulyas	jewelry			
	jewelry	156	Bill Miller & Susan Kellegan	mixed media			
	ceramics	157	Sheila Becker	fiber			
	mixed media or ceramics	158	Tara Hubbard	fiber			
ey	jewelry	159	Don Sims & Judy Sims	addt'l media - gourds			
	jewelry	160	Noreen Rotar	jewelry			
	wood	161	Valerie Wright	mixed media			
	mixed media	162	Evan Livingston	fiber			
	<b>drawing</b>	163	Kevin Heekin	sculpture/metal work			
	photography	164	William Schmidt & Diana Andr	wood			

### Music Line-up

**10:00 - 11:00**  
**Neil Jacobs**  
[www.neiljacobs.com](http://www.neiljacobs.com)

**11:00 - 12:00**  
**Laurie Michelle Caner**  
[www.hey MAVIS.com](http://www.hey MAVIS.com)

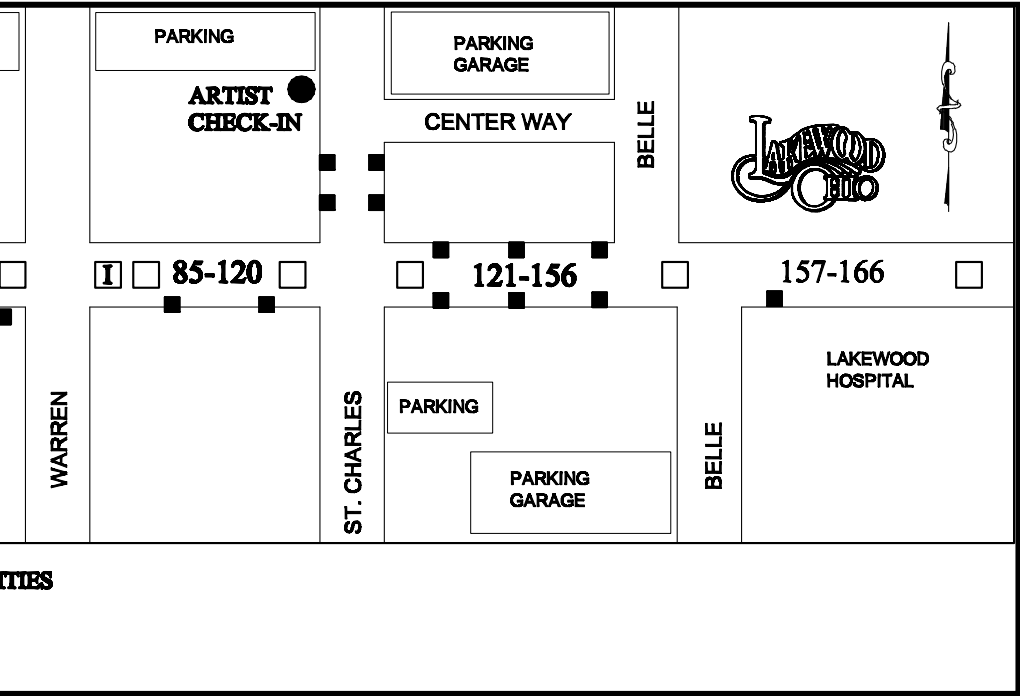
**12:00 - 1:00**  
**One is the Up - big band jazz**

**1:00 - 2:00**  
**Brian Straw**  
[www.facebook.com/theburiedwires](http://www.facebook.com/theburiedwires)

**2:00 - 3:00**  
**Nick Riley**  
[www.myspace.com/filmstripohio](http://www.myspace.com/filmstripohio)

**3:00 - 4:00**  
**Kelly Wright**  
[www.kellywright1969.com](http://www.kellywright1969.com)

**4:00 - 5:00**  
**Jeff Boyer & The Fabulous**  
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Starry Night

Fifth Annual Starry Night Event And Free Health Screenings At LAF

by Anne Kuenzel

On Friday evening, August 6th, Lakewood Hospital is proud to host its fifth annual Starry Night, a patron benefit presented by Signature Sponsor, Regency Construction Services, Inc. The event will be held under the starlit tents on Belle Avenue from 7 to 10:30 p.m. A VIP Reception will be held from 6 to 7 p.m. for those purchasing tickets at sponsorship levels and will include participative activities.

Proceeds from Starry Night benefit two worthwhile causes— Lakewood Hospital Diabetes and Endocrine Center and the Lakewood Arts Festival Scholarship Fund. Each year, Starry Night glows a little brighter and this year is no different! The five-star event will feature music from The Bottom Line Band

with dancing under the stars, outstanding gourmet cuisine and live and silent auctions of local artists' original works of art. A wine cork raffle will also be offered--participants will have an opportunity to win a delicious and unique bottle of wine or other fabulous packages. News Anchor and Senior Health Correspondent Monica Robins of WKYC-TV3 will emcee the event.

"I am really looking forward to Starry Night," said Janice Murphy, President of Lakewood and Fairview Hospitals. "It has quickly become a premier event to attend right here in the



Every August is the best party in Lakewood, Starry Night, benefits the Lakewood Hospital Diabetes & Endocrine Center and the Lakewood Arts Festival Scholarship Fund. A great time is always had by all. Don't miss it!

heart of Lakewood. Having the opportunity to spend a summer evening with friends and colleagues while raising money for two great causes truly makes this an event you won't want to miss."

The Lakewood Hospital Diabetes and Endocrine Center, one of the beneficiaries of this event, has a team of experts who focus on disease management, education and prevention as well as the treatment of other endocrine disorders.

The Center uses event proceeds to host an educational Diabetes Symposium and to support its Diabetes Assistance Initiative, a program to help the uninsured and underinsured by providing funds for prescription diabetes medications and supplies as well as scholarships for diabetes education.

Lakewood Hospital has once again partnered with Lakewood's Local Girl Gallery and made a request to local artists to submit artwork that will be up for auction at the event. There was a wonderful response to the artists' call out with artwork ranging from beautiful paintings to jewelry, furniture and much more.

Ticket prices for Starry Night begin at \$100. Individual sponsorships, which include an invitation to a VIP Reception, start at \$150. A variety of corporate sponsorships, which include entrance to the VIP Reception, are also available. Our Vintage Sponsorship is \$50 and will help underwrite the purchase of a fine wine.

To purchase your tickets by mail, or for sponsorship information, call 216.529.7009. To purchase event tickets

online, visit [www.lakewoodhospital.org/starrynight](http://www.lakewoodhospital.org/starrynight).

Lakewood Hospital Will Offer Free Screenings the Day After at Lakewood Arts Festival

The community is also invited to stop by the Starry Night tent that will remain standing the following day for the Lakewood Arts Festival on August 7th. Health care experts from Lakewood Hospital will provide free screenings from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the north end of the tent on Belle Avenue. Free screenings will include:

- Total cholesterol,
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Out And About

# The Doghouse 2 In Lakewood Celebrates Its First Anniversary

by Addie Gipson

The Doghouse 2 in Lakewood is celebrating their first year anniversary, in addition to 5 years in their popular Cleveland Heights location. Owners, Larry and Addie Gipson are Chicago natives, but have found a new home in

Northeast Ohio as they see many new faces as well as a growing number of regulars. The Doghouse was recognized this year with the WECO Fund, Inc. 2010 Impact Award for new businesses. All of their food is cooked to order, and the selection is tremendous. You can

even ‘design’ your own but the top 3 favorites & most unique sandwiches are: Chicago Style Italian Beef- Always made with Prime Cut Italian cooked in au jus until it takes on the tenderness of pudding, then loaded onto a steak bun and smothered with hot or mild pepper.



Chicago Style Hot Dog- Decorated with more junk than a Browns fan’s trailer: onion, tomato, pickle, pepper, mustard, relish, celery salt all on a poppy seed bun.

Beef hot dogs, corn dogs, veggie dogs, turkey dogs, (served anyway you can imagine) polish boys, bratwurst, Italian sausage, and many sides are available daily. So if you want a good Hot Dog then get off the porch and run with the big dogs. Run on over to the Doghouse. You won’t be disappointed.

To celebrate their first year in Lakewood, The Doghouse 2 is offering their customers a free order of French fries with a \$5.00 purchase, good until August 7, 2010.

## Bits & Bytes

by Maggie Fraley

Attending the Lakewood Chamber meetings is always enjoyable and last week, Nate Kelley, from the city, shared quite a bit of ‘new news’... The construction of the beautiful new social security building, and other projects throughout the city including... Robeks’ smoothies opened in the beautifully restored Bailey Building. Coming soon is Jimmy Johns and Moe’s... Statistics show city store front vacancies are going down and when

out for a walk, it’s obvious that walking traffic is going up!... Have you walked to the Library front porch concerts on Friday nights?... Some other activities to try before the summer’s over include Kick Martial Arts, owned by Bruce Gornley and Timothy Holmes. Your kids might enjoy trying kids’ kickboxing, taekwondo, or Brazilian kickboxing in August. Of course, Kick has ongoing kids’ and adult classes, too. (They were guest instructors at the Live Well Lakewood’s Wellness Challenge)... Have you tried the new Dunkin’ Donuts (especially their vanilla coffee) or their neighbor, Nun-

zio’s Pizza? Owner, Nunzio Traina is celebrating 2 Anniversaries this summer! First, congratulations on 20 years in business. Second, a happy 2 year anniversary at his Lakewood location. Nunzio’s first pizzeria is in Lorain, followed by his second in Old Brooklyn. His latest addition is at the Akron University campus... Although this is a tough economy, successful businesses grow because of hard work and local support. New businesses open in cities that have the vision to create a climate that welcomes them. So, as always, please think globally, shop locally and celebrate Lakewood along with our many business neighbors!

\*If you’d like to share a little ‘bit’ about a new business, special event, or business anniversary please email me at LO.bitsandbytes@gmail and I’ll do my best to share it in this column.

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3 Items	\$7.75	\$10.00	\$13.25	\$15.75
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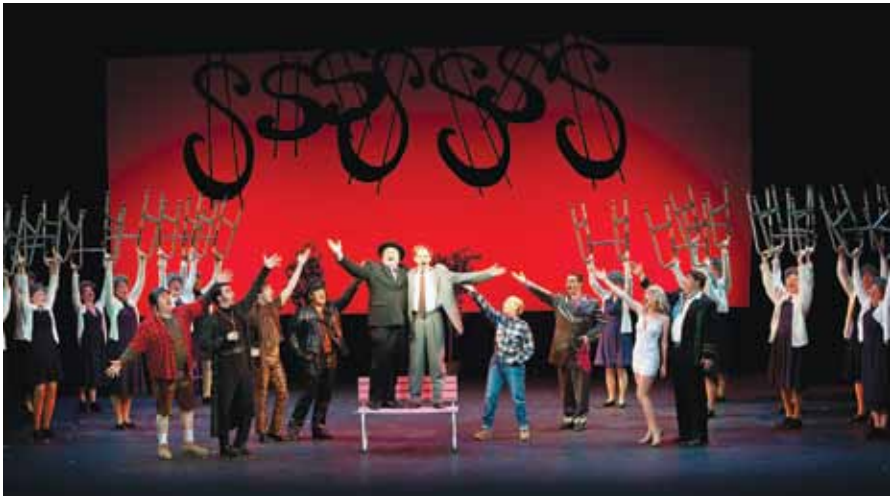
# Out And About

## Broadway At The Beck

by Lauren Fraley

In Mel Brooks' *The Producers* Max Bialystock grumbles about off-Broadway, sneering, "I hate it! Mimes, experimental theatre... it's a jungle out there!" But in the irony of all ironies, Bialystock and his unlikely business partner, tense and timid Leo Bloom, find that the real jungle is not off but on Broadway in this Tony-award winning show. With its fast pace and wild character acting, *The Beck Center's* production is no exception.

Beck Center rookies Mark Hefferman and Brandon Isner give adequate portrayals of the Bialystock and Bloom duo (respectively). Their vocals are strong but their performances are delivered on the same emotional level from beginning to end. A more compelling performance would have included a visible growth of the protagonists (heightened comedy as it is). Instead, it's the Cleveland theatre regulars, Gilgamesh Taggett and Kevin Joseph Kelly who steal the show in their support-



**Carmen and Crew keep it gay:** From left to right, Brandon Isner\* as Leo, Mark Hefferman as Max, Kevin Joseph Kelly as Roger DeBris, Chris Richards as Carmen Ghia, and Roger's production team – Rachel Spence (sitting), Alex Garrard, Zac Hudak, and Aaron Schoonover.

ing roles. Celebrity casting in tour de force comedy indicates that director, Scott Spence, knows the equation for a Lakewood crowd pleaser. And yet, without a thought of resting laurels, nor resting on the inherent hilarity in the characters on the page, Taggett and Kelly

each sculpts his own eccentric, idiosyncratic and outrageous character that lives and breathes in the equally outrageous world of the play. Taggett's daft but delightful smile as the pigeon-loving Nazi, Franz Liebkind, could only be countered by Kelly's expansive presence

in his spot-on portrayal of the fabulous, cross-dressing director Roger DeBris.

As is the unfortunate case with many musicals, the same acting praise of the principles cannot be given to the chorus. Musically, their sound is often thin though Larry Goodpaster's orchestra accompanies them with appropriate balance. With a few notable exceptions, the chorus seems to have been selected mostly for their dancing chops as seen in its execution of Mary Ann Black's skillful choreography. Jumping from genre to genre, Black's imaginative movement shows up in the form of romping physical comedy during "Der Guten Tag Hop Clop," a lampoon of the Fiddler on the Roof bottle dance in "The King of Old Broadway" and of course in the form of the beloved "happy tippy tappy toes." She choreographs life and whimsy into an otherwise flat musical number in "That Face." While there is contrived chemistry between Brandon Isner as Bloom and sensual Swedish Ulla (played by Betsy Kahl), Bloom becomes a bit more believable (and loveable) in his endearing awkwardness when given this opportunity to soften. This number does not sit quite as well for Kahl's Ulla whose most memorable quality, beyond her figure, is her un-humanly feminine (and very, very Swedish) telephone greeting: "Bialyshhhtock and Bloooo-oom!"

*The Producers* is a story that has the potential for roll-in-the-aisles laughter through incongruity, irony and hyperbole. The Beck Center's production arrives at this potential during many moments, and merely flirts with it during others. However, the Mel Brooks' script prevails. The fact is, you just can't leave the night without a laugh when there's a slew of lusty old women, a cross-dressing Hitler and singing pigeons on stage.

## Beck Center Named 2010 "Best Of The West" In Music And Dance/Theater Instruction

by Fran Storch

For the second year in a row, the Beck Center for the Arts has been named the "Best of the West" in Music and in Dance/Theater Instruction by West Shore Magazine. Hundreds of West Shore Live Well readers voted for the best places to eat, shop, and have fun on Cleveland's west side. Winners were selected from finalists in more than 60 categories.

With more than 140 creative opportunities each week, the Beck Center is the place for students of all ages to experience everything the arts have to offer. With classes, lessons, and programs in dance, music, theater, visual arts, and creative arts therapies, Beck Center welcomes thousands of people from across Northeast Ohio to it's campus, where the best in student and professional achievement is showcased in the center's art galleries, stages, and recital hall.

Statistics show the value of arts education for people of all ages - children do better in school and score higher on tests, young professionals are more likely to be financially successful, and adults are more creative and productive workers. Those are the measurable benefits. But what about those things you can't track on a graph? Happiness. Joy of discovery. Patience. Appreciation for beauty in all forms. Sense of accomplishment.

Now is the time to plan your fall schedule, before summer vacation ends. Sign up for classes and enrich your life. For a sneak peek of Beck's fall 2010 class catalog, visit [www.beck-center.org](http://www.beck-center.org), or call 216.521.2540 x10. Register early before classes fill up!

The new school year also brings the opportunity for children to sample



A young student learns a new art skill at the Beck Center.

the arts each month at Super Saturdays @ Beck Center, sponsored by The Lakewood Arts Festival Association. In partnership with several community organizations, Beck Center offers a free, hands-on arts experience for ages 10 and under, from 9 to 11:30 a.m. at the Beck Center. The upcoming schedule is as follows:

**September 18 , Westfield Great Northern**

**October 16, Beck Center Visual Arts**

**November 6, Cleveland Botanical Garden**

**December 11, Usbourne Books**

**January 22, Cleveland Artists Foundation**

Serving the community for nearly 80 years, Beck Center for the Arts is located at 17801 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood. Free onsite parking is available.

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County Elections

# Ed FitzGerald Answers 11 Questions For The Observers

Questions developed by John Sheridan,  
courtesy of the Euclid Observer

Mayor Ed FitzGerald answers to  
Observer Questions:

1.) If elected to the position of  
County Executive, what three or four  
goals would top the list of things that  
you'd hope to accomplish during your  
term in office?

I plan to clean up the corruption  
and restore confidence in county gov-  
ernment—the FBI can and will only  
take care of a piece of this—the high-  
est ethical standards must be set and  
met among all county employees and  
departments. Second, I will work to  
build on the strengths of our county  
to retain and attract jobs; third, as  
we redesign county government, I  
will ensure that the stellar health and  
human services currently provided  
through the county continue, even as  
government systems and departments  
consolidate; finally, it is clear that safety  
and security are a paramount concern  
and the county can and should play a  
larger role in ensuring the safety of all  
of our neighborhoods.

2.) What do you regard as the  
major challenges that must be met in  
order for the new system of county  
government to succeed?

One key challenge is the lack of  
sufficient checks and balances in the  
existing County Charter. I plan to  
implement a County Inspector Gen-  
eral's office to ensure that the highest  
ethical standards are met and main-  
tained. This is crucial for restoring the  
people's confidence. As consolidation  
of so many departments occurs, it is  
also important that we are methodical  
and truly assess what is working and  
what isn't.

3.) How do you define good gov-  
ernment?

Good government means ethical  
government run by public servants.  
Government is truly supposed to be  
about service and is truly a privilege.  
The problems occur when people in  
government forget that they are in  
office to serve.

4.) Do you believe the new  
County Executive/Council structure  
can put an end to the corruption and  
patronage that have dominated news  
headlines for the past several years?

I believe that the new County Exec-  
utive and Council structure can put an  
end to the corruption and patronage  
ONLY if strong ethical standards are  
implemented and an Inspector Gen-  
eral's office is established. The problems  
of the past are fundamentally ones  
of human failing, not of government  
structure.

5.) Under the new charter, sev-  
eral top county officials who in the  
past were directly elected by the vot-  
ers will now be appointees chosen and  
approved by the new Executive and  
County Council. Do you see that as a  
positive step?

I do believe this is a positive step,  
though had I been writing the charter,  
I would have maintained a separate  
fiscal office. Overall, though, I think  
it is positive that offices such as engi-  
neer and coroner will be appointed.  
This should simplify many aspects of  
county government if it is operational-  
ized properly.

6.) What approach would you  
take to working with the new County  
Council to keep lines of commu-  
nication open in order to achieve  
consensus on major county wide  
objectives?

I will use the same approach I have  
used in Lakewood; I will work with the  
council members, share information in  
a transparent fashion and share credit  
for accomplishments.

7.) When will Cuyahoga County  
voters know if the new government  
structure is working as envisioned-  
and how will they know?

This is a complicated question due  
to the fact that many voters do not fully  
understand the new structure—I speak  
with voters constantly whose primary

questions surround the mechanics of  
the new structure. Fundamentally,  
though, I believe the mandate was for  
an ethical, efficient system. Voters will  
be able to judge that based on the high  
quality of human services being main-  
tained while the government operates  
with a high level of transparency and  
seizes opportunities for job growth.

8.) Do you believe the new  
structure has the potential to spark  
economic growth and job creation in  
Northeast Ohio? If so, how might that  
happen?

The new structure can spark  
economic growth by being able to  
articulate a clear strategy which can  
be embraced in the region. I have long  
been a proponent of a county execu-  
tive form of government in order for  
those interested in economic develop-  
ment to have one person and place to  
speak with when looking to invest or  
grow. While there will still be others  
involved—municipalities, the state,  
etc.—this will greatly enhance the role  
the county can and will play in such  
efforts.

9.) There has been much talk  
about “regionalization” as a mech-  
anism to improve government  
efficiency-and hopefully, reduce  
the tax burden on the citizens of  
Cuyahoga County. Do you view the  
new government structure as a posi-  
tive step toward achieving these  
goals?

I do believe that the new structure  
can be a step toward regionalism, but  
only if it is handled in such a way as to

encourage collaboration and partner-  
ship by municipalities. With home  
rule, the county is limited in how  
much it can require of municipalities,  
but it can incentivize cooperation and  
collaboration as much as it wants and  
I intend to do that. There are many  
services and areas in which joint pur-  
chasing might save different entities  
money and effort. Where it serves to  
reduce the tax burden or increase the  
efficiency or efficacy of services, this  
would be very positive for our county.

10.) In your analysis of Issue 6-the  
charter amendment that ushered in  
the sweeping changes in county gov-  
ernment --what did you find to be its  
strong points? And what, if any, weak-  
nesses did you detect?

The strongest points were in  
its consolidation of much of county  
government into a more functional  
structure. I disagreed with the process  
in which the charter was developed  
because it lacked transparency; I  
believe it was a mistake to consoli-  
date all of the budgeting and financial  
authority.

11.) Do you see a need for further  
“tinkering” with the County Charter  
to improve prospects for a successful  
transition? If so, what changes would  
you hope to see incorporated?

I believe we need to address the  
items I mentioned in my answer to #10  
above. I also think it is likely we will  
discover other items to be improved  
once the system is in place and that it  
might be helpful to have some at-large  
members of the county council.

## Edward FitzGerald Bio

Ed FitzGerald has spent more than two decades  
in service to others-as a community volunteer, Congressional  
staff member, FBI Special Agent, Assistant County Prosecu-  
tor, City Councilman, and now as the Mayor of Lakewood,  
Ohio.

The seventh of eight children, Ed worked his way  
through Ohio State University, and then attended night law  
school while serving as a staff member for the U.S. House  
of Representatives. He also became active in his community,  
volunteering as a reading tutor in the public schools, and  
working with a local senior citizen service program.

After graduating from Cleveland-Marshall College of  
Law, Ed was commissioned as a Special Agent with the FBI.  
After completion of his training in Quantico, Virginia, he  
was assigned to the Organized Crime Task Force in Chicago.  
As a Special Agent, FitzGerald was recognized by the FBI  
Director for excellence while heading up a wide-ranging and  
successful investigation into organized crime and political  
corruption.

Returning to the Cleveland area, FitzGerald then served  
as a supervising Assistant County Prosecutor. He successfully  
prosecuted hundreds of cases ranging from drug dealing  
to homicide. FitzGerald gained a reputation as a tough but  
fair prosecutor, who had a special passion for the rights of  
crime victims. FitzGerald continued to be active in civic and  
political affairs, and was elected for three terms as a City  
Councilman, and then as Mayor of Lakewood.

Running on a platform of reform, he was elected by the  
largest margin in 20 years despite being outspent by more  
than 2 to 1. By building a consensus for change and work-  
ing in partnership with City Council, FitzGerald overhauled



Edward FitzGerald and family

the operations of every city department, saving millions of  
dollars while launching major initiatives across the board  
including economic development, public safety, the environ-  
ment, public integrity, foreclosed properties, public health  
and wellness, and infrastructure. All of this was done with-  
out raising taxes and actually shrinking the size of local  
government.

Ed and his wife Shannon have been married for 18 years,  
and are the proud parents of four children- Jack, Connor,  
Colleen and Bridget, ages 9 to 16.



# County Elections

## Victor Voinovich Answers 11 Questions For The Observers

*Questions developed by John Sheridan, courtesy of the Euclid Observer*

Here, in response to questions posed by The Observer, Republican County Executive Candidate, Victor Voinovich, shares some of his thoughts on the new county government and the challenges that lie ahead:

**1.) If elected to the position of County Executive, what three or four goals would top the list of things that you'd hope to accomplish during your term in office?**

I have 3 objectives:

- Grow our economy,
- Better, smarter county government,
- Unite our region.

We will get there and define our success by what we do to:

- Ensure there are thriving jobs, businesses, entrepreneurship, and innovation in our county.
- Create and grow 21st century talent.
- Become a great place to live, work, and raise families.
- Tell our story and use it to build partnerships in the global economy.
- Streamline crucial county services to improve responsiveness and efficiency.
- Reimagine and remake the county government.
- Practice the principles of collaboration, inclusiveness, and transparency.

**2.) What do you regard as the major challenges that must be met in order for the new system of county government to succeed?**

- Entrenched ways of thinking/doing things.
- Too much tax dollars spent on things that don't help to create jobs or provide necessary services.
- Lack of interest and energy in our citizens.

**3.) How do you define good government?**

Three words: trust, effectiveness, efficiency. This is what it will take to deliver value for the tax dollars citizens entrust to us. Good government also depends on humility to learn from others and having the right team in place.

**4.) Do you believe the new County Executive/Council structure can put an end to the corruption and patronage that have dominated news headlines for the past several years?**

Yes...but it depends on the County Executive's character and values. I pledge to earn back the people's trust through the CuyahogaNext Contract. I will:

- Stay focused on 3 objectives...our success with the citizens will depend on it.

- Create equal opportunity using the best our county has to offer in an honest, open, inclusive, and transparent way.
- Institute accountability by streamlining crucial county services and adopting the best practices of the world's leading organizations to create a trustworthy, effective, and efficient government.
- Earn the citizens' trust.

**5.) Under the new charter, several top county officials who in the past were directly elected by the voters will now be appointees chosen and approved by the new Executive and County Council. Do you see that as a positive step?**

Yes...but it depends on the County Executive's character and values.

County voters approved the new structure. They rightly expect better results from their elected officials and the use of citizens' tax dollars. The new structure and the CuyahogaNext Contract gives me the opportunity to form and mobilize the team that will deliver the results the voters expect. We will vet candidates based on their job effectiveness as well as their personal integrity and willingness to work with others. Working closely with Council members, we can field a better and more cohesive team than the old way in which voters elected their officials.

We will work together with others based on personal integrity and sharing. Council members will have an open invitation to work with us to energize and mobilize the county's and the region's resources to grow jobs and our economy.

**6.) What approach would you take to working with the new County Council to keep lines of communication open in order to achieve consensus on major county wide objectives?**

Council members will have an open door to my administration. My team is working on how best to collaborate on the details to:

- Save tax dollars by moving public meetings to various locations and inviting citizens to view their government in action.
- Form "coalitions of the willing" to 1) envision desired outcomes in job growth, economic growth, and regional collaboration, and 2) carry out the tough tasks that achieving the desired outcomes will need.
- Invest some of the taxpayer funds entrusted to us by the citizens in the best practices and information technology tools to give "coalition of the willing" participants a more productive way to communicate and coordinate efforts to achieve our objectives.

It's going to be "simple rules and

simple tools for great results." I welcome all participants as long as they sign up to do real work that helps our county achieve economic growth and regional unity. If organizations choose not to participate, they risk being left behind as we move forward.

**7.) When will Cuyahoga County voters know if the new government structure is working as envisioned—and how will they know?**

As part of our CuyahogaNext Contract, I will share quarterly report cards with our citizens, good or bad. The CuyahogaNext report card will feature specific measures of economic growth, regional cooperation, and smarter, better government. Quarterly reporting will keep us focused on demonstrating results continually.

**8.) Do you believe the new structure has the potential to spark economic growth and job creation in Northeast Ohio? If so, how might that happen?**

The new structure makes possible a streamlined effort to renew job and economic growth. Our entire plan is about the economy and jobs, and how to make growth enduring and resilient. The key to building consensus and momentum is how our "coalition of the willing" participants develop and implement specific projects that will drive measurable results in each of the 7 ways we will achieve our objectives.

For example, my team is working on how to:

- Implement a process by which to evaluate and select suppliers who most contribute to economic growth. If this process had existed with the construction of the new Innerbelt bridge, the largest bridge project in the US, it could have created hundreds of local jobs.

- Foster the growth of trained Virtual Workers. Instead of people leaving here for jobs, we can bring jobs here while the employees remain in their chosen locations.

- Build on a growing entrepreneurship infrastructure. We will accelerate county work with economic development organizations like BioEnterprise and JumpStart to insure that our county encourages and nurtures entrepreneurship and innovation. We will work together to create the incentives and provide tangible help to entrepreneurs. This is one of the best ways to create long-term jobs. In addition, it rekindles the entrepreneurial spirit we have mostly lost since the days of famous Cuyahoga County entrepreneurs.

- Develop re-engagement networks to raise the level of skills, making people in need of jobs more marketable to local employers. These networks will include universities and colleges, employers, and human resources firms, working together with us to develop programs that work to get people ready and hired into productive jobs.
- Work more closely with univer-

sities and colleges (e.x. NOCHE) to develop more flexible study and career pathways for children.

Putting the right people in place with the ability to recruit organizations and better manage those relationships to help with these types of projects will be an important focus early in my administration.

**9.) There has been much talk about "regionalization" as a mechanism to improve government efficiency—and hopefully, reduce the tax burden on the citizens of Cuyahoga County. Do you view the new government structure as a positive step toward achieving these goals?**

Absolutely. Regionalization is essential to streamlining crucial services, and reimagining and remaking county government to be more trustworthy, effective, and efficient.

For example, my team is working on how to partner with the private sector to use their best practices to look for regional savings in the areas of supplies, information technology, county physical assets like buildings and vehicles, insurances and benefits administration, fuel and energy, etc. As part of this effort, we will actively search out and implement processes that aggregate these types of purchases in collaboration with the State of Ohio and our municipalities, as well as other counties if they choose to participate with us.

**10.) In your analysis of Issue 6—the charter amendment that ushered in the sweeping changes in county government --what did you find to be its strong points? And what, if any, weaknesses did you detect?**

The new "Executive/County Council" structure has built-in checks and balances. This results in greater accountability and inclusiveness through the process of audit, monitoring, and transparency. The new structure provides for stronger leadership and faster, better response to the county's needs as a whole. Through clear, measurable objectives and open collaboration, my team will put fiscally pragmatic and prudent policies in place. As a CPA and elected steward of taxpayer monies, I will ensure our policies result in savings and the funding of high-return economic growth initiatives.

As far as "weaknesses," no change is without its obstacles, especially when the change is based on a new formula. What these "weaknesses" are will become apparent over time. We will work through them as they come up, reporting to the voters if necessary. One potential weakness may be out-of-date assumptions and constraints in the purchasing and contracting area. This may stand in the way of realizing the benefits of region-wide collaboration in purchasing and savings.

**continued on the next page**



County Elections

# Matt Dolan's Answers 11 Questions For The Observers

Questions developed by John Sheridan, courtesy of the Euclid Observer

Here, in response to questions posed by The Observer, Republican County Executive Candidate, Matt Dolan, shares some of his thoughts on the new county government and the challenges that lie ahead:

**1.) If elected to the position of County Executive, what three or four goals would top the list of things that you'd hope to accomplish during your term in office?**

- A) Restore the public faith in public servants by running the County with honesty and integrity;
- B) Replace our silo service delivery system of human services with a wraparound service system; making individuals one step away from dependence and one step closer to independence;
- C) Establish Cuyahoga Forward, a one-stop-shop for business development; and
- D) Implement job descriptions and requirements that match skill sets, thereby creating measurable standards to determine results.

**2.) What do you regard as the major challenges that must be met in order for the new system of county government to succeed?**

Changing the culture inside County government must happen for reform to take root. I will no longer accept the status quo. Instead, I will embrace big ideas, be bold and creative, take advantage of opportunities presented by collaboration and set high measurable standards for ourselves.

**3.) How do you define good government?**

A government meets the needs of citizens by delivering higher quality services to people who need it with little hassle and waste. With a strong leader who establishes a positive and effective relationship with the private sector, we all can enjoy economic growth.

**4.) Do you believe the new County Executive/Council structure can put an end to the corruption and patronage that have dominated news headlines for the past several years?**

Only strong leadership can change the culture of corruption and patronage that exists in the County. I will lead with honesty and integrity, demanding the same from County employees. On my first day as Executive, I will issue an executive order requiring ethics training. Under a Dolan Administration, if you breach the public trust, you will be gone.

**5.) Under the new charter, several top county officials who in the past were directly elected by the vot-**

**ers will now be appointees chosen and approved by the new Executive and County Council. Do you see that as a positive step?**

Yes, although the elected positions are gone, the statutory duties of those offices remain. The Charter establishes qualifications for each of the positions appointed to perform these duties. In addition, the new structure eliminates the duplicative administrative staffing as well as the political fiefdoms of the elected positions.

**6.) What approach would you take to working with the new County Council to keep lines of communication open in order to achieve consensus on major county wide objectives?**

I view the role of the Council as providing a check for the Executive and generating policy initiatives. In order for the County to be successful, the Council must think in broad, countywide terms and avoid becoming territorial. I intend to make it very clear that I expect this of the Council. If there are Council Members that do not share this perspective and act as roadblocks to the County's progress, I will not be shy about using my position to make it clear to voters they should not be re-elected.

**7.) When will Cuyahoga County voters know if the new government structure is working as envisioned—and how will they know?**

While changing a culture takes time, I will make it immediately appar-

ent to voters that I intend to hold the County to a higher standard. My first day in office, I will issue an executive order requiring ethics training and instituting a strict gift policy that will be enforced. County employees will be evaluated on their merits and those that perform well and embrace a spirit of innovation and creativity will be rewarded, while those that do not will be let go. With this culture shift, County operations will focus on delivering the highest quality services with less hassle and less waste.

**8.) Do you believe the new structure has the potential to spark economic growth and job creation in Northeast Ohio? If so, how might that happen?**

Yes, I will restore the public/private sector relationship, bringing back the intellectual and financial investment to our community. I will create Cuyahoga Forward, establishing a one-stop-shop for business development. As Executive, I will be the strong leader to maintain economic development as a priority.

**9.) There has been much talk about "regionalization" as a mechanism to improve government efficiency—and hopefully, reduce the tax burden on the citizens of Cuyahoga County. Do you view the new government structure as a positive step toward achieving these goals?**

Yes, it is a positive step because the transformation effort has sparked serious conversations about opportunities for collaboration. However, we must first restore faith in public service by operating with honesty and integrity, putting the County's house in order

and repairing the public/private relationship before we begin truly tackling regionalization.

**10.) In your analysis of Issue 6—the charter amendment that ushered in the sweeping changes in county government --what did you find to be its strong points? And what, if any, weaknesses did you detect?**

The creation of a strong Executive, with a Council to serve as a check, establishes a face for the County, making it clear where responsibility and accountability rests. The elimination of several elected officials and their offices, which I spoke to when responding to question #5, is another positive outcome to Issue 6. If it were up to me, I would have had the transition process happen after the new government was elected, so good suggestions could be implemented as soon as they were made, eliminating the uncertainty of what things will look like once the new government when into effect.

**11.) Do you see a need for further "tinkering" with the County Charter to improve prospects for a successful transition? If so, what changes would you hope to see incorporated?**

The Charter is meant to serve as the guideline for the operation of County government. As such, it is intentionally vague so that it may withstand the test of time, allowing the administration of government to be fluid and dynamic. If changes are necessary, they will become apparent fairly quickly as the new government begins to conduct business. The Charter anticipates possible changes by establishing the Charter Review Commission.

## Matt Dolan Bio

Matt's Dolan's bio was provided by his campaign, edited for space by the Collinwood Observer.

Matt Dolan was elected to three terms in the Ohio Legislature, serving the 98th District, which includes parts of Cuyahoga County and Geauga County. He served as Chairman of the Finance and Appropriations Committee during his second term, working with Republicans and Democrats to pass a nearly unanimous \$54 billion budget that lowered taxes and reduced the size of government.

Dolan was the key sponsor of the Great Lakes Compact, legislation to protect Lake Erie. Dolan was also the primary mover of other legislation, such as the Cuyahoga County Landbank and the Third Frontier Project.

He recently resigned from the House of Representatives so taxpayers would not pay his salary while he seeks the office of Cuyahoga County Executive.

Dolan is a graduate of Gilmour Academy, Boston College and Case

Western Reserve School of Law. He is a partner at the law firm of Thrasher, Dinsmore & Dolan and the Vice President of 7th Avenue Properties.

He is a former Chief Assistant Prosecutor for Geauga County and Assistant Attorney General for the State of Ohio. Furthermore, Dolan was an Adjunct Professor for Kent State University's Geauga Campus, teaching criminal justice.

Dolan serves on several boards, including the Cleveland Chapter of the American Red Cross, Kent State University's Geauga Campus and the YMCA Wellness Center. He is a member of the Cleveland City Club and the Cleveland Council on World Affairs.

Dolan is 45 years old and lives with his son, Sam, in Chagrin Falls.



Matt Dolan

### Victor Voinovich from previous page

**11.) Do you see a need for further "tinkering" with the County Charter to improve prospects for a successful transition? If so, what changes would you hope to see incorporated?**

Let's take one step at a time. My

focus is on first winning the nomination. Since the voters approved the current County Charter, we'll leave it in place. If parts of the Charter affect our ability to achieve our 3 objectives, we will address it with the Council and report to the citizens.



Minding The Issues

Once More Around LeBron

by Gordon Brumm

The passage of time can add perspective, so let's take one more turn around l'affaire LeBron.

It's not any one thing that has aroused all the outrage and the disdain. It's his decision to leave, his secret conniving, his strange and not-fully-explained breakdown in the playoffs, and the absurd promotional hour of decision, all together – the whole “constellation” as one commentator put it. All summed up in one simple truth:

**He thinks that he is bigger than the game itself.**

*What does this mean?*

Well, let's look at what LeBron has done – and what he hasn't.

Has he invented a product that will increase our welfare or comfort? No.

Has he been a great teacher? No.

Has he led us to great moral truths? No.

Has he led us, politically or socially, to some great achievement? No.

Ministerial Musings:

“I Can Only Imagine”

by John Tamlilio III

I have been MIA for a few issues recently, my deepest apologies. That said, I can safely say, “I'm back!” (I said that in my best faux Poltergeist voice.) Never mind...

Anyway, I recently watched the video “I Can Only Imagine” by the contemporary Christian rock group Mercy Me. The video brought me to tears.

Not to ruin it for you, but throughout the first verse and chorus there is a diversity of people holding empty frames: young and old, black and white, male and female. Once the second verse hits, the frames are filled with photographs.

If you follow the lyrics, the implication is that each person is holding a photo of a loved one who is deceased and that they will see that person when they get to Heaven themselves:

I can only imagine  
What it will be like  
When I walk by your side  
I can only imagine  
What my eyes will see  
When your face is before me  
I can only imagine

Take a moment and check out that video for yourself online at Youtube.

Is that what it is going to be like? Scripture says that in heaven God “will wipe every tear from [our] eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more” (Rev. 21:4).

Is that what you think? Is that what you imagine? Will we be reunited with loved ones? Will we walk streets of gold or will we sit on clouds playing golden harps? Will we drift aimlessly as mere energy that is assimilated into the cosmos?

Well, then, if he doesn't have any of those abilities, what does he have? He has the ability to shoot a basketball into the basket from almost any place on the floor, plus excellent reflexes plus superior strength to go with the reflexes and enable him to drive to the basket.

Comparable skills are required for other games, for example, volleyball or lacrosse. What differentiates NBA basketball from volleyball or lacrosse? What do you need to form an organization such as the NBA?

First you need a city – actually, a group of cities – to provide a focus and the basis for everything else.

Then you need fans, a sufficient number of fans emotionally committed to each team.

And then you need owners, who will invest what is necessary to keep each city's team a going concern.

And finally, you need players.

All these things add up to “the

game” – a cooperative arrangement in which each participant gives and gets in return.

Without the game, LeBron would be nothing. He would be no more celebrated, and no wealthier, than the world's greatest volleyball or lacrosse player. (Can you name even one great volleyball player or lacrosse player?)

And since, like every other participant, LeBron depends entirely on the game as a whole, it would seem that he owes something in return. Like every other player, he should play to the best of his ability, taking pride in his accomplishments – he owes that to the fans and to the game in general.

But LeBron has turned the proper relationship on its head. He has manipulated the game and the market it provides in order to serve his own narcissistic glorification – in order to “light up Broadway.”

In short, he is arrogant and ungrateful. He is also a bad role model. In this time when inner-city kids are so badly disserved by a sub-culture that lauds the fame and fortune of professional athletes, LeBron seems to have absorbed that sub-culture, providing a bright diabolic image of the all-supreme athlete.

Beyond that, I believe, LeBron's treachery will have a more distant but more profound effect. It will tend

to increase the gap of resentment and anger in our society between the lucky few who have much and the not-so lucky many who have little. As long as those who possess wealth and power are seen to be working for the good of all, the resentment and anger toward them is diminished or extinguished – after all, it would be foolish to resent one's benefactors. But when those at the top are seen to be working only for their own self-aggrandizement, the anger and resentment bubble and fester and corrode the sense of community that any nation, especially a democracy, must have.

Consider a parallel to wider concerns – to the case of the Wall Street bankers of recent infamy. Like LeBron, they created nothing, yet they believed themselves to be entitled to whatever they could wring from the market, even if it threatened, and finally brought about, great harm to society as a whole.

Indeed, if we looked closely at other industries, I suspect we could find numerous examples of powerful and wealthy figures whose contributions to society are questionable but who claim an absolute entitlement to whatever they can wring from the marketplace, and woe to anyone who tries to take it away from them.

No, I am not blaming LeBron for the social malaise that affects our nation – he is infinitely less important than that. But there is an interesting similarity, don't you think?



The French existentialist Jean Paul Sartre once quipped that Heaven is always described by people who have never been there. That's true. I never met anyone who has been there.

That said, we can still have hope. When our hope is in Jesus, it does not fail. Paul said that “hope does not disappoint us” (Romans 5:5).

Hope is ultimately what unites us as a Christian community. Hope points to the horizon — to a vision that we share. Although we probably hold different visions of Heaven, the common hope we share looks to a place where there is no war, disease, or hunger; a habitat void of pain, loss, and grief.

That may mean that we are united with our loved ones. It may mean something completely different. We can only imagine, but we can also trust.

One of the criminals crucified with Christ said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” Jesus responded, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise” (Matthew 23:42-43).

Jesus makes the same promise to us. Hold on to hope, my friends. Keep imagining what it will be like.

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## Perspective

# Warning: Contents May Be Offensive

by Bret Callentine

I don't think the law allows me to put into print all of the things I've been called in my lifetime. Dumbass, smartass, idiot, moron, racist, bigot, zealot, Nazi, communist, radical, and even xenophobe (yeah, I had to look that last one up too) are just the tip of the iceberg. When I was in grade school, the name-calling hurt. Sticks and stones may break my bones, but playground rhymes did not adequately defend me from the hurtful comments of others. As I got older, the only thing that changed was the nature of the insults, not their frequency or intent.

Then a strange thing happened in high school: I started to get some self-respect. I don't think I changed who I was, and I know it didn't really change how I was treated, but the overall effect was nothing short of miraculous. I found out that the world was a much different place when you looked people in the eye. Despite how ferocious the words coming out of their mouths, a bully looks

much less impressive when you can see the uncertainty in their face. And insults have little effect when you see them for what they are: a weak attempt to belittle and diminish in the vain hope of gaining even a false sense of superiority.

I've been called a wimp by people half my size, and I've been accused of being stupid by people who couldn't spell G.E.D. But the only thing I took from each incident was the understanding that the fastest way to prove your own inferiority is to use insult instead of intellect. When you use name-calling instead of a logical argument, the only thing you diminish is yourself. And the more often you go to that well, the more shallow and worthless it becomes.

I don't get offended anymore by the names people use to describe me, because I know they're not true. But something that does really offend me is the num-

ber of politicians and public figures who still cling to such tactics. It's time that we stop giving attention to anyone without the aptitude to have a discussion without essentially using statements like, "Oh yeah, well your mom wears combat boots." You can change the rhetoric by using bigger words, but it still doesn't add to the argument.

Terms like "racist" and "bigot" are thrown around so often that they really have no meaning. Who is the last President of the United States who WASN'T compared to Adolf Hitler in some form of protest or another? Anymore, if you're not referred to as a "radical" then you're probably not strong enough in your own convictions. The point is, critics don't attack the irrelevant. And, while we oftentimes struggle with our own self-worth, ironically, our opponents will tell us exactly where we

stand by how they try to defeat us. Usually it's when they can't attack your standpoint, that they start attacking you personally. And I have a hard time being offended by that.

But what also offends me is when people walk around with feigned indignation every time they're attacked, when they themselves have used similar tactics in the past. If you use derogatory terms to define others, you lose all credibility trying to cry foul when they're used against you. How pathetic is it when some of the same people who called George Bush a fascist took such strong offense at billboards comparing Obama to Hitler? You can't attack someone with a knife then claim to be a victim when they, in turn, draw a gun.

This country must both stop drawing little mustaches on people, and screaming bloody murder when it happens. There are far too many difficult discussions to be had to get mired down in the kind of incivility that plagues seemingly every public discourse.

If you want to question my politics, my policies or my preferences, be my guest. But you better be prepared with facts, figures, examples, and references because if you simply call me names, all you'll do is strengthen my resolve. And don't for one second think that you can change my mind by trying to feign indignation and plead for pity. It's been said that two things define almost everyone who's gone on to greatness: that they were all once ridiculed, and that in the end, they didn't care.

## The Buck Stops Here

### That Which Is Permitted To Be Said - That Which Is Not

by Bob Buckeye

Who speaks and what is said? We learn early. Grade school classes are noisier than college classes because students learn that obedience is rewarded; that if you speak only when you're supposed to speak, say only what you are expected to say, remain silent when you need to be silenced, you move ahead in school. Don't call attention to yourself, my father always said. Bad things happen if you do.

We check ourselves. Say to family, friends, lovers, bosses, officials of one kind or another what they want to hear until those moments we can no longer check ourselves. Go \*@#! yourself Vice-President Cheney tells Senator Leahy and afterwards says, it felt good, so good. But most of us are not Vice-Presidents and pay a price, sometimes heavy, for not checking ourselves.

Governments check themselves. There are things the people should know and things they should not. They speak of transparency, but there is transparency and transparency. Until those shocks of discovery -- the work of a reporter, a personal experience -- makes it impossible for governments to check themselves, although the fallout may be just another way of their checking themselves. There are times everyone knows what cannot be said and it can no longer be denied. Communism fell in 1989 when the Berlin Wall came down, and it fell, in part, because all of a sudden the lie it was could no longer be silenced.

Newspaper check themselves. They say they bring the news to the people, but there are not only stories readers don't want to read, there are also stories the news doesn't want to tell. Freedom of the press, yes, but. There are things we don't want to know. Freedom of the press, yes. But if advertisers don't like the stories news-

papers tell, if governments don't like its stories, newspapers can no longer publish. There is no money to publish. No one reads what they print.

In a free country, we are free to speak for ourselves, but we know that there are those who speak for us. The elected official speaks for his constituents, the boss for his workers, the teacher for his students, lawyers for justice, parents for children, man for woman. Newspapers tell our stories. The tv newscaster. The talk-show host. The novelist.

The long line of the spoken-for is often restless, frustrated, resentful, downright angry, and at times it may strike back. Workers slow down, walk out; students complain, protest; wives leave; children drop-out; elected officials voted out.

The spoken-for may make efforts to redress the imbalance. In France in 1830 workers published their own newspapers and magazines. For far too long those in authority (journalists, scholars, government) told people what workers thought. But only workers, these worker-writers felt, could truly speak about workers' lives. During the sixties in America, some radical filmmakers formed the Newsreel collective to counteract what they considered to be the incomplete, if not false, news the News of the World presented in theaters before movies began.

The "You Lie!" yelled out in Congress this past winter was the despairing, if not impotent, cry of the man who knows those who speak for him don't speak for him. We live in a civil society, but there are moments it seems -- that which is permitted to be said, that which is not -- civility prevents things to be said. Is there no one listening? But if we do not have civility, what do we have? If we step over the line, we may not be able to step back.

Only power (see Cheney) can step over the line with impunity. Power is powerful until it loses power.

We believe what we believe and say what we say. The old gestures are the only gestures we know. What if they no longer have the same meaning? That which is permitted to be said may not permit us to say that which needs to be said.

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# Home, Garden And Hobby

## Lakewood Biennial House Tour Coming In September

by Mel Page

The Lakewood Historical Society has been serving our community since 1952 when a few determined residents recognized that Lakewood needed an organization for the purpose of collecting, preserving and interpreting the history of Lakewood, Ohio. Now about 500 members strong, among the Society's accomplishments are: maintaining the Oldest Stone House Museum and Nicholson House; a photographic collection of over 14,000 images; award winning school programs; special events and public programs; and historical research.

One of the Society's favorite and fun ways of sharing the city's historical significance is by bringing us the biennial "Come Home To Lakewood" House Tour. The 10th Biennial House Tour will be Sunday, September 12, 1 to 6 p.m. Only the Society could accomplish showcasing such a variety of architectural beauties throughout the city of Lakewood in one Sunday afternoon. This year's tour features six historically or architecturally significant homes. These timeless treasures

are selectively chosen to not only showcase the houses' significant features typical to Lakewood's older housing, but the striking personal touches that make a picture-perfect home. The House Tour is an enjoyable way to spend a Sunday afternoon with a companion or a few of your friends. There is something for everyone to enjoy. Be ready for everything from countless architectural details and craftsmanship that we all love, to fine decorating and creative garden ideas that just may inspire you for your own home.

Also, the tour always includes a stop at the restored Nicholson House on Detroit Ave. Built in 1839, it is the oldest surviving structure in the city and is maintained by the Lakewood Historical Society. On display will be the special movie on Lakewood's earliest settlers that was a project of the second and third grade Discovery Class at Grant Elementary School.

Tour Tickets are \$15 each in advance. Tickets can be purchased at local retail outlets: Beck Center for the Arts, Local Girl Gallery, Rozi's Wine House, First Federal of Lakewood, Geiger's Clothing

& Sports, and the Oldest Stone House Museum; or in Rocky River at Geiger's Store for Women and V Regalo/The Desk Set. You may also visit [www.lakewoodhistory.org](http://www.lakewoodhistory.org) or call 216-221-7343 for online and post mail purchases or for more information about the tour. You

may also stop by the Lakewood Historical Society booth at the Lakewood Arts Festival on Saturday, August 7, where tickets will be on sale. A limited number of tickets may be available the day of the tour for \$20 each at the Nicholson House, 13335 Detroit Ave.



photo by Rhonda Loje

The Patron party on Saturday, September 11th from 6 to 9 pm. This year we invite you to tour and party in an absolutely fabulous Edgewater lakefront home. Entertainment throughout the evening will include music, a silent auction, food stations serving an assortment of fabulous hors d'oeuvres, and an open bar serving beer, wine and soft drinks. The raffle ticket for the year long "Instant Wine Cellar" will be drawn. Tickets for this wonderful evening are \$100 for Golden Sponsorship or \$75 for Regular Attendee and both include your ticket for the Sunday Home Tour that is valued at \$15. To order House Tour Tickets and Patron Party tickets you can order on our website: <http://lakewood-museumstore.com> for tickets or call 221-7343 for more information.

## Salvage History!

by Paula Reed

The Lakewood Historical Society will hold an architectural salvage sale on July 31 from 9 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Skate House, the building behind the Oldest Stone House (14710 Lake Avenue). Here you'll have a chance to find that one-of-a-kind item that's just what you need to complete your old house restoration project. Thanks to the City, Historical Society volunteers have been able to salvage architectural items/building materials from city-owned properties and offer them for sale, with all proceeds benefitting the properties and programs of the Lakewood Historical Society.

Items recovered from several recently-demolished Lakewood buildings include leaded full-size doors, closet doors, cabinet doors and drawers, windows, doors with panels, heat register covers, interior stair handrails,



Rick Sicha watches as Marcia Moll carefully moves a cabinet door.

a Victorian fireplace mantel, a decorative (and heavy!) fireplace insert, door casing corner blocks, fireplace tiles, door, window, and cabinet hardware in many styles, and 50's vintage bathroom

sinks. The sale also includes light fixtures, lamps, chandeliers and globes, old and new.

There are several unique items from the Lakewood Day Nursery, including an antique child-size workbench, vintage children's desk chairs, coat hooks, and fire alarm bells. Included in the sale are other home-related accessories donated to the Historical Society and a collection of Old House Journals from 2000 to 2007. Bring measurements and samples for matching.

The items above comprise only a partial listing of what will be available. Come and browse--you may find a piece of history you can't live without!

For more information call 216-221-7343 or email [lakewoodhistory@bge.net](mailto:lakewoodhistory@bge.net).

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# Home, Garden And Hobby

## Capturing Lakewood And The Emerald Canyon

# Through Photography *(You, too, can post your photos for all to enjoy!)*

by Gary Rice

Not too many years ago, it was considered by some that when it came to "the arts," you either had natural talent or you did not. Professional illustrators, artists, musicians, and photographers often closely guarded the secrets of their trades, and so there developed a mystique regarding the arts that persists to this day.

In some ways, I suppose, that was not any different than when the medieval guilds protected their various trade secrets. After all, if anyone could do their job, then they would shortly be out of work.

Then, along came the internet. Nowadays, you can type "how to do" virtually anything into your search engine, and genie-like a magic answer will appear before you on your computer screen. Even though many of us, now armed with such do-it-yourself knowledge, then bravely traipse off to our local home repair store to attempt all sorts of things we might not have considered doing a generation ago, there still remains the mystery of the arts.

You must either have that natural talent to (fill in your own blank here--play piano, guitar, draw airplanes, shoot pictures, etc...) or you don't, right?

Well, no. True, some people do seem to pick things up more "naturally" than others. At the same time, with all the knowledge and opportunities that are out there, it is certainly possible to learn the arts in the same way you can learn how to fix that crack in your plaster wall.

I've written a column before on these pages about how to become a better photographer (vol.5, issue 4, "How You Can Shoot Better Pictures-Develop Your Inner Photojournalist!") that you can still view online from this paper's archives. With the advent of the cell phone and digital camera, it seems that just about everyone is carrying a camera these days (and unfortunately, so many people are continuing to shoot incredibly bad pictures!).

So, is there really such a thing as a good and bad picture in the wild and subjective world of "Art"? I think so. Those bad photos can be fuzzy, grainy, out-of-focus, composed poorly, filled with unnecessary details...the list goes on and on. What I hope to do here is point out a few pitfalls to avoid in the world of photography. Again, for even more details, please feel free to check out my older column.

First, to review a few common sense points. There's something in composition called the "rule of thirds," where



photo by Gary Rice

*Petrified stork, or tree branch? Photos reveal many things...sometimes.*

your picture is divided, tic-tac-toe like, into horizontal and vertical "thirds." Where the four lines intersect are called composition points, and there, not the center of the photo, is where you are supposed to put your subject(s). You also would do well to shoot horizontal subjects horizontally, and vertical subjects vertically. Watch your lighting and shadows. Don't shoot with a flash into mirrors or windows due to reflections, and don't shoot what you're not supposed to be shooting. By that I mean restricted areas, copyrighted images, or images of questionable legality, like inappropriate images of children.

What about camera quality in this new world of digital photography? Well, the same rule seems to apply as in the old days: the better the lens, the better the picture. A camera is only as good as its lens. Cheaper cameras often, at least to me, seem to have pictures that are slightly fuzzier, or are more off-color, than the more expensive professional model cameras.

How important are the amount of megapixels available? To me, that seems to be an overblown feature. For several years, I shot for this paper using only a 3 megapixel camera (that had a very fine quality brand name and an excellent lens attached). In fact, if you use a relatively inexpensive ink jet printer, the ink process often softens out any digital "squaring off" of a

high-resolution high megapixel camera's image, and that can make a photo really look "natural."

How easy is it to use the new digital cameras, and should you switch from your old film model? Well, digital cameras are very easy to learn how to use. Most will plug right into your computer for downloading or file-sharing. Many digital cameras can also offer the ability to shoot black and white, or in sepia tone, or even switch to a "movie shooting" mode. With improved storage available with the new memory cards, your digital camera may be able to shoot and store hundreds of images. Battery life has also improved. Do the the cell phone cameras shoot as good a picture as a camera does? Some might, but after checking out several cell phones, I still prefer the big cameras (although I am glad my cell phone does have camera capability). Having written all of this, I also continue to use and enjoy film cameras, and I've

seen many professional models of these become available on the used market for a song as more and more people move into the digital arena.

Should you get an SLR (through-the-lens viewing) or a pocket model camera? I use both. The SLR allows you to switch to specialty lenses, but it is big and expensive, and with most models that I know of the mirror blocks off your view at the very moment of exposure. Usually, too, you must use a relatively small "through-the-lens" viewfinder, rather than a TV screen, as the pocket models use. Of course, that screen can also be hard to view when you are in bright light. The pocket models are easy to carry, and let's face it, if you don't have a camera with you, it will not be used! Automatic vibration-reduction is also a good feature to seek out in a digital camera, as "camera shake" causes many poor images.

We have so many terrific photographers here in Lakewood, with so many new faces emerging all the time. Check out some of the great images from in and around Lakewood that have been posted on our community's "Observation Deck" on this paper's website. Don't forget that you, too, can start your own 'Deck photoblog or submit your photos here for publication.

As I've also mentioned in the other column, the wonderful Lakewood Photographic Society meets most Tuesday evenings at 7:30 p.m. from mid-September to mid-May at Lakewood Senior Center West. (Call the center about their fall schedule.)

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