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Behold, my friends, the spring is come; the earth has gladly received the embraces of the sun, and we shall soon see the results of their love! - Sitting Bull

THE LAKEWOOD OBSERVER



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Volume 10, Issue 7, April 2, 2014

The Cleveland Orchestra About Town & At LPL

by Leana Donofrio-Milovan

The renowned Cleveland Orchestra is known for drawing big crowds across the globe, but now they have their sights set on Lakewood. In May, the Orchestra will travel to Lakewood to perform in

some unexpected locations.

At 6 p.m. on May 18, the orchestra will perform on the Lakewood Public Library's Front Porch. This free and open event is part of PORCHestra, an evening of music on Lakewood's front porches sponsored by

Charter One. It begins at 4 p.m., featuring Cleveland Orchestra musicians, Cleveland Orchestra Youth Orchestra musicians, and community musicians performing on Lakewood porches, culminating with the concert outdoors at the Lakewood Pub-

lic Library. Prior to the event, volunteers from the Orchestra and the community will renovate two front porches chosen by LakewoodAlive.

A special pre-concert Story Time, courtesy of the Madison Branch of Lakewood Public

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Wings Hobby Shop, We Loved Ya!

by Jim O'Bryan

It is hard to put into words losing something you have known just about your whole life. It is even tougher when you know the people involved that will be lost too. All you can do is suck it up and wish them the best.

This is how I felt as I talked with "Al" Cicerchi, owner of Wings Hobby Shop, a business he took over from his father Ron, who bought it 49 years ago. He was explaining how he and his brother Ron spent a summer moving it from the old location on Mars and Madison to the current location when suddenly I had



Vincetta Cicerchi, Betsy Pufnock, and Al Cicerchi ring up a Ferrari F1-90 model, they will be open through the end of May, so stop in.

to ask the question we all wondered. "How DID your dad lose him arm?"

Ron Cicerchi Sr. was a hell of a man. He knew about

everything, had done everything, and as we were buying model cars, then Estes Rockets, then HO scale miniature cars

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St. Ed's Celebrates 20 Years Of Community Meals

by Mike Deneen

Twenty years ago, St. Edward math teacher Paul Bosley had an idea. Bosley, at the time a relatively new member of the faculty, was an experienced cook who had volunteered at community meals in Painesville. He thought it could be a great idea to have a monthly community meal at St. Edward. He took the idea to Mike Reiling, a religion teacher at the

school. The two men presented the concept to the St. Edward administration, which agreed to host the monthly event at the school's cafeteria.

The first community meal was held on April 28, 1994. Since then, the meal has grown to serve between 125-150 guests per month. In addition, about 30 meals are delivered through the Lakewood Office on Aging, and over 30 more

are sent to a women's shelter. About 50 volunteers work each month to make each meal a reality. The rotating cast of volunteers consists of St. Ed students, parents, alumni and friends. Funds to provide the meals are donated by St. Edward alumni, faculty, and friends. The school provides all the kitchen and dining facilities in its cafeteria.

Bosley and Reiling organize each event: Bosley runs the kitchen operations, while Reiling manages the servers and hosts. The separation of duties fits each man's personality. "This man makes a great meal," says Reiling about Bosley. Reiling's easygoing demeanor makes him ideal to manage the dining area. "I don't have the patience [for serving]," says Bosley, "he is compassionate."

Both men are very proud of the meal. "It's the building of the community and the

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Student volunteers helping in the kitchen at the community meal.

Photo by Roger Mastroianni



Assistant principal cellist Charles Bernard and oboist Mary Lynch of the Cleveland Orchestra at Mahall's in Lakewood, one of the venues for the upcoming Lakewood Residency.

LHS Students Earn Best In State In PTA Reflections Contest

by Christine Gordillo

The results from the Ohio PTA Reflections art contest judging is in and pieces of two district students have been deemed the best in the state in their respective categories while four others earned recognition as well. LHS students Julia Neff and Gregory Watson will move on to national judging with their Awards of Excellence.

Of the 24 entries Lakewood's PTA Council submitted to the Ohio PTA, the following received recognition:

Julia Neff, 9th grade: Award of Excellence for her short film, "Looking Back at Lincoln," about the history of Lincoln Elementary and her experiences there.

Gregory Watson, 11th grade: Award of Excellence for his musical composition, "Tigrynoch."

Abe Dalisky, 8th grade, Harding: Award of Outstanding Achievement, Photography.

Nava Ramazanali, 8th grade, Harding: Award of Merit, Photography.

Calvin Dolatowski, 8th grade, Harding: Honorable Mention, Visual Art.

Audrey Stahl, 6th grade, Harding: Honorable Mention, Music.

Watson and Neff's pieces will represent Ohio in the national Reflections competition in Austin, Texas, this June. In addition, the two will be fea-

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Breakfast With The Bunny

by Lynn Foran

Make plans to visit with the Easter Bunny on Saturday, April 12th. H2O- Help to Others-- will be hosting "Breakfast with the Bunny" in the Woman's Pavilion at Lakewood Park. The breakfast, in its 13th year, is sponsored by First Federal of Lakewood. Attendees are served a pancake breakfast along with an opportunity to purchase raffle tickets for themed baskets

while enjoying a spring morning with the Easter Bunny.

There are four seatings: 8:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 10:45 a.m., and 11:45 a.m. The cost is \$8 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under. For reservations or more information, look under Events at www.thelakewoodfoundation.org/#!h2o. Reservations can be purchased until noon on April 9th.

Lakewood Observer

Birth Announcement: Lorelei Mae Bindel

by Margaret Brinich

Many of our loyal LO readers may have noticed that last issue’s City Council article was written by a stand-in for our usual columnist. That was because, the Lakewood Observer’s very own City Council reporter, Christopher Bindel, along with his wife Kristen Bindel, were welcoming their first child, Lorelei Mae, on March 4, 2014 at 1:55 p.m. Lorelei Mae was 8 lbs 1 oz and 20 inches long at birth.

The couple, both LHS graduates and civically active community members, are excited to be starting their family here in Lakewood.

From all of us here at the LO, congrats Chris and Kristen!



Already looking very thoughtful, Lorelei Mae considers the issues at hand in her dad’s latest LO article.

The Cleveland Orchestra About Town & At LPL

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Library, will also be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, May 24 at the Turkish Cultural Center, 13303 Madison Ave. This Musical Rainbow program with a Cleveland Orchestra musician is for very young children and will include an Instrument Petting Zoo courtesy of the Beck Center for the Arts.

“Creating a ‘grass roots’ opportunity for Lakewood to experience perhaps the greatest orchestra in the world at a very personal level is a cultural experience that we will remember for years to come. Our increasingly vibrant commercial corridors and neighborhoods will be made ever-more-

so by the music and the musicians,” commented Lakewood Mayor Michael P. Summers. Ian Andrews, executive director of LakewoodAlive, Lakewood’s nonprofit economic development organization, said, “We are ecstatic to have been chosen as The Cleveland Orchestra’s destination for immersion into a Northeast Ohio community. Lakewood is known for its commitment to the arts. The Orchestra’s events will strengthen this commitment and showcase the city’s great quality of life, local organizations, restaurants, schools, and businesses that make our community special.”

LHS Students Earn Best In State In PTA Reflections Contest

continued from page 1

tured in the May Issue of Ohio PTA’s “The News.” All six of the students recognized at the state level will be invited to attend an awards ceremony in Columbus in April and their artwork will be on display at the state convention.

For more than 40 years, Reflections has given students from schools with active PTAs the chance to create works of art for fun and recognition.

Students in preschool through 12th grade are encouraged to submit works in six areas: literature, dance choreography, film/video production, musical composition, photography and visual arts. All entries must follow a chosen theme, which this year was “Believe, Dream, Inspire.”

Neff and Watson’s pieces can be viewed on the district web site under the Reflections news item at www.lakewoodcityschools.org.

Hot Off The Deck

<http://lakewoodobserver.com/forum>

Join the discussion online – visit the **OBSERVATION DECK**

LAKEWOOD DISCUSSION				
			Member	
Topics	Author	Replies	Views	Last Post
Charter Review - The Reports	Jim O'Bryan	9	631	Mon Mar 31
Updated Weekly				
Charter Review-The Observations	Jim O'Bryan	37	930	Mon Mar 31
Somethin's Smokin Cafe	Meg Ostrowski	8	1127	Mon Mar 31
CLOSED				
Bike Lakewood Questionnaire	Ben VanLear	2	183	Mon Mar 31
Ideas for Improvement				
Last Snow? Doubt It! Relax, Enjoy These - 60 On Tuesday!	Jim O'Bryan	0	521	Sun Mar 30
City snow plows	Ryan Salo	132	6861	Sun Mar 30
Sin Tax Extension-Yes or No?	Michael Deneen	10	372	Sat Mar 29
Really! Psssst It Is 03.23.2014	Jim O'Bryan	3	2076	Sat Mar 29
Lakewood Fire Department's Newest Addition		0	306	Sat Mar 29
Winter 2014-2015	russell dunn	1	223	Fri Mar 28
Roadsalt Crapshoot ! add a dome ?				
Lakewood Not Walkable for Seniors	sharon kinsella	63	3709	Fri Mar 28
Councilman Shawn Juris and RTA shuttle bus service	Scott Meeson	8	771	Fri Mar 28
Small White Dog Found!	Jim O'Bryan	0	149	Fri Mar 28
Another Double Fire This One	Jim O'Bryan	4	3049	Fri Mar 28
Sign up for Affordable Health Care NOW!	Betsy Voinovich	0	83	Thu Mar 27
Best Taco Bell - Step Away From The Smart Phone!	Jim O'Bryan	22	2486	Tue Mar 25
Melt on Thrillist's '21 Best Sandwich Shops in America'	David Lay	0	304	Tue Mar 25
Auto Racing Comes To Lakewood, Gentleman Start Your...	Jim O'Bryan	3	491	Tue Mar 25
9th Annual Beer Tasting Fundraiser - 4/12 presented by JFF	Corey Rossen	0	106	Mon Mar 24
Little mini schnauzer still missing!!!!	Lauren Smith	0	100	Mar 24



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The mission of the Lakewood Observer is to attract, articulate, and amplify civic intelligence and community good will in the city of Lakewood and beyond.

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

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

Upcoming Submission Deadline

Sunday, April 6, 2014
Sunday, April 20, 2014

Publish Date

Wednesday, April 16, 2014
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City News

City Takes Steps Toward Widespread Sidewalk Improvements

Council President Mary Louise Madigan (Ward IV) called the March 17, 2014 meeting of Council to order at 7:35pm.

Finance Committee Chair, Ryan Nowlin (At-Large) reviewed ordinances approving the sale of bonds for improvements the City would like to make, stating that in two meetings his committee had agreed to recommend that Council adopt all of them. Council passed each one with further discussion sought on one item.

The ordinance in question would sell bonds to raise funds not to exceed \$500,000 dollars to create a rotating fund for sidewalk repair. Although Councilman David Anderson (Ward I) was present for the Finance Committee meeting at which this issue was discussed, there remained a few questions that he thought would be better off directed to the Public Works Director, Joe Beno. First, he wanted to know how his department arrived at the amount of \$500,000 dollars.

Director Beno said that last year about 600 citations were issued for side-

walks with repair costs ranging from \$100-1,500 dollars. The mean price of \$500 was multiplied by the 600 citations to get to \$300,000. Because Public Works failed to complete last year's repairs due to lack of funds, they added an additional \$200,000. This money would be used in a rotating fashion, the City would upfront with property owners paying the City back. Councilman Anderson asked if Director Beno could tell him how long it has taken homeowners to pay the City back in the past. Beno deferred to Finance Director, Jennifer Pae. Director Pae said that she did not have those numbers at hand.

Councilman Anderson then posed the question that with the money coming back in, is \$500,000 necessary?

Mayor Summers responded that in the time since he joined Council in 2008 the City has failed to make significant headway on sidewalks, in part due to the lack of upfront capital. Sidewalk care is the property owner's responsibility, but the City cannot allow the

sidewalk to remain in a degraded state if the owner fails to repair it. With 180 miles of sidewalks the City's ability to make an impact has been limited. The Mayor said that he believes these funds will allow the city to make some real headway and that the City is one year into a 10-year-plan to evaluate all of Lakewood's sidewalks. Historically, if the City does nothing, 10% would not be repaired. The Mayor said they would be looking at an average of \$400,000 dollars a year. Rounding up allows them to push harder to get more done. The Mayor said that rates are still low, around 2%, allowing the City to do this more cheaply now than in the future.

Councilman Anderson said he applauds the Mayor and his administration's efforts but wanted to be clear on all points. Council passed the ordinance.

Next, Councilwoman Madigan asked for consideration of an ordinance that would allow leashed dog walking

in Madison Park. It was referred to the Public Works Committee.

Mayor Summers asked Council to pass a resolution "disapproving of the State's actions to restrict Citizens' access to the ballot," and demanding a repeal of laws restricting voting opportunities, saying "it is discouraging to recognize that many Ohio General Assembly members, mostly from rural Ohio, feel they know better than anyone else how all of Ohio must be treated." He is distressed by the idea of a "one-size-fits-all" plan as he believes it discounts the diversity of the state.

The legislation from the Statehouse moves regulations on voter registration and ballot access from local governments to the state. Mayor Summers feels that this is an attempt to disenfranchise voters. For over 200 years local governments have been in control of their election laws. "Governor Kasich and the Ohio General

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Fire RoundUp! Whew!



The fire on Madison ruled arson with a suspect in jail. Cause was a fight over money. Over 100 images from these fires at the Lakewood Observer! Stop by today and every day!



1659 Orchard Grove when Lakewood Fire Department got there.



15807 Athens when crews arrived. Cigarette caused this fire. Right: Fire Station 1, flying the new Fire Fighters Memorial Flag to honor the 2 firefighters killed in Boston.



1659 Orchard Grove next day. Started by a cigarette disposed of improperly.



Lakewood Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast

by John Huetter

On Sunday, April 27th from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. the Kiwanis Club of Lakewood will hold their annual "All You Care to Eat Pancake Breakfast" at the Lakewood Catholic Academy, 14808 Lake Avenue, just West of Lakewood Park. All tickets are \$7.00, children 5 years and under are FREE! Breakfast includes: pancakes (All you care to eat Regular or Blueberry), sausages, juice & beverages. Parking is at the rear of the building and is handicap accessible. All tickets available at the door!

As always, 100% of the proceeds benefit Lakewood Kiwanis Community projects.



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City News

Welcome To Lakewood Event Set For Wednesday, April 30

by April Stoltz

The City of Lakewood’s Community Relations Advisory Commission and the Lakewood Family Collaborative are sponsoring the 3rd annual Welcome to Lakewood event on Wednesday, April 30, 2014 from 7 to 9 p.m. at Garfield Middle School, 13114 Detroit Avenue. This event is designed to welcome new residents to the community and to assist anyone looking for additional opportunities to make connections within the community. Welcome to Lakewood is a fun event where residents can learn more about local civic organizations, services and ways to get involved in Lakewood.

This is an opportunity to meet Mayor Mike Summers, Lakewood School representatives and Lakewood City Council Members. Dozens of local organizations will be on hand to provide information about how to get more involved in the community. There will also be yummy treats from Lakewood’s local bakeries and coffee shops. All attendees will leave with a packet of information all about Lakewood.

Are you a real estate agent? Invite prospective new home buyers to come and see all that this city has to offer.

Are you looking for volunteer

opportunities? Come to this event where you’ll find out that you don’t need to leave Lakewood to volunteer for just about anything you may be looking for. Volunteer here and you can save time, money and gas and do what you love.

Are you recently retired or planning on doing it soon? Come find out all that is available for you to get active in.

Do you want to get more involved in city government? Come to the city table and check out all the boards and commissions and see if there’s one

you’d like to serve on.

This event is open to everyone. We can’t wait to see all of you there.

The Lakewood Community Relations Advisory Commission was established in 2005 to serve in an advisory capacity for the purpose of educating, informing and making recommendations to city officials, departments, boards and commissions on matters relating to community relations within the City of Lakewood in an effort to advance respect for diversity, bonds of mutuality and equity.

The Lakewood Family Collaborative is a group of agencies, organizations and concerned individuals working together to make sure a network of services and supports are available and accessible to children, youth and families in our community. The objectives of the Collaborative are to assist in the identification of community issues and needs as they relate to youth/families, advocacy for youth/family/community and consultation and support to strengthen and expand community networking/partnerships.

U.S. EPA, Rep. Marcy Kaptur Announce \$105,000 In Great Lakes Green Infrastructure Grant For Lakewood

by Colin McEwen

The U.S. EPA and Rep. Marcy Kaptur joined Mayor Michael Summers to announce that Lakewood was one of four Lake Erie shoreline cities to receive funding for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative.

The Northern Ohio green infrastructure projects, one of them slated for Lakewood, are aimed at improving water quality in the Lake Erie basin.

The city’s storm water management plans include the addition of trees, bioswales and permeable pavers.

“In Lakewood, Lake Erie starts at our rooftops, our sidewalks and our streets,” Summers said.

Lakewood will receive \$105,000 in grants that will be used on the city’s Green Street Project, on Madison Avenue at Madison Park, and the Green Parking Lot Project, at a municipal parking lot near Detroit Avenue. The funding was announced at a meeting at the Woman’s Pavilion at Lakewood Park on Tuesday, March 18.

“We’re grateful for the money that will support this very visible project,” said Summers. “It’s a project that will demonstrate some of the ways that we can better manage storm water, reminding our citizens what we can do



— and what we are obligated to do.”

The other cities awarded grant funding were Cleveland, Toledo and Lorain.

For more information about the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative or Shoreline Cities Green Infrastructure Grants, visit <http://www.glri.us/>.



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- Over 50 local organizations
- Activities for kids
- Yummy treats from local bakeries

Sponsored by the Lakewood Community Relations Advisory Commission & The Lakewood Family Collaborative.

THE LAKEWOOD FAMILY COLLABORATIVE

Lakewood Public Library

compiled by **Leana Donofrio-Milovan**

Thursday, April 3
Poetry Month: “A Bomb in Her Bosom: the Enigma of Emily Dickinson”

A Dramatic Presentation by WordStage
The first word of the first poem she ever wrote was, appropriately enough, “awake.” Almost two centuries later, Emily Dickinson is still jolting us into consciousness. The legendary recluse, who spent most of her life hidden from the world in the small town of Amherst, Massachusetts, wrote poetry for four decades yet allowed only a handful of her poems to be published in her lifetime. It wasn’t until decades after her death, that all 1,789 of them were discovered and published in their original, unedited form. But according to recent scholarship and new biographies, the myth of the shy, virginal woman in the white dress hidden away in her father’s house, is too simple. The Dickinson of closer inspection reveals a fiercely passionate poetic pioneer with a withering wit and yearnings that, like a good poem, can lift the top of your head off. In truth, her avoidance of public life may have had a less romantic cause—epilepsy. (The most effective treatment available for such a condition to those who could afford it would have been to simply stay home.) The debate rages on and readers are welcome to make up their own minds. Whatever the case, Dickinson has never suffered from a shortage of fans and admirers and she is now widely considered one of the New World’s greatest poets. WordStage examines her life and literary legacy through dramatic readings of her poems, letters and diaries, accompanied by the music of her time.

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

Friends Spring Book Sale Preview
Thursday, April 3 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 5
Friends Spring Book Sale
Saturday, April 5 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Lakewood Public Cinema: “The Seventh Seal” (1957)
Directed by Ingmar Bergman

There’s no doubt that this quintessential art house film delivers the heavy symbolism and philosophical discussion you would expect. You might be surprised, however, to find that it is not without humor and humanity and that its major themes—far from being pretentious twaddle—are accessible to any film lover willing to read the subtitles. There is a reason it’s become such an oft-parodied classic... A battle-weary knight returns from the Crusades only to find his countrymen dying of the plague. He has lost his faith in both God and mankind. When the specter of Death comes to claim him, the Knight challenges Death to a game of chess for his very soul. Death is a little distracted with the plague and religious hysteria creating so much extra work for him, but that does not stop him from being drawn into a spirited discussion with the Knight over the existence of God. Hardly any other film is this direct in raising such questions. Fewer still will leave the faithful and the faithless alike with the well-earned hope that things might get better.

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

Sunday, April 6
Sunday with the Friends: The Rough and Tumble

This charming folk duo is coming all the way from Nashville, Tennessee to lock eyes with you in a crowded room, wink and smile. Mallory Graham and Scott Tyler both started as solo artists, but eventually found that they had more fun singing together and finishing each other’s songs. That lovely sense of friendship found comes through in their original music, marked by divine harmonies and a giddy sense of humor. Their songwriting is largely influenced by good storytelling about bad people-and bad stories about terrible people, too. Don’t be surprised if you see them picking through the stacks after the show looking for their next inspiration. Musically speaking, there’s no better way to kick off National Poetry Month.

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

Hands-On Help with eReaders
Do you own a shiny, new eReader, but don’t know how to download any of the thousands of free titles that are available through the Library? Make an appointment with a knowledgeable staff member who can show you around the bells and whistles of your device, whether it’s a Kindle, Nook, iPad, iPhone or something else entirely. Let’s talk.

Thursday Nights at the Madison Branch - Call (216)228-7428
Sunday Nights at the Main Library - Call (216)226-8275 ext. 127

Wednesday, April 9
Lakewood Historical Society:
Cleveland’s Great Lakes Exposition, 1936-1937

It was the biggest party Cleveland ever threw. Back in 1936, in the middle of the Great Depression, the Great Lakes Exposition filled over a hundred acres of the downtown lake-front with everything from industrial exhibits to ethnic eateries. Shakespeare shared the stage with strippers and Billy Rose’s Aquacade spectacular featured the talents of a young Johnny Weissmuller. In all, some seven million people streamed into the city to have their spirits lifted by the wonders of Cleveland. Local author, historian and master orator, John Vacha tells the story with vintage photographs, maps, brochures and ticket stubs in this illustrated lecture based on his book, Meet Me on Lake Erie, Dearie! Books will be available for sale and signing at the event.

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

Saturday, April 12
Sew Your Own Library Tote

The Library stopped handing out plastic bags years ago out of a concern for the environment and a desire to save a little money, but that doesn’t mean we want you to stop checking out more books, movies and CDs than you can carry. Create your own unique and stylish tote bag in this hands-on, no experience necessary craft program. All of the materials you need are provided for you, and a master seamstress will be on hand to guide you through it. Space is limited. *This program is available to anyone age eight and up. Call (216) 226-8275, ext. 127 to register.*

2:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the Main Library Homework Help Room

Lakewood Public Cinema: “Gunfight at the O.K. Corral” (1957)
Directed by John Sturges, Part of The Golden Age of Westerns
Discussion Series, presented by Terry Meehan

Over fifty actors have played Wyatt Earp onscreen—film legends like Randolph Scott, Henry Fonda, Kurt Russell and Kevin Costner. Those who played Doc Holliday, however, were typically relegated to supporting roles. That all changes when screen legends Burt Lan-

caster and Kirk Douglas ride into Dodge. When they portray the prominent pair, star power meets firepower and those nasty Clantons don’t stand a chance. Mary Doria Russell, the bestselling author of Doc and The Sparrow, will be Professor Terry Meehan’s special guest for a post-film discussion of the enduring power of the Earp legend—and why none of these true stories ever seem to agree on anything. Meehan introduces each of his classic westerns with rare clips and original documentaries, followed by audience reaction and conversation. Books will be for sale and signing.

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

Sunday, April 13
Sunday with the Friends: Brian Henke

Brian Henke composes and performs his music like a painter putting images on canvas, a kind of sonic shaman, drawing his inspiration from the world around him. An avid hiker, he often brings his guitar along to create a spontaneous response to his outdoor settings. Mother Earth has provided him with an immense living gallery from the humbling spectacle of her natural wonders to the simple beauty of a treetop against a blue sky. Her majestic legacy and the magical feeling of awe and peace inspire the compositions of this award winning guitarist. Though he is widely known for his intricate, finger-style playing, we find ourselves entranced by the words he doesn’t say. The stories hidden in his music say so much and leave us feeling fresh and relaxed.

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

Hands-On Help with eReaders
Do you own a shiny, new eReader, but don’t know how to download any of the thousands of free titles that are available through the Library? Make an appointment with a knowledgeable staff member who can show you around the bells and whistles of your device, whether it’s a Kindle, Nook, iPad, iPhone or something else entirely. Let’s talk.

Thursday Nights at the Madison Branch - Call (216)228-7428
Sunday Nights at the Main Library - Call (216)226-8275 ext. 127

Tuesday, April 15
Poetry Month: Don’t Laugh! (Out Loud)
The Poetry of Joe Toner and Dan Rourke

Being pretentious, dreary and inscrutable—all at the same time—is a lot of hard work. These two local poets take the easy way out. Despite their education, these veteran school-teachers prefer to write sweet, breezy verses that can be appreciated by anyone with an ear for a well-turned phrase and a feeling for the beautiful little twists and turns of life. Joe, who claims to have roller-skated from Minneapolis to Cleveland, also claims to have read poetry with Dan at the Shaker Library’s Poetry in the Woods program for the last ten years. “We’d like to bring our poetry to Lakewood so that our west side friends can scratch their heads with the same vigor as our east side friends.” Dan, a former English teacher, former magazine editor and former employee of a surprising number of defunct bookstores, is the proud author of a series of breathtaking, unpublished novels. While both are known for making even the hardest-hearted critics of poetry crack a smile, Dan specializes in the linguistically astonishing as Joe gives himself over to the absurd. Bobbleheads of Ovid will be given away to the first fifty audience members who realize that this is a joke and that there will be no free giveaways.

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

Introduction to Ancestry: Library Edition
6:00 p.m. in the Main Library Learning Lab

LPL Children/Youth Events

compiled by **Eric Knapp**

Thursdays, April 3 – April 24
Youth Trivia - For students in fourth through sixth grade

This team-based, four-week program will test your knowledge of all things important and not. Sign up as a team or let us place you in one. To register, please stop in or call (216) 226-8275, ext. 140.

4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room.

Saturday, April 5
Duct Tape Wallet - For students sixth through twelfth grade
Make your own fashion statement by creating a duct tape wallet. To register, stop in or call (216) 226-8275, ext. 140.

3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room.

Sunday, April 6
Origami Go - For students sixth through twelfth grade

Origami Go is for everyone! Each session begins with basic fold techniques and transitions to a group project. After that, it’s origami free-time. Supplies and project books provided. To register, please stop in or call (216) 226-8275, ext. 140.

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

Saturday, April 12
Tail Waggin’ Tutors - For school-age children

Bone up on your reading skills by reading to a dog. Drop in for a one-to-one session with one of our dogs and owners that have been certified through Therapy Dogs International.

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose 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.

Ongoing, 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

Lakewood Public Library

Recapture The Magic Of Cleveland’s Great Lakes Exposition At Lakewood Public Library

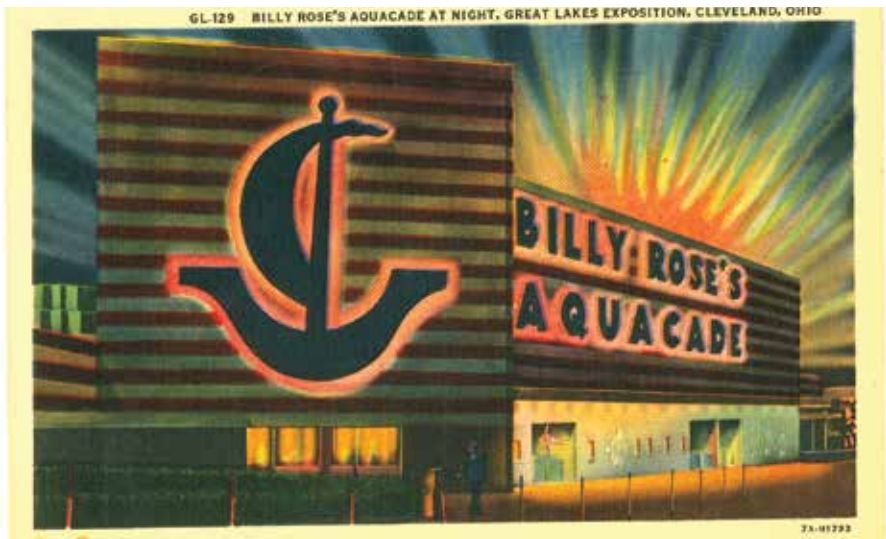
by Elaine Rosenberger

In the middle of the Great Depression, Cleveland threw a party for seven million people. During the summers of 1936 and 1937, Cleveland, then the country’s sixth largest city, opened Cleveland’s Great Lakes Exposition along Lake Erie’s waterfront. Built to commemorate Cleveland’s centennial, the Expo extended from Municipal Stadium to East 22nd Street, covered 135 acres, and featured a floating stage, streets of the world with international shopping and dining, and an infamous aquacade. Highlights included a presidential visit by Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt, a scandalous divorce, Cleveland’s first taste of orange sherbet, and a dancer with an “invisible dress.”

John Vacha, author of *Meet Me on Lake Erie, Dearie!*, recaptures the lost magic of the Expo on Wednesday, April 9 at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium. The recipient of the Herick Memorial Award for his theatrical history, *Showtime in Cleveland*, Vacha highlights his talk on the Expo with vintage photographs, maps, brochures, and ticket stubs.

LPL: When did you become interested in Cleveland’s Great Lakes Exposition?

JV: It probably goes back to my youthful coin collecting days, when



Postcard from the author’s collection.

I discovered that the U. S. Mint had issued a commemorative half dollar to mark the occasion of Cleveland’s Great Lakes Exposition in 1936. Ever since, I’ve tried to find out more about the event, maybe because it occurred just a couple of years before I was born.

LPL: How did you start collecting Expo memorabilia?

JV: I began spotting items when accompanying my wife to flea markets. I picked up the official programs from both years, the flattened copper pennies, glass paperweights, and the list went on... I still come across memorabilia at flea markets, but I also get

items from people who know of my interest in the Expo.

LPL: What inspired you to write about the Expo?

JV: The Great Lakes Expo was kind of sandwiched between two huge world’s fairs of the thirties—Chicago’s Century of Progress in 1933-1934 New York’s World of Tomorrow in 1939-1940, and I always thought Cleveland’s show deserved more respect. Back in the 1990s I was asked to fill in and

give a talk on it. I was surprised by the number of people who turned out for the talk and by their rapt attention to my somewhat improvised efforts. I decided to write an article on the expo, which was published by the Ohio Historical Society’s *Timeline Magazine*. There was still so much material that the idea of a book percolated in my mind over the years.

LPL: What is your favorite piece of Expo memorabilia?

JV: It’s probably a piece of dinnerware not directly from the Expo but which my research placed in the Admiralty Club, an exclusive nightclub on the exposition grounds. It was made by American Limoges of Sebring, Ohio, for Higbee’s department store, which furnished tableware for the Admiralty Club. The pattern they chose was called “Red Sails,” and the fact that it happened to be designed by Viktor Schreckengost adds to its cachet.

Vacha’s illustrated talk is free and open to all, and his books “*Meet Me on Lake Erie, Dearie!*,” “*Showtime in Cleveland*” and “*From Broadway to Cleveland*” will be available for sale and signing at the event.

How To “Sew Your Own Tote” And Carry Those Books In Style

by Lisa Calfee

One bright spring day, in between storytime and checking out books, “Miss Kate from the library,” as she is affectionately known to thousands of children in Lakewood, had an Earth Day inspired thought. She could combine the Library’s new plastic-free bag policy and her much loved sewing hobby - with its accompanying pile of leftover material - into one good idea. Four years later, the “Sew Your Own Tote” program is fast becoming a tradition at Lakewood Public Library.

Join us on Saturday, April 12 or Saturday June 7 from 2:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. to “Sew Your Own Tote.” You don’t have to know anything about a sewing machine, and you don’t even need to bring your own fabric. Prepared fabric, thread, sewing machines,

scissors, sewing pins, an iron and ironing boards have been donated or lent to LPL and are provided for you. Miss Kate and her team of experienced seamstresses provide the skill.

“My passion regarding this program is to make an ecological impact, however small, by educating people on how to sew their own cloth tote to use over and over again instead of using plastic bags. I encourage patrons to use their new totes when they go to the library or shopping at the store,” says Miss Kate.

The program is conducted in the Main Library Homework Room and is open to anyone age 8 and up. It takes anywhere from 30 minutes to an hour to complete a tote. Patrons can register by calling 216-226-8275 ext. 127. And happy toting!

Duct Tape Crafting For Teens

by Nicka Petruccio

Have you noticed that duct tape has gotten extremely colorful and interesting lately? You may not be aware of the growing trend of crafting with it, but duct tape’s versatility has taken it far beyond the taping of ducts. Jewelry, tote bags, decorations, even clothes have been forged by crafty crafters longing to push the limits of what industrial strength tape can do.

If you are (or know) a sixth to twelfth grader who has never dabbled in duct but are dying to dip in, have I got the starter craft for you. Some might even consider this project the

father of tape crafting: the duct tape wallet. It’s simple, it’s functional, it’s fun to make and a great way to get your feet wet in the world of duct tape. Even if you have a few projects under your belt, why not come join us at Lakewood Public Library for a fun afternoon of tape crafting?

Registration is required but the program is free and all of the materials are provided!

Saturday, April 12th from 3 to 4:30 p.m. - Sixth through Twelfth grade only may register. Call 216-226-8275 (ex. 140) or log on to www.lakewood-publiclibrary.org to register.

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Lakewood Public Library

The Friends Of Lakewood Public Library: Books, Movies And More!

by Leana Donofrio-Milovan

When it comes to the legendary Friends of Lakewood Public Library Book Sales, everybody knows about the thousands of titles available for pennies, but did you also know the Friends sell magazines, DVDs, VHS tapes and electronics? The Friends sell these items for less than you can find at the cheapest thrift shop, and unlike the great finds on sites like Amazon, you don't need to pay for

shipping or wait weeks for that package to arrive.

The Friends of Lakewood Public Library accept donations of all kinds, from books and magazines, to DVDs and VHS tapes. These items are sold at the lowest prices around, and proceeds go to help fund the programming at the Library, all thanks to the generous donations of Lakewoodites and other Lakewood Public Library lovers.

The next sale will be held from 9

a.m. to 5 p.m. on April 5 in the Friends of Lakewood Public Library Book Sale room located in the basement level of the Main Library on Detroit Avenue.

Members of the Friends get first pick on all the great items available at preview sales, and an individual membership is only \$2. Join the Friends and receive entrance to this special, members-only preview sale on Thursday, April 3 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Memberships may be purchased at the door or online at www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.org/friends.

[lakewoodpubliclibrary.org/friends](http://www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.org/friends).

The Friends of Lakewood Public Library is a volunteer organization that has supported the Library with materials, programming and service since 1980. Originally brought together by a determination to keep good books from going into the trash, the group has grown with the Library to become an essential part of Lakewood's way of life.

Donations of old books, magazines, movies and electronics are welcome every day of the year. While some of these materials make their way into the Library's collection, most items end up being sold at the Friends' seasonal book sales. The proceeds are used to sponsor free lectures, concerts and films at the Library, and to pay for crucial materials like the Library's Program Guide and the Library's van, which is used to deliver books to classrooms and those who are unable to leave their homes.

In the last few years, the Friends have begun selling rare books online to increase revenue. Reading material has been donated to armed forces personnel serving in war zones. And libraries devastated by floods and other natural disasters have put themselves back together with help from the Friends.

Support the Friends by donating materials, volunteering, shopping at the next sale or attending a concert.

Gone To The Dogs?

by Fran Storch

Lakewood Public Library hasn't gone to the dogs, they have come to us! Every second Saturday of the month from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. school-age children may enjoy reading books to their four-legged friends at Tail Waggin' Tutors. Beginner readers can bone up on their reading skills by sharing a book or two with therapy dogs and their owners that been certified through Therapy Dogs International.

Tail Waggin' Tutors is specifically designed for children age 7 to 12, but younger readers are welcome when accompanied by an adult. This program is ideal for students who may be self-conscious about reading aloud. Kids practice their reading skills in a relaxed, "dog-

friendly" atmosphere. By sitting down next to a dog and reading to the dog, judgments are put aside. The child relaxes, pats the attentive dog, and focuses on the reading. Language arts skills improve because the student is practicing reading, building self-esteem, and associating reading with an enjoyable experience.

No registration is required for the TWT program. Simply stop by the Main Library Multipurpose Room in Children's and Youth Services and select from a collection of dog-themed books chosen by our library staff, or students may bring their own book to snuggle up and read to one of the cuddly canines. Please join us on the following Saturdays: April 12, May 10, June 14, July 12, and August 9.



Not only is this a chance for children to practice their reading out loud, but it's a chance for the patient pups to practice their listening! There are always a few dogs waiting to hear a story, so drop in for Tail Waggin' Tutors. The dogs will be happy to see you!

For details about this and other youth literacy programs at Lakewood Public Library, please call 216-226-8275, ext.140. For more information on Therapy Dogs International, visit www.tdi-dog.org/.

Brian Henke, A Lakewood Treasure

by Michael Dirse

I first met Brian here at the Lakewood Public Library about 8 years ago. Brian was performing and it was through a mutual friend's recommendation that I checked him out. Little did I think then that there would come a day that I worked here at the Library and would have the opportunity to write an article about this incredible talent. Brian is an amazing guitarist and a Lakewood icon who graces our stage regularly. Without fail people come from all over to enjoy Brian's work in the comfort and warmth of the library's auditorium. It's not a show as much as a mesmerizing journey peppered with Brian's homespun humor and storytelling.

For me, being a keyboard player it's a lot of fun watching other guitar-

ists observe Brian play. There is a secret club that goes on with guitar players that only they understand and what Brian does on guitar pretty much defies what is supposed to be done. He doesn't "play" guitar as much as he becomes immersed and embodied in the music. His fingers don't merely strum and press down frets, they seem to dance and float as if conducting some spirit that is moving about at his whim. The listener too becomes immersed and together with Brian embarks into a place that only our souls dare whisper about. Brian performs here at The Lakewood Public Library on Sunday, April 13th at 2 p.m. in our Main Auditorium. I encourage all to join us and come out to see of one of Lakewood's true treasures.




Brian Henke grew up in Lakewood and loves coming back here to play. Stop by the Lakewood Library to see and hear this Lakewood icon on Sunday, April 13.

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Lakewood Schools

Assistant Superintendent Bright Moving On

by Christine Gordillo

The Board of Education at its March 17 meeting accepted the resignation of Assistant Superintendent Kevin Bright, effective August 1, 2014. Bright, who came to Lakewood in August 2011, has been instrumental in implementing several new educational programs and initiated new community partnerships that have significantly benefited our students.

“Kevin’s dedication to improving the educational experience for our students and his expectations for excellence will be sorely missed,” said Superintendent Jeff Patterson. “How-

ever, we wish him well as he moves on to the next chapter of his life with his wife, Nancy, and family.”

During the Board meeting, member Betsy Shaughnessy said she appreciated that Bright “came to this district (from Mason, Ohio) and gave us your full attention and heart.”

In his role as Assistant Superintendent, Bright has developed dual enrollment programs with the University of Akron for our high school students, helped create after-school and summer tutoring programs for our ELL students in partnership with ASIA Inc., and helped oversee implementation of the Columbia

Reading & Writing and Math Solutions programs to help better align the district with the Common Core requirements. He also facilitated a partnership with the University of Akron that allows the district to send a Language Arts teacher to a national convention each year and with First Federal of Lakewood that resulted in a \$300,000 naming rights deal for the football stadium.

Bright, who has been an educator for four decades, said of his time in Lakewood: “I’ve loved working here for three years and loved the relationships I’ve built. Places come and go but relationships last.”



Garfield 7th Grader Grabs First Place At NEO Science Fair

by Christine Gordillo

Garfield 7th-grader Nicholas Cleary led the way of a number of recognitions for Lakewood middle school students at the 61st Annual Northeast Ohio Science & Engineering Fair (NEOSF) held March 11 at Cleveland State. Cleary won first place in his category and reeled in three other special awards.

Cleary’s project, “What Structure Style Will Best Withstand an Earthquake?” took first place in the Earth/Space category for 7th/8th grade. Besides his first-place award of \$100 he earned \$100 from his special interest awards and he is now eligible to compete in the Broadcom MASTERS Middle School Program, a national STEM competition.

Students from 90 schools in the seven Northeast Ohio counties submitted 495 projects to be judged in nine different categories: Biology, Health/Medicine, Environmental Science, Behavioral Science, Chemistry, Physics, Math/Computer Science, Earth/Space Science and Engineering. Each project was judged at least twice and some were judged as many as 10 times by special

interest groups. Students earned \$100 and a gold medal for first place, \$25 and a silver medal for second place, bronze medal for third place and varying amounts for special recognition awards.

The following students earned recognition for their projects:

Garfield

Nicholas Cleary, 7th grade – 1st place, Earth/Science; plus special recognition awards from the American Society of Civil Engineers, Cleveland Regional Council of Science Teacher and the NEOSF Board of Directors Award for Outstanding Project

Teacher: Linda Buckle
Harding (all 8th-graders)

Abe Dalisky – 2nd place, Physics; plus special recognition from the American Statistical Society and CSU Department of Physics

Calvin Dolatowski – 2nd place, Physics

Caitlin Cimino – 3rd place, Chemistry

Veronica Lee – 3rd, Environment

Lindy Warren – 3rd place, Physics

Saige Rook – Honorable Mention, Chemistry

Layali Banna – Honorable Mention, Health/Medicine

Claire Walkosak – Honorable Mention, Biology

Teacher: Ann Pesta



Nicholas Cleary, a Garfield 7th grader won 1st place in his category

LHS Student Wins National Art Award

by Christine Gordillo

Lakewood High School artist Madison Heasley has been named a national winner in the prestigious Scholastic Art & Writing Awards presented by the Alliance for Young Artists & Writers, a national competition with more than 225,000 works submitted from more than 50,000 students in grades 7-12 from across the nation.

Heasley won an American Visions Medal in the Sculpture category for her clay chess set titled “Cephalopod.” She will be honored along with the other national winners at a ceremony June 6 in New York City’s Carnegie Hall. Her work will be on display in New York for two weeks at Parsons, the New School for Design, and Pratt Manhattan Gal-

lery. The national winners were selected from the 1,500 that advanced from their regional competitions in January.

The American Visions Medal showcases the best works of each region. Regional sponsors nominate five visual and five written works for consideration. The nominated works can be from any age group or category. The five nominated pieces of work from both categories are then evaluated at the national level where one is selected to receive \$100 and a special medal. Heasley is the second LHS student in a row to win a national award in the Scholastic contest, as junior Grace Robeson won a Gold Medal last year for her poetry.

Heasley, whose chess set includes pieces based on leg parts of cephalopods such as squid and octopus, said she had a good feeling that her artwork might win her further recognition beyond her regional award. “I was feeling pretty confident about it,” she said.

Heasley, who is only a sophomore, right now has her sights on studying



nursing or criminology but her experience creating her award-winning piece and the national recognition has her re-evaluating her future. “I guess I may have to rethink the idea and look into art schools,” she said.

In addition to Heasley, six other Lakewood High school students who were named Golden Key winners at the regional level also had their work judged at the national level.

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Lakewood Schools

Support Group Removes Limits

by Missy Toms

Lakewood High School Guidance Counselor Nina DeChant saw a need. The number of English Limited Learners (ELL) at the school has grown significantly in recent years. They are often socially secluded, lacking in self-confidence, and academically behind due to language and cultural barriers. They are less inclined to graduate on time and pass the required OGT tests. They want to integrate into an American lifestyle but have cultural expectations that can result in conflict, stress, and anxiety at home and in school.

DeChant wanted to help girls from different countries transition successfully into LHS. With funding from the Lakewood Alumni Foundation's Meinke Creative Teaching Mini-Grant, she formed the "Girls without Limits" ELL support group. Sixteen girls meet twice monthly during their lunch period. In these



Nina DeChant and the girls in yoga poses.

sessions DeChant teaches them successful coping strategies, problem solving techniques, and stress reduc-

tion exercises to promote a general sense of well-being and comfort within the school setting. Getting to

know the girls individually and as a group allows DeChant to have a better understanding of their needs so she can advocate for their academic and personal aspirations.

The girls also meet twice a month after school to enjoy a physical activity. "Participation and followthrough has been amazing. The girls just recently participated in their first yoga class and did great!" reports DeChant. In fact the group has been so successful that the Foundation staff is working with LHS staff and funders to form an ELL support group for boys in the 2014-15 academic year.

You can make a difference in the lives of Lakewood's students. Become a donor today! Help every Lakewood student reach his or her potential by making a tax-deductible gift online at www.lakewoodalumnifoundation.org, or by mail at Lakewood Alumni Foundation, 14100 Franklin Blvd., Lakewood, OH 44107.

Since 1984, the Lakewood Alumni Foundation has aimed to support the Lakewood City Schools' tradition of providing an opportunity-rich environment for its students through advocacy and financial support. Through the generosity of its donors, the Foundation has provided more than \$3 million in funding for classroom grants, student scholarships, and school programs.

Meetings Set On Designing New Schools

by Christine Gordillo

Superintendent Jeff Patterson will be holding meetings with the affected school communities and any other interested residents to introduce the design team and discuss the design and construction process for the final phase of the district's Master Facilities Plan.

Community members will have a chance to offer input on what they would like to see in the design of the new schools. The meetings will be at 7 p.m. in each school's gym. The Lincoln meeting will take place on April 8, the Grant meeting on April 10 and the Roosevelt meeting on April 16. A date has not yet been selected for a high school meeting but will be announced once a date is finalized.

The tentative timeline for the project is as follows: Asbestos abatement of the buildings will begin in August and take approximately 3 months. Demolition is projected to start in November and finish no later than Feb.1, 2015. Archi-

itects will be developing the designs during the abatement and demolition process and once the building designs are complete, groundbreaking is expected to take place in Spring 2015 for all buildings. Com-

pletion for the three elementary schools is expected for Fall 2016 and completion of the high school in Fall 2017.

Lakewood City Academy Students Work On Wellness

by Christine Gordillo

Students at Lakewood City Academy are doing more than just improving their minds at school, they are also improving their health.

A "Wellness Program" aimed at getting students to institute healthier lifestyles, kicked off in September. The program, put together by principal Terri Bornino-Elwell, staff member Renee Kolecki, and school nurses Peggy Brown and Katy Corrigan, started with an 11-week Weight Watchers program. Fourteen students and one parent participated in the weekly program and the group together lost 130 pounds with the

highest weight loss of nine pounds.

The program is now continuing through the rest of the year with wellness sessions hosted by the Cleveland Clinic. Guest speakers will address topics such as sleep & wellness, nutrition, stress management and other topics relating to adolescent years.

The Wellness Program has been well received by all involved and LCA hopes to build on the first-year success.

"We are very pleased with what we have put together and hope that we can do even more next year," said Bornino-Elwell.

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Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District

Sports

Lakewood Rangers Boys Relay Team Wins The USA Swimming Age Group State Championship Title

by Sean McGuan & Debbi Polen

Over the weekend of March 7th the Lakewood Rangers Swim Team (LRST) boys relay team consisting of Billy Chambers, Colman McGuan, Colin McMillian and Preston Polen won the 400 free relay and the 200 free relay (13-14 age) and placed second in both the 200 and 400 Medley Relays.

The age group championship meet was the culmination to the Lake Erie Swimming International, an affiliate of USA Swimming, short course season. The meet was held at Cleveland State University's Busbey Natatorium.

The 13-14 age-group is the senior division of USA swimming. It is the last chance for USA affiliated swimmers to swim in their local championship meet. The four members of LRST swam in individual, relays and championship final events over the course of 3 days.



A victorious boys relay team poses for a quick picture!

Most of the excitement was found during the highly anticipated relay events; starting with Friday night's 200 freestyle

relay. The team of McMillan, McGuan, Chambers and Polen placed 1st overall and broke a 14 year old meet record swimming the 200 free in a time of 1:35.61. Later that evening, they placed 2nd in the 200 medley relay to the Solon Stars team.

Saturday's events culminated with the 400 Medley relay, where the boys finished a respectable 2nd again to the Solon Stars team.

The grand finale of the swim meet was Sunday's 13-14 boys 400 Free Relay.

All four of the boys were ready to battle the other 7 teams entered in the event. The LRST swimmers relied on the excellent LRST coaches and their long term friendships to stay loose, but focused.

Three weeks prior to Champs, Coach Stacy said, "I saw the stars line up, and I knew this lineup, with a bit of refinement could unseat the perennially successful Lake Erie Swimming USA swim teams." With each practice prior to the meet, the swimmers became more confident and relaxed.

McMillan and McGuan have been LRST members since they were 8. Polen and Chambers have been part of

the team for 4 and 3 years respectively. Their long history with LRST and USA swim meets had prepared them to understand the importance of this meet and winning the 400 free relay.

In past years they have watched all the other "big boys" go for it on this special weekend. Now it was their turn and they wanted it. Over the three weeks prior to the Age Group Championship, the swimmers began to visualize and believe that together they could achieve what they wanted most: to win the 400 free relay.

It was no surprise that even after a full weekend of swimming each LRST swimmer on the relay team finished their leg of the relay with a personal best time. The result was a first place with a time of 3:30.47 and one last trip to the podium to receive their first place medal for the 400 free relay.

This winning weekend for LRST was possible due to the dedicated and experienced leadership provided coaches: Jim Stacy, Gabrielle Kariotakis, Kelley Knaack, and Doreen O' Malley. These four individuals prepare LRST swimmers for every meet through sensible workout sets featuring: endurance and speed training, stroke development, start and turn workouts and even dry-land workouts, to ensure that LRST swimmers are ready for the challenges on any meet weekend.

USA swim teams, such as LRST provide a setting where children are coached by individuals with years of swimming and coaching experience. The team is stratified based on a swimmer's age and stroke development needs. Swimmers and their coaches work throughout each season working on stroke needs, as well as developing each swimmer's self-confidence and personal swim goals.

If you are interested in having your child become involved in this great sport, visit the LSRT website at www.lakewoodrecreation.com/lrst.



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FNUL And “Support Our Troops” Night Highlight 2014 LHS Baseball Schedule

by Jay Foran

Friday Night Under the Lights (FNUL) returns to Lakewood Stadium for its 3rd installment this spring. Highlighted by exciting baseball play, the event includes a live performance of the Star Spangled Banner between inning music, and an ovation to one of Lakewood's travel baseball teams. Friday Night Under the Lights is anticipated to draw big crowds again this season. Four FNUL games are scheduled for April 11 (vs. Berea-Midpark), April 18 (vs. Nordonia), April 25 (vs. Independence) and May 9 (vs. Avon Lake). A special edition Saturday Night Under the Lights is scheduled for April 12th featuring a match-up with neighborhood rival St. Edward. All varsity games begin at 7 p.m. The Junior Varsity game will precede the varsity and

begin at 4:30 p.m.

Many of the FNUL evenings will carry a unique theme this season. The inaugural game on Friday, April 11th will feature a "Support Our Troops" theme that will include a military color guard, a salute to Lakewood residents serving in the military and special caps to be worn by the players. Upcoming FNUL events will include 70's Night and Super Hero themes.

The early season DiBiasio-Gruss Tournament also returns to the Lakewood playing surface and will pit Lakewood versus Holy Name on Friday, April 4th (7 p.m.), and Crestwood and North Olmsted on Saturday, April 5th (10 a.m. and 7 p.m. respectively). Alumni Weekend, a multi-day event celebrating previous Ranger baseball players will be conducted April 25th and 26th.

Join the Discussion at: www.lakewoodobserver.com

Lakewood Is Art ©2004

Band’s Encore CD Feels Your “Blue Collar Breakdown”

by Brian Baddour

“Another rough season” in Lakewood can mean sports, jobs, or winter. Local folk rock band The FlipSide captures those sentiments in their second CD, “Blue Collar Breakdown,” an anthem for

the never-say-die Cleveland everyman.

Five local singer-songwriters, each already well-known on the Midwest folk scene, formed the band in 2004: leading lady Beth “Flip” Hyland, rhythm guitarist Mark Ronan, lead

guitarist Bob “Gib” Gibbons, bassist “B. Ryan B.,” and multi-instrumentalist Jack Mizenko. They liked each other’s songs, developed tight vocal harmonies, and realized they really had something. Since then, they’ve

played venues from Erie to Chicago.

“Sure, it’s something musical. It’s also something personal,” said B. Ryan B., who originally met Jack and Mark playing at Lakewood’s Root Cafe. “We all have deep mutual respect for each other, as musicians and as human beings. That makes it easy to harmonize vocally with each other’s writing, to write for the group’s harmonies, and have fun at it all.”

The FlipSide acknowledges that today’s listeners enjoy a variety of genres. One local radio station’s slogan, “We play anything,” could apply to this CD, where the band enshrines their best music across genres of blues rock (“Blue Collar Breakdown”), Irish (“Song for Michael Brennan”), political folk (“Help is on the Way”), and ballads (“Wonderful Days”).

“Blue Collar Breakdown” is an upscale follow-up to the band’s folkier debut CD, “Listen to the Heartbeat.”

The band will host a release party concert at The Winchester Music Hall in Lakewood April 5th at 8:30 p.m. The cover charge is \$5.

Classic Fairy Tale “Sleeping Beauty” Comes To Life At Beck Center

by Pat Miller

Beck Center’s Dance Workshop and Dance Education program proudly present an encore production of Tchaikovsky’s classic ballet “Sleeping Beauty” Saturday, April 12 and Sunday, April 13, 2014. In honor of Beck Center’s 80th anniversary this special production will take place on the Mackey Main Stage. Show times are 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, and 3 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are on sale now.

Condensed and choreographed especially for children, this production is choreographed by Marius Petipa. Additional choreography appears courtesy of Melanie Szucs, associate

director of Dance Education and artistic director of the Dance Workshop at the Beck Center. This condensed version of “Sleeping Beauty” is a romantic fairy tale that tells the story of the beautiful princess Aurora. Cursed at birth by a wicked fairy, Princess Aurora will sleep for 100 years. Only true love and the kiss of a handsome prince can wake her. The ballet concludes with a wedding celebration visited by fairy tale characters. “This story appeals to all ages regardless of their familiarity with the ballet, but it speaks directly to children who love fairy tales and happy endings,” remarked Szucs.

Beck Center contemporary dance

instructor, Kara Madden, will appear in the role of Princess Aurora. Aside from teaching, Kara also dances with Verb Ballets in Cleveland. Jason Wang will awake Aurora from her slumber, dancing as Prince Desiré within this production. Jason has danced with the Cincinnati Ballet and Louisville Ballet, and currently teaches boys’ dance and hip hop at Beck Center. Members of the Beck Center Dance Workshop and select dance education students will also appear onstage throughout the ballet. “Sleeping Beauty” is a wonderful vehicle for our dancers to develop their classical ballet technique,” said Szucs.

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University Hospitals
Case Medical Center

Dinner by Design
through May 2
CIA’s Reinberger Galleries

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Apr 25–27
Great Lakes Science Center

NEO Runway Show
Apr 22, 7:30pm
CIA’s Reinberger Galleries

Illustration/Animation Show
Apr 22, 5–7pm
CIA’s Illustration Studios in
Joseph McCullough Center

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Lakewood Cares

Missing Mini Schnauzer In Northeast Ohio

by Lauren Smith

Simon, a handsome miniature schnauzer, is missing in Northeast Ohio.

He was adopted from a rescue by his family in Lakewood earlier this year. He's a skittish little guy but was warming up to them rather quickly. He's 10 lbs, 3 years old, black with white trim, neutered, and micro-chipped.

He was on a walk when he was startled by some pedestrians, jerked out of his harness, and took off onto Clarence Avenue towards Lakewood Heights Blvd., running up every driveway, confused. He eventually went up a driveway, possibly into a garage or backyard, and disappeared from sight. He was last seen on March 9th or 10th on Cohassett Avenue in



Lakewood.

His family has searched and searched, listed his flyer on countless Facebook pages in NE Ohio, e-mailed and faxed every animal hospital, rescue, shelter, groomer, and pet store

within 5 miles, paid PetAmber Alert.com to call 500 neighbors, taken out paid ads in local newspapers, and plastered their neighborhood with flyers, mailers, and yard signs, and even passed them out to postal workers. They've also checked local, nearby, and county shelters by visiting and calling and continue to list ads on Craigslist in the lost and found section, and hired multiple long-distance pet detectives.

In the time they've had Simon, the family has fallen completely in love with him and just want him back.

If you have any information on Simon's whereabouts or you spot him, please contact Lauren at 440-258-6945. There is a substantial reward being offered.

Let's bring Simon home!

CCLAS Sponsors 10th Annual Hair Of The Dog Fundraiser To Benefit Lakewood Animal Shelter

by Megan Bauccho

Celebrating 30 years of animal welfare advocacy is a fantastic feat for a small, all-volunteer nonprofit organization, and we want you to celebrate with us by attending our 10th Annual Hair of the Dog fundraiser!

The Citizens Committee for the Lakewood Animal Shelter (CCLAS) is proudly sponsoring its 10th Annual Hair of the Dog Happy Hour and Silent Auction on Thursday, May 1 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the popular Around the Corner Saloon in Lakewood. Support

animal welfare in your own backyard by enjoying a fun evening filled with music, food, drinks, comedy and wonderful local merchandise!

For an exciting tenth year, dozens of Lakewood and Cleveland-area businesses have generously donated items and services for auction, including tickets to Cleveland sporting events, live shows, res-

taurant and spa certificates, pet-friendly products and much more! Tickets for the event are \$25 per person, and hilarious local comedian Mark McKenzie of Last Call Cleveland is returning as emcee. As always, 100% of the proceeds will benefit sick, injured and abandoned animals in the community of Lakewood and will help us fund our ambitious goals of expanding our spay/neuter and foster programs over the next year.

For 30 successful years, the Citizens Committee for the Lakewood Animal Shelter has turned the Lakewood Animal Shelter into more than just a city pound by helping abandoned dogs, cats and other animals find safe and loving "forever" homes. Last year's event boasted a large turnout of animal welfare advocates, friends and community members, and we are confident that this year will set a new record!

To purchase advance tickets for the event or learn more about CCLAS, please visit us online at www.cclas.info. For questions specifically regarding the event or donating items and/or services

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HOLY WEEK AND EASTER
AT TRINITY CATHEDRAL



PHOTO CREDIT: TRACEY LIND

PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 13

The Rev. Canon Will Mebane, preaching

8 a.m. Early Eucharist

9 a.m. Mostly Jazz Mass

11:15 a.m. Choral Eucharist

5 p.m. Compline

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16

6 p.m. Tenebrae Service

MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 17

12:10 p.m. Eucharist & Healing Service

6 p.m. Last Supper, Potluck, Foot Washing and All-Night Vigil

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 18

12 p.m. Solemn Liturgy

1 p.m. Good Friday Blues & Lamentations

1 p.m. Children's Good Friday Program
(Childcare available 12 – 2 p.m.)

7:30 p.m. Good Friday Concert

Gregorio Allegri: Miserere

Francis Poulenc: Four Lenten Motets

Trinity Chamber Singers

Maurice Durufle: Requiem, Op. 9

Trinity Cathedral Choir and Chamber Orchestra

Elizabeth Lenti, organist; Todd Wilson, conductor

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 20

The Very Rev. Tracey Lind, preaching

6 a.m. The Great Vigil of Easter

9 a.m. Contemporary Festival Eucharist

Music by the Gateway Band

10:10 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt for grades preK-5

11:15 a.m. Festival Eucharist

The Trinity Cathedral Choir with brass and timpani



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Lakewood Cares



A sampling of some of the beautiful items for sale at Tabletops & Trifles.

Tabletops & Trifles

by Paula Reed

Tabletops & Trifles is the Lakewood Historical Society’s elegant sale. From the donations we have received, we have amassed a wonderful collection of finery. In the Ladies’ Room, you will find an amazing display of jewelry, hats, gloves, purses, delicate lingerie, retro clothing and an intriguing collection of vintage compacts and perfume bottles.

There are also lovely sets of antique china, sparkling crystal and crisp linens, dainty handkerchiefs, and gleaming silver--tea sets, pitchers, trays and serving pieces. What a striking table you can set with what you’ll find at this sale!

Grace your home with candlesticks, vases, art work, graceful lamps and enchanting decorative items. Just browsing the many beautiful things at this sale will be a treat. This is the perfect occasion for scheduling a girls’ night out on Friday—shop the sale, then visit one of Lakewood’s many great eateries for dinner. Or grab breakfast or lunch on Saturday—make it a whole day of fun. You’ll feel like you’re stepping back in time, when the pace was slower and fine things were used on a daily basis. At these prices, you’ll feel comfortable using your purchases every day.

Tabletops & Trifles takes place at the historic Nicholson House, 13335 Detroit Avenue, on Friday, April 11th, 1-7 p.m., and Saturday, April 12th, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Parking is available at St. Ed’s across the street from the Nicholson House.

All proceeds from this sale benefit the programs and properties of the Lakewood Historical Society. Come shop—you’re sure to find an exquisite piece—or many!

For more information, please call the Lakewood Historical Society at 216-221-7343 or email lakewood-history@bge.net.

Spring Baby Bargain Bonanza Registrations Being Accepted

by Julie Derrick

Seller Information & Policy for Saturday, April 26, 2014 Baby Bargain Bonanza

Baby Bargain Bonanza has a long-standing reputation of being a quality resale of gently used baby and children’s items. We do require that Sellers be sure to quality check their items and only sell the following:

- Gently used baby/children’s clothing sizes newborn–14/16, which are not faded & are free of tears, stains or a pilly texture.
- Clean toys, books, and puzzles that have all of their pieces and no broken parts. Please do not sell stuffed animals.
- Gently used baby furniture, strollers, high chairs, cribs/beds, bouncy seats, etc. Bedding should be clean. Drop sided cribs can no longer be sold.

*Please adhere to the above criteria so that we may maintain the positive reputation we have acquired as a great kids’ sale.

Note: Please make sure all car seats are not expired.

Seller Cost

\$25 per 6 ft. table (or equivalent space, if table is not desired) for Non-LECPTA Members, and for ALL vendors or crafters regardless of LECPTA Membership status.

\$20 per table for LECPTA Members.

Seller Policy

Each Seller will have an 8 ft. wide and 6 ft. deep space. Spaces will be taped off to assure fairness to each Seller. If you need more space you may buy more tables. Each Seller is allowed 4 items in the “Big Item Room.” Cribs and Beds cannot be assembled. The Baby Bargain Bonanza committee will assign sellers their table location. Assignments will be

handed out beginning at 7 a.m. Assignments are final. Sellers may pack up any unwanted items into garbage bags for charities at the end of the sale.

Tables are assigned first come, first served. There is no limit on the number of tables a Seller can purchase. Once we sell out of spaces, we will allow for a waiting list. Seller tables are not reserved until the check and contract are received. Once the table(s) are reserved there are NO REFUNDS for any reason. Sellers price and sell their own items and keep all of the profits. Please bring enough change for the entire day. LECPTA will not provide change. You might consider offering bags to your buyers. Please arrange for childcare for your children. Confirmations will be emailed or mailed out to each Seller.

Time/Location

Garfield Middle School, 13114 Detroit Ave., Lakewood, Ohio 44107

9 a.m.-1 p.m.; Seller set-up starts at 7 a.m.

Early Shopping for the public is at 9 a.m. (\$5 admission)

General Shopping for the public is from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. (\$1 admission)

All vehicles must be removed from the Garfield Middle School parking lot by 8:30 a.m. Seller parking is available a short distance away. Seller set-up is from 7-9 a.m. The sale begins at 9 a.m. and ends at 1 p.m. Tables must be manned at all times, and must be set up until 1 p.m. At 1 p.m. Sellers may begin to pack up, but not before the sale ends. This policy must be adhered to in all fairness to the buyers attending the sale. If you begin to pack your table prior to 1 p.m., you will be asked to stop.

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Registration & Contract Form

Saturday, April 26, 2014

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Other Seller(s): _____

Include name of Sellers sharing the table so we may provide a name badge and lunch form for each participating Seller

Email Address*: (please write legibly) _____

*This is how you will receive your confirmation and future mailings from the Baby Bargain Bonanza Committee. If you do not have an email address, please send your registration with a self-addressed stamped envelope so that we may mail out your confirmation via mail.

Reservation of Tables or Space: Please Choose a Category

of tables to be provided by LECPTA: Non-LECPTA Member or Vendor/Crafter:

Circle One: 1 2 3 4 5 Number of Tables x \$25 = \$ _____

Circle One: Please provide me with tables or I will provide my own tables

Raffle Tickets for a \$25 Gap, The Children’s Place or Carters Gift Card Drawing

1 ticket x \$1 = \$ _____

6 tickets x \$5 = \$ _____

*Raffle tickets will be given to you at BBB if not sooner.

20 tickets x \$10 = \$ _____

of tables – LECPTA MEMBER :

Circle One: 1 2 3 4 5 Number of Tables x \$20 = \$ _____

Circle One: Please provide me with tables or I will provide my own tables

Please include gender and size of merchandise you plan to sell.

Vendors/Crafters please include what product you plan to sell.

Please Make Checks out to: LECPTA

Mail Check & Registration Form to:

Lakewood Early Childhood PTA

C/O BBB

2135 Olive Ave.

Lakewood, OH 44107

For More information: Please email BBB.LECPTA@gmail.com

*Remember to supply a self-addressed stamped envelope if you do not have an email address.

Join the Discussion at: www.lakewoodobserver.com

Business News

Growth In Progress: Renovation On First Federal Lakewood Branch Begins

by Heidi Finniff

For generations, First Federal Lakewood Corporate Headquarters has called downtown Lakewood home. Today we begin a new era as we swing the first hammers on our home branch renovation. As the largest independent mutual bank in Ohio, we are locally owned by our customers, so we have long been reinvesting our assets and customer deposits back into the Lakewood community in the form of small business loans, residential mortgages, and funding our neighbors' home improvement projects. Today we at First Federal Lakewood are the ones kicking up a little dust and taking our commitment to Lakewood's dynamic revitalization to the next level with a home rejuvenation project of our own.

Our complete branch remodel will feature extensive upgrades that will provide customers with an improved approach to full-service banking that is faster and easier, yet still fully focused on delivering a personalized and satisfying banking experience. We have designed the space with both our customers and the entire community in mind. With the new space, we will not only be able to serve our customers' long-term banking needs, but we will have the flexibility to invite the community in for events throughout

the year. That is important to us because we are deeply rooted here in Lakewood, from hiring local residents to supporting community events and organizations. We are focused on working with our neighbors to continually build this strong and vibrant community.

In fact, one of the best parts of my job is getting to meet the many interesting people who live and work in Lakewood. Whether it's the gentleman who has been coming in to deposit his paycheck every week for twenty years, the friendly people in neighboring businesses who pop by just to say hello, the young woman who just landed her first job yesterday and stopped in to set up direct deposit, or the guys who deliver lunch to us, our neighbors and customers are a compelling cross-section of Lakewood and I believe this new and improved Lakewood branch will have something that resonates with every one of them.

The renovation will be complete by mid-summer and while construction is going on, service will still be seamless. Customers, residents and businesses alike can take advantage of business as usual by accessing the branch by the back parking lot door. An even more convenient option is our fully-staffed drive-up teller window, and

because we know our neighborhood and know that Lakewood is one of the nation's best walkable cities, First Federal Lakewood is one of the only banks anywhere that still offers the old school walk-up teller window. If you haven't tried it, definitely take advantage of it soon. It is super-convenient and quintessentially Lakewood! Plus, in addition to online banking at FFL.net and our

new mobile banking services available at FFL.net/mobile, don't forget First Federal Lakewood customers can now access surcharge-free ATMs at any Ohio Rite Aid location.

Once we are done with the dust we look forward to inviting you over to take a look at what we've done with the place and to see how together we can keep helping our hometown thrive.

Job Club In Lakewood

by Kathy Augustine

The Lakewood Family Collaborative is sponsoring a new Job Club in Lakewood. Its mission is to provide tools and resources for Lakewood residents and those in surrounding communities, to help them find employment. The Job Club will provide support, networking and resources. Each monthly meeting will have a topic of interest to Job Seekers.

When: Last Tuesday of the Month (April 29th is the first meeting)
Time: 6-8 p.m.
Where: Lakewood Public Library at 15425 Detroit Ave
All are welcome!

For more information: contact Becky Carlton at R.Carlton@csuohio.edu, (216) 421-6685 or the Lakewood Family Collaborative at (216) 529-6868.

St. Ed's Celebrates 20 Years Of Community Meals

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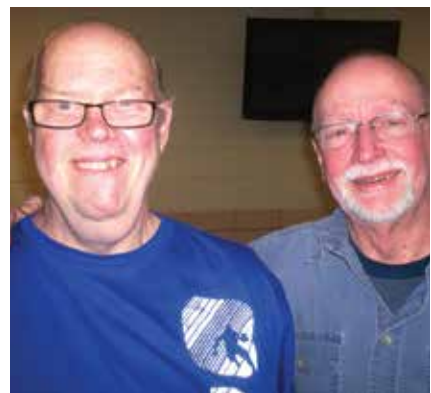
making of friends," says Bosley. Volunteers have befriended not only each other some of their regular guests over the years. "I'm so proud that we serve such a good meal both efficiently and friendly, and with good spirit," says Reiling.

The meal helps local residents, but Reiling and Bosley feel that it is also a good experience for the student volunteers. "It gives our boys a perspective on things," says Reiling. It gives a face to the problem of hunger, as students meet seniors, working poor and battered women in need of assistance.

The most recent community meal took place on March 26 of this year. The event marked two major milestones: 20 full years of service to the community;

also, it was the final meal organized by Bosley and Reiling. Both of them are retiring from teaching after over 20 years of service to the school. Despite their departure, the monthly meal will continue to carry on.

Reiling plans to spend his retirement teaching Tai Chi and conducting spiritual programs for adults. Bosley is still undecided on how he will spend his Golden Years. However, he definitely has one goal in mind...."Never grade a math paper again."



Classic Fairy Tale Sleeping Beauty Comes To Life At Beck Center

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Tickets are \$12 for adults/seniors and \$10 for students/children 18 and under. (Ticket prices include service fees.) For tickets, visit beckcenter.org or call the Beck Center box office at 216.521.2540, ext. 10. Beck Center is located at 17801 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood, just ten minutes west of downtown Cleveland. Free onsite parking is available.

Beck Center's production of "Sleeping Beauty" is sponsored by Cuyahoga Arts and Culture and the Ohio Arts Council.

CCLAS Sponsors 10th Annual Hair Of The Dog Fund-raiser To Benefit Lakewood Animal Shelter

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for the auction, please contact Kira Kittoe-Krivosh, CCLAS Vice President, at 330-268-9111 or kirakittoe@yahoo.com. All support of CCLAS and its events is greatly appreciated and we look forward to helping all of our furry friends together at the Hair of the Dog Happy Hour and Silent Auction.

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Business News

Wings Hobby Shop, We Loved Ya!

continued from page 1

and trains he would interject pearls of “Ron Wisdom” that I still carry today.

It was a family place, a true family place, and a great addition to the community. Al and I laughed remembering that back in the 60s there were a couple punk kids around fourteen. They had broken into a neighbor’s house and grabbed some liquor and \$3,000 laying on a desk. Well, if you are 14 years old and just became “rich” through illegal means or legal means like birthdays or confirmation you headed to Wings Hobby Shop.

So the two desperadoes with their new-found booty headed off to kid heaven, and went on a buying spree. Well Ron, who had seen a lot in his life in the armed services, and working at Midland Steel, had never seen two 13-year-olds with a wad of \$100 bills. I mean come on, it’s Lakewood in 1966! So not being a complete fool, and often being a second father to some of us, he knew just what to do: cater to them as the oil barons are catered to today. Until the police arrived that he had called. Probably Mike Flynn. If I remember, Ron got them to confess, and helped get them probation, and both went on to lawful and productive lives. Ron as well as Detective Mike Flynn often saw the potential of a person.

Speaking of Mike Flynn, Al brought up that one time they had been part of a “sting operation” in a big glue-sniffing ring back in the early 70s. “A guy in his 20s would come in and buy like 10-12 tubes at a time, telling us, Hey I build a lot of models.” Well again, being shepherds in the community, they worked with “Remember Detective Mike Flynn?” to set up a sting operation to break up the glue ring, and they did. I have to admit I have to admit I was laughing my ass off as I had never heard of a “glue ring,” a “glue pusher,” or a “glue pimp.” Al said, “Yep.”

I then asked him in 49 years who was his most fun neighbor, and he smiled and said, The Electric Candle, which was one of the first headshops in Greater Cleveland. Which is funny, because in Lakewood in the 70s, you would often visit both places -- get a model to build and some rolling papers. Get a pipe, and some HO slot cars for mindless 24 hour races with friends.



Get some incense and sandals and Este rockets. The owner, Jamie Walker, who was best described as a character, had his own hippie era pearls of wisdom like Ron Cicerechi’s life lessons.

I reached Jamie Walker in California for a comment and he said, “And we loved being next to him. Tell him goodbye.”

Al is unwilling to talk about what was right, what was wrong, who was best, who was the worst, well not for the public to read, but again, I spent thousands there, while so many others spent tens of thousands there.

While I was there I met Mrs. Moser age 86, and her son Don. She has been bringing her two sons to Wings for 49 years! “They would take a couple hours. We used to come each week, but now just once a month,” she said.

Think about it, hundreds of hours and thousands of dollars. She bought a book and some train pieces, turned to her son and said, “Are you ready?” I swear to God, from the back of the store came the answer, “Come on, just ten more minutes mom” She smiled.

“Models were and are still good, Slot Cars were a boost, Estes Rockets a boost, HO Cars a boost. But the big money items were trains and radio control.” Al’s dad was an avid radio-controlled airplane hobbyist when he bought the business. I mentioned that it was kind of wild-- radio-controlled planes back in the 50s, with a one-armed man. But why should it be a surprise? Ron had an R-Class Sailboat. And Al said, “Oh, he bought the business when he lost his arm.”

Which made me ask, “Ok, what’s the funniest story about Wing’s Hobby Shop?” And he told a story about one cold winter night, when a couple

moments before closing a van pulled up, and parked. “It’s about 20 degrees out, and these guys roll out the side of the van in t-shirts, and one in shorts. A massive cloud of smoke spills out of the van looking like Jeff Spicoli in “Fast Times at Ridgemont High,” and they start banging on the window.

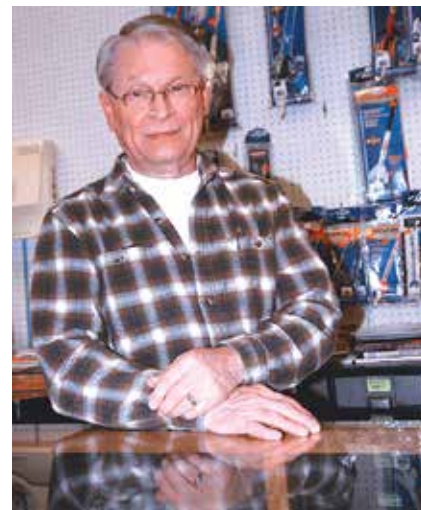
He walks over as it had been a slow day, and asks what they want. “We need couplings for our train tracks.” Al points at the sign that says “Closed.” They start begging and saying they were told 9 pm. Al lets them in and they go get train clips, and Al is not feeling all that good; these guys are a little out of it. “So I count out the couplings, and put



Don Moser and his mother have been making the trip from Old Brooklyn to Wings Hobby Shop for 49 years. “Well you have to stay interested in what your kids do,” said Mrs. Moser, age 86.

them down, and it was like a 95 cent sale. They empty their pockets and come up with like 45 cents between them. I give them the clips and the guy scoops them up and turns to leave. I lock up.” Getting into the van, they dropped them in the snow drift and lost them. “They come back to the window yelling to be let in and banging so hard it could break, I reached under the counter, took out my .358 and shook my head no. They drove away, next day one of them came in and said, ‘Excuse me, sir, can I please buy some train track connectors?’” Al said sure.

You know life is funny. People of great importance come and go, and sometimes it makes sense and sometimes it doesn’t. Sometimes it hurts, and sometimes it is just right. Had there not been the tragic industrial accident that took Ron’s arm back in the 50s that made him buy Wings Hobby Shop I never would have known any of them: Ron, Al, Ron Jr. Vincentta, and Aunt Betsy. The city of Lakewood would



Al Cicerchi as he looked to most Lakewoodites the first time they met him.

never have been blessed with not just a good store, but a fine member of the community who understood what it meant to be a part of that community, and added oh so much to everyone that walked through that front door.

Al, Vincetta, Betsy thank you for everything you have given me and this wonderful City of Lakewood, Ohio. It has been a damn good run. Relax, enjoy life, God knows you deserve it. Al said to please tell everyone, “We love Lakewood, we have loved being a part of Lakewood for almost 50 years. I want to thank our customers, friends, neighbors and out Lakewood businesses for everything, it has been a good run, and now it is time to move on.” Just as Al and I were getting all weepy-eyed a customer in the back yelled for help.

Al took a break from the interview to help a customer with a couple items near the back of the store. I spoke with his wife Vincetta about what they had planned when suddenly the man Al was waiting on said loudly, “No man, I feel terrible, I used to steal HO figures from here as a kid, and I just wanted to say I’m sorry, and buy something, and say I was sorry to hear you were closing.” The man had tears in his eyes. Al, like his dad, just smiled and said thank you for stopping.

I turned back to Vincetta and Aunt Betsy Pufnock to pay for a model and Vincetta said with a grin, “It’s been like that all month!”

If I may be bold and speak for all of the people I know who have been shopping here for decades and decades: Thank you, we love you and your family. We always did. Have a great retirement.



We spray-painted out (in honor of Wings Hobby Shop) the man who was confessing to stealing HO figures, and thanking Al and family for 49 great years.

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Wellness Watch

What Do I Need To Know About The Breast And Ovarian Cancer Gene?

by Kristina Austin

There has been much talk about the “breast cancer gene” or BRCA 1 & 2 gene mutations in the news after celebrity Angelina Jolie announced last year that she had a preventative bilateral mastectomy to significantly reduce her risk of developing cancer. Individuals who have the BRCA gene mutation are at a significantly increased risk of developing breast and/or ovarian cancer. The lifetime risk for developing cancer can be up to 85% for breast cancer and 40% for ovarian cancer for those who have the gene mutation (the general population’s risk is about 10%). Most breast cancers, however, are not genetic and only about 5% of all 220,000 cases of breast cancer diagnosed in the US each year are related to these defective genes.

Women who have a family history of breast cancer in more than two direct relatives or who have breast cancer diagnosed when they are younger may have an increased chance of having the gene. In addition, women who are of Ashkenazi Jewish descent also have an increased risk. Meeting with a genetic counselor can help you make an informed decision about testing. They will walk you through questions to ask yourself such as what you will do with this information. The test itself is a simple blood or saliva test and it usu-

ally takes a few weeks to get the results. Most insurance companies will cover the cost of the test if you fall into one of these high risk categories.

If you discover that you do have the gene mutation, you have options to help you reduce your cancer risk. You can conduct increased surveillance through mammograms, MRIs and surgical breast exams. You could take the route of chemoprevention by taking a drug like Tamoxifen that reduces the estrogen in your body, or you can opt to have preventive surgery to remove your ovaries, fallopian tubes and breast tissue (bi-lateral mastectomy). All of this information and the associated choices can be overwhelming. Asking informed questions and getting support from your healthcare team can be invaluable.

The Gathering Place along with The Cleveland Clinic and University Hospitals Seidman Cancer Center will be hosting the inaugural Gail Bash Memorial Symposium on April 5th at Corporate College East. The program is called Understanding BRCA: A Symposium for Women Affected by the Breast and/or Ovarian Cancer Gene and Those Who Support Them. The program will include a physician panel, genetic counselors and other healthcare providers. Topics will include decisionmaking, surgi-

cal interventions, treatment, intimacy and sexuality, support for partners, nutrition, exercise and self care. For more information or to request a brochure please call The Gathering Place at 216-595-9546 or visit www.touchedbycancer.org/understandingbrca.

About the author: Susan Mari-

nac, LISW-S, MT-BC is a program staff member at The Gathering Place, a cancer support center located in Beachwood and Westlake. She works with women diagnosed with breast cancer as well as facilitates a number of other groups and programs. Susan can be reached at marinac@touchedbycancer.org. For more information about the free programs and services provided for those touched by cancer visit www.touchedbycancer.org.

YMCA Honors Woman Who Rowed Across The Atlantic Ocean

by Gary Rick

In 2010, Katie Spatz, 22-years-old at the time, rowed the Atlantic Ocean by herself, from Africa and South America in 70 days. She is the youngest person ever to complete the challenge. On Thursday, April 10th from 6-7:30 p.m. Katie will be at the Clifton Club in Lakewood to benefit the Lakewood YMCA Annual Campaign, telling her amazing story and answering your questions.

Katie’s story has been featured on CBS Morning Show, CBS Evening News, World News with Diane Sawyer, Anderson Cooper 360, New York Times, NPR, PBS News Hour, and the Discovery Channel. In 2010, Katie was honored by Glamour Magazine as one of their “Women of the Year” alongside people like Julia Roberts, Cher, and Queen Rania of



Jordan.

The cost of the event is \$60/person and is limited to the first 60 to register. There will be heavy hors d’oeuvres included and a cash bar.

To register, please contact the Lakewood Family YMCA at 216-521-8400. You may also email branch director, Gary Rick at grick@clevelandymca.org for more details.

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Pulse Of The City

700 Years Ago...March 18, 1314...A Solemn Anniversary:
The Execution of Jacques DeMolay

by Gary Rice

700 years ago, Knights Templar leader Jacques DeMolay was presented to the public near the Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris. Held in chains by the French king for seven years, DeMolay was the last Grand Master of the Knights Templar, known then as the Holy Church's own warrior-monks. At that time, DeMolay, who was by then quite elderly, was expected to publicly confess the many alleged and supposedly sordid "crimes" of the Templars, many of which had been supposedly admitted to under torture by the imprisoned knights.

As DeMolay cleared his throat and began to speak, the world would never be the same.

The tale began like this: On Friday, October 13, 1307, the Templars in France were rounded up under the orders of the French King Phillip IV "The Fair" and put into dungeons and chains (which is where we got the Friday 13th "bad luck" legend). Within hours, and under torture, confessions were allegedly extracted from the

imprisoned knights, attributing all manner of horrible deeds and beliefs to the secret Templar organization.

As the tale continues, although incensed that his warrior-monks had been put into chains, the Pope was nonetheless persuaded to permit the investigations to proceed. Indeed, there was little that he could do, as the French king had already moved the Seat of the Papal Court from Rome to Avignon, France.

High drama and politics were, of course, involved with all of this. The French king had supposedly sought the aid of the Templars and had been denied. The Templars, it seems, were a fairly independent bunch, even reportedly helping to force the English King John to sign the Magna Carta a century before. Back then, you did not push kings around, but the Templars, under the protection of the Church, were rather independent for their time, and that was apparently what got them into hot water.

Anyway, when the captive DeMolay began to speak, he proclaimed that the Templars were completely innocent of all that they had been accused of. At that point, DeMolay was quickly ushered by the French soldiers over to an island in the Seine River, where he was burned alive that same evening, along with a fellow knight. As historians will tell you, those burnings could be slow or fast, and DeMolay's burning was ordered to be as slow as possible. A legend has it that from the stake DeMolay cried out for the French king and the Pope to join him before God that year for judgement, and indeed both King and the Pope died shortly afterwards.

What happened after DeMolay's death we do not know for certain.

Some believe the Freemasons were born out of the surviving Templars. (There is even a Masonic Knights Templar group still around these days.) Others like to tell the tale about later that year when the Scottish King, Robert the Bruce, was at the point of losing the Battle of Bannokburn with the English when a group of Templars on horseback took the field to save the day. One Templar emblem, a skull with crossed bones, became a symbol of pirates, and reportedly the French king never captured the Templar fleet of ships (or the Templar treasures). There are stories as well that the Templars secretly came to America. There is a round stone building (Templar churches were often built in that manner) here in Rhode Island that some feel was a Templar edifice. Many Templar-related questions like these remain unanswered.

How true any or all of this is we may never know for sure, although volumes have been written both in support of and against the Templars. One thing we do know: Since the death of DeMolay on this date 700 years ago, and putting aside the question of Templar guilt or innocence, the absolute power of governments was shattered forever. From that point on, governments would have to be much more responsible and responsive to the people whom they served.

Since the birth of our own nation, from the Boston Tea Party forward, there have always been people (whether liberal or conservative or whatever else their personal political beliefs might be) who have been unwilling to stand for governmental injustice. Freedom of conscience and thought, protection for the weak, compassion for the less fortu-

nate, protection for the virtuous, and a strong spirit of justice for all continue to be timeless human goals that were brought into high public focus with the death of Jacques DeMolay.

Lakewood's DeMolay youth organization, meeting at Lakewood's historic Masonic Temple, has been around for many years. Founded in Kansas City, Missouri, by Frank S. Land in the early years of the twentieth century, the DeMolay organization continues to honor the memory of Jacques DeMolay and his contribution to our world.

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Lakewood Living

Vote By Mail And Early Voting Opens For The May 6, 2014 Primary Election

by Mike West

Vote by Mail opens on April 1, 2014. Board of Elections Director Pat McDonald says, “the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections is encouraging voters to take advantage of this safe, reliable, and convenient method of voting in the May 6th Primary Election. Voters may also track their ballot on our website: www.443vote.com to confirm their ballot has been received

by the Board of Elections. Vote by Mail/Absentee ballots are the first ballots to be tabulated when the polls close at 7:30 p.m. on Election Night.” McDonald says, “Now is the time to apply for a ballot.” The Board of Elections will begin mailing ballots to voters who request them starting on April 1st. McDonald reminds voters “It only takes a minute to obtain and complete a ballot application. The sooner

you request a ballot, the sooner yours will come in the mail.” Ballot applications are available on the Board of Elections website: www.443vote.com, by calling the Board of Elections at 216-443-VOTE (8683) and at all public libraries. There are 24 issues, 174 candidates, and over 600 people running for Democratic County Central Committee. McDonald says, “Vote by Mail

gives voters plenty of extra time to study the candidates and issues at their convenience and in the privacy of their own home.” Early voting began on April 1st at the Board of Elections located at 2915 Euclid Avenue in Cleveland. Early voting days and hours: Tuesday through Friday, from April 1st through April 4th: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, April 7, 2014: 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, from April 8th through April 11th: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, from April 14th through May 2nd: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, May 3rd: 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. The Voter registration deadline for the May 6th Election is April 7th:

Report: Westshore Council of Governments (WCOG) Meeting, Wednesday March 26, 2014

excerpted by Conda Boyd, Bay Village Chapter, LWV-Cuyahoga Area This month’s WCOG meeting covered a wide range of important topics. For the full LWV observer report by Susan Murnane (Bay Village chapter), Sue Fink (Bay Village chapter), and Nikki Salupo (Fairview Park chapter), see the Observer’s website or lwvcuyahogaarea.org. Only the highlights are given here.

WCOG’s 2014 budget was approved. Cash reserves will be used to fund dues allocations in excess of the 2013 amounts. Mayor Summers presented a letter he sent to Ohio EPA questioning the U.S. Corps of Engineers proposal to

dump soil dredged from the Cuyahoga River shipping channel directly into Lake Erie. Mayor Summers expressed concern that the dredged soil could adversely impact drinking water. NOACA has \$44 million in sustainable community funds for infrastructure repairs throughout Lake, Geauga, Medina, Lorain and Cuyahoga Counties. Current estimated need is \$20 billion. Three new services were discussed. Cuyahoga County has started Ready Notify, an automated notification system similar to Nixle that is free to every community. Senior Transportation Connection, a non-profit transportation service for senior citizens, wants to expand

on the west side. Simple Recycling, a for-profit company, recycles clothing, toys, and household goods, reducing landfill and returning a rebate to cities. The mayors compared notes on salt contracts for the 2014-15 winter. They will take a wait-and-see approach to regional dispatch and 911 consolidation. Noise from the Cleveland Clinic Avon facility’s Lifeflight helicopters was discussed. Discussion of Westshore Central Dispatch chain-of-command concerns was deferred. County Councilman Greenspan gave an update on a fund to demolish abandoned homes. He also discussed municipal vs. county responsibility for county road repairs.

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 May 14, 9:30-11:30 a.m., in the Fairview Park Gemini Center’s Birch Room.

A Democratic Candidate’s Night

by Jane Reilly

A Democratic Candidate’s Night will be held April 3, 7 p.m., at 20777 Lorain Road, in Fairview Park City Hall’s Dunson Room. The event will feature invited candidates running for Cuyahoga County Executive, Armond Budish, Bob Reid and Shirley Smith, along with candidates for various judicial races, and a Democratic write-in candidate for the Cuyahoga County Council from District 1, Mark Szabo. Additionally, speakers from both sides of the Sin Tax Issue 7 have been invited. This informative evening is sponsored by West Shore Democrats, a coalition of the following groups; Bay Village, Fairview Park, Lakewood, North Olmsted, Rocky River, Westlake, Westside and Stonewall Democratic Clubs. For more information, visit www.fairviewparkdems.org, or email fairviewdems@gmail.com.



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Lakewood Living

Old House Fair Focuses On Lakewood

by Melissa Page

Spring, is it finally here? Anyway it's still a fine time to prioritize and start tackling some home improvements. Many Lakewood residents, businesses, and nonprofits are gearing up to continue a long standing tradition of bringing the community its very own little home-improvement show! It will be Saturday, May 3 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Harding Middle School on Madison Ave. It serves as a one-stop shop bringing Lakewood resources together to meet the needs of Lakewood's homes and the resi-

dents who care for them. About fifty exhibitors are being showcased. Their goods and services cover improvement, remodel, repair, beautification, and decorating your space and the property you call home. Special emphasis is placed on topics unique to older homes.

Exhibitors offer their Saturday to advise, demonstrate, and inform residents whether you look to do-it-yourself or are thinking about hiring someone. Most of these exhibitors not only do business in Lakewood, but are fellow residents. They share an

appreciation for older homes and have a vested interest in the condition of our community's housing. Businesses and nonprofits alike often return to exhibit every year because this venue is an effective way to reach and inform residents about their services and resources.

Our two scheduled talks are, as usual, customized to address topics important to Lakewood. First at 11 a.m., fellow resident experts of the Lakewood Heritage Advisory Board will present "Landmarking Your Historic House." This seven member

appointed board consists of some of the most knowledgeable and passionate Lakewood residents for historic preservation.

For our second talk at 12 and 2 p.m., Lakewood's tree and landscaping expert, John Palmer, will be returning to help residents sort through all your yard questions and dilemmas. More on these featured talks will be in the next Lakewood Observer issue.

Known as a city of homes and with its older housing stock, Lakewood has an everpresent need for this customized event. To those of you who haven't taken advantage of this event, as an exhibitor or resident attending, you are missing out. There truly is something for everyone. So mark your calendar for Saturday, May 3rd. Admission is free. Businesses and services wishing to exhibit can visit the Lakewood Hardware store on Madison Ave. or call 216-226-8822.

Tis The Season....To Sell Your Home

by Chris Bergin

While the weather has remained cold and unpredictable, the Lakewood real estate market has remained hot! In 2013 there were 436 sales of single family homes, an increase of over 10% as compared to 2012! The median sales price increased by more than 13% over 2012, rising to \$122,000!

The momentum continues in 2014!

Since January 1st, there have been 64 closed transactions. Despite the weather, the average time on market was only 90 days. Most notably, the sales have averaged \$147,800, and that's nearly 98% of the asking price. Not too bad!

Currently there are 64 single family homes under contract. The average days on market has dropped to 77 days! The average list price at

the time of contract is up to \$145,100. Of note, 20 of the 64 homes under contract sold in 20 days or less! That's 31%! You can check out market activity at www.HomeValuesInLakewood.Info.

With inventory low, (just 96 homes for sale as of 3/27/14) and buyer demand high expect this trend to continue through the spring market until inventory increases to seasonable levels. Now is the ideal time for home owners to do their homework and get their home ready.

Ask for a FREE Highest Price Analysis for your home. Get advice on how to stage your home to make it shine. Develop an Action Plan to get your home ready for the market. Conduct a Marketability Test to see how your home stacks up against the competition. Do your home work now. Your home may be worth more than you think!

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Widespread Sidewalk Improvements

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Assembly must recognize and honor homerule as [it is] established by the Ohio Constitution," he said.

Councilwoman Cindy Marx (At-Large) thanked the Mayor saying she completely agrees with him and mentioned a New York Times article that agreed with everything he'd said.

Councilman Shawn Juris (Ward III) said that as someone who is on City Council and not the Board of Elections or a member of the Ohio General Assembly that he had spent the weekend reading up on the new laws to try and understand them. He said that he interpreted the New York Times piece as being inaccurate and misleading. He said he is "hesitant to make a blanket statement with a resolution on something that tends to be complex and goes beyond matters they tend to review on Council." Without being fully briefed on the subject and without fully vetting it, he said he would feel uncomfortable voting on it and looked forward to having the chance to discuss it in committee. Council referred the resolution to the Rules and Ordinances Committee.

Finance Director Pae then asked Council to pass a resolution that would allow the city to apply for a \$21,000 grant from the Local Government Innovation Fund's Local Government Efficiency Program so that eight employees can receive Green Belt

Lean Six Sigma training. With falling revenue, the city is trying to do more with less. In 2012 the City established the "Lean Lakewood" program which trained staff to "study and map departmental processes enabling them to identify and eliminate known forms of waste, which achieve savings in time, labor, and other costs." The City has completed three of the 10 original projects with plans for seven more. About 90% of the staff is trained and the city has progressed to yellow-belt. They would like to make green-belt. If awarded the grant, the city would not be responsible for any matching funds. Council passed the resolution.

Planning and Development Director, Dru Siley then asked Council to renew an ordinance first enacted in 2008 and renewed in 2011 that allows the city to purchase property for under \$60,000 without approval from Council. In the last 6 years the City has been able to purchase 22 foreclosed homes to be rehabbed or demolished. "While this is a strategy of last resort," Director Siley said, "it has been a successful tool to remedy distressed properties in cases where the private market has failed." Council referred the renewal ordinance to the Housing Committee to be considered.

Coming to the end of the agenda items, Council President Madigan adjourned the meeting at 8:35 pm.

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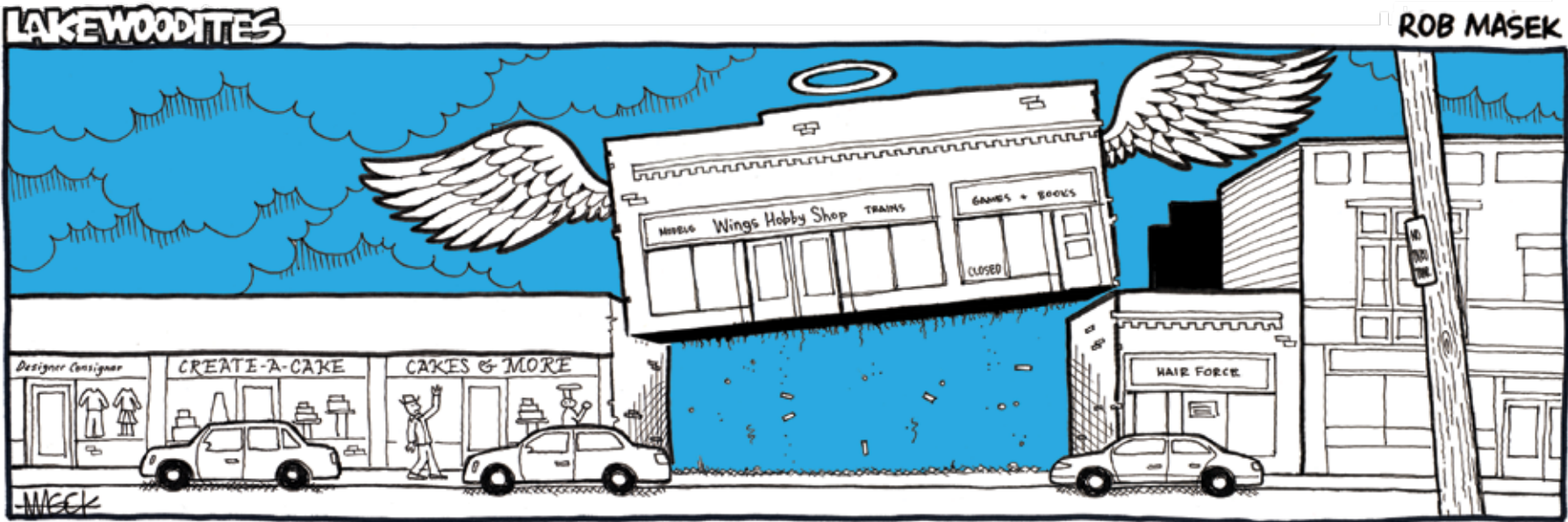
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