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# THE LAKEWOOD OBSERVER



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Volume 10, Issue 21, October 15, 2014

## Charter Review Commission Recommendations

by Andrew Meyer

Every ten years, Lakewood's charter mandates that a group of nine citizens appointed by Lakewood's officials meet to review the charter and recommend changes to the charter.

This is a provision built into the charter to see that mistakes are eliminated and to see that it can adapt with the times or otherwise improve upon itself. A city's charter is basically its constitution. In conjunction

with state law, it gives the legal format and basis for the rest of its governance; executive action, ordinances and resolutions.

This year, Lakewood's charter was up for review, and I had the privilege of serving with eight highly dedicated and capable citizens of Lakewood committed to our city's well-being. I wrote this article because I thought it was important that Lakewood residents heard firsthand from a member about our process and our reasons for the revisions we have suggested. Chairman Tom Brown and members Jay Carson, Steve Davis, Scott Kermode, Ed Monroe, Pam Smith, Allison Urbanek, and Tom Wagner, were all excellent

components of the commission, which was ably assisted by charter staff Dr. Larry Keller. The commission met almost every week for nearly 6 months, and often brought work home. Our overarching philosophy during the process was to retain what made Lakewood great while increasing profes-

sionalism and flexibility and to modernize the document. This process produced a recommendation for Lakewood's Third Amended Charter.

One of the first issues that our commission reviewed was whether to dramatically change the structure of the government. **continued on page 6**



Charter Review 2014, 1) Tom Brown Chairperson, 2) Scott Kermode, 3) Stephen Davis, 4) Jay Carson, 5) Tom Wagner, 6) Andy Meyers, 7) Ed Monroe, 8) Pam Smith, 9) Missing Allison Urbanek, F) Facilitator, Dr. Larry Keller, LD) Law Director Kevin Butler.

## Spooky Pooch Parade Finds New Home In Kauffman Park

by Ken Brand

LakewoodAlive is set to host what has become an annual tradition in Downtown Lakewood: The Spooky Pooch Parade. This year's event will once again fill the streets with hundreds of our favorite canine friends dressed in costumes to celebrate the Halloween season. The festival is free while the parade registration cost is \$10 (pre-register) or \$15 day-of. Once again this year, multiple dog discounts are available at pre-registration only. Bring your dogs dressed in their scariest, funniest, or most outrageous

costumes. Register today at [spookypoochparade.com](http://spookypoochparade.com).

The day starts off with a pre-parade festival and registration at 12:30pm at the new location for this event, Kauffman Park, 14540 Detroit Avenue. The festival features a fantastic gathering of 40+ diverse vendors that bring a unique collection of doggie creations and activities. The Lakewood Garden Center will have a great pumpkin patch to pick up some of your favorite Halloween outdoor decorations. Once again we thank The Furry Nation and Cox Communication as our



Dogs (and their humans) are invited to join in the fun!

Top Dog Sponsors. All are welcome to attend this pet- and family-friendly festival.

The Spooky Pooch Parade will step off from Kauffman Park at 2pm, the dogs will parade out of Kauffman Park at Andrews Avenue, proceed South on Detroit where the parade will head East on Detroit to Cook, make a 180 turn and head back West on Detroit. To end the parade we will take a right on the Arthur extension and head North back into Kauffman Park. Judges will choose the best of the best in five categories: Spookiest Pooch, Best Dog & Child, Best Dog & Adult, Best Group and Best in Show. We have made improvements to the judging process to allow us to announce

**continued on page 18**

## Lakewood Announces Fall Leaf Collection Schedule

by Melissa Garrett

The City of Lakewood will begin collecting loose leaves on Monday, November 3, 2014 and will continue until approximately Friday, December 12, 2014, weather permitting. Prior to November 3 and after December 12, leaves will be collected only when they are placed in paper yard/leaf bags and set out along with regular refuse and recycling.

Due to the excessive amount of leaves on Clifton

Boulevard and Lake Avenue, these streets will be collected separately. Collection crews will start working at the east end of Clifton Boulevard and Lake Avenue and work west until completed. Collection pick-up for these streets is scheduled to begin on November 3 with additional pick-ups beginning November 17 and December 1.

After crews have completed Clifton and Lake, they will collect **continued on page 23**

## Friends Book Sale

by Genevieve Jaskulski

Join the Friends of Lakewood Public Library on Saturday, October 18 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. for their big Fall Book Sale. Paperbacks, hard covers, movies, music and magazines will be available for pennies on the dollar. If you would like a sneak peek of all the bargains, there will be a members-only preview sale on

Thursday, October 16 from 6 to 9 p.m. If you're not a member, you can become a Friend at the door for as little as \$2.

We all know that Lakewood Public Library offers many wonderful, family friendly things to do, from story times, to world class concerts, to the fantastic assortment of movies we show **continued on page 8**

## It's Time To pARTy At Beck Center's Spotlight

by Pat Miller

Beck Center for the Arts will celebrate while raising vital funds with its 2014 Spotlight benefit. This year's event will take place 7 p.m. - 1 a.m. on Saturday, October 18, at Beck Center, 17801 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood. All proceeds benefit Beck Center's programming and its student Financial Assistance Program. Tickets are on sale now.

Led by event chairs Kathy Delaney, Mary Kim Elkins, and Sally Stewart, a visually stun-

ning "pARTy" atmosphere is in the works. "Spotlight is a marquee fundraising event for Beck Center and the Spotlight pARTy will be like no other event before," said Elkins. "A festive atmosphere is being created by premiere event planner Joe Mineo, exquisite food will be prepared by celebrity Chef Chris Hodgson, and music by 'Best of Cleveland' DJ Donkis." Guests will also have the opportunity to bid on exclusive items such as a trip to Wente Vineyards in California. **continued on page 6**

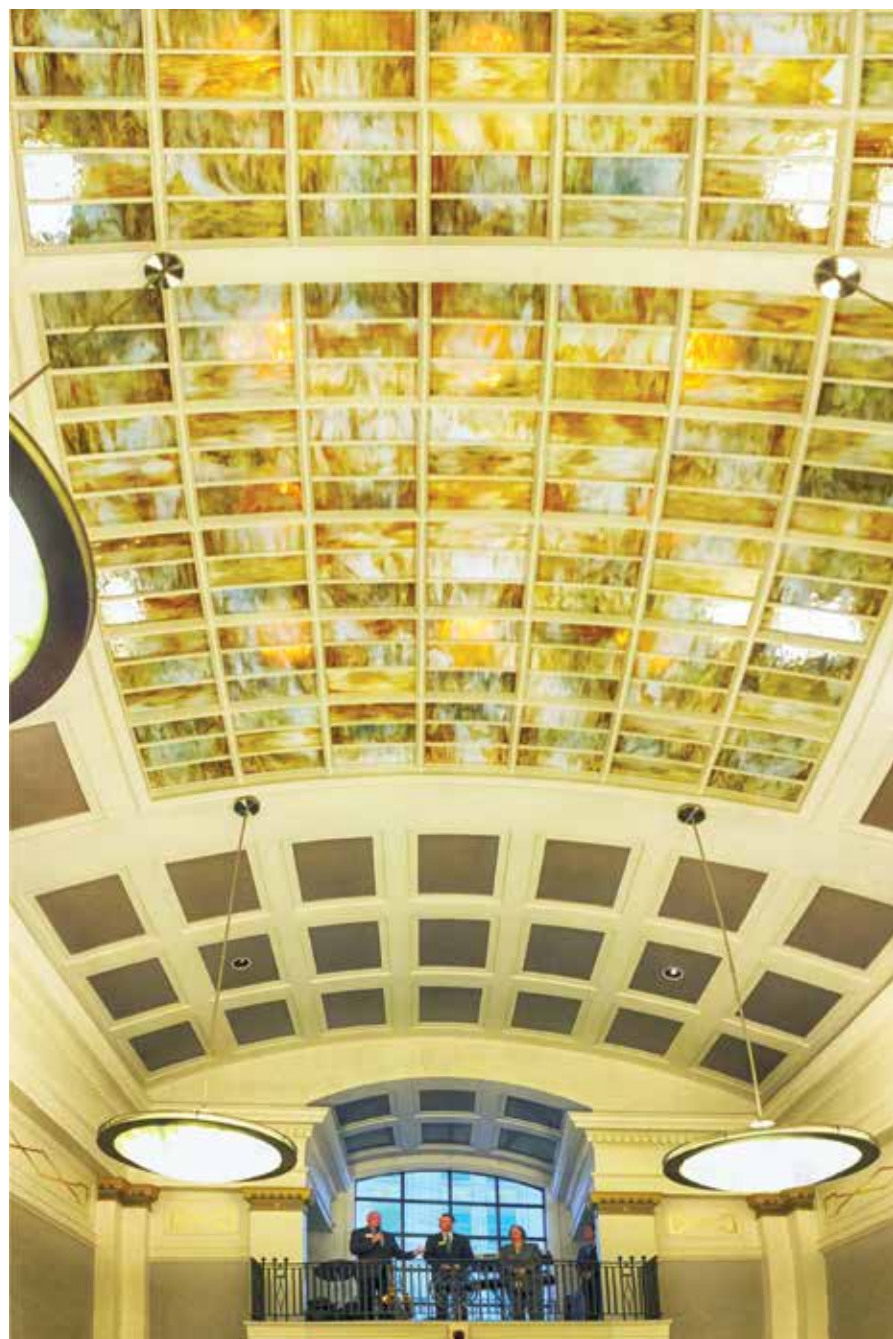
## Terminal Tower Shows Off Lakewood Pride!



Good family fun on an autumn night, change the colors of the Terminal Tower! Ask for Purple and Gold, get purple and gold. Just tweet color combinations to #towerlightscle and wait!



Observations



Mayor Michael P. Summers thanks FFL CEO Tom Fraiser for FFL’s dedication to Lakewood, as State Representative Nickie Antonio looks on.



Left to right, First Federal Lakewood board members, Ron Dees, William Huffman, State Representative Nickie Antonio, Mayor Michael P. Summers, Tom Fraser, Charles Geiger, Rebecca Rupert McMahon, Gary Fix.

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LAKEWOOD DISCUSSION				
		Member		
Topics	Author	Replies	Views	Last Post
Madison Scarecrows	Michael Deneen	1	185	Mon Oct 13
Councilman Shawn Juris’ Dim Bulb Alert	Matthew Markling	4	466	Mon Oct 13
Terminal Tower Goes Purple And Gold - For You!	Jim O’Bryan	0	451	Sun Oct 12
IMAGE-IN LAKEWOOD	Jim O’Bryan	254	26470	Sun Oct 12
First Federal Lakewood Ribbon Cutting NICE...		0	216	Fri Oct 10
One-Way Streets in Birdtown?	Michael Deneen	17	454	Fri Oct 10
Ideas for New Parks	Katie Stallbaum	1	246	Fri Oct 10
Poverty & Hunger in Lakewood	John Litten	3	431	Thu Oct 09
Things You See When You Have A Camera!	Jim O’Bryan	0	434	Thu Oct 09
City of Lakewood Pays Hidden Village Owners \$507,000	Bill Call	9	696	Thu Oct 09
Fire Department Saves Boater’s Life, Boat Not So Much	Jim O’Bryan	0	622	Thu Oct 09
The New Schools (All Four)	Jim O’Bryan	23	2335	Wed Oct 08

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## City News

# City Settles Law Suit For \$507,500

by Christopher Bindel

The October 6, 2014 Council meeting was called to order at 7:32 P.M. by Council President, and Ward IV Councilwoman, Mary Louise Madigan.

The meeting began with a report from the Committee of the Whole regarding the recommendations from the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC). Every year the city is awarded Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) dollars from HUD. That money is to be divided up by the city to different entities who will enact programs to improve the lives of the people in the city. These programs include public works projects (street paving, water main replacement, and park improvements) and human services (food bank, homelessness prevention, and health care services). It is the job

of the citizen volunteers on the CAC to listen to applicants and make recommendations to Council regarding how much each one should get. The Committee submits its recommendations to Council and they decide if they agree with the recommendations or not and then vote. Due to the way HUD works the City never knows exactly how much money it will be receiving until after the CAC has submitted its recommendations, so they have to work with an estimated projection of the grant award. This year it was estimated that funding would be relatively flat.

The Councilwoman delivered her report and stated that there was brief discussion with the Committee

Co-Chairs. After the discussion the Committee of the Whole agreed to recommend adoption of the CAC's recommendations to the whole Council.

Upon completing her report, Councilwoman Madigan introduced the resolution with the CAC recommendations and Council passed it unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was an ordinance submitted by Law Director Kevin Butler to update a chapter of the Lakewood Codified Ordinances that is associated with secondhand dealers. As it currently stands, Lakewood does not have any specific codes that pertain to pawnbrokers therefore they fall under the same secondhand dealers codes as a thrift shop does. This has the unintended consequence of allowing pawnshops to become vehicles for the unloading of stolen goods. Because of this Chief Malley and the Division of the Police asked the Law Department to prepare legislation for Council's review that would create new regulations for pawn brokers, making it easier for the City to manage this issue.

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

Director of Public Works, Joe Beno, then asked Council to pass a resolution approving of the City's 2015 grant application to the Ohio Public Works Commission. On this application the City is seeking funding for two projects. The first would be water main replacements on a number of streets across Lakewood, to be determined at a later date. That project would not be completed until 2016. The second project is the installation of 60 wet weather flow meters which are required by the EPA in conjunction with an agreement they made with the City.

Due to the application deadline Director Beno asked Council to pass

the resolution on first reading. They agreed and passed it.

For the final item on the agenda Council went into executive session, including only the Council, the Law Director, Director of Planning and Development, the Chiefs of Police and Fire, and the City's outside legal council. They were behind closed doors from 8:08 to 9:12 P.M. Upon resuming the public Council meeting, Councilwoman Madigan said that they were discussing the City's current litigation with Hidden Village, LLC, the owners of the Hidden Village Apartments in Lakewood. For six years the City has been battling the allocations that they violated the rights of the residents in the apartment complex. Now, after the longest civil case the City has ever been a part of, the City has decided it would be advantageous to seek a settlement. The City was able to reach a settlement agreement of \$507,500. During deliberations in executive session Council agreed to the amount and upon returning to the public meeting passed a resolution approving the settlement.

Mayor Summers said that "the settlement does not represent an admission of liability by the city, and Lakewood has always disputed the allegations...but we believe the resolution of a very old, very time-consuming and potentially costly case was in the best interest of our citizens." In addition he said that the City had been preparing financially for a trial so the funds for the settlement were already set aside. In fact, he said that by avoiding a trial the City is now actually in a stronger financial position than it was before the settlement.

Coming to the end of the agenda items and with no one signed up for public comment, Council President Madigan adjourned the meeting at 9:14 P.M.

## Lakewood, Hidden Village Settle Six-Year Litigation

by Colin McEwen

Lakewood City Council voted to bring the city's longest-pending civil lawsuit to a close on Monday evening by authorizing a settlement with the owner of a local apartment complex.

The dispute arose from a series of interactions in 2006 and 2007 between the city and the owner of Hidden Village Apartments in Lakewood. The

owner, Hidden Village, LLC, alleged the city engaged in practices that violated its and its tenants' rights, and the city denied those allegations. The city will contribute \$507,500 toward the settlement, and the company will release all claims against the city and all of its past and current officials and employees.

"The settlement does not represent an admission of liability by the city, and Lakewood has always disputed the allegations made in the complaint," said Lakewood Mayor Michael Summers. "But we believe the resolution of a very old, very time-consuming and potentially costly case was in the best interest of our citizens."

Summers, who first took office in 2011, advocated bringing the nearly six-year-old lawsuit to an end. "We were prepared for this settlement so our financial strength is unaffected," he said. "In fact, by removing the specter of extensive litigation our position is now strengthened."

The case, which was litigated in the U.S. District Court and the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals, was scheduled to be tried before a jury in Youngstown beginning on October 27.

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## Salute To The Jr. Fire Chief



Horace Mann fifth-grader Riley Griffith earned the title of Junior Fire Chief during Fire Prevention Week for her winning essay. The award also won her a ride to school in a fire engine truck. She is joined here by her sister, Julie, Fire Marshal Tim Dunphy and firefighters Jim Schmook (left) and Dave Dunne.



# City News

## Westshore Council Of Governments (WCOG) Meeting, 10/08/2014

by LWV observers Conda Boyd  
(Bay Village) and Kathy Kosiorek  
(Lakewood)

This report is not an official LWV statement. Official minutes are prepared by Mayor Patton's office and posted on Fairview Park's website.

**Present:** Mayors Bobst (Rocky River), Kennedy (North Olmsted), Patton (Fairview Park), Sutherland (Bay Village), and Summers (Lakewood).

**Absent:** Mayor Clough (Westlake)

**Also in attendance:** Fiscal Officer Renee Mahoney, Cuyahoga County Council District 1 Representative Dave Greenspan.

**RTA:** There will be a public meeting about RTA's future on October 21 at 2 p.m. at RTA headquarters. Lakewood's upgraded transit stations are due to be completed in November.

**Cuyahoga County Mayors & City Managers Association (CCMCMA):** Mayor Sutherland reported that HB5 municipal income tax changes will be taken up by the lame duck Ohio Senate and will require close monitoring to ensure progress.

North Royalton Mayor Robert Stefanik is asking the CCMCMA to endorse his letter demanding that the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) manage the deer population. Mayors Clough and Sutherland declined to sign this letter, but Mayor Sutherland stated that the ODNR is trying to shift the burden onto homeowners. In Avon Lake, homeowners can request permits from ODNR and the city to cull deer on private property. Mayor Kennedy noted that the MetroParks culls 30-120 deer a year in Bradley Woods. North Olmsted is examining options, including an ordinance similar to Avon Lake's. Rocky River sent residents an advisory on how to discourage deer. Bay Village has had 20 deer-vehicle accidents in the past year. Mayors Sutherland and Kennedy agreed that aggressive wild turkeys have also been problematic.

**Suburban Water Council:** Mayor

Bobst stated that infrastructure improvements are built into the rates charged to all Cleveland Water customers, so it's important to bring those dollars back to the city via the renewal program. Rocky River is now checking water lines in conjunction with other projects. Fairview Park has evaluated water main breaks, matched them with their street program, and prioritized projects accordingly. Bay Village City Council has declined to participate in the renewal program. Lakewood owns and operates its own water system.

**Clean Fuels:** Mayor Summers met with Clean Fuels Ohio about fueling stations for alternative fuels. While potential fuel savings for cities and schools are substantial, the cost of these special stations may be prohibitive. Energy efficiency is a long-term goal for Lakewood, and he will continue to research the idea.

**County Council Update:** Mr. Greenspan described a new RTA program that will offer discounts for transportation to cultural events. He also discussed in detail a proposed \$50 million fund to demolish vacant buildings. Mayor Summers stated that while Cleveland's needs are disproportionately large, a reasonable percentage should be directed to the suburbs as well. Property value increases materialize much more quickly in the suburbs, spurring regional recovery.

**County Health Insurance Program:** Mayor Patton reported that Fairview Park is nearing the end of its first year under the county program. They opted for two of the seven plans and estimated \$300,000 savings in 2014. Employee satisfaction is high, and the 2015 premium increase is only 1.5%.

The WCOG was founded in 1971 "to foster cooperation between municipalities in all areas of municipal service." All meetings are open to the public. Next meeting: November 12, 9:30-11:30 a.m., Fairview Park Gemini Center's Birch Room.

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<sup>2</sup> A reward of \$10.00 will be added to the account monthly when recurring direct deposits of \$500.00 or more are made to your Benefits Checking Account each month. The total of the recurring Direct Deposits will be based on a calendar month. Maximum benefit paid is \$120.00.

<sup>3</sup> You may also receive a \$10 reward per purchase transaction, up to \$10.00 per statement cycle, made with your Benefits Checking Account Debit Card. Maximum benefit paid is \$120.00.

<sup>4</sup> Participation in the promotion requires you to enroll in Online banking and eStatements within 60 days of opening your new checking account. You will be awarded \$10.00 to your Benefits Checking Account after you receive your first eStatement.

## City News

# Charter Review Commission Recommendations

continued from page 1

ment. It was agreed by our commission that many good things have been happening in Lakewood recently, and that it was going in the right direction. But our commission had different ideas about how to keep that momentum going. City governments are, with some exceptions, generally organized in one of two basic ways; as a strong mayor government, where there is both a city council and a full time mayor, elected by the city at large, who is empowered to act decisively on matters of administration; and a council/manager system, where the city council hires a manager who handles most or all of the administration, with either a largely ceremonial, part time mayor, or no mayor at all.

This discussion largely dominated the first couple months of our meetings. Good, passionately argued points

were made by both sides. To simplify an involved analysis, the debates hinged on the benefit of the professionalism of a city manager system versus the benefit of the citizen responsiveness of a strong mayor system. Ultimately, while a majority of members voted to retain the current system of strong mayor, the values of accountability, professionalism, and responsibility infused much of our work from that point on.

The two additions which actually most changed the substantive structure of our government were at least partly due to that debate. Our commission has proposed a new ethics section. It is both hortatory, giving symbolic encouragement to adhere to ethical standards, and practical. Persons convicted of crimes involving violations of public trust would not be eligible to serve Lakewood as elected officials.

Our region has been tainted by public corruption in recent years, and we felt that Lakewood should make a strong statement that a culture of corruption will not be accepted in our city.

In addition, during the discussion of the strong mayor/city manager system, there was an offhand suggestion that we add a level of professionalism to our current system through training and professional consultation on best practices in municipal government. An offhand suggestion was strengthened by the work of the commission by substantial work that designed a training system that will be unique and effective, innovative while grounded in common sense. Newly elected or appointed mayors will be required to take 16 hours of training in municipal governance. They will learn both practical tools of city administration that will help enable them to govern effectively and professionally, and learn about current "best practices" of municipal government in cities similar to Lakewood around the country; innovations that could help our city. Newly elected or appointed city council members will be required to take 4 hours of training. Council members are part time while mayors are full time, which is the primary reason for the different hour requirements.

While training and ethics are perhaps our signature recommendations, the charter in its entirety received probably its most extensive rewrite since it was initially written in 1913. Much of the language was written in a manner reflective of its age that has not aged well. Instance, the current charter required referendum petitions be signed in ink or "indelible pencil," something common in the early 1900's and rare today. In addition, the original language assumed elected officials would be male, and our recommendations rewrite the language to be gender neutral.

In addition, changes had to be made in order to make sure Lakewood both stays compliant with other governing law and works well in conjunction with other agencies. One example is that we altered elections provisions to make them operate more in tandem with the Board of Elections.

Finally, the current charter has had criticism for being too long, impenetra-

ble, and difficult to understand. Much of our revisions have been made to make the Charter more accessible to Lakewood's citizens. We strove to provide a charter that contains the core provisions necessary for our successful governance and reflective of our city's character in a simple and understandable manner, while eliminating unnecessary or impenetrable language or provisions. Similarly, we sought to retain our core values and character reflected in the charter, while also allowing it to be more nimble. Much that is still useful to our government that has been excised from the proposed charter would be transferred to the codified ordinances of Lakewood, where elected public officials accountable to the public will have more direct oversight.

This stage may well have been the most exhaustive and time consuming portion of our process. Our commission carefully weeded out passages, sentences, phrases or even words that could be excised, removed to codified ordinances or grammatically altered.

The Commission was ably assisted and supported in its efforts by the City Administration. It was similarly well-served and supported by the members of Council. City Council has been given our recommendations and has now begun its review. If City Council approves the recommendations, the recommendations will be put up for approval for Lakewood's voters next year, either during the spring primary or the fall general election.

I encourage anyone interested in finding out more about the Third Amended Charter to attend Council meetings when it is being discussed. In addition, the proposed Third Amended Charter and the Charter Review Commission Final Report are available for you to review on the City's website at [http://onelakewood.com/Boards\\_Commissions/CharterCommission.aspx](http://onelakewood.com/Boards_Commissions/CharterCommission.aspx).

I'm proud to have been a contributing member of this Charter Review Commission. It has produced a recommended Third Amended Charter of Lakewood which has retained the core governing principals that have contributed to making Lakewood such a great place to live and work, while adding new provisions that will help keep our forward momentum going strong.

## It's Time To pARTy At Beck Center

continued from page 1

fornia, a week's stay at a historic home in Saint-Cyprien, France, and more.

The evening's program will also shine a spotlight on Beck Center's Dance Education program. Guests will enjoy a special performance by former students who are continuing their dance studies at prestigious schools. Dancers Taylor Gerrasch, currently studying at Joffrey Ballet, Julia Horner of Fordham University/Alvin Ailey Extension, Abby Schneider, a dance major at Kent State University, and Annie Gagen of Point Park University, will perform with current Beck Center student Ali Cassidy, and faculty members Lou Hadaway and Anna Roberts.

Last year's event netted over \$100,000 for arts education, performances, exhibits and outreach, including an unprecedented amount of scholarships for students with financial need. "Thanks to our generous supporters, we were able to double our Financial Assistance Program for arts education students," commented Beck Center President & CEO Lucinda Einhouse. "The program supported 180 students, who otherwise would not have had access to an arts experience, to participate in classes and lessons throughout the past year. We hope to accomplish even more this year."

The Spotlight pARTy will include a special presentation recognizing the civic leadership of PNC and Paul Clark, Regional President. PNC's Grow Up Great program is a leader in early childhood arts education philanthropy, helping organizations like Beck Center for the Arts provide educational opportunities for children ages birth to five. "PNC has been a great philanthropic partner to Beck Center and supporter of early childhood arts education programming. We are proud of what they do for the arts community," remarked Einhouse.

Tickets are \$200 (\$130 tax deductible) and are on sale through Beck Center's Customer Service at 216.521.2540 x10 or online at [beckcenter.org](http://beckcenter.org). Contact Lauren Brocone at x19 for information regarding sponsorship levels which start at \$1,600 (\$960 tax deductible).

Spotlight Sponsors include Cox Communications and PNC at the Gold Level; Silver Sponsors Skylight Financial, Chann & Ed Spellman, First Federal Lakewood; and Jill & Paul Clark, Kathy Delaney, Deloitte, Mary Kim Elkins & David Greenspan, Nordson Corporation, Sally & Terry Stewart, Spangenberg Shibley & Liber LLP, Thompson Hine, Turner Construction, Weber Murphy Fox/Doug Hoffman and Wente Winery.

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## LEAF Presents:

## Homebrewing With Paul Benner

by Heather Ramsey

Join the Lakewood Earth & Food (LEAF) Community for an educational session on beer making with Paul Benner of the Cleveland Brew Shop and Platform Beer Company. The presentation will take place on Thursday, October 23rd at 6 p.m. at the main branch of the Lakewood Public Library. This educational event will be held in conjunction with LEAF's annual Harvest Festival, which will run from 5:30-8 p.m. on the porch of the library and will feature local food, vendors, and music, as well as kids' activities and our annual pie contest.

Paul, a native Northeast Ohioan and graduate of Baldwin-Wallace University, Paul helms the Cleveland Brew Shop, Cleveland's only full-service homebrew supply shop open since 2012, and is part-owner of Platform Beer Company, a production brewery and tasting room that opened in 2014. Both businesses are located in nearby Ohio City.

Paul will discuss the parallel rise of the craft beer and homebrewing movements, along with how the beer-making process works on a small scale.

As always, this LEAF educational event is free and open to the public.



# Lakewood Public Library

**compiled by Leana Donofrio-Milovan**  
*Looking for something fun to do? Join us!*

**Wednesday, October 15**  
**Lakewood Historical Society: Cleveland Calamities: A History of Storm, Fire and Pestilence by Alan F. Dutka**  
For the first time under one cover, here are the tales of Cleveland’s greatest blizzards, most destructive tornados, nastiest snowstorms and worst floods—and so much more. A pseudo tidal wave once pounded the Lake Erie shore from Bay Village to the Pennsylvania border. A phantom ice age caused scientists to predict that glaciers would soon return to Cleveland. A river burned, mayflies swarmed the downtown area by the millions, credible UFO sightings are still unexplained and a June blizzard raged in the city. Citizens perfected the art of throwing rocks at volunteer firefighters. Secret assistance in developing the atomic bomb created a radioactive neighborhood. Join Cleveland author Alan F. Dutka as he explores intriguing stories of famous and lesser-known Forest City disasters.  
**7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium**

**Thursday, October 16**  
**Meet the Author: “Diary of the Dumped: 30 Days from Break Up to Breakthrough” by Aleksandra Sukhoy**  
It’s a modern problem. After receiving a break up text from her boyfriend, a woman keeps a diary for the next thirty days, excavating her devastation and recovering her buried personal life in order to discover the true source of her dating disappointments. With a supporting cast of friends, she sets off on the most important odyssey of all—the quest to rebuild a broken heart. Sukhoy, a career coach and educator, spent two decades climbing the corporate ladder, earning numerous leadership roles and managing cross-functional teams in America and around the world. Her most recent book, The ‘90s: Diary of a Mess, charted on the Amazon Kindle Poetry Anthologies Best Sellers List. A daughter, sister, niece and cousin, she thrives on travel, befriending people of all backgrounds and cultures and creating an extended family that spans the globe. Her relationship experiences and writer’s instincts have taught her to value each individual’s story and to progress through life with tremendous resilience, optimism and laughter. Books will be available for sale and signing at the event.  
**7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium**

**Friends Fall Book Sale –Members Only Preview**  
**Thursday, October 16 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.**

**Booked for Murder: Southern Style Noir: In for a Penny by Kathryn Wall**  
This season, the intrepid investigators of this book club will switch back and forth between noir murder mysteries and southern intrigue. But which one is which? For full book descriptions, visit [www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.org/bookclubs](http://www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.org/bookclubs).  
**7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Meeting Room**

**Saturday, October 18**  
**Friends Fall Book Sale**  
**9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

## LPL Children/Youth Events

**compiled by Eric Knapp**

**Saturday, October 18**  
**Fold-A-Story**  
**For students in sixth through twelfth grade**  
Help create a hilarious story using teamwork and terrible drawing skills. The worse you are, the better it will be! No registration necessary.  
**4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. in the Main Library Activity Room.**

**The Magic of Michael Mage**  
**For the whole family**  
Join in hilarious magical fun in a show you have to see to believe.  
**7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room.**

**Saturday, October 18**  
**Book Character Costume Gala**  
**For students in sixth through twelfth grade**  
Come dressed as your favorite book character! Games, activities, photo ops, prizes and the opportunity to star in a silent film. Registration required.  
**2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room.**

**Sunday, October 26**  
**Sew Your Own Softies**  
**For anyone ages 8 and up**  
Sew your own stuffed toy with the help of our experiences seamstresses. Materials provided. Registration required.  
**2:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. in the Main Library Homework Room.**

**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](http://www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.org/youth)) for times and upcoming themes.  
**Main Library Activity Room and Madison Branch Auditorium**

**Weekends With Wee Ones**  
**For families with children under 2 years old**  
Spend a part of your family weekend time clapping your hands, tapping your feet, singing nursery rhymes and, of course, sharing books. We will provide materials and ideas for those wishing to continue the fun at home. Programs are offered every weekend throughout the year and there is no need to register in advance.  
**Madison Branch Children’s and Youth Services**

**Saturday, October 18**  
**Lakewood Public Cinema: “Funny Games” (2007)**  
**Directed by Michael Haneke**  
If you like to read film reviews, sooner or later you will come across the phrase, “this movie indicts the viewer.” Michael Haneke’s Funny Games, an Americanized remake of his own 1997 work, has been called a powerful condemnation of America’s fascination with violence by some and disgusting, vile and horrific by others. Naomi Watts and Tim Roth are heading to their vacation home with their young son—a destination they share with a pair of young, articulate, golf-club-wielding, white-gloved serial killers. Michael Pitt plays the ringleader of this mysterious duo who capture hostages for a sick game in which no one knows if they will live or die, one in which the viewer is sometimes taunted for participating. But do not mistake this for a horror film. A relentless study on what makes violence so hard to turn away from, it refuses to let us off with simple thrills and chills. “Why don’t you just kill us?” Watts asks at one point. The response: “You shouldn’t forget the importance of entertainment.”  
**6:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium**

**Sunday, October 19**  
**Sunday with the Friends: Ryann Anderson Trio**  
Layering delicious sound upon delicious sound to create joyful, original escapes he likes to call, “ice cream for your ears,” guitarist Ryann Anderson filled the Library with a symphonic presence even as a solo artist. Now backed by a trio, he returns after many years, drawing upon jazz, classical and folk traditions, to share the fruits of his maturing genius. Don’t be afraid to have fun. If you listen closely, the experience can be uplifting, enlightening and even dizzying, but you won’t be the only one left smiling.  
**2:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium**

**Wednesday, October 22**  
**Lakewood Historical Society: The Terminal Tower: From Chicago’s World Fair to Cleveland’s Public Square**  
This landmark skyscraper has long been regarded as the symbol of Cleveland. Chuck Klein, a Trustee of the National Model Railroad Association, will present the true story of the Terminal Tower. Learn how the country’s premier railroad station came to be built at the southwest corner of Public Square and how two shy real estate moguls known as the Van Sweringen brothers put their stamp on Cleveland and made it the jewel of the world.  
**7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium**

**Saturday, October 25**  
**Lakewood Public Cinema: “Nowhere Boy” (2009)**  
**Directed by Sam Taylor-Johnson**  
This is sacred ground. A film about the troubled childhood of John Lennon could have gone wrong in so many ways, but this pitch-perfect picture manages to avoid the pitfalls of legend and delivers the emotional truth of the boy who would become the man who would become the icon. Raised by his stern Aunt Mimi, the adolescent Lennon discovers that his long absent mother lives only a short walk away. Her free spirit opens up new worlds to him—especially musically—but her shortcomings lead him to harsh truths about his family and himself. In the background of this lovely story, Lennon forms his first skiffle group, the Quarrymen, and meets two musical rivals named Paul and George. Beatles fans know the snapshots of this fledgling group well, but to see them come to life is nothing short of magical. With a soundtrack rocking influential songs by Elvis Presley, Screamin’ Jay Hawkins, and Eddie Cochran, you don’t have to be a Beatles fan to enjoy this film, but you might end up tapping your feet.  
**6:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium**

**Sunday, October 26**  
**Sunday with the Friends: Two Poets: Larry Smith and Susan Grimm**  
There won’t be any flashpots, mood lighting or costume changes—just two of Northeast Ohio’s most accomplished poets trading verses back and forth. Doesn’t that sound like a nice change of pace for a Sunday afternoon? Born and raised in the Ohio River Valley, Larry Smith is a poet, a publisher, a father, a grandfather and a retired English professor. In his latest book, Lake Winds, Smith shares intimate reflections on family, Catholic spirituality, Buddhist meditation, retirement and mortality in plain, transparent language that will be a breath of fresh air to those who think they don’t understand modern poetry. As the publisher of Bottom Dog Press, he has shepherded scores of poets to the printed page, translated two books of Chinese poetry and written literary biographies of Lawrence Ferlinghetti and Kenneth Patchen. But his first love remains the capturing of quiet moments and constant things—lake breezes, back yards, dogs, the emptying of a desk—and sharing them with audiences. Cleveland native Susan Grimm is the editor of Ordering the Storm: How to Put Together a Book of Poems, published by the Cleveland State University Poetry Center. In 1999, she was named Ohio Poet of the Year by the Ohio Poetry Day Association and has published several books of poetry including her latest chapbook, Roughed Up by the Sun’s Mothering Tongue. Her gentle wit and sharp language will serve as a nice counterpoint to the earnest observations of her friend, Smith. Books will be available for sale and signing at the event.  
**2:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium**

**Saturday, November 1**  
**Lakewood Public Cinema: “Barton Fink” (1991)**  
**Directed by Joel and Ethan Coen**  
A New York playwright is brought to Hollywood to write for the movies. But why do they need a genius to write a Wallace Beery wrestling picture? Despite the clever jabs, this isn’t one of those showbiz satires. That’s too easy for the filmmakers behind Fargo, the Big Lebowski and other gems. Their target, instead, is the folly of writers. Literary types will also appreciate the thinly-veiled William Faulkner, boozing away his gifts as a mentor of sorts. When they cleaned out the real Faulkner’s desk at Warner Brothers, all they found was an empty bottle and a piece of foolscap on which he’d written, “Boy meets girl” over a thousand times.  
**6:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium**

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## Lakewood Public Library

# Two Poets, Susan Grimm And Larry Smith, Share Their Craft

by Elaine Rosenberger

Two Ohio poets trade verses on Sunday, October 26, at 2 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium. Larry Smith is the founder of Bottom Dog Press and has written books of poetry *Lake Winds*, *Each Moment All*, biography, *Kenneth Patchen: Rebel Poet in America*, and fiction, *The Free Farm*. He also translated Zen poetry in *Songs of the Woodcutter: Zen Poems of Wang Wei and Ryokan*. Susan Grimm was named Ohio Poet of the Year in 1999. She is the author of works of poetry such as *Lake Erie Blue*, *Almost Home*, *Roughed Up* by the Sun's Mothering Tongue as well as the editor of *Ordering the Storm: How to Put Together a Book of Poems*. Before their Sunday with the Friends appearance, Larry and Susan take the time to answer some questions about their craft:

**LPL: How did you first start writing poetry?**

SG: I can remember writing my first poem when I was seven years old sitting in our kitchen on Mapledale Avenue and looking at the moon. But I didn't start writing seriously until much later, probably when I was in my thirties. I took classes, joined writers groups, went to events organized by the Poets' League of Greater Cleveland (now unfortunately defunct), read, read, read. I wrote in fits and starts because I had two young children.

LS: In junior high, my English teacher asked us not only to memorize some poems but to also write one. I was amazed that she believed we could do it, and I've never stopped.

**LPL: What themes speak to you most?**

SG: When I'm writing, I don't ever consider theme. Image, language,

and clarity are so much more important. Once I step back, I can see that I write about family, Cleveland, Ohio, Lake Erie, what it means to be a human being, what it means to be a woman.

LS: I write about daily life, the importance of family and Nature, but also how we come to know ourselves.

**LPL: What about our Lake do you find so inspiring?**

LS: Nature is a constant, though always changing; it's a great teacher and friend.

SG: Lake Erie is the most prominent feature of our landscape. There's a kind of power attached to it, a power that can only be partly controlled. It's a kind of reservoir of metaphor for me—threatening, beautiful, unexpected, enjoyable, deadly. Even though I've lived by it, looked at it, swum in it, it still feels unknowable.

**LPL: Larry, how did you get the idea to start your publishing house?**

LS: *Bottom Dogs* was a 1930's novel by Edward Dahlberg, who lived in Cleveland for awhile. It's about working-class life and how people get by. I began Bottom Dog Press after my father's death and following my research of the San Francisco Poetry Renaissance. I saw what they did and believed we could do the same here in Ohio.

**LPL: Larry, what do you look for when discovering new poets?**

LS: We publish writings that matter to people, stories told in a clear yet deep voice. Human life captured in a moment of stillness and shared.

**LPL: Susan, what do you enjoy most about teaching?**

SG: I teach mostly at the Cleveland Institute of Art—the introduction to creative writing and the poetry workshop. The best thing about teaching is how much you learn—when you prepare, in the course of the class, from student interaction. Teaching has changed the way I think about poetry, and there's sometimes great energy in the classroom when people are excited about what they're reading and writing.

**LPL: Larry, why translate zen poetry?**

LS: Zen poems affirm while they challenge us to come out of our dualistic view of life.

*Susan Grimm and Larry Smith will read their poetry at 2 p.m. on Sunday, October 26 in the Main Library Auditorium. Their books will be available for sale and signing at the event. For more information, visit [www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.org/friends](http://www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.org/friends).*

## Breaking Up Is Hard To Do

by Amy Kloss

I know what breaking up feels like. Although I've been married 20 years and haven't had the particular displeasure of breaking up in almost 25, when I read Alex Sukhoy's book "Diary of the Dumped: 30 Days from Break Up to Breakthrough," her vivid descriptions of the heart-wrenching and second-guessing that come with the end of a relationship brought it all back.

On October 16 at 7 p.m., Sukhoy will appear at the Lakewood Public Library to talk about her book, but don't expect anything depressing. This Lakewood resident has too much pas-

sion to let a broken relationship keep her from living.

In "Diary of the Dumped," Sukhoy tells it like it is. She lays open her heart and lets the reader feel her pain, her anger, her disappointment. She describes the return to single life after being part of a couple, complete with electronic dismantling of text messages, Facebook and calendar reminders. (Breaking up is more complicated than I remember it.) Sukhoy second-guesses everything in the relationship, reminisces about past relationships and dips a tentative toe back into the dating pool. Her passion, her rage and her

incredible zest for life come through on the page.

In addition to being a published author, Sukhoy is a career coach, college educator and blogger. After two decades in corporate America, she started Creative Cadence to help people fulfill their own career dreams.

Her appearance in the Main Library Auditorium on Thursday, October 16 will include some break up inspired improv by Deena Nyer Mendlowitz and an appearance by Jimi Izrael, who wrote the book's Forward. Signed book copies will be available for purchase. All programs are free and open to the public.

## Sweet Southern Sundays

by Phynique Krizan

Mark these dates on your calendars, ladies and gentlemen! On November 2 from 2 p.m. until 3 p.m., NEO Dixie is making an appearance at Lakewood Public Library in the Auditorium. At the same time a week later, November 9, Strawberry Sunday will be taking the same stage.

If you enjoyed our Front Porch Concerts, you're sure to get a kick out of these musicians! Or perhaps we should

refer to them as scholars. NEO Dixie boasts members holding Masters and Bachelor's degrees in music as well as solo and collaborative album releases playing up to individual musician's strengths, even members who currently teach their passion in music. Featuring the saxophone, trumpet, tuba, trombone and drums, NEO Dixie creates a Southern paradise out of thin air.

The duo Strawberry Sunday is the product of the Cleveland Institute of

Music, and both performers are classically trained, one on the flute and the other on the cello. Just because they have a classical background doesn't mean that is the only thing they will play! Their main goal is to make a connection with their audiences, and they are more than capable of improvisation - they have several original composition

pieces, and orchestra teachers have used their performances to inspire students.

Take advantage of this free musical journey and join us in the Main Auditorium at Lakewood Public Library on Sunday November 2, 2 p.m. featuring NEO Dixie, and again on Sunday November 9 at 2 p.m., showcasing Strawberry Sunday. See you there!

## Enjoy The Magic Of Michael Mage

by Marge Foley

Known as a comedian stuck in a magician's shoes, Michael Mage incorporates comedy and endless audience participation into his hilarious shows. With years of professional experience, Michael is able to develop his show based around the people in attendance. Come to the Lakewood Public Library and enjoy a child friendly performance as the audience becomes the highlight

of this comedy magic performance. National award winning magician Michael Mage will delight all who attend. Come and be amazed.

Michael Mage will be entertaining families at the Lakewood Public Library on Saturday, October 18th. As with all programs at the library, this show is free and open to the public. The fun starts at 7 p.m. in the Multipurpose Room.

## Friends Book Sale

continued from page 1

in our auditorium. But did you know that these events are funded by the Friends? Your donations become your neighbor's purchases and the proceeds go to enriching our community with education and entertainment, so in a way each staff member, volunteer and patron becomes part of something so much larger just by their involvement. Our book sales are something to which everyone in the community can contribute.

The Friends work tirelessly to process over 100,000 donations every year. Their volunteered time and effort make these sales possible and, in turn, make many Library services you enjoy possible.

We invite you to become a part of this wonderful cornerstone event in our community and we will keep working toward providing you with excellence, because there is no other place quite like Lakewood. If you are interested in volunteering or just finding out when the next sale takes place, visit [www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.org/friends](http://www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.org/friends).



# Lakewood Schools



## Ranger Café Back Open For Another School Year

by Lynn Foran

The halls of Lakewood High School are filling with culinary aromas as the West Shore Culinary Arts students are prepping and practicing their culinary skills in anticipation of the Ranger Café’s opening on Tuesday, October 28th. The Ranger Café, located at the front of Lakewood High School, is operated by the Culinary Arts/ProStart students of West Shore Career-Tech District. Under the guidance of chef instructors Rob McGorray and Devan Corti, students learn the nuts and bolts of running a restaurant through their real-world experiences in the Ranger Café. The students are involved in every aspect of the restaurant from planning the menu, cooking the food, to serving as wait staff and cashiers. This hands-on culinary program is open to 11th and 12th grade students in Bay Village, Lakewood, Rocky River, and Westlake.

Each year the menu is tweaked a bit to give the students new techniques to learn and practice. This year the Café is featuring a Smoked Cheddar Burger because Chef Corti says that “everyone should know how to properly cook a burger” and a Pastrami Sandwich utilizing the smoker the restaurant recently acquired. From soups, salads and sandwiches to full entrees, the café has a wide range to offer patrons.

The Ranger Café is open to the public for lunch on Tuesdays & Wednesdays from 12–1:30 p.m. throughout the school year (and yes, it will continue to be open during the high school construction). Reservations are highly recommended. Please call 216-529-4165 and select “1” to reserve a table.

On occasion the restaurant will be closed for academic reasons, so check the schedule online at [www.lakewoodcityschools.org/westshore](http://www.lakewoodcityschools.org/westshore) and “LIKE” us on Facebook to help spread the word about the culinary program at West Shore.



West Shore Culinary Arts students plate food to be served at the Ranger Café.

## Harding PTSA Jammy Buggars’ Fundraiser October 28

by Christine Gordillo

Come out and support the Harding PTSA as the featured group of Jammy Buggars’ Pay It Forward Tuesdays on Tuesday, October 28.

Jammy Buggars’ menu has something for everyone – meat lovers, vegan and vegetarians, beer lovers, and families with kids of all ages.

Jammy Buggars will donate 15% of all food sales from our supporters who stop in for lunch or dinner during business hours, 11:30 a.m. – midnight. Remember to mention Harding PTSA when you order!

## Ask Roxann Ramsey

by Roxann Ramsey,  
Assistant Superintendent  
Lakewood City Schools

For many people October brings fond memories of apple picking with loved ones and the aroma of freshly baked pie. For others, October is about the perfect Halloween costume, Homecoming, and elementary school Fall Festivals. For me, October celebrates some of those committed individuals who make the Lakewood Schools truly the best place to work and learn. In 2009, October was declared National Principals’ Month by Congressional resolution, and it is my pleasure to honor Lakewood’s finest.

It is fair to say that Lakewood has been blessed with the finest staff members in all of our employee groups, and our principals are no exception. Collectively, our principals lead our buildings in the day-to-day operations, but also connect with each parent, teacher, staff member and child, each and every day. They take the time to tour and welcome new families, recognize children for their successes, plan building-wide celebrations, introduce their staff and students to new neighbors during transition, find innovative ways to encourage academic and social growth, and ultimately keep our students safe. Principals are the people we trust to take care of our most prized possession, our children.

I can say without reservation that I am proud to work alongside our amazing principals. Congratulations to the leaders of our Lakewood School buildings and I thank them for all that they do!

- Mr. Keith Ahearn: LHS, Principal
- Mr. Yakoob Badat: LHS, House Principal
- Mr. Bill DiMascio: LHSI, House Principal
- Mr. Joe Takacs: LHS, House Principal
- Mrs. Linda Thayer: West Shore Career and Technical District, Coordinator
- Ms. Terri Bornino-Elwell: Lakewood City Academy, Coordinator
- Mr. Mark Walter: Garfield Middle School, Principal
- Mr. Tony Chiaravalle: Garfield Middle School, Assistant Principal
- Mr. Joe Niemantsverdriet: Harding Middle School, Principal
- Mr. Shane Sullivan: Harding Middle School, Assistant Principal
- Mr. Brian Siftar: Emerson Elementary School, Principal
- Ms. Philis Muth: Grant Elementary School, Principal
- Ms. Sabrina Crawford: Harrison Elementary School, Principal
- Mrs. Sandra Powers: Hayes Elementary School, Principal
- Dr. Merritt Waters: Horace Mann Elementary School, Principal
- Mrs. Sandra Kozelka: Lincoln Elementary School, Principal
- Ms. Eileen Griffiths: Roosevelt Elementary School, Principal
- CONGRATULATIONS LAKEWOOD PRINCIPALS!

LO: What happens to all of the items in the buildings that are being demolished?

RR: Over the past few months we have been busy working to prepare our district for the upcoming construction project. One of the first items of business was to vacate the buildings and prepare for demolition. There are many steps to the demolition process beginning with clearing each building of all items that are not permanent fixtures. Next, is the process to abate the buildings of hazardous materials to ensure environmental safety prior to the dismantling of each existing structure.

Currently, we are wrapping up the removal of items within the buildings, and began this process with a public auction of all items that the staff would not use in the future, or items that have been in storage for great lengths of time. Each building staff was given priority on the contents prior to moving into transition sites. Kudos to the Operations Department led by Jim Reitenbach and his assistant Gerry Mayernik, who did the heavy lifting for the public auction. As a result of this process the district was able to earn approximately \$90,000.

As another step in the demolition process, the schools reached out to other government entities to form collaborative relationships. For example, Mr. Joseph Beno, Director of Public Works for the City of Lakewood, was able to house equipment from a former woodshop within the schools. The schools were unable to house a few pieces of equipment, but now due to this collaboration, the schools have access to the equipment now housed within the City.

In an effort to continue to build relationships among the several government entities, the vacated school buildings were offered to the Police and Fire Departments for training purposes. Local heroes continue to use the facilities to enhance response procedures and for ongoing job embedded professional development to keep Lakewood safe.

Once we are ready to turn over the buildings to the abatement and demolition contractors, part of their next steps will be to scrap material left in the buildings. This is part of a traditional abatement and demolition bid package to offset costs to the district.

Finally, the Lakewood Rangers Education Foundation will be coordinating a sale of bricks from each building as well as a sale of the Lakewood High School East Gym floor. Please reach out to Mrs. Missy Toms, Executive Director, at 216.529.4033 for more detailed information.

I look forward to your questions and comments in future “Ask Roxann” articles.

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## Lakewood Schools

# LHS Art Department Finds Sweet Spot

by Christine Gordillo

Owners of the Lakewood gelato shop The Sweet Spot are partnering with Lakewood High School to help showcase local art by displaying LHS students' artwork in their store at 17806 Detroit Ave. for the month of October. The shop will

also be holding a fundraiser to benefit the Lakewood High Art Department.

The Sweet Spot will host a silent auction for each piece with 100% of the profits to be donated directly back to the Art Department.

"The Sweet Spot is a family-owned

business, and shopping local and supporting our local community is so important to us and what we stand for," said Celeste Blau, co-owner of The Sweet Spot. "We constantly support local artists by showcasing their work--much of which is for sale-- on our walls. We thought, what better way to give back directly to our community than to support the students in our own community?" continued Blau.

"The arts make a big difference in our students' lives," said LHS art teacher Amy Sedlak. "This is a great opportunity for our students to express themselves, see something they've worked hard on receive recognition, and support our school system. We are very fortunate to be a part of this event. We couldn't have done it without the support of The Sweet Spot."

Blau said she hopes this becomes a regular feature of the store and hopes to display some LHS photography in the spring.



Some of the Lakewood High Art 4 students' chalk prints on display at The Sweet Spot.

## LHS Musicians Fill Regional, State Orchestra Seats

by Christine Gordillo

Recent selections to the Ohio Music Educators Association's All-State and Regional Orchestras once again reflect the strength and depth of the Lakewood High School George P. Read Music Department. Lakewood High secured the most seats of any Northeast Region school for both ensembles: 11 musicians were chosen for the Regional ensemble and five for the All-State ensemble.

Students must qualify for the Regional Orchestra to be eligible for a spot with the All-State Orchestra. Qualifying for the top orchestra in the state are: Ryan Detwiler (violin), Alex Figueroa (viola), Morgan Fox (bass), and Andrew Miller and Jimmy Toner (cello). Six others will join the five State Orchestra musicians

in the Regional ensemble: Zeke Dalisky, Abi Norman and Muayad Shahin (violin), Rachel Daso (trombone), and Zach Dudzik and Lauren Klann (bass). Dudzik and Klann were also selected as alternates for the state ensemble.

"The results of the North East Region Orchestra auditions is a testament to the strong commitment our Lakewood students show to excellence," said LHS Orchestra Director Elizabeth Hankins. "I am very proud of all of the students for taking a risk and accomplishing a major goal."

The All-State Orchestra will perform at the OMEA's annual conference in Columbus this February. The Northeast Regional Orchestra concert will be held Sunday, November 23 at Cleveland State University.

## Reading Tutors Needed

by Christine Gordillo

Do you enjoy reading? Do you have some extra time on your hands? Do you get a kick out of working with children? If so, Lakewood City Schools could use you. The district's elementary schools participate in Project MORE, a reading mentoring program that aims to boost literacy among students with disabilities and students at risk for reading failure, and they need adult volunteers to make it work.

The elementary schools are looking for adults who can give 30 minutes of

their time, two days a week, or one hour once a week to read with students. More than 240 districts in the state are currently using Project MORE with great success. The program is affordable for districts while offering the one-on-one support these students need to be successful readers. All district elementary schools are participating so if you are interested call your neighborhood elementary school and ask for the Family Resource Coordinator or building secretary. For more information on the program, go to [www.ohiopprojectmore.org](http://www.ohiopprojectmore.org).

## Fire Prevention Week



Each year all of the students get involved in Fire Prevention Week. These students from Emerson were finalists in the essay competition and won some Lakewood Fireman bobble-head dolls! From left to right: Amy Pilgrim (student), Mrs. Fox, Amelia Moore (student), Mrs. Holland, Ava Molinski (student), Mrs. Heckman-Spear, Adirana Brahaj (student), Mrs. Kuzmickas. Good work students and Fire Department!

## Hayes Tailgate Party

by Jessica Parker

It was a great night for a football game! On Friday, October 12 over sixty Hayes families along with teachers, staff and principal Sandy Powers came out to support the Lakewood Rangers versus the Normandy Invaders from Parma. Families brought chips, veggies, sides and desserts to go along with hot dogs donated by the Blinky family and cooked up by second grade teacher Marcus Holliday.

During dinner, Coach Michael Ribar and members of the team came out to greet and high five their young fans. The cheerleading squad came through and rallied the kids with their cheers.

But the most anticipated guest was...RANGER MAN!!

The kids loved the chance to high five and hug their favorite mascot.

With our bellies full, families headed to the stadium to watch the Rangers dominate the game and win 35-0.



Hayes students cheer on the Rangers!

A great big thank you to the Ranger athletic department, boosters, coaches and teams who welcomed us to the stadium, loaned us a grill and set up tables and chairs. And thank you to the awesome Hayes families, faculty and PTO members who made the night so much fun.

## Elementary Architect Meetings Set

by Christine Gordillo

The next round of elementary architect meetings have been set for Grant, Lincoln and Roosevelt Elementary Schools. At these meetings, GPD Group architect Rodwell King will present his revised designs based on the input he received from earlier community meetings in June.

The meetings are as follows: Grant, October 28 in Room 106 of St. James School; Roosevelt, October 30 in the Franklin Elementary Gym; and Lincoln, November 6 in the Emerson Elementary Cafetorium.

There will also be a community meeting on October 23 in the Franklin Gym to address the demolition and construction process at all three schools.

All meetings start at 6:30 p.m.

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Election 2014

Know Your November 4th Ballot Issues

Issue 6 - Cuyahoga Community College 1.2 mill tax renewal and increase

A renewal of 1.2 mills of an existing levy and an increase of 0.9 mill, to constitute a tax for the benefit of Cuyahoga Community College District for the purpose of providing for payment of operating costs for educational services at a rate not exceeding 2.1 mills for each one dollar of valuation which amounts to 21 cents for each one hundred dollars of valuation, for ten years, commencing in 2014, first due in calendar year 2015.

**League of Women Voters explanation:** This levy would pay for Tri-C's operating costs and educational services for the next 10 years, starting in 2015. Homeowners would be taxed an additional \$31.56 per year on a \$100,000 house.

Issue 11 - Cuyahoga County charter amendment, modify residency requirements for elected officials

Shall Article II, Section 2.01 and Article III, Section 3.03 of the Charter of the County of Cuyahoga be amended to modify the residency requirements for the offices of County Executive and County Council, requiring the County Executive to have been an elector of the County for at least two years prior to filing a declaration of candidacy, and preventing a Council member from

printed with permission from the League of Women Voters of Greater Cleveland

being disqualified due to redistricting from serving the full term to which the member was elected?

**League of Women Voters explanation:** This amendment to the Cuyahoga County charter would require any candidate for County Executive to have lived in the County for at least two years, prior to filing for his or her candidacy. It also protects a Council member from losing his or her council seat, if the district lines are redrawn in a way that no longer includes his or her home address.

Issue 12 - Cuyahoga County charter amendment, amending County Audit Committee

Shall Article XI, Section 11.01 of the Charter of the County of Cuyahoga be amended to change the composition of the County Audit Committee by replacing the Fiscal Officer and County Executive with a member of Council appointed by the President of Council and an additional resident of the County appointed by the County Executive and Confirmed by Council?

**League of Women Voters explanation:** The County Audit Committee is established to audit the books of County departments and agencies.

But the charter puts both the County Executive and his appointed Fiscal Officer on that Audit Committee. They would be auditing the books of the very departments and agencies of their own administration. In order to make the County Audit Committee independent of those they would be auditing, this amendment would replace those two committee members with a County Council member and a resident chosen by the Executive but confirmed by Council.

Issue 13 - Cuyahoga County charter amendment, Charter Review Commission appointments

Shall Article XII, Section 12.09 of the Charter of the County of Cuyahoga be amended to accelerate the timeline for the appointment of the Charter Review Commission by requiring the County Executive to appoint the Charter Review Commission before the first day in June, subject to the confirmation of Council, and to require the Commission's term to commence on the first day of September in the year in which the appointment is made, commencing in 2017?

**League of Women Voters explanation:** Under this amendment the County Executive (in 2017 and then every 10 years after that) would have to appoint the members of each Charter

Review Commission before June 1 of that year. The Commission would then have to begin its work on September 1. Council would thereby conduct confirmation hearings on those appointees during the Summer. This change would give Council and Commission members more time to complete their duties.

Issue 14 - Cuyahoga County charter amendment, right-to-vote rules

Shall the Charter of the County of Cuyahoga be amended to add Article XIV, which provides that the right to vote shall be a fundamental right in the County and that elections in the County shall be free and open and authorizes the County to undertake measures to enforce the article and to promote voter registration and participation, including early voting initiatives? [Voting Rights -- US Principle]

**League of Women Voters explanation:** This amendment would add to the charter that the protection and promotion of voting rights and voter participation are core principles of this Home Rule Charter County. Therefore, the County and its Law Department may take appropriate actions to protect those rights and promote participation if the County determines that is necessary. The amendment specifically mentions legal and other actions to protect and promote access to and ease of early voting.

Cuyahoga County Board Of Elections Is Seeking Temporary Employees

by Mike West

Prior to every county-wide election, the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections (BOE) Human Resources staff is responsible for filling several hundred temporary positions. These positions, which can last up to 12 weeks, provide a unique and fascinating perspective on the election process.

Temporary employees at the BOE earn \$10.00 an hour, and the work week is generally Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., although additional hours are sometimes required as the election draws near. Election day itself, November 4th, is a long day (and night) for all Temporary and full-time staff.

With each new group of Temporary employees we hire, we hear someone say, "I had no idea all of this goes on here," says Claudia Merritt, Human Resources Manager. "As voters, what we know about elections is usually learned when we go to the polling place. But there is so much that has to happen before Election Day, and we rely on Temporary employees to make it all happen." Some of those tasks include processing vote by mail applications, preparing the poll books, assisting voters who come to the BOE headquarters to vote, etc. The work location is at the BOE main building at E. 30th and Euclid, or at the BOE warehouse on E. 40th and Perkins Ave.

"Because the assignment can vary, the skill sets we're looking for will vary also," says Merritt. "For some positions, good customer service are a must; for others, accuracy and attention to detail are critical. Some, but not all assignments require computer skills. Reliability? Dependability? Flexibility? Yes, yes, and yes."

If interested in obtaining a Temporary position with the BOE visit the website, [www.boe.cuyahogacounty.us](http://www.boe.cuyahogacounty.us). Click on the Employment tab, then the Click to Apply Here Now tab.



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Election 2014

Cuyahoga County Executive Questions:

Armond Budish (D)

**Name:** Armond D. Budish  
**Age:** 61  
**Family status:** Married to Amy Budish. Sons Ryan and Daniel  
**Education:** B.A. Swarthmore, J.D. New York University  
**Current jobs held:** Attorney – Budish, Solomon, Steiner & Peck, Ltd (since 1993); Self-employed (television program, newspaper and magazine column, book author)  
**Elected offices held:** State Representative, 2007-Present; House Speaker 2009-2010; House Minority Leader 2011-2013

*LO: If you were grading Cuyahoga County's first time out of the box County Executive and Council, what grade would you give the current Administration and Council? What have they done well and what do they need to improve upon?*

Cuyahoga County Executive Ed Fitzgerald and the County Council did a good job setting the foundation for the new government and restoring the public trust. Without the trust of the public, nothing else can be accomplished.

In the first term since the new government was formed, Cuyahoga County has taken several important steps to prevent corruption. The County has adopted the strongest ethics standards in the State of Ohio. Cuyahoga County is the first county in the state to create its own inspector general, who will ensure that all members of government adhere to the highest ethical standards. To add an additional level of accountability,

vendors and contractors must now be vetted through the most stringent procurement policies in the County's history.

Most important, we need leaders of honesty and integrity. With thousands of employees and a \$1.3 billion budget, it is essential for our future leaders to set the tone for ethical conduct on a daily basis and be prepared to act when problems do arise. As County Executive, I will do just that.

Looking forward, we must focus on job creation, building on our region's strengths in health care, broadband fiber, manufacturing and water. We must better align job training and education with the thousands of jobs currently open but unfilled because employers cannot find employees with the right skills and training to fill those jobs. We must help local communities save money with shared purchasing and services. And we must aggressively reach out to those most in need to make sure they understand and can

access the programs available to lift them up.

*LO: Explain how, given your background and experience, you plan to address the areas that you noted above as those that could be improved upon? Please be as specific as you can.*

The largest portion on our budget is spent on delivery of social services. My focus on helping older people and their families cope with the challenges of aging has given me great familiarity and experience with many of our social service programs. I understand what works and what doesn't work, and I will make sure that our programs are more people friendly.

Thousands of Cuyahoga County residents are eligible for veterans, healthcare, food assistance, and other benefits programs, but have not signed up. These programs can make a huge difference in people's lives. Yet many people are not enrolled because they don't understand that they are eligible, or because these government programs are often too complicated and intimidating. The County has the responsibility to reach out to residents where they are and deliver services to residents in need. When we stabilize families, we stabilize our communities and benefit everyone in the long run.

It is also important that our next County Executive understands how to bring people together. Government is not simply a business where a single executive or board can act unilaterally—we must build consensus and support from the community to achieve common goals. I have demonstrated those abilities in my work bringing people together as Speaker of the Ohio House when I passed a budget and other important legislation with a Republican Senate. Many of the county's elected officials support my candidacy because they know I have a history of bringing people together to reach solutions.

*LO: If you are elected, how will the average citizen of Cuyahoga County, be able to tell that things are improving because of your work?*

Under my leadership, the County administration will be transparent and accountable. We will let citizens know what's working and what's not. We will seek the input of people throughout the County to let us know their views of what works and how our programs may be improved.

Job creation and training will be a



priority for the County under my leadership, and hopefully citizens will be able to see success as more people get good paying jobs.

When more of our children choose to remain here or move back to the County to work and raise a family, that will be a measure of success.

When we see more of our residents covered by health care, including private insurance and Medicaid for those who are eligible, that will be a measure of success.

When we bring down the shameful rate of infant mortality, that will be a measure of success.

When more of our communities are saving money by sharing purchasing and services, that will be a measure of success.

*LO: What other key issues, program, policies, etc., not already discussed, do you plan to take on if you are elected to the job of County Executive?*

We must also recognize that the County has new responsibilities as we move forward. We need to expand the County's role in economic development and education.

We are in the midst of a capital crisis in the Midwest and Ohio, which makes it difficult for new businesses to get started and to grow. The County can and should play a lead role in supporting our entrepreneurs and small businesses.

We have a unique asset: our Lake Erie. We sit on the largest basin of fresh water in the world, the Great Lakes. Yet our lakefront is under-utilized, and we can do much more to use our fresh water to attract businesses to our region.

Our children are our future, and education is key. Two potential avenues I'd like to see the County pursue: high quality early childhood education for all our kids, regardless of their parents' income; and a Cuyahoga version of the Pittsburgh Promise, making it possible for any high school graduate to obtain a higher education regardless of ability to pay.

This is an exciting time for our County, and I am extremely excited about the potential for great things for the people of our region.

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Election 2014

Cuyahoga County Executive Questions:

Jack Schron (R)

**Name:** Jack Schron, Jr  
**Age:** 66  
**Family status:** Married  
**Education:** BS in Business, Florida Southern College; JD Ohio Northern University  
**Current jobs held:** President Jergens, Inc.; Cuyahoga County Council 6th District  
**Elected offices held:** Chagrin Falls Board of Education 12 years; Cuyahoga County Council elected twice

**LO: If you were grading Cuyahoga County's first time out of the box County Executive and Council, what grade would you give the current Administration and Council? What have they done well and what do they need to improve upon?**

I am honored to have served on the County Council for the first four years of the new county government. Rather than getting involved in petty partisan politics the Council focused on good government and working together. Though there is always room to improve, if using a letter grade I would give the council a "B". All of us came into a brand new government following 200 years under county commissioners and the corruption that brought. We reset the moral compass, passed legislation dealing with economic development/job creation, created the office of inspector general and served as watchdog of the public funds. In the area of economic development, I am proud to be the Chairman of the Economic Development Committee for the Council. We completed the convention center on time and under budget, helped support public projects throughout the county and repositioned the county offices for a long future.

The County Executive led the operations of new county government and brought forth many programs. What is still remaining is to finish the reform of our fledgling government and to grow more jobs. Though he has played an important transitional

role, our current executive is leaving before the task is completed. We need to improve delivery of county services and to implement technology to enhance that delivery. One key way to improve our county government will be to listen to the thoughts and ideas of our 7,000 employees. They are the ones who daily come in contact with the single mother, the aging adult and those who have special needs. They can help us improve how we deliver support through our fiscal office to provide better support to both our commercial and noncommercial customers.

**LO: Explain how, given your background and experience, you plan to address the areas that you noted above as those that could be improved upon? Please be as specific as you can.**

My background of 30 years in running a business, Jergens, Inc. as the executive, as a (now retired) colonel in the US Army and my four years on County Council have given me the leadership background and experience to address the problems listed above. Job creation and county service improvement in a Jack Schron administration will be attacked by creating a business growth task force and an operations improvement task force. We will call upon those working in the county to help identify how we can better support our county customers. We will tap into the vast base of those working in the county and those who access the county to help identify and improve our support.

The second task force will be formed as a coalition with business leaders, labor and private sector organizations to identify job-growth opportunities. My jobs plan calls for targeted focus in manufacturing, medical and more which I call my 3M's. We are world-famous in these areas and we need to reach out to every potential business to tell them the county's story. We have built real economic development tools for our \$100M county program and I will aggressively use them to achieve job growth in the coming months.

**LO: If you are elected, how will the average citizen of Cuyahoga County, be able to tell that things are improving because of your work?**

The average citizen will see me actively participating in the county. I'll be approachable and ready to help. They'll see a high level of commitment to bringing in and growing jobs. I have a history of supporting schools through my time, talent, dollars and campaign. Having a job is the essential component of support for the individual, the personal self-worth, the rebuilding of our families and the strengthening of our communities. A citizen will see things improving because more people will be working and our neighborhoods will be rebuilt.

**LO: What other key issues, programs, policies, etc., not already discussed, do you plan to take on if you are elected to the job of County Executive?**



We will take on the computerization of the old county systems. We currently use multiple older computer systems, making it difficult to communicate and to do business across departments. During a Schron administration, we will consolidate systems and increase efficiency. We will review existing programs during business improvement, reduce those not working and build where needed. We will take our message of job growth out--with an outreach method rather than one of a responding message. It will not be my goal to launch new programs but to improve those that are not performing and eliminate those not able to improve.



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# Election 2014

## Ohio Senate 23rd District Tom Haren (R)

Age: 28  
Education: Juris Doctor from Cleveland-Marshall College of Law; Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy from John Carroll University.

Current employer: Seeley, Savidge, Ebert & Gourash Co. L.P.A.  
Political experience: This is my first campaign for political office, although I have volunteered for other candidates in the past.

All local governments have seen sizable reductions in state funds, which they had been using for public libraries and infrastructure repairs. What is your position on this particular approach to state budget cutting?

While the overall funding for local governments may have decreased over the last few years, so has the flexibility in voters' budgets to decide whether to approve local levies to replace those funds. Voters within Ohio's various localities should have as much control as possible over the amount of their income that funds their local government. That being said, the state continues to play a vital role in the development of infrastructure and we have to be cognizant of the fact that manny Ohioans do not have the income to support the necessary repairs. So, I propose factoring a locality's average income into the calculation for the disbursement of local government funds -- requiring Ohio's affluent communities to pay their fair share.

The state last year cut income tax rates, and paid for part of the cut by raising the sales tax, increasing some property taxes, and reducing the property discount program for seniors. How did you vote or would you have voted on this plan? Explain.

I support reducing Ohio's income tax through smart, commonsense reforms. We know that higher income taxes result in slower economic growth and reduced competition among other states in the country. By broadening our tax base (while reducing taxes overall), Ohio has become more competitive and has shown an incredible ability to attract new investment. I would support all efforts to reduce Ohioans' tax burden in a fair and equitable manner. Further, I would provide tax credits to companies that invest in Ohio's low-income communities by doing things like rehabbing vacant buildings or training, developing, and hiring local workers. Ohio can reduce voters' tax burden without losing revenue if we can increase employment and wages overall.

How would you better assure safe drinking water from Lake Erie, with special attention to agricultural contamination and untreated animal waste from industrial farming?

Lake Erie's value to our economy (not to mention our quality of life) cannot be understated. But there is no "quick fix" to the environmental concerns we've seen lately. Agriulture, while an easy target, is not the only cause of these concerns. We also have to take a long-term approach to re-vamping our coastal wastewater treatment facilities, some of which have been in need of repair for years, so that we can lessen our own impact on Lake Erie's health. We can accomplish this by issuing new bonds and setting up a trust that can assist local communities in making these repairs. Furthermore, Ohio can begin taking steps to create a shore-long public easement to catch and abate waste and other contaminates before they create problems.

In your opinion should Ohio become a right-to-work state? What do you believe this would mean for workers and/or employers? How would you work toward or try to prevent such legislation?

I am primarily focused on those issues upon which we can build a broad consensus grow Ohio's economy and help our private sector create more high-paying jobs. I certainly do not want to repeat the SB5 fiasco, where senseless partisan bickering impeded the commonsense progress that Ohio has been able to achieve since. I am content to trust the voters on the issue of right-to-work, should they wish to vote on it by way of a statewide ballot initiative. This is especially true given the current political reality that all but guarantees this issue will end up on the ballot even if the General Assembly were to take action unilaterally.

Ohio has gained more than 240,000 jobs since the beginning of 2011, but the rate of job growth trails the national average. What is the No. 1 thing you as a lawmaker can do to create more and better paying jobs?

As I mentioned above, one thing that Ohio can do right off the bat is to offer tax credits for companies that invest in low income or economically depressed areas. This is a simple, yet effective, opportunity for us to create jobs in the areas of the state that need them most. Also, we should look line-by-line through our administrative regulations to reduce those that are overly-burdensome and eliminate those that are unnecessarily duplicative.

The schools need a financial plan that is equitable for all districts. How would you improve the way money is allocated for schools?

I favor a "backpack approach" to school funding, where state funds are spent on a per-student basis. This an approach similar to that taken in the "Cleveland Plan," which has received bipartisan support both from Ohio's Republican Governor and Cleveland's Democrat Mayor. Under this approach, funding follows the student to whichever school his or her family decides is appropriate -- whether a charter school, parochial school, or a public school. This also ensures that our schools are always funded at appropriate levels, because our larger districts will receive enough funds to educate each student, and our smaller (sometimes more affluent) districts won't receive a windfall at the expense of low income districts.

## Ohio Senate 23rd District Michael J. Skindell (D)

Age: 52  
Education: Juris Doctorate J.D. Cleveland-Marshall College of Law 1984-87; Walsh College1980-83 B.A. Dual Majors in Business and Political Science; Brunswick High School 1976-80 Diploma

Current employer: Associated with Friedman Domiano & Smith, Co., LPA  
Political experience: Current State Senator - 23rd District (2011-Present); State Representative - 13th District (2003-2010); Lakewood City Council -Council Person At Large (1998-2002); Assistant Ohio Attorney General (1987-1989)

I have advocated for budgets that work for all of us. Our city and county governments have no money to waste. Local Government funds are your tax dollars that come back to your city or county to help pay for police and fire services, road repairs, senior and youth services, and services for people with disabilities and the vulnerable. I have voted against cutting state funds to local governments. When the state reduces these funds, cities and counties seek to raise taxes in their communities to provide these necessities. This is unfair for all.

As a legislator, I have worked for tax policies that are fair to everyone. The tax changes made since 2005 have rigged Ohio's state and local tax system in favor of the rich and large corporations. Although, there have been cuts in the personal income tax, which generally favor the rich, middle class families and seniors have been burdened with increases in the sales tax. In fact, the economic research organization Policy Matters Ohio has reported that the richest Ohioans have received a \$20,000 tax cut on average due to these changes while most Ohioans are paying more taxes as a group. I have voted against these unfair changes.

It is imperative we guarantee that our drinking water is safe. I supported and have advocated for stronger regulations for the application of chemicals and animal waste in farming. Federal and Ohio EPAs must standardize and require testing for the neurotoxins caused by the algae blooms in Lake Erie. We must invest more to ensure that sewage is prevented from entering the lake during heavy rains.

I oppose so-called right to work laws. Despite their misleading title, right to work laws do not create a right to work, nor do they protect workers from being fired for unjust reasons.

As a Legislator I have supported real efforts to create jobs and generate economic growth. I have opposed continued tax breaks to large corporations in the name of job creation when the corporations are not held responsible for creating good paying jobs. I have supported funding of Ohio's largest job creation program...EDUCATION. I support "High-Road" Economic Development strategies that are good for our workers, good for our communities, good for our environment. Such economic development strategies include a new energy economy, lessening our dependency on polluting fuels. I support an increase in the minimum wage in Ohio. I voted against Senate Bill 5, which attacked the middle class workers in the state.

Ohio's constitution mandates that schools must be adequately and equitably funded. Every child deserves the proper education to grow up and live a successful life. Today, public schools get some money from the state, some from the federal government, and the rest from local tax dollars. Under this system a significant portion of school funds come from local property taxes and sometimes income taxes. Funding for school districts should be based on what works to improve student performance, including all-day kindergarten, smaller class sizes, professional teachers. Having the state bear a greater responsibility of school funding will help us achieve the constitutional mandate of schools being adequately funded.

continued on page 15



Election 2014

Ohio House 13th District

Nickie J. Antonio (D)  
Maria Anderson (R)

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Please note that Maria Anderson (R) did not respond to questions that follow. All answers below are those provided by Nickie J. Antonio (D).

Name: Nickie J. Antonio  
Age: 59  
Education: Cleveland State University-MPA (Masters in Public Administration), BS Education -Special Ed K-12 Lutheran West High School- graduate  
Current employer: Ohio House of Representatives Qualifications: A former special education teacher and nonprofit administrator for a women’s chemical dependency treatment center Antonio is a former CSU adjunct professor for Women’s Studies and Public Administration, consultant in Organizational Development  
Political experience: Serving in 2nd term at Ohio House of Representatives-2011-present. Former elected at-large Lakewood City Councilmember 2006-2010.  
All local governments have seen sizable reductions in state funds, which they had been using for public libraries and infrastructure repairs. What is your position on this particular approach to state budget cutting?  
We cannot cut our way to prosperity. I voted against the cuts to local governments. We must use smart growth tactics, which include prioritizing repair and maintenance of our infrastructure that is; roads, bridges, pipes and dedicate resources to libraries, schools, senior services, police and fire for healthy, prosperous communities. This approach is detrimental to the stability of our communities and it has not led to consolidation as was originally touted as the rationale.

The state last year cut income tax rates, and paid for part of the cut by raising the sales tax, increasing some property taxes, and reducing the property discount program for seniors. How did you vote or would you have voted on this plan? Explain.  
I was opposed to these measures to increase property taxes on affected seniors and voted against them. They are regressive by nature and disproportionately negatively affect low and middle income Ohioans. I was very vocal and offered amendments to reinstate the homestead exemption program in its original entirety without income caps. I believe it is unfair to provide income tax benefits for the more wealthy in our state at the expense of senior citizens.

How would you better assure safe drinking water from Lake Erie, with special attention to agricultural contamination and untreated animal waste from industrial farming?  
I attended a recent Legislative Hearing in Toledo and scientific experts testified that we know right now the steps to take to stop the increase of algae blooms in Lake Erie. Actions could be taken to reduce the amount of fertilizer used on farmland, to reduce phosphorus, to reduce the amount of manure used- especially not to broadcast on frozen ground, to reduce the amounts used on fields, to change the procedures of the past to come into a more informed environmentally safe process for this generation. We need to help farmers implement conservation practices that reduce phosphorous runoff into the lake. But we must also address all contributing sources to algal blooms, including our wastewater systems and testing for microcystins.

continued from page 14

Ohio Senate 23rd District

Tom Haren (R)

Should local cities and villages be permitted to pass gun laws stricter than those established by the state? State how you voted or would have voted on this issue.

It is important that we maintain a uniform system of laws when it comes to the legal and responsible ownership of firearms here in Ohio. I do not favor a piecemeal, confusing, and inconsistent approach to firearm regulation, whether at the national, state, or local level.  
While gun violence is always a tragic occurrence, it usually is a symptom of other factors. Along those lines, we use our resources more efficiently when we attempt to combat things like addiction and mental health disorders.

Should the state legislature enact a photo ID law requiring that voters present a driver’s license, state ID, military ID or passport in order to cast a ballot? Explain.  
As our Secretary of State has said many times, it should be easy vote in Ohio, but it should be hard to cheat. To that end, Ohio has made it easier than ever to vote in-person and by mail. While it is impossible to eliminate all voter fraud, we have made great strides to do so by eliminating duplicate names from our voter rolls and maintaining accurate voting records. We know this approach works because attempts to circumvent our voting laws are few and far between, resulting in a very low number of actual prosecutions for criminal activity. Our limited resources are better spent on these efforts, as opposed to implementing a burdensome photo ID law until proponents can show evidence of substantial voter fraud.

In your opinion should Ohio become a right-to-work state? What do you believe this would mean for workers and/or employers? How would you work toward or try to prevent such legislation?  
I do not believe Ohio should become a so-called “right to work” state. In states where this has been instituted the wages of all workers, not just those in unions, have been driven down; workplace safety could be compromised and communities lose jobs when wages are lowered by right to work. To combat so called “right to work” the public has a right to know that federal labor law already protects workers who don’t want to join a union or make political contributions and they have a right to know that “right to work’s” true purpose is to hurt the ability of unions to advocate for all workers and serve as a check on corporate greed. I believe education on the realities of so called “right to work” and the consequences are the best tools.

Ohio has gained more than 240,000 jobs since the beginning of 2011, but the rate of job growth trails the national average. What is the No. 1 thing you as a law-maker can do to create more and better paying jobs?  
We need policies to increase employment that would also strengthen our communities and make Ohio a model of vitality and energy efficiency. These include rehiring laid-off public sector workers, expanding access to education from pre-K through college and tech prep, investing in green building, renewable energy and public transit, and by restoring Ohio’s clean energy standards. Investments such as these will increase employment in good paying jobs and reduce future costs for remedial education, incarceration, unemployment and energy. We must encourage entrepreneurial strategies, technological and biotech advancements and initiatives for high paying tech sector jobs.

The schools need a financial plan that is equitable for all districts. How would you improve the way money is allocated for schools?  
I would begin by raising the per pupil amount that is calculated for each student and then create a formula that takes into account the specific needs of each child and resources of the community to level the playing field across the board. In order to prepare all our children for success competing in a global economy, our children need access to education and technological resources throughout the state. We need to reevaluate and increase the amount of funds allocated to the public schools through the lottery. Ohio policy should also include fully funding pre-K and all day kindergarten and support continued expansion of opportunities for credit earned for college and career tech training for our high school students.

Should local cities and villages be permitted to pass gun laws stricter than those established by the state? State how you voted or would have voted on this issue.  
I am a strong proponent of local control and the ability of local authorities towards self-governance. I also support 2nd amendment rights of citizens. However, I find many of the state laws passed in the past few years (guns in bars for example) to be lacking in common sense towards the provision of safety of our communities. I understand the concern of local leaders to protect their citizens. On recently introduced bills this GA, one would recognize concealed carry permits from other states - even if their training standards are lower, law enforcement has expressed concern suggesting that perhaps other states are making the decision for Ohioans. I do not believe this to be a productive status for Ohio.

Should the state legislature enact a photo ID law requiring that voters present a driver’s license, state ID, military ID or passport in order to cast a ballot? Explain.  
There are far more pressing state issues than this. I do not favor these types of laws requiring a photo ID to cast a vote.This is a solution in search of a problem with little fraud of this kind (voter fraud), placing the burden on voters that can unduly restrict the right to vote and imposes unnecessary costs and administrative burdens on elections administrators.

Ohio Senate 23rd District

Michael J. Skindell (D)

We need to do everything we can to keep our communities safe and secure from violence. In large cities, in particular, there are too many who are victims of gun violence. I support the right of an individual to own and carry a firearm. The right, however, must be balanced with reasonable and common sense regulations to promote safety and protection of our communities. Individual communities should have the flexibility to protect their residents through enacting reasonable regulation.  
The right to vote is a fundamental freedom. Our election system must be completely free, fair and accessible to all who are eligible to vote. Photo ID laws unnecessarily restrict the right to vote. Requiring Election Day precinct officials to examine each and every voter’s identification may create long lines for everyone and increase election costs. There are more effective way to keep the integrity in our election system.







## Lakewood Cares

# Lakewood Family Collaborative Honors Service To Our Community

by Bruce Chamberlin

In the spring of this year, the Lakewood Family Collaborative called on community and Collab members to recognize individuals and groups who strive to make a difference. So many meet that description, but we were drawn to the story of Jason Weiner of Beck Center for the Arts, nominated by Cindy Einhouse, President and CEO of Beck Center.

The "Helping Hands Award" recognizes an individual or an organization that has gone above and beyond in the spirit of collaboration to make a difference in the lives of families in the City of Lakewood.

### About Helping Hands Award Nominee Jason Weiner, Cindy writes:

Jason has, for the past three years, organized "All You Need is Love (and Food)" a Beatles-themed event to raise money, food, and awareness for Trinity Lutheran Community Outreach (TLCO). He has dedicated countless hours to the events while encouraging dozens of musicians, artists, and local organizations to be part of supporting the effort to combat hunger in our community.

Through this family friendly community event, Jason organizes local musicians to come together and perform Beatles music. Members of the community are invited to come together in support of hunger awareness, paying an affordable entrance fee along with a can of food at the door. This not only provides support to those in need, but it brings people together for a family friendly evening, in support of our community.

Over the first three years of this event, approximately 500 lbs of food were donated while funds raised exceeded \$5,000.

During these events, dozens of musicians have donated their time and talent. Businesses such as Root Café have donated food and beverages while others have given their time, products and talent in support of technical aspects and fundraising for the event.

This year's event fell on the evening of a huge snowfall that blanketed Lakewood. The event, minus many musicians went on – even though it was much smaller than planned. Not to be deterred, Jason and his colleagues went to work to add an additional event at Mahall's at a later date. That event was well received, brought the community together and serves as a testament to Jason's desire to raise funds for TLCO and make a difference right here in the community where he lives and works.

His efforts have also served to bring community leaders together for the cause. The event has featured an "all-star" community leaders choir on stage for the final number, including myself, State Rep. Nickie Antonio, Pastor Paula Maeder Connor from Trinity Lutheran Church, Ian Andrews Executive Director of LakewoodAlive, Julie Hutchison of Root Café and many, many more.

In addition, Jason worked with



Jason Weiner, 2014 recipient of the Lakewood Family Collaborative's Helping Hands Award

Beck Center for the Arts on two important functions in support of TLCO. The first, was arranging for the donation of heavy duty shelves that were no longer needed at Beck Center that were easily repurposed for use at TLCO. Secondly, he worked with Beck Center's education department to have TLCO represented at "Super Saturdays @ Beck Center" where children and families decorated placemats to be used during community

meals. TLCO volunteers also had the opportunity to share information about the organization and how the community could support their efforts.

His efforts have resulted in word being spread about the work of TLCO in the community through the Lakewood Patch, coolcleveland.com and even the Huffington Post when Jason was named "Greatest Person of the Day" on October 4, 2011.

One commenter on the Huffington Post stated this about Jason – "When human decency finally becomes extinct, Mr. Weiner could end up as part of an exhibit in a future Museum of Human Nature." Why wait? I'd like to honor Jason for his work which truly sets him apart from a community filled with many "Helping Hands."

Cindy, thank you for this submission about Jason; we can see how he has impacted this community. You are right - Lakewood is full of "Helping Hands" who make an impact.

**Our mission:** The Lakewood Family Collaborative is a network of organizations, businesses, agencies, and dedicated individuals working together to enable children, youth, and families to thrive and become successful members of the Lakewood Community.

**The Lakewood Family Collaborative:** All are welcome to join us for the Lakewood Family Collaborative's

monthly gathering. We usually meet the fourth Thursday of each month, except for our holiday dates of November 20 and December 18, 2014, 12:30 until 2 p.m. at the Lakewood Park Woman's Club Pavilion, 14532 Lake Avenue, Lakewood Ohio. Many bring a bag lunch as we network and share resources, participate with our Spotlight Series speaker, and work together to make a difference. Who comes to our meetings? Attending are a variety of community folks, social workers, counselors, school personnel and faith community members - just to name a few. Join in!

**Get more information:** City of Lakewood website: <http://www.onelakewood.com/HumanServices/Youth/Collaborative.aspx>

"Like" us on Facebook @ "Lakewood Family Collaborative"

Visit our website <http://www.thelakewoodfoundation.org/#!/family-collab>

**Thank You:** Thank you Jason for bringing your best to our community, Cindy for telling Jason's story and leading the incredible Beck Center for the Arts, Trinity Lutheran Community Outreach for helping to provide meals to our neighbors and friends in need, and to the Lakewood Family Collaborative membership and Leadership Team. Great people doing great things brings great results!

## Barton Center Holiday Fair, November 15

by Curt Brosky

Barton Senior Center will hold its annual Holiday Fair on Saturday, November 15 from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Christmas items and crafts will be featured along with food and entertainment. Live music will be provided by the Frank Cardone Duo.

The Fair will include antiques, ceramics, crafts, resale jewelry and knit/crochet items. A dozen home vendors will exhibit their wares highlighted by: Pampered Chef,

Tupperware, Avon, Mary Kay, Thirty One, Scentsy and Tastefully Simple. Raffle items will feature a doll house and lottery ticket Christmas tree, along with instant bingo. The Snack Bar will serve pulled pork sandwiches, hot dogs, potato salad and baked beans. A Bake Sale will feature homemade bakery, desserts and chocolate covered goodies. And the popular Hodge Podge resale store will offer a large selection of clothing, furniture and household items.

Barton Center's craft and resale shops will be open including: Book Nook, Fabric Shoppe, Greenhouse and Corner Store.

Barton Center is located on the Ground Floor of Westerly Apartments at 14300 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood Ohio. Proceeds will fund the many activities and classes offered by the nonprofit Barton Center. To learn more about Ohio's first senior center, call the Barton Center office at 216-221-3400.

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# Lakewood Is Art

Over The Moon Ceramic Studio

## Art And Dreams On Madison Avenue

by Kelly Quinn-Sands

Over the Moon Ceramics Studio is the enterprise of Lakewood resident Carolyn Turcotte, who is a workforce analyst by day and ceramics artist and teacher by night. Carolyn learned ceramics as a kid from a neighborhood teacher, and over the years she dabbled off and on in the art, participating with her children, and often dreaming about having a studio of her own.

In fall of 2013 the wheels were put into motion to make Carolyn’s dream a reality. Carolyn had returned to school

at Tri-C to pursue some computer programming classes and increase her skill set to enhance her career. Needing a “filler” class to round out her schedule, Carolyn chose a ceramics class - and almost immediately her passion was reignited for the art. Three weeks later, she dropped the programming classes and focused her energy on learning new techniques and refreshing the skills previously learned. Within just a few months Carolyn had secured funds, located a kiln, molds and all necessary equipment – much of it on

Craigslist. She found the perfect storefront on Madison Avenue – a former jewelry store and furniture refinishing company and with some elbow grease and assistance provided by her kids and their friends – she opened Over the Moon in January 2014.

The studio features a growing selection of ready-to-paint figurines, dinnerware, candle holders etc. The process of creating a one-of-a-kind ceramic piece is easy enough for any skill level. The average price of a piece is \$25 which includes all paint and glazes as well as firing. Smaller and larger pieces are available and priced accordingly. Artists are given all the time they need to complete their work. A common sentiment of customers is the relaxed atmosphere and never feeling rushed to finish a piece. Carolyn refreshes her inventory of pieces based on upcoming holidays or seasons, and listens to suggestions from her growing list of repeat customers.

“I’ve partnered with Groupon and Amazon Local to get the word out about my studio and market myself to local people who are looking for an artistic activity” explained Carolyn. “I’ve been delighted to see some of these customers

returning with their friends, planning date night, girls’ night out or birthday parties for their kids. The growth of the business has been really organic in that way.” Over the Moon also has classes in hand building of ceramics and windchime-making, which have been increasingly popular.

“Lakewood is the perfect place for this type of business,” continued Carolyn, “It’s known for being arts friendly and the neighborhood is walkable and safe. I get a lot of folks who pop in out of curiosity because they’ve been walking by and noticing the activity.”

The Madison Arts District has been organizing art walks throughout the year which have been well-attended and beneficial to the numerous artists and studio galleries like Over the Moon in showcasing the art and the Madison Avenue Arts Community. The next art walk will be on October 25, 2014.

Over the Moon is located at 17001 Madison Ave, Lakewood, Ohio. Phone: 216-571-3622, Email: [overthemoonstudio@live.com](mailto:overthemoonstudio@live.com). They are open Tuesday – Saturday afternoons and evenings. Hours are listed on the studio’s Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/overthemoonstudio/info>.

## Visitors From Norway



Mr. & Mrs. Gunnar Samuelsen, from Halden, Norway and their friend, Bjor, were in America on vacation heading to Niagra Falls but first they wanted to stop by the historic Templar Building and see Dave Beuhler’s Templars (the largest collection in the world). They had heard the Templar Building was a museum and had to stop by!

## My Mind’s Eye Serves “Cider”

by John Kompier

UPCOMING EVENTS AT MY MIND’S EYE RECORDS

Many cool things are happening at My Mind’s Eye, at 16010 Detroit Rd. On Saturday, October 25, local hardcore punk band Cider will be doing an in-store performance celebrating the 20th anniversary of their “Out To Get Me” E.P., of which only 300 have been pressed. Charles, owner of the store, said, “I’m extremely excited to have Cider play the store and ruin it yet again. Because I’m a marketing genius, I let them play one of the Record Store Days, which stopped all Record Store Day shopping for a couple hours while they played. Their fans were spilling beer on what’s-his name from The Church.”

Also coming up are in-stores by Lakewood’s own legendary evolved-

from-electric-eels X\_\_X, with founders John Morton, and Andrew Klimeyk, joined on bass by another punk legend Craig Bell, of Mirrors and Rocket From the Tombs, and drummer Matthew Harris who will be playing November 2. They will be preceded on November 1st by Indiana punk band, The Gizmos. Both bands are also playing at the WCSB Masquerade Ball on the first.

“I never thought The Gizmos would show up and play in my store or that a band like X\_\_X would exist again, or exist again to the point where they’re gonna show up and be here and do whatever it is they’re gonna do that Sunday,” said Charles.

Be sure to come to all of these events, and bring your friends!

You're invited...

# Spotlight GoXia PARTY

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## Spooky Pooch Parade

continued from page 1

the winning dogs when the parade arrives back at Kauffman Park after the parade. Judging for all five awards will happen from 12:30-2:00pm. Judging will be complete once the dogs have left the park at the start of the parade.

Once again this year, Pet’s General Store is donating a year’s supply of dog food and Portraits by Martha is doing a photo shot for the Best in Show winner. We look forward to the competition.

You be able to visit The Furry Nation (15800 Detroit Avenue) on Friday, October 17th from 5-8pm to pick-up your parade numbers if you registered online or register in person during this time to

avoid the day-of rush.

The entire community is invited to visit the festival and line Detroit Avenue from Cook Avenue to Arthur Avenues to see one of the best pet parades in the country.

Thank you to our very supportive sponsors: Lakewood Hospital, The Furry Nation, Cox Communications, Lakewood Animal Hospital, Pet’s General Store, Inn the Doghouse, Quaker Steak & Lube, Geiger’s, First Federal Lakewood, Discount Drug Mart, Pet-tique and Pet People.

For any questions please visit [www.SpookyPoochParade.com](http://www.SpookyPoochParade.com) or call LakewoodAlive at 216.521.0655.

Celebrating Over 10 Years of Community Discussion at: [www.lakewoodobserver.com](http://www.lakewoodobserver.com)



Business News

Cox Business Presents Leading Authority On Global Business Trends At Annual Joint Chamber Luncheon

by Valerie Mechenbier

The Lakewood Chamber of Commerce invites our member and non-member businesses to network with other local business professionals at the annual joint meeting of the Lakewood and Rocky River Chamber of Commerce. Cox Business Speaker Series presents author and Bloomberg Television speaker Patrick Schwerdtfeger, a nationally known marketing expert who will address the annual joint

meeting on Thursday, October 23rd.

“Sales, Success, and the Science of Happiness”

So much of our business success (or lack thereof) is derived from our own demeanor, our ‘energy’, and our interpersonal skills. Why do some people get tons of referrals while others get none? Why do some people get invited to all the exclusive events while others stay home alone? It turns out that a stunning amount of research has been done in recent years and they almost all overlap in a few key areas. Bloomberg speaker Patrick Schwerdtfeger will present the research along with the real-world case histories to reveal the simple things you can do to ‘optimize’ your networking skills. Patrick has authored three books on small business marketing and spoke about “Learned Intuition” at TEDx Sacramento. He has spoken about global mega trends, big data and the social media revolution at conferences and business events around the world.

The deadline for reservations is Friday, October 17th. Visit [www.lakewoodchamber.org](http://www.lakewoodchamber.org) for more information about this event.

Member Spotlight:  
Holiday Inn Cleveland-Airport

by Valerie Mechenbier

The Holiday Inn Cleveland-Airport has been a member of the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce since March of 2010. Theresa Toscano, Corporate Sales Manager, is the representative from the Holiday Inn most often seen at Lakewood Chamber of Commerce meetings and is the hotel’s expert source for business accommodations.

The Holiday Inn Cleveland-Airport also features Nana’s Italian Cuisine. Established in 2012, Nana’s is dedicated to bringing authentic Italian cuisine to the greater Cleveland Area. The restaurant prides itself on using the highest quality ingredients, freshness and seasonality. Nana’s private dining room, which accommodates 10 to 30 people, is available at no additional charge.

The Holiday Inn Cleveland-Airport, with easy access to Downtown Cleveland, offers banquet services for up to 200 people, conference rooms, complimentary wi-fi, a business center, fitness room and indoor pool.

Lakewood Chamber Of Commerce Upcoming Events

- October 19-23**  
**West End Halloween Window Walk Artists at Work**
- October 24**  
**West End Halloween Window Walk Contest Judging**
- October 23**  
**Annual Joint Luncheon of Lakewood & Rocky River Chambers of Commerce**  
Bloomberg Television Speaker Patrick Schwerdtfeger presents “Sales, Success, and the Science of Happiness”  
**Westwood Country Club**  
**22625 Detroit Road, Rocky River**
- October 25**  
**West End Halloween Window Walk Awards & Artists Reception**  
**Beck Center for the Arts**  
**17801 Detroit Avenue**  
**2 p.m.**

Did You Know...

that over 100 Halloween-themed masterpieces will appear on the windows of Lakewood businesses on Detroit Avenue between Arthur Avenue and the Rocky River bridge between October 19th and 23rd? The Lakewood Chamber of Commerce and Beck Center for the Arts invite you to view the artistry during the 10th Annual West End Halloween Window Walk. Awards in 7 categories will be announced at Beck Center for the Arts on Saturday, October 25th at 2 p.m.

Lakewood High School Art Teacher Cesar Vargas’ window at Pug Mahone’s was judged ‘Best in Show’ in the Adult category in 2013.



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Business News

Local Business Needs Help Funding Kickstarter Campaign

by Carlo Russo

The Splash Infuser, made by Cardboard Helicopter of Lakewood, Ohio, will allow users to add their own fruit, veggies and herbs to their water or alcohol for a customized drink.

The makers have developed a prototype and have been conducting testing since early 2014. They’ve decided to run a Kickstarter program to help raise the capital needed to manufacture and distribute the product right here in the USA.



Lakewood’s Cardboard Helicopter is looking for start up funds to manufacture and distribute the infuser pictured above.

“Not just the USA in general, but Cleveland, specifically,” says CEO Tim Hayes. “We love this city, and we are proud to call ourselves a Cleveland business. This community is so supportive of local businesses, and we know we have a great product that will satisfy the health-minded Cleveland consumer.”

The Splash Infuser will fill the needs of the market for an easy way to access naturally flavored beverages. If you search around you may find infuser bottles that are hard to clean, and many people infuse using jars and

coffee filters, but the Splash makes it easy to just drop in your flavors into any cup or bottle. It even has a built-in muddler to allow users to easily mash the ingredients for instant flavor release.

Support is needed to bring Splash into the marketplace. If you’d like to donate (and get cool rewards), please visit their Kickstarter page at [splashinfuser.com](http://splashinfuser.com).

For more information visit [www.cardboardhelicopter.com](http://www.cardboardhelicopter.com).

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Lakewood Living

# Tri C Director Speaks At O'Neill Healthcare About Levy

by David O'Neill

Residents and patients at O'Neill Healthcare Lakewood gathered Friday, October 3 to hear about the upcoming levy, Issue 6 for Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C). Marvin Richards, Executive Director of Business Continuity volunteered on

his vacation time to come spread the importance of Levy 6 and the future of affordable education in Cuyahoga County. As a veteran himself, Marvin connected to many of the veterans in the audience who shared opinions with him on the GI bill for education and Marvin discussed some of

the changes throughout years as well as various programs that Tri-C does to reach out to veterans for further education.

Tri-C is celebrating its 50th Anniversary and many of the residents and patients at O'Neill Healthcare Lakewood remember when the school opened. On September 23, 1963, the largest first day enrollment for a community college in the nation's history took place at Cuyahoga Community College's first home, the 19th century Brownell School building in downtown Cleveland which was leased from the Cleveland Board of Education. The initial enrollment was just over 3,000 students. Today, the College serves over 55,000 credit and noncredit students each year. Now one of the largest colleges in Ohio and the largest in Greater Cleveland.

Nick Kap, patient at O'Neill Healthcare's Skilled Nursing remembers the opening of Tri-C , "I remember the college opening in 1963, the year I graduated high school. Many of my classmates were the first to attend. It was the first, truly affordable chance many had for further education. Over the years, I have seen the impact great impact the school has made in the area. Recently,

when I was in the hospital, and here at O'Neill Healthcare Lakewood, I have had nurses tell me they received their education at Tri-C. I can see the great results in their education while they provide me with excellent care. I fully support Cuyahoga Community College". Richard Marvins shared with us that Cuyahoga Community College is one of the largest providers of health-care education in Ohio.

Cuyahoga Community College is not just for the young, but also those young at heart. Mr. Richards discussed the importance of continuing education and job growth. 85% of those who attend Tri C stay in Cuyahoga County to work and live. Resident Lillian Miller shared after being in the work force years ago, she went to Tri C to take some typing classes. Lillian proudly stated by the time she was finished her typing and speed had greatly increased and she saw the difference her additional education made in the workplace.

After Marvin Richards presentation many residents, patients and staff enjoyed a fruit and cheese reception sharing various experiences either personal or with those of family members attending Tri-C and discussed the importance of voting.

Lakewood Opinion

## "Amy, The Mayor Of Lakewood Has Lied To You"

by Mark Buckley

(That was Jim O'Bryan's comment to Amy Martin under the post- "Rape Suspect Sought by Police".)

Mr. O'Bryan, your sentence resonates on Grace Ave. Living on Grace we witnessed an administration that when pressed did not hesitate to mislead residents or play games with a process that should have been fair and transparent. When we asked Mr. Siley direct questions the Director of Development responded with misinformation. He consistently dumped revised plans on us at the last minute and sat on a legal brief we explicitly asked to be passed on in advance to the Planning Commission. Although playing games with residents isn't the equivalent of lying or misleading them (Mr. Siley did mislead us), it is yet another form of dishonesty and in an honest political culture it would have been met with disapproval. Unfortunately the misleading statements, the gamesmanship, all of it, were offered up without even a hint of reproach. It's revealing about the culture at City Hall that Councilperson Madigan (who was used as a conduit for Mr. Siley's misinformation) never spoke out publicly. She never felt obliged to inform the Planning Commission that the person who guides them through their decision making process had misled her and her constituents. Evidently Mr. Siley's conduct fell within the established norm at City Hall.

In Mayor Summers' administration the notion of Inform or Misinform are not polar opposites but instead interchangeable approaches with the only consideration being which will gain the desired result. Whether it's Mayor Summers' excusing his silence surrounding a rape case or Mr. Siley shoving an over- sized development down neighbors' throats, City Hall's methodology is simple. We know

what's best. We will do or say what it takes to achieve it. We will do or say what it takes to push aside any obstacles (residents). The arrogance of entrenched power is a defining characteristic of this administration and it's way past time calling it out.

When City Hall is willing to mislead and treat residents as obstacles, residents are left with very little choice but to become obstacles. To stand opposed to the McDonalds on Woodward. To stand opposed to the turnpike sized Get-Go on Bunts. To resist the encroachment and truck traffic of Drug-Mart on Grace. To push back on the glorified bar in a church and the accompanying drunks and traffic that will impact Birdtown. Listing these commercial developments I can't help but note what a cheap vision Mr. Siley has chased.

The time is coming to collectively push back on this administration. Down the road either Mr. Summers or Mr. Siley will be running for mayor. We will be mobilized on Grace in opposition. I hope that others who feel marginalized by this administration will stand up and be counted. Hopefully a candidate will emerge who will commit to telling the truth to residents. Who will insist on transparency at City Hall, and be willing to restore a healthy balance between residential and commercial interests. Whoever that candidate is, by embracing those positions they will stand in stark contrast to the way Mr. Summers and Mr. Siley do business. The days of posts that start out with " Amy the Mayor of Lakewood has lied to you" need to come to an end.

*\* A detailed account of Mr. Siley's actions with respect to Drug Mart and Grace Ave. can be found in Colleen Cotter's article "Grace Ave Lessons Learned" complete with timeline in The Lakewood Observer.*

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# Lakewood Living

## Glitz & Glamour

*by Paula Reed*

October usually means Vintage Varieties for the Lakewood Historical Society, a sale of small furniture and home décor. Because we depend on donations for our sales, we are subject to the vagaries of the donations, and this year we didn't receive enough pieces appropriate for that sale to make Vintage Varieties fly. However, we did receive one large and several small donations of furs—totaling 16 coats and jackets, plus a variety of fur accessories. We also have fine jewelry and upscale vintage costume jewelry to pair with the furs, so for this year Vintage Varieties bows out and Glitz & Glamour steps in.

Glitz & Glamour will be our most upscale sale ever. There are a variety of

## Lakewood Collaborative Job Club

*by Kathy Augustine*

The Lakewood Collaborative is hosting a monthly Job Club at the Lakewood Public Library at 15425 Detroit Ave. The next Job Club meeting will be held on Tuesday October 28th, from 6-8 p.m. at the Lakewood Library. The speaker will be from Cuyahoga County Library's Cuyahoga Works: Job and Career Services Program. Also, we will provide information and resources to assist people with finding a job in today's market. The Job Club is free and open to the public.

styles, types, colors and sizes of furs, including a leather coat trimmed in fur and a cloth coat with a curly lamb collar. We'll also have some evening bags and lots of bling.

Visit the Nicholson House at 13335 Detroit Avenue on Sunday, October 26th

## Hattie Larlham Honors Lakewood Native Bob DiBiasio

*by Jacqueline LoPresti*

On Saturday, November 1, Hattie Larlham hosts the 14th annual Circle of Caring at the Bertram Inn & Conference Center in Aurora. Sponsored by the Alpha Group, the Circle of Caring funds programs for people with developmental disabilities Hattie Larlham serves.

This year's honorees are Cleveland Indians Sr. Vice President of Public Affairs Bob DiBiasio, and Cleveland Indians Charities (CIC). DiBiasio also serves as president of the CIC. DiBiasio has personally supported Hattie Larlham since 1999. He was introduced to the organization by a Hattie Larlham board member and his wife, parents of a resident with developmental disabilities.

DiBiasio invites friends and coworkers to Hattie Larlham's events, including Indians players, coaches, front office staff and the broadcast team. He raises awareness for people

from 1-5 p.m. We'll have plenty of mirrors so you can try on coats and jewelry to your heart's content. Everything will be priced well below its retail value, and we take credit cards. Much as we hate to admit it, cold weather is coming. But you can be cozy, warm and bejeweled when

going out to holiday festivities. Don't miss this sale—it may never come again!

All proceeds from this sale benefit the programs and properties of the Lakewood Historical Society. Questions? Call 216-221-7343.



tor, and later advanced to director of PR in 1980 and vice president of PR in 1988. The Lakewood, Ohio, native was promoted to his current position in 2011.

Since 2001, CIC has been a key sponsor of the annual Sugar Bush Golf Classic in Garrettsville, Ohio. The golf classic raises funds for Hattie Larlham programs. To date, CIC has donated more than \$20,000 to the event. In addition, CIC has donated dozens of autographed memorabilia items from current and former Indians players. Each year DiBiasio emcees the Sugar Bush Golf Classic with Bill Wills, co-host of WTAM 1100's Wills & Snyder in the Morning Show.

with developmental disabilities Hattie Larlham serves.

DiBiasio has been instrumental in developing a Hattie Larlham summer camp in Arizona. He has fostered relationships with Goodyear, Arizona's local school system, the fire department and the Fighter Country Partnership. Since 2009, Hattie Larlham has hosted an annual fundraiser at a Cleveland Indians spring training game. The event raises funds to support Hattie Larlham summer camps in Arizona.

As a result of DiBiasio's effort, Hattie Larlham started hosting Arizona summer camps in 2012. The camps are designed for children with developmental disabilities that fall in the autism spectrum.

This year is DiBiasio's 35th season with the Cleveland Indians and 36th with Major League Baseball. His career with the Cleveland Indians started in 1979 as assistant PR direc-

In honor of DiBiasio and Cleveland Indians Charities, this year's Circle of Caring is baseball themed. The event includes red-carpet photos, entertainment, a cocktail reception, a full course dinner, a wine pull and live, silent and fund-a-need auctions.

Unique sponsorship opportunities are available. For more information, contact Hattie Larlham Special Events Manager Wendy Voelker at (330) 274-2272, ext. 3087, or [wendy.voelker@hattielarlham.org](mailto:wendy.voelker@hattielarlham.org).

**About Hattie Larlham**

Established in 1961, Hattie Larlham is a Northeast Ohio nonprofit organization that provides services to 1,500 children and adults with developmental disabilities. Hattie Larlham inspires people with disabilities and their families to dream and achieve through the medical, residential, vocational and recreational services the organization offers. For more information, visit [www.hattielarlham.org](http://www.hattielarlham.org).

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References provided upon request.

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OBSERVING HALLOWEEN



Lakewood Observer continues our search for the best images of the holidays in and around Lakewood, Ohio. We are looking for scary houses like the one above on Spring Garden, or pics like the one of Fireman Doug Brodke putting the finishing touches on his entry in the Madison Avenue Scarecrow Contest! Stop by the Observation Deck at <http://lakewoodobserver.com/forum> and catch the constant updates, new photos, stories, tips, questions and discussion about the city we love, Lakewood!

## Lakewood Announces Fall Leaf Collection Schedule

**continued from page 1**  
leaves citywide starting from the west end and working east. The number of citywide collections will be weather dependent. Residents should place their leaves out as soon as possible to ensure collection. Signs will be posted on side streets to notify residents of upcoming collections.  
For daily leaf collection schedule updates, visit [www.onelakewood.com/leafcollection](http://www.onelakewood.com/leafcollection).

In order to make the leaf collec-

tion process as effective as possible, the City asks residents to please rake leaves onto tree lawns as close to the curb as possible. Raking leaves into the street will slow the collection process and may cause basement flooding.  
There will be no leaf collection on November 27 and 28 due to the Thanksgiving holiday. If you have any questions, please call (216) 529-6810 between 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.



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Be sure to read our articles in this issue!



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