

Free – Take One!
Please Patronize Our Advertisers!



"When you rise in the morning, give thanks for the light, for your life, for your strength. Give thanks for your food and for the joy of living. If you see no reason to give thanks, the fault lies in yourself." - Tecumseh

THE LAKEWOOD OBSERVER

Proud Member Of The Observer Media Family Of Community Written And Owned Newspapers & Websites

Volume 9, Issue 24, November 27, 2013

What's New At Light Up Lakewood Dec.7

by Ken Brand

LakewoodAlive and the Light Up Lakewood Committee have added several fantastic additions to make your experience with family and friends all the better. The day will start at Eddie Cerino's Casual Italian (14725 Detroit Avenue) with Breakfast with Santa. There will be three seatings, 9:00am, 9:45am and 10:30am. Tickets for Breakfast with Santa are pre-sale only and can be purchased online at www.LightUpLakewood.com or at Paisley Monkey (14471 Detroit Avenue).

Brunch with Buddy will be at Jammy Buggars (15625 Detroit Avenue) from 10:30am-12:00pm. Regular menu and specials will

be available during this open seating Brunch.

Lunch with Santa will take place at Dewey's Pizza (18516 Detroit Avenue) from 11:00am – 1:00pm. They will offer their regular menu with a few special holiday items to celebrate the season. For all

three, we ask for you to bring your cameras to take a picture with Santa or Buddy.

This year, start your holiday experience with a Make It & Take it Holiday Craft being hosted at Crafty Goodness and Goddess Blessed (15729 Madison Avenue) from 1:00 –

5:00pm. Choose from several different ornament & gift crafts, and the cost will be only \$5 each! This fun event is open to all ages from children to adults.

Love to dance? We have added Get Hep Swing Dancing to close out your Light Up Lakewood experience. There will be swing dancing from 8:00 pm – midnight at the Lakewood Masonic Temple (15300 Detroit Avenue). Don't forget your dancing shoes!

This year, the fireworks show, brought to you by The University of Akron Lakewood, provides the finale to the street festival at 8pm. They will be launched from the same location as past years – atop the parking garage behind Lakewood Center North. Plan now to find the best spot to watch them!

For more information on these events or anything Light Up Lakewood visit www.LightUpLakewood.com

photo by Craig Lovjoy, Low Level Aerial Photography



Record crowds in 2012, the event growing under Ken Brand's watch.

Uptown Lakewood Kicks Off "Light Up Lakewood" Holiday Season With Candy Cane Lane Open House

by Robby Zettler

The Uptown Lakewood Business Alliance will host

Candy Cane Lane.

"We were thrilled when The Light Up Lakewood Com-

mittee asked us to be their opening event the Friday night before their big bash on Saturday," said Rachel Anzalone, co-founder and organizer of The Uptown Lakewood group. "Collectively, we want to turn this into a weekend-dlong holiday event in Lakewood." Candy Cane Lane takes place Friday, December 6, 2013 from 5 to 8 pm at select businesses located between Warren and Hilliard. If you can't visit during that time slot, many of the participating retailers have something special going on all day. In conjunction with the Open House the group is conducting a drive for personal goods to be donated to Lakewood Community Services Center.

The event is an exciting opportunity to have fun, connect with neighbors & local business owners, to support the local economy and to provide much needed support to a local food bank. "However, we aren't collecting food," said Robby Zettler, co-founder and organizer of Uptown Lakewood Business Alliance. "Instead, we are accepting donations of much needed and often overlooked

Christmas Sale On The Grounds--A New Wrinkle

by Paula Reed

Because we've had so many requests for it, and because we have SO much great merchandise, for the first time, Christmas Sale on the Grounds will have a Friday preview sale from 4:00 – 7:00 p.m. on December 6. Admission will be \$10 at the door for the opportunity to shop before the public sale and enjoy steaming

wassail and delectable holiday cookies as you browse.

Attending this event has become a must-do for many people, but if you've never been, it's held at the historic Nicholson House, 13335 Detroit, and the halls will be decked. There's parking at St. Ed's across the street. The public sale is Saturday, December 7, 10:00 a.m.

continued on page 4

Holiday Lights Contest!

by Julie Derrick

The Lakewood Council of PTAs is excited to host a Holiday Lights Contest for the residents and businesses of Lakewood! Participants are invited to decorate their front yards, porches, store fronts and any other space visible from the street! The style and theme of the decorating is yours to choose. We want to see YOUR best display!

Entries will be judged by Mayor Summers, Cindy Einhouse, President and CEO of the Beck Center and Mike Gorman of GV Art + Design.

Prizes will be awarded to the winners in each category! Entries must be received by December 15th and judging is expected to take place between December 16th and December 19th. To enter, please mail your entry fee along with the entry form to Holiday Lights Contest, 2135 Olive Ave., Lakewood, OH 44107. Please email HolidayLightsContest@gmail.com for more information or with questions! We look forward to Lakewood sparkling with holiday lights this December!

Entry Form On Page 19

continued on page 14

District To Hold Common Core Meeting Dec. 4

by Christine Gordillo

As Lakewood City Schools moves forward with the implementation of the Common Core State Standards, the district feels it is important to outline what this means to families, students and staff. Lakewood has already implemented the Common Core in daily instruction and the district's Teaching & Learning Department would like to share how the implementation

is going and how learning in the classroom is changing due to the new, more rigorous standards.

There will be an informational meeting regarding the Common Core presented by Roxann Ramsey-Casario, Director of Teaching and Learning K-12, on Wednesday, Dec. 4, at 6:30 p.m. in the Garfield Middle School Cafeteria. Come and find out what the Common Core is all about.

Museum Celebrates The Season

by Lucy McClung

The Museum of Divine Statues is offering guests the opportunity to visit on Sunday, December 8, for half price admission, \$4, to honor the Feast of the Immaculate Conception and to celebrate the Christmas season. The museum hours are noon till 4 p.m. with the reciting of the rosary, led by Father Ron Wearsch, at 3:00 p.m. The museum is located at 12905 Madison Avenue in Lakewood,



Ohio. For additional information, call (216) 228-9950. The museum is open each Sunday continued on page 15

Partnership Seeks to Rehabilitate Two Unique Lakewood Homes

by Ian Andrews

The City of Lakewood, The Detroit Shoreway Community Development Organization (DSCDO), and LakewoodAlive have partnered to find owner-occupants and developers to rehabilitate two currently vacant boarding houses (1446 Mars Avenue; 1436 Grace Avenue) in an effort to further strengthen

our community's historic neighborhoods.

Tour both historic properties at an Open House on Sunday, December 8 from 12-6pm. Representatives from partner organizations will be on-hand to discuss financing options and design potential.

In 2012 the City of

continued on page 14

Westshore Council

Report: Westshore Council of Governments (WCOG) meeting, Nov. 13, 2013

by LWV observers Conda Boyd and Susan Murnane (Bay Village chapter) and Mary Warren (Lakewood)

Present: Mayors Bobst (Rocky River), Clough (Westlake), Kennedy (North Olmsted), Patton (Fairview Park), Summers (Lakewood)

Absent: Mayor Sutherland (Bay Village)

Also in attendance: Dave Greenspan, District 1 Representative, Cuyahoga County Council; Steve Presley

Meeting called to order 9:34; Mayor Kennedy left at 10:38; meeting adjourned 11:10

Guest: William Denihan, CEO, Alcohol, Drug Addiction, & Mental Health Services (ADAMHS) Board of Cuyahoga County

Mr. Denihan gave a brief history of mental health services. The Community Mental Health Act of 1963 provided federal funding for mental health centers. With a philosophy of placing people in the “least restrictive environment,” it led to deinstitutionalization of large numbers of people with mental health problems; unfortunately, “the money never followed the people.” Medicaid covers only seven of 25 essential services for this population, and in general only for 90 days. Mayor Summers noted that on day 91, some people end up on the street.

Because county-wide property values have declined, the November 2013 mental health levy only restores funding to 2011 levels. ADAMHS (Alcohol, Drug Addiction, & Mental Health Services) distributes funds to the agencies that provide the services. For example, the county psychiatric center is St. Vincent Charity Medical Center. A 24x7 crisis hotline operates at 216-623-6888. Emerald Development and

Economic Network (EDEN) operates group homes in the county. (A recent court case established that information on group homes cannot be released to cities. The mayors expressed concern about this: individual privacy must be protected, but the individuals who live in group homes may benefit from fire and police officers knowing where the homes are located.)

Medicaid expansion would cover “transitional youth” -- 18-26-year-olds -- but only if they live at home. Other important populations in need include widows and widowers who lose benefits when their spouses die, new parolees who may lose benefits after 90 days, and adults who are too young for Adult Protective Services (which helps those over 60 years old). The mayors cited this under-60 group as a growing concern, along with hoarders.

Regarding ex-prisoners, Denihan stated that the recidivism rate for those with untreated mental health issues is 60%, vs. 5% for those who receive treatment. The annual cost to keep someone in prison is \$36,000; annual treatment in the community averages \$3,500.

The mayors were unanimous in noting city senior centers and licensed social workers as vital resources, along with support from friends, neighbors, and churches. It is not realistic to expect the mentally ill to navigate a complex system alone. Eligibility requirements, the legal system, even obtaining transportation to seek help are barriers. More case managers are needed. Ideally, social workers should visit clients in their homes to identify issues such as cut-off utilities, lack of food and medication, and hoarding, but this does not happen because state

continued on page 17

Ensuring Northeast Ohio Manufacturers Can Out-Innovate The Rest Of The World

by U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown

In Cuyahoga County, we know that manufacturing is a ticket to the middle class. For example, Arcelor Mittal, which I’ve been proud to work with and which President Obama just visited, is the most productive integrated steel plant in the world.

But for too long, Washington has made choices that leave domestic manufacturing behind—whether bad trade deals, not enforcing trade laws, unfair taxes, or not investing in innovation and technology.

As a result, our nation has suffered more than 60,000 plant closures since 2000, and lost more than five million manufacturing jobs. This affects our entire economy because manufacturing has a larger multiplier effect than any other industry. For every \$1.00 spent in manufacturing, another \$1.48 is added to the economy.

That’s why I introduced the Revitalize American Manufacturing and Innovation Act of 2013, which would create a Network for Manufacturing Innovation. This would position the

U.S. as the world’s leader in advanced manufacturing by establishing a public-private partnership giving small businesses, industry leaders, and research institutions the tools they need to compete on a global scale. These regional, industry-led hubs will leverage local expertise and hopefully create thousands of high-paying, high-tech manufacturing jobs for next-generation workers.

The first-ever manufacturing network—Youngstown’s National Additive Manufacturing Innovation Institute (NAMII)—is becoming a national model for tying manufacturing supply chains with product development. Supported by \$30 million of federal funding and \$40 million of private funds, NAMII is making Youngstown a world leader in 3-D printing manufacturing technology.

Our workers have the drive, creative thinking, and determination to out-innovate the rest of the world. And our legislation will give them the tools to do so and carry the rest of our nation into the next generation of manufacturing.



Today, top-ranked care is right here on the West Side.

Today, our three Cleveland Clinic community hospitals on the West Side are ready to provide you with same-day appointments for world class care. Together, Fairview Hospital, Lakewood Hospital and Lutheran Hospital have been ranked best in the region by U.S. News & World Report for these specialties:

- | | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------|
| Cardiology & Heart Surgery | Gastroenterology & GI Surgery | Orthopedics |
| Cancer | Neurology & Neurosurgery | Pulmonology |
| Diabetes & Endocrinology | Geriatrics | Urology |
| | Nephrology | |



Every life deserves world class care.

Call 866.733.6363.
Same-day appointments available.
clevelandclinic.org/hospitals

© U.S. News & World Report 2013-14 LP All rights reserved.

City News

2014 Budget Season Begins

Council President Brian Powers called the November 18, 2013 Council meeting to order at 7:32 P.M. The first order of business was a report to be provided from the Committee of the Whole.

Councilman Powers (At-Large) read the report from the Committee of the Whole which covered two topics, the budget hearings schedule and an open appointment to the Board of Building Standards and Architectural Board of Review. The Committee settled on the dates of November 25 and December 7 and 9 as budget hearing days while leaving December 14 and 16 open as alternate days. In regards to the ABR appointment, they decided to all take time to review the applicants before discussing it further.

by Christopher Bindel

Next Councilman Powers also delivered a report from the Ad-Hoc Committee on Boards and Commissions. After what Powers believed would be their last meeting, the Committee approved of the ordinance for the Animal Safety and Welfare Advisory Board with the exception of adding the name of the board in the chapter title. Council approved of the minor change and passed the substitute ordinance.

Councilwoman Monique Smith (At-Large) then asked Council to pass an ordinance bringing Lakewood's Codified Ordinances in line with the

administrations policy of granting benefits coverage to same sex partners and their families of city employees. This would make this change permanent, and only changeable by an act of Council. Currently, as an administrative policy, it could be removed by any future administration.

Council placed the ordinance on first reading and referred it to the Finance Committee for consideration.

Mayor Summers and Finance Director Jennifer Pae then introduced the 2014 Budget to Council. The Budget includes 18 ordinances that Council has to consider over the next several

weeks, which will be discussed at the meetings scheduled by the Committee of the Whole. The Mayor says that the budget is structurally balanced and takes loss of income due to property tax re-evaluation into consideration. They have fixed the city's staff at current levels and have developed a strategic plan for the next year.

Council referred all the ordinances to the Finance Committee for discussion.

Law Director Kevin Butler then asked Council to consider a resolution which would approve the lease of submerged land along the coast of Lake Erie. The lease is being sought by the owner of 17848 Lake Road for the purposes of building a revetment for erosion control and to rebuild a staircase. The plans have already been approved by the city engineer.

Council referred the resolution to the Rules and Ordinances Committee for consideration.

Law director Butler then asked Council to consider an ordinance that would bring Lakewood's codes related to dog assistance in line with that of the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Ohio Revised Code, both of which have gone through some recent changes.

Council referred the ordinance to the Rules and Ordinances Committee for consideration.

With no further items on the agenda and no members from the public signed up to speak the meeting was adjourned at 8:04 P.M.

LakewoodAlive Presents: Madison On The Move

by Ian Andrews

LakewoodAlive will host a community forum, "Madison on the Move" on Wednesday, December 4 at 7pm at Harrison Elementary School, 2080 Quail Avenue.

Madison Avenue has quietly attracted investors in recent years, in addition to realizing expansion of existing businesses. The community is taking a greater interest in Madison Avenue and the potential that exists to enhance this unique and eclectic commercial corridor.

The forum will feature a presentation from Dru Siley, Director of Planning and Development, City of Lakewood. His presentation will highlight investments taking place, future

infrastructure improvements, a growing merchant association movement, and programs that are available to further strengthen the corridor.

Following the presentation there will be a panel discussion featuring Madison Avenue stakeholders Robert Wright, Buckeye Beer Engine; Rachel Anzelone, Holistic Lakewood; Judy Grzybowski, Lakewood Public Library-Madison Branch; Colin McEwen, Mahall's 20 Lanes; Dave Krebs, AODK, Inc.; and Maria Shinn, attorney. The panel discussion will be open to audience participation and will focus on the future of Madison Avenue and how the corridor can not only grow but also benefit the surrounding neighborhoods.

The forum is free and open to the public. No advance registration is required.

Sale On The Grounds

continued from page 1

– 3:00 p.m. and Sunday, December 8, noon – 3:00 p.m. Sunday is half-price day, except for the antiques room. You might even want to come each day of the sale, as there will be so much to look at it will be hard to take it all in at one time. You'll see new treasures each time. And there's plenty of opportunity to shop the sale and still experience the magic of Light Up Lakewood.

You'll find unique gifts—antiques and collectibles, including vintage toys, games and books. Surprise someone with a present that recalls their childhood. There are also decorations, gift wrap and cards; candles; ornaments; nativity sets; linens, china, silver, tableware—everything you need for holiday entertaining. Of course there's the obligatory dancing Santa; and a really cool 50s star in its original box. Start your holiday shopping here. You're guaranteed find beautiful items at incredible prices. Having this sale is the historical society's gift to the community.

Come experience the sights, scents and tastes of the season, grab some fabulous bargains, and support the programs and properties of the Lakewood Historical Society. You'll be glad you did!

Start off 2014 right

at the University of Akron

The University of Akron Lakewood offers undergraduate and graduate degree programs for busy students of all ages at convenient times

Register Now!
New courses and programs added weekly, so visit lakewood.uakron.edu for a complete listing.

Call 216-221-1141 to schedule an appointment

The University of Akron
Lakewood

14725 Detroit Ave.
Lakewood, OH 44107

UA Lakewood is located on the first floor of the historic Bailey Building in the heart of downtown Lakewood.

Georgetown

Book Your Holiday Parties With Us!

Holiday Gift Certificates are available!

Superb Food • Spectacular Ambiance
Open for Dinner at 5pm Mon.- Sat.

HAPPY HOUR M-F 5-7PM
All night on Thursdays
Mondays - Half off bottles of wine (Maximum discount \$25)

Best Happy Hour - Voted Five Out of Five Olives!

18515 Detroit Avenue • Lakewood, OH
216.221.3500 • georgetownrestaurant.net

AROUND THE CORNER

Book your fundraisers and special events With Us!

Best Brunch In Town!
Saturdays at 11am & Sunday 9:30am -
Mondays - Buy One, Get One - Black Angus Burgers
Wednesdays - Try our \$5 Menu!

18616 Detroit Avenue
216.521.4413 • www.atccafe.com

ATC CAFE
DRINKERY
FUNNERY

Lakewood Public Library

compiled by Leana Donofrio-Milovan

Thursday, November 28

Holiday – Thanksgiving

Thursday, November 28, Closed All Day

Tuesday, December 5

Friends Holiday Books Sale Preview

Thursday, December 5 from 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

December 7

Friends Holiday \$3 Bag of Books Sale

Saturday, December 7 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

December 8

Sunday with the Friends: The Spyder Stompers

Back in the first half of the 20th Century, this music was simply called American music, but today we know it better as acoustic blues, folk and country. There’s a little ragtime in there, too. Jack DiAlesandro is a finger style guitar master who works during the day as a professor of Mathematics at Kent State while Kevin T. Richards plays mandolin, fiddle, guitar and directs the non-profit organization Roots of American Music.

Ray DeForest, a teacher of jazz, blues and almost any style of music, rounds out the sound with the genius of his acoustic bass. The audience will provide the foot-stomping beat.

2:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

Thursday, December 12

Meet the Author: “Love’s All That Makes Sense: A Mother Daughter Memoir” by Sakeenah and Anika Francis

Sakeenah Francis describes her life as a Cinderella story in reverse. She grew up in a well-respected, middle-class African American family. She went to college, was homecoming queen, married, began a career and had children. Then schizophrenia struck and she lost everything. She went from homecoming queen to being homeless and institutionalized. Sakeenah Francis tells her daughter about her darkest moments of living with schizophrenia in a series of letters that chronicle the first time she heard voices in her head, her hospitalizations, her struggle to parent and her arduous path to long-term recovery. Both shaken and moved by her mother’s revealing letters, Anika faces the haunting effects her mother’s mental illness had on her. This sobering story carries a message of hope that will be inspiring to people affected by a severe mental illness and the web of people connected to them. Books will be available for sale and signing at the event.

7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

Saturday, December 14

LPL Children/Youth Events

compiled by Eric Knapp

Sunday, December 8

Lakewood Lego® League

For youth in kindergarten through fifth grade (caregivers welcome)

Use LPL’s collection of Lego®Bricks and your own imagination to create fabulous new structures and designs each month. No registration, but numbered tickets will be given out first-come, first-served. One ticket per child. For more information, stop in or call (216) 226-8275, ext. 140.

6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. in the Main Library Activity Room.

Monday – Friday, September 2 – May 23

Homework Help

For students in kindergarten through eighth grade

Need a little extra help with homework or just a cool place to study? Come to the Homework ER room for help and resources. No registration. Homework ER closed for school holidays and vacations.

3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Main and Madison, Children’s and Youth Services.

Family Weekend Wonders

Make the Library a part of your family weekend time with programs featuring stories, activities, music and crafts. These free programs are offered every weekend throughout the year at both the Main Library and Madison Branch. No registration is needed. Check out our website (www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.org/youth) for times and upcoming themes.

Main Library Activity Room and Madison Branch Auditorium

Saturdays at 11:30 a.m. and Sundays at 3:30 p.m.

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 those wishing to continue the fun at home. Programs are offered every weekend throughout the year and there is no need to register in advance.

Madison Branch Children’s and Youth Services

DECK THE HALLS!

(and the kitchen, living room & bedroom too!)

Inventory changes hourly. If you see it, buy it. If you don't, come back tomorrow!

Shop great prices!

Tues-Sat 10-4

Northeast Ohio's

#1 Restoration Destination

Greater Cleveland

Habitat

for Humanity

ReStore

2110 W. 110th Street Cleveland, OH 44102

Tel (216) 429-3631 www.clevelandhabitat.org

Lakewood Public Cinema: “Repo Man” (1984) Directed by Alex Cox

A punk named Otto quits his nametag job by slugging a co-worker, gets dumped by his girlfriend and finds his calling as a repo man. Easy come, easy go. To a young man with no future, the mercenary world of car repossession just feels right. But it’s a dangerous world filled with rival agents, pushy UFO freaks, generic brand cigarettes and a dangerous 1964 Chevy Malibu stolen by a rogue government scientist. If what’s in the trunk doesn’t kill him, something will. A classic punk rock soundtrack, forged in the fires of Los Angeles, boasts tracks by Iggy Pop, Black Flag, The Circle Jerks, Suicidal Tendencies and The Plugz. “The life of a repo man is always intense.”

6:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

Sunday, December 15

Sunday with the Friends: Gong and Singing Bowl Improvisations

Percussionist Paul Stranahan uses ancient instruments—suspended gongs and Tibetan singing bowls—to create modern music that demands your attention. Evoking moods that range from the soothing and meditative to the chaotic and downright apocalyptic, each performance is improvised, as unique an experience for the audience as it is for the performer. With sticks and mallets and special strikers that gently rub the rims of the bowls, Stranahan will fill the auditorium with sounds and vibrations from another world. You simply have to be there to really hear it.

2:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

World class care close to home.

Cleveland Clinic welcomes its newest surgeon, Dr. Ching-Feng (Ren) Lai, now accepting patients and offering expanded surgical services in Lakewood. Dr. Marvin Shie is also available for general surgery consultations.

Ching-Feng (Ren) Lai, DO
General Surgery

Marvin Shie, MD
General Surgery

Same-day appointments available.

216.227.2449

clevelandclinic.org

Cleveland Clinic

Every life deserves world class care.

Lakewood Public Library



The Spyder Stompers

The Spyder Stompers Celebrate Homegrown American Music At Lakewood Public Library

by Lisa Calfee

Music seems to be a natural byproduct of living. And while the modern soundtracks we shop to at the grocery store or have piped into our ears from iPods have been approved, polished-up and promoted by massive conglomerates, that wasn't always the story of music in America. A local ensemble, the Spyder Stompers, celebrate the songs of the early 20th century that sprouted up in the backwoods, front porches and roadhouses of this country by ordinary people expressing the drama of their lives. The acoustic trio will be taking the stage at Lakewood Public Library on Sunday, December 8 at 2:00 p.m. as part of our Sunday With The Friends program.

For over two decades the Spyder Stompers have had a permanent gig at the Barking Spider Tavern on the

first Thursday of each month. Call the music acoustic country, folk, blues or a combination; it reflects the roots of American music. It is no coincidence that the educational nonprofit Roots of American music is run by the group's guitarist, mandolin and fiddle player Kevin T. Richards. Joining him onstage is Jack DiAlesandro, a finger style guitar master, harmonica player and professor of Mathematics at Kent State and Raymond DeForest, an acoustic bass genius and music teacher who joined the group 10 years ago.

So unplug that iPod and join us on December 8 at 2:00 p.m. in the Main Auditorium for a foot stompin' good time with the Spyder Stompers. As always, this is a free concert and brought to us by the Friends of Lakewood Public Library.

Have Yourself An Affordable Little Holiday

by Morgan Maseth

With the holiday season in full swing, people are looking for bargains for their friends and loved ones. Thank goodness for the Friends of the Lakewood Public Library and their annual Holiday \$3 Bag of Books Sale on Saturday, December 7 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

This is the one Friends sale during the year where the majority of the books available are eligible for the \$3 bag sale. The Friends' collection of books includes travel, cooking, mystery, children's, history, romance, science fiction, poetry and much more so you can find something for everyone on your shopping list. Simply fill up a bag with the books you want and it will only cost you \$3.

If you are looking for newer titles you can head to the Better Books section. While these books are not a part of the \$3 Bag sale, they are still a deal with prices starting only at \$1. For those interested in getting a first crack at the

books and a chance to get their shopping done before the sale on Saturday we have the Members Preview Sale on Thursday, December 5 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. This special preview is not part of the \$3 Bag sale and is only open to members of the Friends, but anyone can join at the door for as low as \$2.

The Holiday fun at the Library doesn't end Saturday at 5:00 p.m. with the book sale but will continue for the rest of the evening with a variety of Light Up Lakewood events hosted at the Library. Once you get your shopping done at the book sale, store your finds in your car and check out the parade and fireworks outside and be sure to come on back to the Library to warm up with the kids while making crafts and listening to holiday music. Your kids can even write their letters to Santa and visit with the big guy himself! For more information on the Friends of the Lakewood Public Library go to www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.org/friends.



Weekends With Wee Ones

by Eric Knapp

Do you have a child under the age of two? Spend a part of your family weekend time clapping your hands, tapping your feet, singing nursery rhymes and, of course, sharing books. Reading with children from the very start is a very important part of early childhood development, and at Lakewood Public Library, we make it lots of fun.

Each Wee Ones session includes reading 2-3 board books aloud, nursery rhymes with movements, singing several songs with fun hand and arm movements, playing with shakers, popping bubbles, and culminates with wheeling a wagon full of board books out at the end for the families to choose from. We provide ideas for families wishing to continue the fun at home.

Wee Ones is offered every weekend throughout the year, and there is



no need to register in advance. All children must have a parent, caregiver, or other adult with them at all times who are expected to participate along with their child in the program. Wee Ones is a free program held in the Madison Branch auditorium every Saturday at 11:30 a.m. and every Sunday at 3:30 p.m. Runs approximately 30 minutes. Call (216) 226-8275 ext. 140 for more information.

15514 Detroit Ave.
Lakewood, Ohio
44107



**LASKEY
COSTELLO**
Certified Public Accountants

P: (216) 521-2100
F: (216) 521-3258

Tax Preparation and Accounting Services

Individual • Small Business • Corporate • Estate

info@laskeycostello.com • www.laskeycostello.com

★★NOW YOU CAN★★ RENT-A-HUSBAND

**Gutter Cleaning
Handy Man Services
Painting**

And all of those jobs and repairs that you
never had the time or talent to do yourself!

Building Code Violation Corrections

**Call Rich Toth at
440-777-8353**

Lakewood Public Library

Love Triumphs Over Mental Illness In Mother/Daughter Memoir

by Elaine Rosenberger

Growing up in a middle-class African American family, Sakeenah Francis was college homecoming queen, married, and had a family. However, when her daughter Anika was just three years old, Sakeenah began hearing voices and was diagnosed with paranoid schizophrenia. Sakeenah describes her story as “Cinderella in reverse, from riches to rags.” Her marriage broke up, she was institutionalized and wound up homeless.

As the daughter of a woman with schizophrenia, Anika Francis had a harrowing childhood. Despite this, Anika learned to view the world differently, to see “joy in the midst of pain and the golden hearts in people that others wrote off.” Most significantly, Sakeenah and Anika learned that the love is the most important thing in life.

Sakeenah and Anika write about dealing with Sakeenah’s illness in “Love’s All That Makes Sense: A Mother Daughter Memoir.” Sakeenah details the onset of her mental illness and her struggles in a series of letters to her daughter. Anika offers a forthright account about growing up with a mother suffering from schizophrenia. Their book will be discussed in Lakewood Public Library’s Main Auditorium on Thursday December 12 at 7:00 p.m. as part of the Library’s Meet the Author Series, but before the Meet the Author appearance, Sakeenah and Anika take the time to answer some questions.

LO: Sakeenah, you serve as a speaker for the National Alliance of Mental Illness (NAMI). What do you want people to realize about mental illness?

SF: First, mental illness can happen to anyone. I was raised middle class and graduated high school. My senior year in college I was elected Homecoming Queen. I married, had two children, then mental illness came over me. Second, people with mental illness can lead full lives. I had twelve crisis years. Since then, I have held two long-term jobs, have raised my daughter even though we live miles apart, and I have lived in the same apartment in Lakewood for twenty-four years.



LO: Anika, you overcame a difficult childhood and attended an Ivy League University. Where do you find your strength to succeed?

AF: Family support and love was an integral part of my resilience growing up. My grandparents opened up their home to me when my mother was sick and helped raise me. They also made it possible for my mom and me to stay together which sadly is not often the case for parents with schizophrenia and their children. I wanted to be strong for my mom to support her and this gave me a sense of inner strength from a young age.

LO: Anika, you mention seeing the world differently from most people. How do you find value in people others disregard?

AF: When you grow up knowing the people in the neighborhood who talk to themselves, you see the world

from a different perspective. I grew up around the people society casts off as being “crazy.” I saw beyond these labels into the heart of these people. They laughed, cried, loved and wanted to be loved just like the rest of us. Being able to see beyond the labels and the surface and perceive the humanity of a person is powerful.

LO: Sakeenah and Anika, your book is a wonderful account of the redemptive and healing power of love. What would you like to tell family members of people with mental illness?

AF: Love holds things together. It

is a powerful force often overlooked when we talk about severe mental illness. Love can get you through the times when it feels like the world is crumbling around you. Remember your loved one behind the illness; they are more than the illness.

SF: Their loved ones can have long-term recovery; it’s been 23 out of 24 years for me. I have given over 50 speeches with NAMI. My Dad rolled with the punches with me in my 12 1/2 crisis years, then I helped him ten years in nursing homes with Alzheimer’s. All I can say is: “Don’t Count Us Out!”

Meet the Author will take place in the Main Library Auditorium on Thursday December 12 at 7:00 p.m. Books will be available for sale and signing at the event.

Ranger Basketball Games To Benefit MADD

by Christine Gordillo

The Lakewood Rangers basketball program will be hosting its 5th annual basketball Ohio High School Athletic Association Foundation Game vs. Lutheran West on Nov. 30. The game is part of Foundation Service Week, a leadership/service program through the OHSAA to give student-athletes service opportunities.

Foundation games go toward

a charity or service organization. This year, the teams will be supporting Mothers Against Drunk Drivers (MADD) and honoring the life of Lakewood varsity player Nick Porter’s brother, Curtis, who was killed by a drunk driver. Game times are freshmen at 4:30 pm, JV at 6 pm, followed by varsity around 7:30 pm. Admission is \$6 adults, \$4 students with proceeds going to MADD.

THE DESK SET

NOW OPEN

at 19920 Detroit Road

Exclusive West Shore Source
Crane and Filofax

The Desk Set
19920 Detroit Road, Rocky River
440.333.0457

Expert emergency care,
more responsive than ever.

The Emergency Department at Lakewood Hospital features the latest technology to treat minor to critical injuries and illnesses. As a designated Primary Stroke Center, our team of experts offers the most comprehensive stroke care on the West Side. And thanks to a new streamlined process, you can expect reduced wait times. You'll feel confident knowing you have easy access to Cleveland Clinic world class care whenever you need it.

lakewoodhospital.org/ED

Lakewood Hospital

a Cleveland Clinic hospital

Every life deserves world class care.

Lakewood Family Owned & Operated

IT'S HERE...

Pepper's famous
Concord Grape Pie!!!

Open Everyday: M-Th 5-10, F-Sat 5-11, Sun 5-9

12401 Detroit Avenue • (216) 226-6191

WWW.PEPPERSLAKEWOOD.COM

A Little Bit of Italy
IN LAKEWOOD, OHIO

India Garden

Best Indian Restaurant in NE Ohio!
Zagat, Cleveland Magazine, Scene

18405 Detroit Avenue
(216) 221-0676
indiagardencleveland.com

Cold Weather,
Warm Spices!

OPEN DAILY
Lunch 11am-2:30pm
• Lunch Buffet \$9.95 •
Dinner 5-10pm

Holiday Gift Certificates & Catering Available!

Lakewood Schools

Teacher's Polka Debut To Benefit Garfield Music Dept.

by Christine Gordillo

Garfield Middle School Band Director and expert button box player Julie Tabaj has written, recorded and published her own polka and has committed the proceeds of the recording's sales to the Garfield Music Department.

According to Tabaj, the CD single, "Hot Flash Polka," was written "for all the women of the North, South, East & West. There are hundreds of tunes written about women but no one has ever written a tune about a life-changing occurrence all women will eventually experience. The song is an expression of that experience through music. It's upbeat, has temperature shifts (modulations) and lyrics that will make everyone smile."

The selection is available on CDbaby.com at <http://www.cdbaby.com/cd/julietabaj> and on GooglePlay, iTunes, AmazonMP3 and Spotify.

Tabaj will debut "Hot Flash Polka"



Garfield Band Director Julie Tabaj is donating proceeds from her first polka CD to her school's music department.

with a live performance on Friday, Nov. 29, at the National Cleveland Style - Polka Hall of Fame & Museum's 50th Thanksgiving Polka Party Weekend in the Cleveland Downtown Marriott's Superior Room. Show time begins at 6:30 pm.

Students Set The Record Straight On Revere's Ride

by Charles Greanoff

American history is filled with inspiring stories, including of course Paul Revere's famous ride. Yet, when history is rendered through stories, movies, etc., it is often "bended" to conform to the dictates of rhyme, time constraints etc. In our freshman AP US history class at Lakewood High School, we periodically set the record straight, as we did recently with Henry Wad-

sworth Longfellow's "Paul Revere's Ride." Wadsworth wrote beautiful poetry, but he didn't tell the whole story. Here's more of it.

Paul Revere Debunked

By Lucy Kress and Cassidy Miller

You've heard of Paul Revere's ride on his own

But have it be told he was not alone

There were actually three heroes that night

To warn the colonists about the impending British plight

Have records show that Samuel Prescott and William Dawes

Also broke British laws

Let superhero Revere be de-caped

For when all three were captured only Dawes escaped

Revere's triumph cannot be roared

For only Prescott made it all the way to Concord

The final thing we have to say

Is that Dawes and Prescott really saved the day

THE **LAKEWOOD OBSERVER**
YOUR INDEPENDENT SOURCE FOR LOCAL NEWS AND OPINION
216.228.7223
15,000 PAPERS PUBLISHED EVERY TWO WEEKS • ON-LINE 24/7/365
GOOD NEIGHBORS TALKING OVER THE DIGITAL FENCE
JOIN THE DISCUSSION ONLINE @ [HTTP://LAKWOODOBSERVER.COM](http://LAKWOODOBSERVER.COM)

PLANK ROAD TAVERN

NOW RESERVING HOLIDAY PARTIES!

GOURMET PUB FARE

WARM UP WITH OUR WINTER BEER SELECTION

FEATURING

Great Lakes Christmas Ale

Thirsty Dog Twelve Dogs Christmas Ale

Brooklyn Winter Scotch Ale

HAPPY HOUR

M-F 3-7P/Sat 12-6P

16719 DETROIT ROAD, LAKEWOOD • 216.221.5900

FULFILL YOUR FOOTBALL FANTASY!

HD Screens

Drink & Food Specials

DAILY SPECIALS:

Monday- \$6 Burger & Beer

Tuesday- Martini Madness: \$4 Martinis/ \$5 Flatbreads/\$3 House Wine

Wednesday- Taco Night: \$2 tacos/ \$2 Coronas/\$3 Margaritas

Thursday- Irish Night: Live music/ \$3 Guinness/\$3 Jameson

Sunday- 1/2 Price Wings / \$6 Slider Plates \$4 Bloody Marys/\$5 Mimosas 5 for \$9 Domestic Bottles Industry Day: 25% off tab (with pay stub)



West Shore Interactive Media students Fallon Horvath (nearest) and Madeline Baker create in clay at the Peaceful Solutions Workshop.

Beck Workshop Promotes Peace Through Art

by Christine Gordillo

Students from the Interactive Media program of West Shore Career-Tech had the opportunity recently to participate in a unique art program at Beck Center for the Arts that brought students from all corners of the county together.

On Nov. 13, nine Lakewood High/ West Shore students were joined by more than 100 students from Bedford, Cuyahoga Heights, East Cleveland, Rocky River, South Euclid-Lyndhurst and Warrensville Heights to take part in the Peaceful Solutions Workshop, sponsored by the Educational Service Center (ESC) of Cuyahoga County.

The Peaceful Solutions workshop provided the art students the opportunity to approach problem-solving through artistic expression. Students had the chance to expand and demonstrate both their knowledge and problem-solving ability in an art area of their choice through participation in a workshop with a working artist. Sessions included expression through songwriting, playing instruments,

painting, or molding with clay.

Kathy Ingersoll, gifted coordinator for the district who facilitated Lakewood's participation in the program, said that the students benefited by exploring art forms they may not do in class and "they get to see what other kids are doing" artistically.

At least one Lakewood student felt the workshop was beneficial for her. Junior Madeline Baker was impressed with the part of the workshop where students from the different districts share their thoughts on conflict resolution and keeping a peaceful environment in school.

"It was cool listening to other people from other schools and hearing about their situations and how the resolve conflict," she said. Baker was also pleased to be able to expand her art horizons, working in clay, which she doesn't usually do.

Participating for Lakewood were: Madeline Baker, Jacob Corder, Chad Goff, Haris Hasic, Fallon Horvath, Kayla Hostetler, Madeline Listowski, Samah Naserallah, and Kaitlin Staniatis.

LHS Musicians Selected For Honors Ensembles

by Christine Gordillo

Fall is the season for the Ohio Music Educators Association (OMEA) All-State and Regional Orchestra and District Band and Choir selections and, once again, Lakewood High can be proud of its high number of musicians selected to perform in these prestigious groups.

Nine students from Lakewood High were accepted into the Regional Orchestra, and of those nine, sophomore cellist Jimmy Toner and freshman violinist Ryan Detwiler were chosen to play with the All-State Orchestra, which will perform at the OMEA's annual conference in Columbus this February. The Northeast Regional Orchestra performed Nov. 24 at Cleveland State University.

Chosen for the Regional Orchestra were sophomores Zeke Dalisky

(violin) and Alex Figueroa (viola) and Abbi Norman (violin), juniors Devon Chodzin (bass) and Andrew Miller (cello), and senior Nora Varcho (viola).

Recently a number of choir and band students performed in the OMEA District 4/7 Honors ensembles at Cleveland State. Representing the Band Department were sophomores Nathan Bour and Evan Levis, juniors Stephen Moncol and Taylor Wohlfeil, and seniors Hugh Campbell, Amy Garklesky and Katt Krueger. Selected for the choir were freshman Claire Ciolli, juniors Stephanie Charlton and William Solarz, and seniors Virginia Ashley, Willow Hawks and Kyla Rable.

You can see all of these performers when the winter concerts begin in the first week of December. Check the Performing Arts page of the district web site for dates and times.

Light Up Lakewood

SIGHTS & SOUNDS

- 1 87.7 FM
- 2 Barnstormers
- 3 Community Art
- 4 Horse Drawn Carriage Rides
- 5 Huskies
- 6 Ice Carvers (3)
- 7 Kid's Karaoke
- 8 LakewoodAlive
- 9 Lakewood Chamber of Commerce
- 10 Live Reindeer
- 11 Ohio Mobile Gaming Truck

ACTIVITIES

- 12 Adult Games (2)
- 13 Baseball
- 14 Basketball
- 15 Elf Yourself
- 16 Face Cut-Out Photos
- 17 Face Painting/Hair Tinting
- 18 Giant Lite Bright
- 19 Green Screen Photo Booth
- 20 Kids Games
- 21 Live Animals
- 22 Slide
- 23 Snowball Pitch

FOOD & DRINK

- 24 Cookies
- 25 Doughnutlab
- 26 Fired Up Taco Truck
- 27 Fresh Fries
- 28 Gourmet Nuts & Funnels
- 29 Happy Hour Kettle Corn
- 30 Hot Chocolate (3)
- 31 Jammy Buggers
- 32 Jibaro World Eats
- 33 Mad Mouth GYRO
- 34 Sauted Wood Fired Pizza
- 35 StrEat Eats
- 36 Umami Moto

Parade on Detroit Avenue begins at 5:00pm, from Parkhaven Row to Arthur.

Fireworks begin at 8:00pm.

Motorized traffic on Detroit is closed between Arthur and Marlowe, starting at 3:00pm.

Cleveland Institute of Art

Student

Holiday Sale

Cleveland Institute of Art

Dec 6–8

Fri Dec 6, 6:30–9pm

Sat Dec 7, 9am–8pm

Sun Dec 8, 12:30–6pm

Cleveland Institute of Art

11141 East Boulevard

Cleveland OH 44106

Free parking in the lot

for Holiday Sale visits

For more information, visit

cia.edu/holidaysale

CIA

LIGHT UP LAKEWOOD

Kids Scavenger Hunt

Head to the LakewoodAlive Tent across from City Center Park and pick up your Merry Beads. As you collect the items listed below, hang them on your Merry Beads. The first 300 kids to make it back to the LakewoodAlive Tent with all items will receive a prize! Good luck and HAVE FUN!!

A “Happy Bow” from Tease Hair Salon

A sticker from Buddy

A Make-It-Yourself Candy Cane from the inflatable slide volunteers

A candy cane to eat

A Jingle Bell from Cosmic Collectibles

Scavenger Hunt sponsored by:

Light Up Lakewood

Light Up Lakewood. Saturday, December 7

In addition to the sights, sounds, activities and refreshments on the map, here are the holiday event details in and around Lakewood on Saturday, December 7, 2013.

AM

LAKEWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY

9:00 Friends Holiday Public Book Sale, until 5:00PM (Book Sale Room)

PM

5:30 Beck Center for the Arts Music Makers, also at 6:35PM, 7:15PM (Children's Section-Central)

5:30 Santa Visits/Photos, until 8:30PM (Bring Your Camera)

6:00 Holiday Classic Movies, until 8:00PM (Lower Auditorium)

6:00 Holiday Crafts & Activities, until 8:30PM (Multipurpose Room)

6:00 Stringin' Along Middle School Strings, until 6:30PM (Children's Section-South)

6:00 Vocalist Susan Wagner, until 6:30PM (New Books Room)

6:30 H2O's "Twigbee-Style" Shop, until 8:00PM (Homework Room)

6:30 LHS Four Seasons String Quartet, until 7:30PM (Multipurpose Room)

6:30 Story Time -- every 30 min, until 8:30PM

6:30 Yuletide Ukes from Marrell Music, until 7:00PM

7:00 LHS Chamber Choir, until 7:30PM (Atrium)

7:30 Pianist David Osburn, until 8:30PM (Multipurpose Room)

AM

LAKEWOOD HOSPITAL 3RD FLOOR ATRIUM

11:30 Lincoln Elementary Choir, until 11:50AM

PM

12:00 Harding Middle School Singers Too Treble Choir, 12:20PM

12:25 Horace Mann Elementary Choir, until 12:45PM

12:50 Silhouette Dance, until 1:10PM

1:15 Harding Middle School Singers Mixed Choir, until 1:35PM

1:40 Hayes Elementary Choir, until 2:00PM

2:05 Garfield Music Crew, until 2:25PM

2:30 Harrison Elementary Choir, until 2:50PM

2:55 Roosevelt Elementary Singers, until 3:15PM

3:45 LHS combine Symphony Orchestra and Choirs, until 3:50PM

PM

GODDESS BLESSED / CRAFTY GOODNESS

1:00 Make it and take it craft, until 5:00PM

AM

EDDIE CERINO'S CASUAL ITALIAN (PRESALE ONLY)

9:00 Breakfast with Santa, also at 9:45AM, 10:30AM

AM

JAMMY BUGGARS

10:30 Brunch with Buddy, until 12:00PM

AM

DEWEY'S PIZZA

11:00 Lunch with Santa, until 1:00PM

PM

MASONIC TEMPLE

2:30 LCA Advanced Band, until 2:50PM (Main Hall)

3:00 LCA Singing Saints, until 3:20PM (Main Hall)

3:30 Harding Jazz Band, until 3:50PM (Main Hall)

4:00 Kids Games, until 7:30PM (Main Hall)

8:00 Get Hep Swing Dancing, until midnight

PM

HOSPITAL STAGE (BELLE & DETROIT)

4:00 Book Reading -- The Night Before Christmas

4:15 Fourtes (acepella)

4:30 Vocalist, Jen Browning

5:45 Trash Talkers

6:00 Main Lighting Ceremony

6:30 The Chris Burge 3

PM

CITY CENTER STAGE (COOK & DETROIT)

4:00 Book Reading by Buddy -- Elf

4:15 Vocalist, Susan Wagner

4:45 Trash Talkers

5:00 New Moon Rising

6:00 Lighting Ceremony

6:30 Thor Platter

PM

LIBRARY STAGE (ARTHUR & DETROIT)

4:00 Book Reading -- Pennie the Christmas Pickle

4:15 Trash Talkers

4:30 Yuletide Ukes from Marrell Music

5:00 Peddlers of Mirth

6:00 Lighting Ceremony

6:30 Revolution Brass Band

lakewoodalive

Schedule of stage performances are subject to change. For more information, go to LightUpLakewood.com

Friday, December 6

PM

UPTOWN LAKEWOOD

5:00 Candy Cane Lane, until 8:00PM

Sunday, December 8

PM

WADE OVAL, UNIVERSITY CIRCLE

1:00 Holiday CircleFest, until 7:00PM

Design: Convey980

Light Up Lakewood Crowns King & Queen, Awards Scholarship

by Ken Brand

Sam Baker and Ann Marie Elaban, juniors at Lakewood High School, have been named 2013 King and Queen of Light Up Lakewood. Baker and Elaban will be crowned by last year's King and Queen, Tyler Krebs and Megan Barrett, and will preside over the festival parade and lighting ceremony on Saturday, December 7 at 5:00 PM in downtown Lakewood. David Stein of Plantation Home generously provided two \$500 scholarships for the students.

Chosen for their commitment to serving others and embodiment of a diverse and vibrant community, Baker and Elaban both express deep appreciation for the acceptance, support, and outstanding education they received by growing up in Lakewood.

Sam Baker is the son of Luann and Bruce Baker. Sam has a passion for befriending immigrant youth. Coupled with his passion for soccer, Sam's involvement with the Lakewood Refugee Soccer Program was a natural fit. Sam played on the Lakewood High School Soccer team and participated with H2O, earning the Jane Michalko Peace Award. He has mentored Fresh Start students, participated in the National Leadership Conference, and currently tutors middle school math students.

Sam remarks that Lakewood's cultural diversity prepared him and his classmates for their future. "Lakewood's

population represents a microcosm of today's world," says Baker. "The people I've met here and the experiences I've had truly inspire me to 'change the world within my reach.' "

Ann Marie Elaban is the daughter of Jennifer and Cal Elaban. She received a scholarship from Dare2Carre which seeks to assure equality for LGBT students and address high school bullying issues. Ann Marie transferred that knowledge to Lakewood High School, where - with three other students - she started Club Equality to encourage an inclusive environment for all students.

"Although this is a controversial topic that may not be agreed upon by everyone," Elaban states, "I think we can all support the idea that no one deserves to be put down for who they are." Ann Marie is also active in the Lakewood High School Rang-erettes dance team and plays cello with the Chamber Orchestra and The Lakewood Project.



“What a great show to introduce the next generation to the magic of live theater.”

- Cleveland Jewish News' review of 2012 production



DEC 6, 2013 - JAN 5, 2014

Book by Thomas Meehan Music by Charles Strouse Lyrics by Martin Charnin

Based on Little Orphan Annie by permission of The Media Tribune Services, Inc.

Directed by Scott Spence Music Direction by Larry Goodpaster Choreographed by Martin Céspedes

Beck Center for the arts

Creating Art Experiences

beckcenter.org | 216.521.2540 x10

17801 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood

80

YEARS

1934-2014

Happy Holidays from your Lakewood Specialist!



Your Lakewood Specialist



Chris Bergin

216.244.7175

Chris@ChrisBergin.com

Find out what homes are selling for in **YOUR** neighborhood!

GET YOUR FREE HOME VALUE REPORT NOW!



Visit www.HomeValuesInLakewood.info for your **FREE** report!

Chris Bergin and Eric Lowrey, Realtors®, are Proud Sponsors of the Light Up Lakewood Scavenger Hunt.

Enjoy a Peaceful Shopping Experience at...

lion and blue

CLOTHING • GIFTS • JEWELRY

15106 Detroit Avenue

216-529-2328



Bring in this ad to receive a **FREE SCARF** with purchase of \$50 or more (while supplies last)

lionandblue.com

Bill Hixson's original designs, limited quantities

European Glass Ornaments are in!

14125 Detroit Ave. Lakewood

216.521.9277

White House



Santa on Beach



Downtown Cleveland



Westside Market



Friendly Lakewood



Old Mill



Our 60th Year!

Hixson's

Holiday Gallery Now Open

Daily 10-9

Sat 10-6 • Sun 12-5

Join the Discussion at: www.lakewoodobserver.com

Candy Cane Lane

Uptown Lakewood - Candy Cane Lane Open House

continued from page 1

personal goods such as hair products, bath and body, toilet paper, dental and oral care and deodorant." These items can be left under the Giving Trees located at Metro on Madison at 5220 Madison Ave and other participating businesses throughout the district on Friday night and through the month of December.

Some of the activities planned by the participating merchants include:

Santa Claus at Carol Lynn's Salon Plus. Santa will be strolling Madison Ave and stopping in at other locations throughout the evening. Carol Lynne's will also be offering discounts on many hair care products.

The European Deli is giving 10% OFF everything in her store, including wine.

Vintage and More invites everyone to come and make a marshmallow snowperson and enjoy 20% off all merchandise.

Buckeye Beer Engine presents Soligo Prosecco, a sparkling wine from the foothills of Northern Italy for only \$8.00 a split.

Metro! on Madison is sad to announce they are closing their doors but not before celebrating this event with incredible savings including an entire wall of home accessories starting at 50% OFF. There are even some items for FREE. They are raffling off three baskets filled with wine, Christmas decor and beautiful home accessories. They are also serving mulled, holiday spiced wine paired w/ chocolates, nuts and cheese. All wines in the store are on closeout for this event.

But that's not all, many of the streets merchants have more planned for this holiday affair. For a list of participating businesses and what they have in store for Candy Cane Lane, visit the website uptownlakewood.com or like Uptown Lakewood on

facebook. Not so computer savvy? That's OK, just come to Madison Ave between Warren and Hilliard and look for the festive candy canes adorning the buildings and on the phone poles in front of participating businesses. Many of these businesses have specials running through the month of December. So support the local economy and celebrate small business by visiting these retailer during this holiday season.

The Uptown Lakewood businesses have partnered with Lakewood Community Services Center (LCSC) to collect much needed personal

goods this holiday season. LCSC was founded in 1982 by 12 Lakewood churches as a cooperative response to the needs of Lakewood residents. In addition to providing emergency food assistance, the Center works to provide job assistance and referrals to agencies for rent and utility assistance. LCSC is the Hunger Network of Greater Cleveland's designated hunger center serving Lakewood, Rocky River and Westlake.

For more information about Uptown Lakewood visit UptownLakewood.com or contact Rachel Anzalone at 216-904-2524.



KICK OFF LIGHT UP LAKEWOOD
WITH A VISIT TO

Candy Cane Lane!

**UPTOWN LAKEWOOD
HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE**

**FRIDAY
December 6 • 5-8pm**

COME AND ENJOY...
Music • Wine Tasting
Eats & Treats • Give Aways
Holiday Shopping Specials and More!

Visit www.UptownLakewood.com
for a complete list of participating businesses.



WWW.UPTOWNLAKEWOOD.COM




BUILDING COMMUNITY THROUGH MUSIC



13733 Madison Ave. • Lakewood, OH
216-228-4885
www.marrellinstrumentrepair.net

COME SEE THE
Yuletide Ukes
at LightUp Lakewood
Arthur Stage 4:30pm

Make a Purchase and Receive
a Bonus Coupon for 20% Off
to Use During Black Friday Week!



**Books, oils, incense
Jewelry & much more**

• Locally created crafts! •

Tues, Wed, Fri: Noon-7pm
Thurs: 6-9pm, Sat: Noon-6pm
Closed Sunday & Monday

15729 Madison Ave. • Lakewood
216.221.8755
www.goddessblessedinc.com



**Brighten Your Smile,
Build Your Confidence**

**We're happy to help seniors
with any dental need!**

- Full and Partial Dentures
- Implants for single tooth replacement
- Implant Supported Dentures
- Oral Cancer Screenings and Denture Care Instruction
- Free Consultations
- Senior Discounts
- Dental Wellness Plan: in-house discount for uninsured patients

We provide the highest quality dental care, utilizing the latest technology and techniques, superior patient care and customer service.

Make an appointment today!
Mon-Wed 7am-5pm • Thursday 7am-4pm

**14583 Madison Ave.
Free, Private On-Site Parking
216-226-3084
www.JWLdentistry.com**



Carabel Beauty Salon & Store

Holidays unite family & friends with lots of picture taking! Call us to look your best. Nail polish, bows, head bands, and flowers for your hair in New Holiday colors. For yourself or for gifts.

Free Private Parking. Check with Id or cash

15309 Madison Avenue • 216.226.8616



**STEM
HANDMADE SOAP**

12405 Madison Ave
Lakewood
Saturday / Sunday 11 - 5
Tu, We, Th 5-8



LARGE SELECTION OF HOLIDAY SOAP GIFT BOXES AND BASKETS

100% NATURAL
SOAP
BODY BUTTER
LOTION
SOY CANDLES
LIP BALM

LCOC Holiday Bid & Buy Auction

Lakewood Chamber Of Commerce Hosts 5th Annual Holiday Bid & Buy Online Auction

by Valerie Mechenbier

Would you like to win a limited edition signed print of a stunning Jim O'Bryan photograph? Would you like to give the gift of Deagan's, Angelo's, India Garden, Barrio, Melt, Pier W, Ranger Café, Around The Corner, Georgetown, Streat Burger, Aladdin's, or Jammy Buggars to people on your holiday shopping list? Would you like to be the lucky winning bidder to be the Principal For A Day at Lakewood High School? If the answer to any of these questions is yes, then the 5th Annual Holiday Bid & Buy online auction is where you should "shop local" this holiday season.

Avoid the slush and the rush! Shop from the comfort of your own home for locally donated items, services, and unique experiences via the Holiday Bid & Buy online auction, sponsored by The Lakewood Observer. Not only is it an easy way to shop, it's also a great way for the Chamber to highlight the generosity of our donors and sponsors and to promote local businesses with weeks of inexpensive online advertising. Each donated item is featured on its own bidding page for easy viewing (the more items you donate, the more pages you

have!) – plus each donated item also includes the donor's company logo and a direct link to the donor's website.

An exciting feature of the Chamber's Holiday Bid & Buy online auction is the Grand Prize Raffle for a Kindle Fire HD, sponsored by Abode Modern Lifestyle Developers (welcometoabode.com). Tickets are \$5 each or 5 for \$20, and the winning ticket will be drawn on December 12th, just in time for the holidays. Proceeds from the auction and the raffle support the economic development programs of the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce.

Don't be left out in the cold! Check out the variety of locally donated items – Beck Center tickets, homemade holiday cookies, locally produced artwork – even an Ohio Grown Fraser Fir Christmas Tree from Lakewood Garden Center - all in one place: the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce's Holiday Bid & Buy online auction! To donate an item, bid on items, and buy Kindle Fire HD raffle tickets, visit www.biddingforgood.com/lakewoodchamber.



Bid to win a signed limited edition print (#1 of 20) of this photo of the Emerald Canyon taken by The Lakewood Observer's Jim O'Bryan at 9:10 on 11.12.13.

BIG FUN
Cleveland

YOUR ONE STOP SHOP FOR HOLIDAY FUN!
WE BUY OLD TOYS FOR CASH

Traditional Toys for Traditional Holidays! Funky Toys for Funky Holidays!

Collectibles • Cards • Nintendo • Cleveland Gear • Pop Culture • Ghoultardi T-Shirts • Baby Stuff • Classic Candy • Great Books (most at least 1/2 off) • Stocking Stuffers • Buttons and Magnets • Unique Toys • Great Gag Gifts

11512 Clifton Ave. • Cleveland
216-631-4FUN • www.bigfunbigfun.com
Thanks for supporting local businesses!



DANIEL PRUITT STUDIOS L.L.C.
FUSED GLASS ART
CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAYS at the Studio with a fused glass gift, a Workshop or Class!
Call today for details! 216.632.4552
Ask about our Special Sunday Afternoon Workshops.
Located in The Screw Factory • 13000 Athens Ave.
216.632.4552 • www.danielpruittstudio.com

Looking for a special activity? Friday is a "Ladies Nite Out" Pendant Workshop night.

Save Money, Shop Local. BIDDING ENDS DEC 6TH.
www.biddingforgood.com/lakewoodchamber
Promote your business via the Lakewood Chamber's 5th annual online auction!
It's not too late to donate—this promotional opportunity is open to all businesses!



Sponsored by


Proceeds benefit the economic development programs of the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce.

CHEAP TOBACCO



CHEAP TOBACCO
10% OFF
16 oz. roll your own tobacco
EXPIRES 1-15-14

CHEAP TOBACCO
\$5 OFF
electronic cigarette kit worth \$20 or more
EXPIRES 1-15-14

CHEAP TOBACCO
10% OFF
premium cigars (excluding monthly specials) and 20% off full box orders
EXPIRES 1-15-14

FINE CIGARS • DOMESTIC CIGARS • TUBES • PIPES & TOBACCO • ROLLING MACHINES • ZIPPOS & OTHER FINE LIGHTERS •

HUMIDORS & ACCESSORIES • DJARUM & NAT SHERMANS • HOOKAH & ACCESSORIES • ROLL YOUR OWN TOBACCO • ELECTRONIC CIGARETTES • LOTTERY AND KENO

THREE LOCATIONS TO SERVE YOU:
LAKEWOOD 17008 Madison Ave. 216.221.0833
NORTH OLMSTED 4695 Great Northern Blvd. 440.777.4033
NORTH RIDGEVILLE 32327 Cook Rd. 440.309.4046

Join the Discussion at: www.lakewoodobserver.com

Business



Jen Buchanan, co-owner of A Girl's Best Trend, which offers a creative mix of eclectic items for you and your home.

A Girl's Best Trend Opens In Lakewood

by Jeffrey Dudzik

If you are in search of the perfect holiday gift, something other than the standard fare at the mall or Amazon, check out A Girl's Best Trend at 17007 Madison Avenue in Lakewood.

Opened in October, this store offers a variety of unique, hand-made crafts, art and clothing for you and your home, all made by local artists. The offering includes framed art, candles, purses, hats, glassware, fragrances and much more.

This eclectic shop is the creation of Jen Buchanan and Colleen Bridegum, two friends that have known each other for 20 years. Both have been involved in local crafts, and after bouncing ideas off

of each other, they decided that a store would be a great creative outlet and give them an opportunity to be active in the local art community. Lakewood, with its other fantastic local shops and galleries was the perfect location.

Having a store of her own had been dream of Jen Buchanan's since receiving her degree in design. According to Jen, "I had been doing craft show for 3 years, and had met a lot of local artists that I admire. It is exciting to showcase their work, and have people come into the shop to admire and purchase it."

A Girl's Best Trend is open Tuesday through Friday 1-7pm, and Saturdays 11-5pm. You may also check them out online at <http://girlsbesttrend.com/>.

Free Tax And Health Care Advice For The Lakewood Community

by Sharita Hutton

H&R Block tax experts offer tax talks

The nation's largest tax preparation company has experienced and knowledgeable tax professionals in every community. This month, Lakewood tax professionals will share tax advice with the community in two tax talks. December free tax talks :

- Saturday, December 7th at 11 a.m. at the Madison Branch of the Lakewood Public Library located at 13229 Madison Avenue.

- Saturday, December 14th at 11am, at the Main Branch of the Lakewood Public Library located at 15425 Detroit Avenue

Topic: How to plan for your personal tax situation as well as take advantage of the most common tax credits and deductions available.

In addition, talks will include information about health care reform. While most Americans are aware of the tax penalty if they fail to obtain health insurance coverage by 2014, 77% of respondents surveyed by The Tax Institute at H&R Block were unaware of the importance of their 2012 tax return in

the reform.

"It is more important than ever to talk to a tax professional who can help families understand what their options are," said Julie Derrick, Enrolled Agent at H&R Block. "However, a firefighter's uniform is really a single-use item and therefore would be deductible."

Tax talks are free and open to the public. A tax professional, or a team of tax professionals will present the latest information and then answer questions.

For more information about the H&R Block Tax Talks or the company's products and services, email Julie.Derrick@tax.hrblock.com.

Did You Know...

by Valerie Mechenbier

...that the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce Facebook page is where you can find interesting links and posts about local economic development news, community events, general business stories and Holiday Bid & Buy online auction updates? Like us on Facebook, and follow us on Twitter @lccohio.

Partnership Seeks to Rehabilitate Two Unique Lakewood Homes

continued from page 1

Lakewood purchased two boarding houses that had become burdensome to the community. After exploring a variety of potential options for these large and unique structures, the City with assistance from LakewoodAlive recently developed a partnership with the Detroit Shoreway Community Development Organization to rehab the properties.

DSCDO has a successful history of converting vacant and abandoned buildings into neighborhood assets. Since 2008, the organization has engaged its partners to redevelop 130 vacant, foreclosed properties result-

ing in over \$7 million in rehabilitated housing. Developers are vetted on both their finances and construction skills in order to insure a quality end product.

The Cleveland Restoration Society, in partnership with First Federal of Lakewood, provides financing to qualified buyers through the Home Heritage Loan Program for these projects. The interest rate is 1.85% - 2%. Owner occupants can apply for the program as a rehabilitation loan. More information can be found at heritage-homeprogram.org.

For more information about these exciting opportunities, contact Joseph Giuliano at 216-961-4242.

Super Saturday @ Beck On December 7 Provides Free, Interactive Art Experiences For Children

by Pat Miller

Beck Center for the Arts continues to create art experiences with the return of Super Saturdays @ Beck from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, December 7. This free arts experience is the perfect way for young aspiring artists to interact with music, dance, theater, and visual arts. While Super Saturdays @ Beck are geared toward children ages 1 to 8 years, siblings and friends up to age 10 may also take part in the fun.

The program begins at 9:30 a.m. with an interactive music demonstration, narration, and brief concert on the Mackey Main Stage. The selected

orchestral instrument for December is the piano. Afterward, everyone is invited to take part in a variety of arts activities with Beck Center's community partners including Cleveland Botanical Garden, Great Northern Mall, Usborne Books, and VSA arts of Ohio/Cleveland Area. There will be plenty of singing, dancing and instrument playing for all participants throughout the event.

Parent/adult participation is required. Admission is free for all ages, but tickets must be reserved at beckcenter.org or by calling Customer Service at 216.521.2540 x10.



Santa Paws & Howliday Pet Portraits at Pet Supplies Plus Lakewood Saturday, Dec. 14th

Appointments Appreciated, please call the store at 216-226-6827 for available appointment times.

No sitting fee, Portraits will be ready for pick up at Pet Supplies Plus on Dec. 23rd at noon

Portraits by Pixure This! Photo Studio

Pixure This! Photo Studio

Specializing in Unique Pet Portraiture for 20 years!

www.PixureThisPhotoStudio.com

Lakewood Cares

Lakewood Pastor Completes 25 Years In The Ministry

by Michael Bennett

She was the first woman ever to be ordained in her home presbytery in the state of Wisconsin. Now Reverend Lynn Anderson of Grace Presbyterian Church in Lakewood, Ohio, is completing her twenty-fifth year as a Presbyterian minister.

Reverend Anderson made the decision to go into the ministry while earning a degree in social work with a certification in criminal justice from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She enrolled and earned a Master of Divinity degree from San Francisco Theological Seminary, while interning



at the California Youth Authority, and at Three Rivers Presbyterian Church, on the edge of Sequoia National Park.

Called back to the Midwest, Reverend Anderson was ordained November 26, 1988, in Winnebago Presbytery near Green Bay, Wisconsin. She was the first woman to be so designated at Winnebago.

In her long and eventful career, Reverend Anderson has served as Chaplain of Children's Hospital of Michigan in Detroit, Director of Outdoor Ministry for Presbytery of the Western Reserve in Ohio, as Pastor at Boulevard Presbyterian Church in Euclid, Ohio, and, since 2004, as Pastor of Grace Presbyterian.

Grace Presbyterian was one of the pioneer churches of the "Community

Meal" program in Lakewood, which offers a free meal once a month to all. The church also has a long association with the Lakewood Community Service Center. Reverend Anderson is currently working, with three neighboring churches, to make the churches more responsive to the changing needs of Lakewood residents.

Known as a dynamic, powerful speaker, Reverend Anderson preaches every week at Grace Presbyterian, prominently located at Hilliard and Madison Avenues, one of Lakewood's busiest intersections. All are welcome to hear Reverend Lynn preach!

Museum Celebrates The Season

continued from page 1

from noon until 4 p.m. Group tours are available during the week upon request. Make a visit to the Museum a part of your holiday tradition.

The Museum of Divine Statues opened April 10, 2011 in the former home of St. Hedwig's Church. It is the vision of restoration artist, Lou McClung, who was passionate about creating a reflective and reverential space where ecclesiastical statues could be displayed.

His mission to rescue and restore religious statues, many of which came from parishes decommissioned by the Cleveland Catholic Diocese, helps to preserve the history of those churches, as well as traditional Catholic art. Along with statues, you will find other traditional Catholic art and many arti-



facts on display.

The mission of the museum is to preserve Catholic history by rescuing, restoring and displaying ecclesiastical statues and other sacred artifacts in a reflective and respectful museum setting.

North Coast Health Ministry Partners with First Federal Lakewood for Patient Toiletry Drive

by Elizabeth O'Brien

North Coast Health Ministry is partnering with First Federal Lakewood to conduct a toiletry drive this holiday season for NCHM's low-income, medically underserved patients. Needed items include new toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, deodorant, shampoo, lotion, pocket size facial tissues, etc. Trial- and travel-size products as well as full-size items are welcome.

Donations may be dropped off during regular banking hours, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, from November 29 through December 31, 2013, at the following First Federal Lakewood branches:

- 14806 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood
- 2035 Crocker Road, Westlake
- 24441 Detroit Road, Westlake
- 26908 Cook Road, Olmsted Township
- 26624 Lorain Road, North Olmsted
- 14047 Pearl Road, Strongsville
- 12648 Rockside Road, Garfield Heights

Donations can also be brought to NCHM, 16110 Detroit Avenue, weekdays between 8:30 and 4 p.m.

No contribution is too small and

every little bit helps!

About North Coast Health Ministry

NCHM is a faith-based charitable clinic that provides and optimizes access to health care for the medically underserved. A vital part of Greater Cleveland's health care safety net for the past 27 years, NCHM provides primary care, prescription assistance, specialty referrals and health education to low-income individuals and families. With the support of over 150 volunteer physicians, nurses and other caregivers, NCHM is the medical home for its patients, providing preventive care and chronic disease management as well as care for acute illnesses and injuries. Visit our web site at www.nchealthministry.org or call to become a patient at 216-228-7878.

About First Federal Lakewood

First Federal Lakewood, with total assets exceeding \$1.4 billion, offers a full array of retail and business products through 18 full-service branch locations in Northeast Ohio and eight lending offices throughout Ohio. Founded in 1935, First Federal Lakewood is a community owned bank with a deep-rooted tradition of financial strength, stability and integrity. FFL.net

Serving the City of Lakewood

at Lakewood Seventh-Day Adventist Church
1382 Arthur Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio (in the school building)

SDA Community Service Center

NEW HOURS
Providing free gently used clothing, shoes, household items, & toys, for over 50 years
Every Tuesday 9am-12:30pm and Thursday 5pm-7pm
Phone: 216-221-5941 (please call ahead)
Item donations are accepted at the same place and time

Monetary donations are appreciated. Please make check payable to Lakewood SDA Church
Please note which ministry, and send to the above address, attention Treasurer

For Little One's, recipients must bring a voucher from Lakewood Community Services Center
14230 Madison Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio 216-226-6466
Monday-Friday 10am-2pm and Wed 5:30pm-7:30pm

Little One's Ministry

Providing diapers, wipes, and baby toiletries
Current schedule: 10:30am-12:30pm
Tuesdays:
December 3 and December 17
Stay tuned for future dates

Westerly Apartments

SENIOR LIVING

CONVENIENTLY LOCATED IN THE HEART OF LAKEWOOD

Providing Quality Senior Housing for 50 Years!

Affordable living for Older Adults on an Active Senior Campus (age 55 & up)

Visit our Leasing Office at
14300 Detroit Ave. • Lakewood, OH 44107

Open weekdays, 9am-4pm or
by appointment (216) 521-0053

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE: WESTERLYAPARTMENTS.COM

Happy Holidays!

Fedor Manor Apartments

Affordable Senior Housing Community

When you walk through the door, you know you are home.

Happy Holidays!

12400 Madison Ave. • Lakewood, Ohio
216-226-7575
TTY 1-800-750-0750

www.fedormanorapartments.com

Letter To The Editor

Be Prepared For Lakewood's Common Core Meeting on Dec 4: Read This

by Ted Nagel

As the community meeting to discuss Common Core on Dec 5, 2013, 6:00 PM at Garfield Middle School approaches, I wanted to submit some testimony that I read that was given in New York by a friend of mine who is a school superintendent in Central New York. His Name is Dr. Robert Prichard.

He has not come out against Common Core, but rather has analyzed it in order to start the process of making it better. Creating a threatening testing process without giving the tools necessary to make the curriculum work does not inspire loyalty and dedication in our teachers. Additionally, having no means to differentiate classrooms, i.e. numbers of students on IEPs, number if ESL students etc. and expecting equal results with very unequal classroom makeup is unrealistic. Take a look at these very timely comments prior to attending the meeting or just to stay informed.

Dr. Robert R. Pirtchard: My name is Dr. Robert R. Pritchard and I am the superintendent of the Mexico Academy and Central School District.

New York State Educators, on the whole, value a standards-based education coupled with higher academic expectations for our students. However, frequent criticism of student testing and APPR reform is often misperceived by those in Albany as a criticism of the Common-Core Learning Standards (CCLS). On the contrary, most (if not all) of us are in favor of higher standards and are willing to make the effort required to achieve those standards.

We agree with Commissioner King that we need to a better job preparing our students to be competitive in a global, 21st Century workplace... we get that. Our concerns with CCLS are largely centered on implementation and execution related issues.

My testimony this evening

addresses the elements of the CCLS that foster student success and those elements that need to be remedied.

PROS – Elements of CCLS implementation that are working in our communities:

Positive features of CCLS:

1.Websites such as PTA.org and EngageNY.org provide videos and web-based information for parents and educators that promote best practices in the classroom and at home.

2. NYSED has introduced prescriptive “turnkey” instructional supports – especially, ELA and Math Learning Modules. Further, because the modules aren’t perfect, we appreciate the flexibility that school districts have been allowed in order to adapt or create curriculum and instructional programs that are aligned with the CCLS. How we achieve the standards should still very much be a matter of local control.

3. The CCLS themselves suggest a narrower curriculum that is rigorous, and connected to internationally-benchmarked standards. These standards are designed to ensure that students leave school with the knowledge and skills they need to be successful in college and the workforce.

CONS – Elements of CCLS implementation that need to be remedied:

1. School districts don’t have management information systems that can adequately handle the data required for teacher evaluations in support of CCLS implementation. These evaluation systems are a product of Race to the Top legislation. Burdensome APPR plans are labor- and capital-intensive and school administrators lack the means to effectively implement these human resource controls.

2. Student performance data needs to be available in real-time in order to provide parents and teachers

with the ability to immediately intervene and support struggling students. Automated student data collection, subsequent analysis and related decision-support tools need to be improved and deployed in our schools.

Student information systems need to be adaptive, diagnostic and prescriptive in accordance with student needs... The current system relies too heavily on less-than-timely, end-of-year, high stakes tests that may or may not be aligned with the standards nor what was taught in accordance with the vendor-driven learning modules.

The NYS Assessments, as they are currently designed, seem to be better suited toward supporting teacher evaluation than supporting student mastery of the Common-Core.

3. The current model for remediation or Academic Intervention Services (AIS) is broken. Economically disadvantaged students within our schools are still marginalized. Remediation practices still stress homogenous (or “tracked”), lower-ability instructional grouping.

The 2012-2013 NYS Grades 3-8 assessment data indicate that over 70% of the students in Oswego County (many of whom are economically disadvantaged) failed to meet an acceptable level of performance as defined by the NYSED.

4. Most of our schools still lack the financial capacity to field rigorous, relevant, 21st Century academic programs.

Summary: We value CCLS but feel that some of the elements associated with its implementation need to be remedied:

• The question persists: What is NYSED’s plan to better use data to improve instruction and identify student weaknesses?

Testing and related accountability systems are seriously flawed to the point where decisions are based on invalid or less-than-timely information. Schools need real-time, teacher-friendly, student information systems. These information systems (e.g., Link-it) can support instructional decisions made at the classroom level (as they happen) as opposed to a high stakes, end-of-year assessment that may or may not be aligned to a CCLS-based course of study.

• Districts lack the financial capacity to promote heterogeneous (mixed-ability) instructional grouping and related AIS programming that promotes career and college readiness for all students – regardless of zip-code, level of economic advantage, or ability level.

We suggest school-aid formulas be reviewed and adjusted to make this situation more equitable and drive resources to where they are needed the most. Having uniform standards is commendable as long as our students have uniform access to an academic program that allows them to meet or exceed those standards. <http://centralny.nyn.com/content/news/705630/educators-suggest-ways-to-better-implement-common-core/>

Posted in Academics (Curriculum and Instruction)

Friend’s and Family Holiday Craft Boutique

Open House -
15616 Lake Avenue
Saturday, Nov. 30th,
9:00 am - 4:00pm

Shop Local Day
Hand Crafted Gifts and
Holiday Decorations



O'Neill Management
Locally owned and managed
by the John O'Neill Family,
serving seniors in the
West Shore area since 1962.

To reach any of our facilities, call
(440) 808-5500



BRADLEY BAY
Health Center
Bay Village



CenterRidge
Health Campus
North Ridgeville



Garnett
Health Campus
Fairview Park



LAKESWOOD
SENIOR
HEALTH CAMPUS
Lakewood



Wellington
place
North Olmsted



13900 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood

(Campus is on NE corner of Bunts & Detroit)

(216) 228-7650

October 22, 2013

I will admit when my husband was admitted to your facility I was quite skeptical about the care he might receive. Within the first 48 hours, I changed my mind. These angels in disguise could not have taken better care of him.

I will always remember their compassion, love and caring attitude toward my husband as well as to me when I had a few breakdown moments.

The nurses, aides, therapists, social worker and floor nurse are all to be highly commended. Everyone did their very best for us. He was always well taken care of, I had no complaints. Their smiles, hugs and loving concern will always remain among my most precious memories.

Sincerely,
Irene U.



Join the Discussion at: www.lakewoodobserver.com

Lakewood Living

Report: Westshore Council of Governments (WCOG) meeting, Nov. 13, 2013

continued from page 3

funding does not pay for travel time.

ADAMHS provides several services to cities. In some areas of the county (although not in the WCOG cities), licensed social workers work in the schools. Over the past six years, 680 police officers have received crisis intervention training. Training can also be arranged for social workers and other professionals. The mayors will seek a joint crisis intervention training session for westshore safety forces and social workers in the spring.

Mr. Denihan encouraged the mayors to call him directly with any issues and asked to return in three months to review progress. He also encouraged participation in the Cleveland Clinic Heroin Summit on November 21 <http://ohiohidta.net/heroin-summit-112113>

Westshore Fire Investigation Unit (FIU) Proposal

The Westshore FIU was informally established in 1998 to provide a pool of fire investigators who could be called out through the WestCom dispatch center. The team is used about 15 times a year. Lakewood Fire Chief Scott Gilman presented a draft proposal by the WCOG cities' fire chiefs to formalize operating procedures and allow for a budget of \$500 per community per year for equipment and training.

The proposal was placed on the December agenda. The mayors asked that the fire chiefs finalize their recommendation, vote a resolution of support, list individuals who are candidates for the team, and itemize costs and proposed equipment. Meanwhile, the mayors will talk to their chiefs individually and ask their law directors to review the proposal. Mayor Bobst noted that it is vital to understand the overtime implications, both for individuals on the team and for the

firefighters who backfill when a team member is on an investigation.

Other Topics

Mayor Patton reported that 34 people attended the County Planning Commission training in October.

Tricia Granfors, Westshore Regional Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Coordinator, reported that 21 individuals from seven communities graduated in the recent CERT class. Westshore CERT now has 292 members.

Dave Greenspan, District 1 Representative, Cuyahoga County Council, presented checks for \$2,000 to CERT representatives. The money was raised through a charity baseball tournament.

Future Topics

Tentative topics include the Fire

Investigation Unit, the cost allocation formula for the Westshore Enforcement Bureau, an update on narcotics, and Share Ohio, an inventory system that could provide a basis to track and share public works equipment.

The Westshore Council of Governments was founded in 1971 "to foster cooperation between municipalities in all areas of municipal service." All meetings are open to the public. The next meeting will be December 11, 9:30-11:30 a.m., at the Lakewood Women's Pavilion. Official minutes are prepared by Mayor Summers's office. In 2014, Mayor Patton will chair the WCOG.

The Westshore CERT Has Friends In The Community (Foundation)

by Tricia Granfors

The goal of the Westshore Regional CERT (WSC) is to help citizens prepare for disasters common in the area, to have the skills to capably handle a variety of emergency situations, and to be a vital extension of emergency response services when needs outweigh resources. The goal of Cuyahoga County District 1 Council Representative Dave Greenspan's Friends for the Community Foundation is to support, promote, and enhance the quality of life, public safety initiatives, programs, and services within the Westshore communities.

The annual Friends for the Community Foundation Public Safety Charity Softball Tournament honors our hometown heroes and raises funds for the Westshore CERT and Olmsted CERT through friendly competition and family fun. At November's Westshore Council of Governments meeting Dave Greenspan presented the teams with the grants.



District 1 Cuyahoga County Council Member Dave Greenspan awards grant checks to WSC Coordinator Tricia Granfors and Olmsted CERT Coordinator Marty Palicka.

The WSC thanks the Friends for the Community Foundation, our participating responders, and the generous sponsors such as Morris Cadillac that make this support possible. The team continues to serve as valuable insurance for our Westshore neighborhoods, making us more disaster resistant and resilient.

Lakewood Hospital Offering Valet Parking

by Angela Smith

Lakewood Hospital is pleased to announce the addition of valet parking services for patients and visitors at the hospital's Belle Avenue entrance, which began Monday, November 18, 2013.

Valet service includes opening doors, providing assistance with wheelchairs, and way-finding for patients and visitors. Valet service will be available Monday through Friday from 7 am – 5 pm.

The regular cost is \$8. There is a discounted price of \$6 for seniors and ADA permit holders. Seniors must present their Golden Buckeye or AARP card.

Joe's

Lakewood Computer

We pay CASH for your computer.

Like us on Facebook

Call us: 216-409-1656

BBB

That's Slife!

Slife

That's What All The People Say

HEATING • COOLING

Air Conditioners

Furnaces, Boilers

Serving Lakewood

for Over 20 Years

LENNOX

HOME COMFORT SYSTEMS

Innovation never felt so good.™

Slife Heating & Cooling

216 221-0310

www.slife-hvac.com

McGOWN | MARKLING

www.mcgowmarkling.com

BEST LAW FIRMS

U.S. News & World Report

Best Lawyers®

McGown & Markling Co., L.P.A. remains among the select few law firms to receive a Tier 1 Ranking by U.S. News & World Report - Best Lawyers® "Best Law Firms" in "Education Law" for every year since the ranking began.

Serving the legal needs of governmental and private organizations, public and private officials, and employers and employees.

Lakewood Is Art

Beck Center Presents Encore Of Holiday Blockbuster "Annie" With Donation Drive

by Pat Miller

By popular demand, Beck Center for the Arts presents the return of "Annie," December 6, 2013 through January 5, 2014 on the Mackey Main Stage. In 2012, Northeast Ohio audiences wholeheartedly responded to the touching story of the spunky orphan determined to find her parents who abandoned her at an orphanage run by the cruel Miss Hannigan. In adventure after fun-filled adventure, Annie foils Hannigan's evil schemes and finds a new home in the mansion of Oliver "Daddy" Warbucks.

"It's a much-loved gem among seasoned theatergoers, but more importantly, it's a fantastic introduction to kids of all ages who will become our audiences of 'tomorrow,'" commented Director Scott Spence. "It's



Photo: Kathy Sandham

Anna Barrett as Annie with Buckley Collier as Sandy.

always amazing to revisit a project where you had a wondrous time collaborating with such talented artists," said

Spence. "You can't beat getting a chance to do Annie for a second straight year with a terrific mix of returning veterans and superb new talent."

Anna Barrett returns as "Annie" alongside the Cairn Terrier/Poodle Mix, Buckley Collier, as her lovable mutt Sandy. Inspired by Annie's decision to save the stray dog Sandy, Beck Center is proud to once again join forces with the Cleveland Animal Protective League. After an incredibly successful donation drive last year, Beck Center is also pleased to be hosting an encore of the "Annie Saved a Stray" campaign. All are welcomed to support this cause by donating essential items that help make the lives of the animals and the Cleveland APL staff APL better.

From pet food to office supplies and everything in between, donated

items save the Cleveland APL much-needed funds that can be reserved for animal care and programming. Visit beckcenter.org to access the Cleveland APL Animal Care Wish List. Donations may be dropped off the designated area in Beck Center's main lobby during the run of "Annie," December 6, 2013 to January 5, 2014.

Tickets for "Annie" are one sale now and matinee performances are selling fast. Show times are 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 2:30 p.m. Sundays. Special performances will be held 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 19; matinee-only on Saturday, December 28; and 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. performances on Saturdays, December 14 and January 4.

Tickets for "Annie" are \$29 for adults, \$26 for seniors (65 and older), \$12 for students (with valid I.D.), and \$10 for children (12 and under). An additional \$3 service fee per ticket is applied at the time of purchase. Group discounts (4 or more) are available. Purchase tickets online at beckcenter.org or call Customer Service at 216.521.2540, ext. 10. Beck Center for the Arts is located at 17801 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood, just ten minutes west of downtown Cleveland. Free onsite parking is available.

This production of "Annie" is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (mtishows.com) and is sponsored by First Federal Lakewood, West Roofing Systems, Cuyahoga Arts and Culture, and the Ohio Arts Council.

Beck Center Provides Plenty Of Unique Gifts And Holiday Productions To Keep Your Shopping Stress-Free For The Most Wonderful Time Of The Year

by Pat Miller

Beck Center for the Arts is fully prepared for the rapidly approaching holidays this year. With plenty of opportunities to meet shopper's needs, Beck Center is here to help. From original gifts to gift cards and theater tickets and classes, there are numerous options to suit all styles and age groups.

The "Beck the Halls" boutique returns just in time for early shoppers to get a head start on their holiday gift lists. Stop by Beck Center from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, December 7 and find one-of-a-kind gifts made by local artists and artisans at this annual event. Original works by Darrelle Centuori,

Danielle Dore-Rook, Bernadette D'Ettorre, Susan Gallagher, Laura Horrocks-Germany, Gregory Hildebrandt Dr. Marcello Mellino Angela Reber, Patricia Sigmier will be avail-

able throughout the boutique. Their creative works include jewelry, pottery, prints, drawings, photographs, watercolors, fiber art and more. Buy the gift for that special someone while supporting local artists within the community.

After shopping at Beck the Halls, get the perfect stocking stuffers by purchasing Beck Center gift cards. The versatility of Beck Center gift cards allows users to choose from eclectic theater productions and numerous arts education classes and lessons in dance, music, theater, and visual arts. Create art experiences and give the gift that keeps on giving: the Arts!

Theater tickets make an excellent gift that everyone can enjoy, so why not start a new tradition by seeing a show at Beck Center? Choose from the Professional Theater production of Annie, the Dance Workshop and Dance Education production of

Ebenezer Scrooge...Jazzed Up!, and the Youth Theater production of Law & Order: Fairy Tale Unit. Jam-packed within the month of December, the Beck Center stages provide enjoyable, family-friendly options.

More information regarding dates, times, gift cards, and tickets may all be accessed online at beckcenter.org or by calling Customer Service at 216.521.2540 x10. Beck Center for the Arts is located at 17801 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood, just ten minutes west of downtown Cleveland. Free onsite parking is available

Local Designer Toy And Fashion Brand Host Launch Party In Lakewood Gallery

by Rick Sans

Local Cleveland artists Ben Howard, Rick Sans, and Sergio Andujar II have developed a new brand to produce designer toys and clothing. They spent the majority of the last few years creating various art and customizing designer toys, so they decided to collaborate to create something bigger together. All three have spent time in Japan, so Asian themes and pop art play a significant part in their influences. Other influences derive from local culture, cartoons, comic books, street art, video games and pop culture.

The launch party is not just a celebration of the release of their first figure, but also a showcase of the trio's various art available for sale. The pop-up store will feature over 1000 pieces of work made by the trio that will be available for purchase, just in time for the holidays. The products will range from t-shirts, canvas art, designer toys, art on vinyl records, screen prints and art on upcycled found objects. The price range for their art is typically \$10-\$50, with some larger pieces being

an exception can go upwards of \$400. "We try to keep our art affordable. Not everyone has a budget that has room for purchasing art or collecting designer toys, and we want give folks a chance to get something cool for themselves or great gift for someone else," says Sans. Music will be provided by live DJ sets from Cleveland's own EDM (Electronic Dance Music) label 4NPLCY. Giveaways and raffles are planned for through out the event.

The first figure they are producing called "Warilla" is a hybrid of a gorilla and a werewolf. It was designed to be a blank DIY figure, with smooth features to serve as a platform figure for other artists to customize their own designs.

Launch Party runs 6pm - 10pm on December 20th, Pop-up Store runs December 20 - 21 at Breakneck Gallery

For further information about Doomfellaz, their work, or the artists please visit their website atwww.doomfellaz.com or email soceana@gmail.com.

Contact Information: Rick Sans, 440-341-3515, soceana@gmail.com, <http://www.doomfellaz.com>.

Lakewood Living

Are You Positively Senior Friendly?

by Georganne Vartorella, M.D.

Jack Dorsey, the founder of Twitter, and the City of Lakewood have something in common-they're both positively senior friendly. Dorsey is a regular follower of 75 year old Natalie Yellin's tweets. In fact, Ms. Yellin is a trusted adviser to his mobile payments company, Square, Inc. Like Mr. Dorsey, Lakewood's business community knows what to do with aging parents and grandparents. Give them a job.

Positively Senior is a new business in Lakewood that transforms seniors from net consumers of community resources into net producers, contributing to the economic growth and development of the neighborhoods they live in. Our mission is to match seniors according to their skills, experience and interest, for work in local businesses and to market those businesses employing our seniors to all generations.

At Positively Senior we believe that seniors who lead purposeful lives through meaningful work are healthier and wealthier, requiring fewer of a community's precious but dwindling resources and having a pocket full of change to spread around town.

If you think granny can be packed

up with grandpa and warehoused like canned sardines, think again. U.S. Census Data report the number of people between 65 and 85 will double by 2030 and represent 20% of the entire population. More than 90% will remain living in their communities.

A growing number of research studies consistently show social isolation in older adults increases the progression of a spectrum of diseases, including depression, dementia, heart disease, hypertension and diabetes.

The AARP has formed the Isolation Impact Team, a task force to study the problem. Preliminary results have concluded social isolation in seniors is more deleterious than smoking fifteen cigarettes a day, consuming more than six alcoholic beverages per day or not exercising. They also found the health risk of being alone is twice that of obesity.

For those naysayers worried seniors will take jobs from younger workers supporting families, don't be. Seniors no longer want to sit at the head of the table. They just want to be invited for dinner. I know. I am Positively Senior.

Positively Senior is now accepting applications. E-mail: Positively4Seniors@yahoo.com



Prudential Lucien Realty



Chris Bergin



Kathy Lewis



Eric Lowrey



Pat Murphy



Andy Tabor



Monica Woodman

Be Sure To Read Our Articles In This Issue

Lakewood \$118,000
Large home, excellent maintenance!
1606cohassett.pruluc.com
Kathy Lewis & Eric Lowrey
216-226-4673

Lakewood \$149,900
Gorgeous kitchen--impeccable!
1422wyandotte.pruluc.com
Kathy Lewis & Eric Lowrey
216-226-4673

Fairview Park \$109,900
Family room Addition!
4279w204.pruluc.com
Pat Murphy 440-666-3650

Rocky River \$197,000
Charming! Great location!
18976inglewood.pruluc.com
Monica Woodman
216-496-8782

Lakewood \$109,900
Great Investment!
2157atkins.pruluc.com
Chris Bergin 216-244-7175

Novelty \$325,000
Move to the country!
8140belleverson.pruluc.com
Andy Tabor 216-235-5352

Serving Buyers and Sellers Since 1976
Visit Us At www.LucienRealty.com
Or phone 216-226-4673





INTEGRITY

Window & Door



216.221.5800

integrityOH.com



Fay's Psychic

Over 50 years in one location!
Advice on Love, Business, and Marriage.
216-421-9519
410 WEST ST. CLAIR

"In The Historic Warehouse District."
For employment call.



P.M.K.

PAINTWORKS

INTERIOR
EXTERIOR
RESIDENTIAL
COMMERCIAL
216.226.3056



Erie Style Designs

Color Consulting & Design Services
Interior & Exterior
Residential / Commercial / Historic

Susan Kovach ~ Designer/Owner
216.849.3793

ErieStyleDesigns.Com



Neubert PAINTING

Lakewood's #1 choice for interior and exterior painting
Serving Northeast Ohio Homeowners since 1975
Quality Painting.
THAT'S ALL WE DO!

Call us at 216-529-0360 for a Free Consultation!
neubertpainting.com

Holiday Lights Contest

presented by
Lakewood Council
PTA
everychild.onevoice.

Prizes!
Enter today!

Decorate your front yards & porches for a friendly, holiday lights & displays decorating contest!

We want to see YOUR best display!

Winners will be selected by Mayor Summers, Cindy Einhouse, President & CEO of the Beck Center & Mike Gorman of GV Art + Design. Questions???
Email HolidayLightsContest@gmail.com

CONTEST ENTRY FORM
Lakewood Resident or Lakewood Business
Address to be decorated: _____
Phone Number: _____
Email: _____
Entry Fee: \$20 Residential or \$25 Business
Please make checks payable to Lakewood Council of PTAs.
Please return entry form along with entry fee to:
Attn: Holiday Lights Contest
2135 Olive Ave.
Lakewood, OH 44107

Entries must be received by December 15th!
Judging will take place between December 16th and December 19th, so have your lights and displays ready!
Winners will be notified!

www.postermywall.com

The Back Page

LAKEWOODITES



ROB MASEK



**ALLURE PAINTING**
INTERIOR/EXTERIOR COMMERCIAL/RESIDENTIAL

Quality interior and exterior painting for over a decade

OWNER ON SITE • FREE ESTIMATES
Now scheduling interior house painting!

216-287-7468/216-228-0138 office • www.allurepainting.net

**W M**
E
D ONNELLY

SERVING LAKEWOOD SINCE 1922

CALL US TODAY!
216-521-7000
24 HOUR EMERGENCY SERVICE

\$15 OFF
any service call

\$125 OFF
any furnace or A/C installation

HEATING & COOLING

SALES ■ SERVICE ■ INSTALLATION

**FIVE HOUR HAPPY HOUR**
MON-FRI 2-7PM
QUAKER STEAK & LUBE
BEST WINGS USA

PLUS ENJOY:
\$2 WELL DRINKS
\$2.50 SELECT PINTS AND BOTTLES
\$3 HOUSE BOMBS AND WINES
\$3 CHEESEBURGER AND FRIES

1/2 OFF SELECT APPETIZERS & THE ENTIRE VEGETARIAN MENU

Drink More. Pay Less

15312 DETROIT AVE
LAKEWOOD, OH 216-221-5823

**Rozi's**

Hours
Mon. - Thurs. 7:30am - 7pm
Fri. Sat. 7:30am - 9pm
Sunday 12am - 5pm
Café service ends 15 minutes prior to closing.

14900 Detroit Ave. • 216.221.1119

New Gift Catalog now-online and in the store. Holiday Season is quickly approaching. Be sure to check out our new award winning Gift Basket Selctions

www.rozis.com
WE SHIP WORLDWIDE

Thank-you for making Rozi's Wine House, Inc. Northeast Ohio's #1 Ranked Wine Store (Cleveland & Scene Magazines)

**Rozi's Front Porch**
BIG HOLIDAY TASTING November 23 11am - 6pm
NOW OPEN!
Choose a select bottle (or glass) of wine or draft beer from from the Café Menu
OR
Browse Cleveland's #1 Rated Wine Store and choose any bottle of wine or beer from the shelves and take it back to the porch to enjoy.

**Italian Creations**
Restaurant, Catering, and Take-out

Making life simple...
Catering from
Italian Creations

216-226-2282

16104 Hilliard Road • Lakewood
www.ItalianCreation.com

Italian and Classical American Cuisine

HOME ALONE PET SITTING, INC.



In Home Pet Care
While You Are Away
Experienced
Veterinarian Technician
Bonded & Insured
216-548-1543
d.hokin@sbcglobal.net
homealonepetsittinginc.com

**The Root Cafe**

Espresso
Coffee
Tea
Beer
Food

15118 Detroit in Lakewood.
www.theroot-cafe.com

Our menu is completely vegetarian, and our ingredients are local and organic when available.

**NUNZIO'S Pizzeria**
Visit Sicily Without Leaving Home

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

SINCE 1990 • 23 YEARS IN BUSINESS!

U.S. COMMERCE ASSOCIATION
BEST OF CLEVELAND FOR 2 CONSECUTIVE YEARS 2009 & 2010

NOW SERVING 4 LOCATIONS!
Lakewood • Fairview Park
Cleveland • Akron Campus

OPEN:
Monday - Saturday
4pm - 3:30am
Deliveries until 3:30am

Sunday
2pm - 1:30am
Deliveries until 1:30am

PIZZA	Small 6 cut - 9"	Medium 8 cut - 12"	Large 12 cut - 16"	Party Tray Half Sheet
Plain	\$6.50	\$8.00	\$10.50	\$11.50
1 Item	\$7.00	\$8.75	\$11.50	\$13.00
2 Items	\$7.50	\$9.50	\$12.50	\$14.50
3 Items	\$8.00	\$10.25	\$13.50	\$16.00
4 Items	\$8.50	\$11.00	\$14.50	\$17.50
Deluxe	\$9.00	\$11.75	\$15.50	\$19.00
Extra Items	\$0.50	\$0.75	\$1.00	\$1.50
Extra Cheese	\$1.00	\$1.50	\$2.00	\$2.50

Available Items: Pepperoni, Sausage, Mushrooms, Onions, Green Peppers, Anchovies, Ham, Bacon, Fresh Garlic, Black Olives, Hot Peppers, Ground Meat & Artichoke Hearts

17615 Detroit Ave. • 216-228-2900
www.nunziospizza.net