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# THE LAKEWOOD OBSERVER

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Volume 11, Issue 6, March 17, 2015

## State Senator Michael Skindell Urges Council To Reject Lakewood Hospital Deal



photo by Jim O'Bryan

Back in January, after the Lakewood Observer broke the news of the "\$120 million dollar hospital deal," State Senator and Lakewood native, Michael Skindell pledged to the residents of Lakewood, "I will look at it, and see if it is a good deal for Lakewood." This week, he appeared at City Council and read his letter into the record. A scathing report on all of the troubling aspects of what is, by the Senator's assessment, a very bad deal. Read the letter below.

### Letter To City Council Hospital Deal Sickens City

by Michael J. Skindell,  
State Senator, 23rd District

The deal, which results in the closure of Lakewood Hospital in 2016 does not serve the residents of Lakewood and is a clear violation of the public interests. The plans were made privately and specifically preclude community involvement. The Mayor, Lakewood Hospital Association, and the Cleveland Clinic presented it as a done deal. The essential parts of that deal include:

1. Early termination of the Lease (in 2016), which provides for the operation of Lakewood Hospital by the Cleveland Clinic through 2026. Under the terms of the lease, the Cleveland Clinic must operate our hospital through the end of 2026. Why are we helping the Cleve-

land Clinic close our hospital, which they promised to operate for the next eleven years?

2. This agreement allows for the permanent closing of Lakewood Hospital, resulting in the loss of inpatient care, emergency services, surgical services, and other hospital acute care services within the city. It will mean the loss of nearly 1,100 hospital jobs. This will have a devastating effect on access to quality health care in Lakewood and it will be bad for Lakewood's economy.

3. This deal gives away real and personal property owned by the people of the city of Lakewood and held in trust by the Lakewood Hospital Association. There were no appraisals or open bidding for the 2.5 acres  
**continued on page 5**

### Spring Into Savings, With Our Springtime Book Sale

by Genevieve Jaskulski

The Friends' book sales are one of the biggest highlights that we have the pleasure to host here at Lakewood Public Library. The large selection of materials, such as CDs, VHS tapes, fiction and non-fiction books that come either in paperback or hard copies,

as well as entertainment and literature for a younger generation, in the form of puzzles, games and a multitude of other wonderful little finds, leave no room for doubt that there is something to be found for everyone who stops by.

If you want a head start on  
**continued on page 2**



photo by Craig Lovejoy, Low Level Aerial Photography

## Lincoln Breaks Ground As Grant And Roosevelt Fall



photo by Jim O'Bryan

Grant School above and Roosevelt School below under the wrecking ball.



photo by Jim O'Bryan

## Roosevelt Elementary Bricks Sale

by Missy Toms

Show your love for Roosevelt Elementary School. Buy bricks!

ONE DAY ONLY! Bricks from the original Roosevelt

Elementary School will be for sale in the Roosevelt parking lot, Saturday, March 28, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Bricks are \$10 each. All proceeds benefit programs in

the Lakewood City Schools. No special orders or holds. Credit cards and cash will be

**continued on page 2**

Lakewood Observer

# Free Program By The Music Settlement At The Bop Stop At LPL

by Julie Strunk

The Music Settlement, a long standing home for music education, music therapy and early childhood education in University Circle now has a new venue in Ohio City at the BOP STOP, 2920 Detroit Road. Originally a jazz club, the BOP STOP is now a home for all styles of music and a home to The Music Settlement's early childhood music program, "Music and Movement," providing musical training for children from birth through age 3. The Music Settlement's Early Childhood offerings have sown the seeds of life-long interest in music in thousands of children, earning The Music Settlement a reputation for excellence in all aspects of early childhood education.

The Music Settlement will conduct a free "Music and Movement" program at the Lakewood Public Library immediately after the 10:30 a.m. Family

Weekend Wonders program on Saturday, March 21, at 11:30 a.m. in the Main Library Activity Room.

## Calling All Home Childcare Providers

by Missy Toms

The preschool years are critical for social emotional development. Children need pre-academic skills, particularly early literacy, in order to be ready for kindergarten.

The Lakewood Rangers Education Foundation is organizing a community collaborative to identify child and family needs in order to put them on

track to be prepared for kindergarten. Called Lakewood Kids, this partnership includes the Lakewood City Schools, the City of Lakewood, private preschools/child care centers, nonprofits and churches, health care providers, businesses, government institutions, the library, and others.

Home childcare providers play a critical role in ensuring that every child who enters kindergarten is ready to learn. We want to hear from you. Your input is invaluable. Please send us your contact information (name, address, phone number, email) to [foundation@lakewoodcityschools.org](mailto:foundation@lakewoodcityschools.org), or

call 216.529.4033. We look forward to working with you to make Lakewood Kids a success.

Since 1984, the Lakewood Rangers Education Foundation has distributed more than \$3 million in funding for classroom grants, student scholarships, and school initiatives. The Foundation is guided by its mission to provide resources to enrich the educational experiences of the Lakewood City Schools' 5,400+ students. To learn more about the Lakewood Rangers Education Foundation, visit [www.lakewoodrangers.org](http://www.lakewoodrangers.org) or email [foundation@lakewoodcityschools.org](mailto:foundation@lakewoodcityschools.org).

## Springtime Book Sale

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all the fun, we have a preview sale, on Thursday, March 26, from 6 to 9 p.m., for our members only, and you can sign up to be a member at any desk with a cash register, there is only a two dollar fee, or you can sign up downstairs on the night of the Preview Sale.

You would truly be hard pressed

to walk away from our sale without something for yourself, or your family, from the treasure trove of affordable surprises. It's an eclectic and expansive collection of wonderfully accessible materials for you to enjoy, and has been meticulously hand sorted by our amazingly dedicated Friends of the Library.

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## Roosevelt Elementary Bricks Sale

continued from page 1

accepted. This is your last opportunity to step on the old Roosevelt site before construction begins.

Brick sales for Grant Elementary School will take place Saturday, April

18, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Visit the Lakewood Rangers Education Foundation website for updates: [www.lakewoodrangers.org](http://www.lakewoodrangers.org).

To learn more about the Lakewood Rangers Education Foundation email [foundation@lakewoodcityschools.org](mailto:foundation@lakewoodcityschools.org).

## Wanted Changemakers, Volunteers & Folks Who Love Lakewood

by Helen Griffin

How do you envision changing the world?

The smallest gesture, like shopping locally can amplify the economic growth of your neighborhood. If you could use your grocery receipt to help your local PTA, would you? Want to

help a food bank or community garden the next time you grab a coffee?

Join a Lakewood pilot called Social Good Made Easy. Lakewood shoppers are wanted for an upcoming spring pilot.

Visit [SocialGoodMadeEasy.com](http://SocialGoodMadeEasy.com) for more info or email Helen Griffin your shopping list at [hi@socialgood-madeeasy.com](mailto:hi@socialgood-madeeasy.com).



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As a product of citizen journalism, The Lakewood Observer is looking for people, ages 3-100, to get involved in the paper and the city. We are looking for volunteer writers, photographers, designers, and illustrators to help with the production of the paper. It does not matter if you are a professional or amateur, our editorial staff will be glad to help you through the process. Register to our website Member Center where you can submit stories, press releases, letters to the editor, photos. No need to register to post online calendar or classified ads.

Upcoming Submission Deadline	Publish Date
Sunday, March 22, 2015	Tuesday, March 31, 2015
Sunday, April 5, 2015	Tuesday, April 14, 2015

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PUBLISHER	EDITOR IN CHIEF	ASSOCIATE EDITOR	ADVERTISING
Jim O'Bryan	Margaret Brinich	Betsy Voinovich	Maggie Fraley <a href="mailto:LO.adsales@gmail.com">LO.adsales@gmail.com</a>

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# Regular eye exams crucial for diabetic patients.

Patients with diabetes need to take care of their eyes as carefully and thoroughly as they do any other part of their body.

Peter McGannon, MD, a Cleveland Clinic ophthalmologist who sees patients in Lakewood, says that diabetic patients should have a dilated eye examination with an ophthalmologist at least once a year.



Peter McGannon, MD

“Having a dilated exam is so important because it lets us see changes that are occurring at the back of the eye, or the retina. Diabetes can cause a wide range of problems with the retina, and many of them do not cause patients to have symptoms so they don’t realize what is happening. By getting a clear look at the retina at least once a year, we are able to detect any changes early,” he says.

Retinal problems can range from mild to moderate or severe. One of the most severe problems is abnormal blood vessels that grow and bleed in the retina. Also, diabetic patients are at higher risk of developing glaucoma, cataracts and blockages of the

blood vessels at the back of the eye, known as retinal vascular occlusions.

If these conditions are detected early and managed properly, the risk of permanently losing vision is greatly reduced. Treatments range from close observation to laser therapy, injectable medications, surgery or a combination of these approaches.

Dr. McGannon encourages his diabetic patients to see their primary care physician regularly to monitor their blood sugar, blood pressure and their overall health, including a blood condition known as anemia. Untreated anemia can increase the rate at which retina problems damage vision.

Also, he notes that out-of-control blood sugar can cause vision fluctuations. For example, patients may suddenly feel like they need stronger glasses. “If you experience any sudden changes in your vision, it is important that you see an ophthalmologist right away,” Dr. McGannon says.

*For an appointment with Dr. McGannon at Lakewood Hospital Professional Building, call 216.529.5320. For an appointment with an ophthalmologist at another Cleveland Clinic location, call 216.444.2020. Cleveland Clinic offers same-day appointments.*

# Diabetes Alert Day: Are You at Risk?

Wednesday, March 25, 2015  
Lakewood Hospital

Join us for Diabetes Alert Day on March 25, 2015, for a free event featuring health screenings, lunch and a presentation.

Screening times are 6:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. for blood sugar, total cholesterol, feet, eyes, and body mass index. No registration is required for screenings.

Guest speaker Anne Eren will discuss “Lore and Logic of Olive Oil” during a lunch presentation from 12:15 to 1:00 p.m. Lunch will be provided to the first 50 registered attendees.

*The event will be held in the Wasmer Auditorium at Lakewood Hospital, 14519 Detroit Ave. For more information and to register call 216.529.5312.*

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City News

# City And Schools Consider “Mutual Benefit Of Citizens” Agreement

Council President and Ward IV Councilwoman Mary Louise Madigan called the March 2, 2015 Council meeting to order at 7:37 P.M.

The first order of new business was a letter from the Chair of the Health and Human Services Committee, Councilwoman Cindy Marx (At-Large). She asked Council to consider scheduling a public hearing that would allow residents to share their thoughts on creating a healthy living culture in Lakewood. She is hoping the testimony, including that from health professionals in the city, will help the City, Lakewood Hospital, and any prospective new community health foundation achieve the stated desire to implement modern population health management initiatives that would make Lakewood among the healthiest communities.

She continued saying that besides wanting to make sure health care delivery is equal for all citizens, they should also be looking to empower residents to live healthier lifestyles through outreach, education, and opportunity. “In order to reach this goal,” she said “we must allow our residents input to help guide us.” She believes that they can make Lakewood a model of how a city can be revitalized during the dramatically changing times in health care.

Councilwoman Marx asked to refer the discussion on her request to the Health and Human Services Committee, however Councilwoman Madigan said that with all that is going on they have been

trying to keep everything health-related, or at least topics related to the Hospital, in the Committee of the Whole. She also suggested a few other meetings they have scheduled which could cover this topic.

There was some conversation back and forth in regards to where to refer the topic. Councilwoman Marx said that she had recommended the Health and Human Services Committee because she felt that her topic went beyond the discussions surrounding the Lakewood Hospital situation, in addition, she was trying to save the Committee of the Whole from further meetings. Councilwoman Madigan however insisted that it was a connected topic and that she believed they could fold it into their current meetings, and would prefer to do so.

In the end, with some input from other members of Council, it was decided to refer it to the Committee of

the Whole.

Next Mayor Summers asked Council to consider a resolution which would approve an agreement between the City and the Lakewood City Schools. With the schools entering into the third phase of their building project they will accrue a number of related fees for permits, estimates reach as high as \$800,000. The City plans to do the numbers and figure out the actual cost for it to issue the permits to the schools. In accordance to this agreement, anything collected over the actual cost to the City would be committed to being spent on future projects of mutual benefit of the citizens. Any project proposed for these funds would be subject to approval by both the Council and the School Board. There are currently no projects in development, but any ideas will go through several deliberations between the City, the school’s administration, and the School Board.

The agreement is also subject to approval by the School Board.

Council referred the the resolution to the Finance Committee.

Law Director Kevin Butler then asked Council to consider an ordinance that would make updates to Chapter 143 in the City’s codified ordinances which governs the city’s records commission. The commission was created under state law governing the adoption of public records and schedules to comply. In the years since the City’s code was last updated the State has continued to make periodic updates. The ordinance would fix the discrepancies that have arisen.

Council referred the ordinance to the Rules and Ordinances Committee.

Coming to the end of the agenda items, and with no members of the public signed up to speak, Council President Madigan adjourned the meeting at 8:20 P.M.

## Westshore Council of Governments (WCOG) Meeting, March 11, 2015

by LWV Observers Conda Boyd, Bay Village & Kathy Kosiorek, Lakewood  
*This report is not an official LWV statement. It is an excerpt; full reports are available at [www.LWVGreaterCleveland.org](http://www.LWVGreaterCleveland.org). Mayor Sutherland’s office prepares official minutes.*

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

**NOACA:** ODOT recently shifted \$1.7 million from other Metropolitan Planning Organizations’ unfinished projects to reward NOACA for proven efficiency and efficacy.

**Land Bank:** The demolition fund has \$41 million available, with only \$10 million in project applications. Mayor Clough sought suggestions for helping the proprietor of Dover Gardens Tavern, whose historic building was rammed by a stolen truck, depriving him of his livelihood. Mayor Patton noted that Jim Rokakis’ Thriving Communities Institute buys underutilized property and turns it into parkland.

**WESHARE:** Chief Lyons distributed a report on the WestShore Area

Rescue Association benefits and history. North Olmsted, Lakewood, and Fairview Park have left the Association after forty years. Mayor Bobst requested that a discussion of their reasons for leaving be put on next month’s agenda.

**ShareOhio:** Donovan O’Neil of the Ohio Auditor’s Office presented an overview of this web-based program, a one-stop shop to inventory, locate, share, track, and analyze utilization of equipment. The program is free, flexible, and voluntary. It can be used proactively to share rarely used equipment, as well as for mutual aid during an emergency.

**Westshore Enforcement Bureau (WEB):** SAIC Jeff Capretto presented WEB’s annual report. Despite concerted efforts, the heroin epidemic continues. Agent Capretto noted, “We can’t arrest our way out of it.” Prevention and education are key.

Mayor Summers noted that education on medical marijuana is needed. Agent Capretto characterized today’s marijuana as a true hallucinogen, a gateway drug, and an impetus to assaults.

Unit Commander Pat Fiorelli discussed trends for the SWAT unit. The team’s “look” is being demilitarized to


emphasize that they are police. Alert training is being conducted in schools. Robots are invaluable and frequently used to assess threats from abandoned packages. Mayor Summers noted that the Republican National Convention (RNC) is expected to make extraordinary demands on local police forces.

Hazmat Team Leader Gordie Polando stated that plans for the RNC are being formulated. Extra training for WMDs is underway, along with assessment of needed equipment.

**Westcom:** Westshore Central Dispatch Acting Supervisor Ronald Barlow presented 2014 statistics. Fire and EMS runs were up in all five cities and 6.3% overall, with a total of 14,058 runs in 2014. Bay Village saw an increase of 11.2%, Fairview Park 5.6%, Rocky River 8.6%, North Ridgeville 4.2%, and Westlake 4.9%.

**Mr. Greenspan:** Mr. Greenspan will hold a town hall meeting on March 19 at 7pm in Fairview Park City Hall with guest County Executive Armond Budish.

*The next WCOG meeting is Wednesday, April 8 at 9:30 a.m. in Bay Village City Hall. All meetings are open to the public.*



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City News

# Hospital Deal Sickens City

continued from page 1

that the City is planning to transfer to the Cleveland Clinic. There was no appropriate appraisal or open bidding for 850 Columbia Road in Westlake where the proposed purchase is almost \$3 million less than market value.

4. The deal removes more than 32 million Lakewood Hospital Foundation dollars from the books of Lakewood Hospital and results in the dissolution of the Foundation.

The Mayor and Lakewood Hospital Association had a responsibility to the hospital and the people of Lakewood to determine the true value of the hospital and all property, prior to going into negotiations to give away those assets. Appropriate legal and financial professionals were not retained in assembling this deal to protect these valuable community assets.

The only meaningful communication with the people of Lakewood about this has been to try to sell a deal. This agreement has been handled as if it was a private matter, but it is a public matter, about a hospital, which belongs to the people of Lakewood.

**The Need to Close the Hospital is a Fabrication:** The Mayor, the Lakewood Hospital Association, and the Cleveland Clinic all argue that Lakewood Hospital is not sustainable because 1) patient activity has been dropping over the past years making the Hospital no longer profitable and unable to continue to do business; and 2) the future of healthcare is changing and the way healthcare is to be delivered is different than the current model of care at Lakewood.

During the last decade, the Cleveland Clinic, in carrying out its strategic plan, created the current situation. There is ample evidence to support these findings:

The Cleveland Clinic management cancelled, transferred and/or significantly reduced services depleting Lakewood Hospital of patient volume and revenue to remain sustainable under Cleveland Clinic operation;

The Cleveland Clinic maintained inadequate medical leadership, resulting in the decline of medical departments within the hospital;

The Cleveland Clinic encouraged its physicians and schedulers to refer patients within the Lakewood Hospital service territory to other medical facilities when treatment or diagnostic procedures could have been performed at Lakewood Hospital.

Apparently the Cleveland Clinic is planning to move the Neurology unit out of Lakewood to Fairview Hospital. Cardiology has moved to Fairview Hospital. Moving these services will undermine any hospital.

The Mayor, Lakewood Hospital Association, and the Cleveland Clinic argue that national and regional healthcare trends are moving from less inpatient care to greater outpatient care. At the same time, the Cleveland Clinic has promoted additional ICU beds at Fairview Hospital and started building a new hospital in Avon. The fact that the Cleveland

Clinic does not need Lakewood Hospital as a part of its strategic plan does not mean that a community hospital is not needed in Lakewood. The obligations of the Cleveland Clinic must be appropriately enforced.

**Financial Case to Close Lakewood Hospital Not Established:** Financial statements provided to the public do not demonstrate financial doom for Lakewood Hospital, notwithstanding the City of Lakewood and the Lakewood Hospital Association permitting the Cleveland Clinic to continue what appears to be an undermining of doctors, services, and patient utilization.

Ernst & Young, LLP audits of the financial statements demonstrate that Lakewood Hospital has been given a clean audit opinion year after year. Ernst & Young has never indicated that there would be a problem for Lakewood Hospital to continue operations for the next three years. If there were financial issues, Ernst & Young would have been obligated to report them.

Audited statements reveal that although Lakewood Hospital's inpatient (only) revenue is down between 2009-2013 by 3%, the decrease is less than other area hospitals: Lutheran 6% and Metro 5%. Please note that while net patient service revenue at Lakewood Hospital has been fluctuating steadily between \$135 million and \$141 million for many years, Fairview Hospital has seen an increase of nearly \$193 million from 2011 to 2012 and nearly \$92 million from 2012 to 2013. It appears that Cleveland Clinic has been preparing to sacrifice Lakewood Hospital.

At least since 2008, Cleveland Clinic has saddled Lakewood Hospital with over \$120 million in "Administrative Services" which appear as not being charged to other hospitals like Fairview Hospital. We must demand a full explanation. City Council must gain access to Cleveland Clinic's financial books to determine if this is an accounting device, which is being used to defraud the people of Lakewood of our community hospital. From the audited financial statements, it appears the Cleveland Clinic has charged yearly "Administrative Services" to Lakewood Hospital.

**Administrative Services (in millions):**

2008	\$14.864
2009	\$15.083
2010	\$20.727
2011	\$23.810
2012	\$23.043
2013	\$24.438

**Note 16** "Related-Party Transactions" in the audited financial statements, which is a recurring expense in the nature of \$24 million annually must be accounted for. The complete review of the financial situation must be undertaken by the appropriate professionals.

**Exercise of Due Diligence by Lakewood City Council:** Council should retain attorneys experienced in healthcare/hospital matters and financial matters and other consultants experienced in distressed healthcare/

hospital situations to investigate and assess Lakewood Hospital's situation and explore viable "turnaround" options. These professionals can gather a complete and accurate picture of the hospital's assets and liabilities, to implement strategies regarding the enforcement of the current lease agreement, to protect the healthcare assets, and, if necessary, to identify other options to operate a community hospital other than the Cleveland Clinic.

Council should protect the City's legal interest pertaining to the assets of the Lakewood Hospital Foundation and seek to immediately preserve those assets.

Council should determine the status of all government licenses (including certificate of need), permits and registrations or other governmental authorizations and ensure the preservation of all such licenses. Council should determine the status of all contracts and leases that are critical to the ongoing operations of Lakewood Hospital and ensure the preservation of such contracts. These contracts may include Medicare, Medicaid, and other federal or state health care provider contracts, physician contracts, radiology or other specialized professional services agreements, and contracts to supply blood.

**Conflicts of Interest:** There are possible conflicts of interest and problems with the public's access to information. The Lakewood Charter (Article XIII) authorizes the Mayor to serve on a nonprofit Board of Directors provided that his service is as an ex-officio member and cannot be in conflict with his fiduciary and legal duties owed to the Citizens of Lakewood. He may not serve two masters. A review of the circumstances surrounding the degradation of services at Lakewood Hospital and the failure of the administration to police this agreement by insisting on full compliance of the terms of the lease indicate a failure to provide proper oversight. More troubling is the Letter of Intent, which obligates the Mayor to only speak in support of the Cleveland Clinic proposal. Considering all the unanswered questions, it appears to put the Mayor in a conflict of interest with his obligation as Mayor of Lakewood. Lakewood City Council and the Mayor must first consider the fiduciary responsibilities to the City of Lakewood.

Lakewood Hospital is owned by the residents of Lakewood. Information acquired by the Mayor as a Board member of Lakewood Hospital Association becomes a "Public Record" and mandates complete disclosure. The people of Lakewood, through their City Council, should be made aware of the entire history of the Lakewood Hospital Association and Cleveland Clinic activities.

**Enforcement of the Lease Agreement:** The Lease agreement between the City of Lakewood and Lakewood Hospital Association and the Definitive Agreement between Lakewood Hospital Association and the Cleveland Clinic set forth contractual obligations for mandated services through 2026 to be provided at the Lakewood Hospital. Had there been proper oversight by the City of Lakewood and Lakewood Hospital Association to ensure full compliance of

the terms of this lease we would not be in this position. The contract requires the Cleveland Clinic to provide residents "Required Services" from facilities located within the City of Lakewood. The level of "Required Services" may not be changed or altered if such change shall result in a significant reduction so as to be an effective elimination of such service. Lakewood Hospital Association is contractually obligated to maintain the hospital in good repair and operating condition. Lakewood Hospital Association and the Cleveland Clinic are obligated in their management to not impair the value or the suitability of the Hospital to provide the "Required Services." Any substitution or removal of equipment or services shall not impair the operating viability of the hospital.

These contractual obligations are "Absolute and Unconditional" and Lakewood Hospital Association and the Cleveland Clinic are obligated to observe and perform all covenants, agreements, and obligations until this lease ends in January 2027.

**Alternatives to Closure:** The Letter of Intent fails to demonstrate that the closure of Lakewood Hospital is necessary, or that it is the only or best alternative. If Lakewood Hospital is not a part of the Cleveland Clinic's long-term strategic plan as a continuing healthcare provider, the City of Lakewood must assess that partnership, and if necessary, develop a strategic plan of its own for the continued operations of the hospital. The legal and financial team assembled by Lakewood City Council can guide this.

It appears that the drafters and promoters of the Letter of Intent have only listened to the Cleveland Clinic. Missing in this conversation is the engagement of the independent physicians who currently account for nearly 50% of patients utilizing the services at Lakewood Hospital. Physician engagement is essential to the financial health and growth of Lakewood Hospital.

**Conclusion:** Evidence leads to the conclusion that the Cleveland Clinic has established a long-range goal to increase market share in the west side of Cleveland and Lorain County. Lakewood Hospital is the only Hospital in the Cleveland Clinic System that is not owned by the Clinic. It will be the stepchild in decisions made for growth and expansion of the Clinic system. The Mayor appears to have agreed to speak only in positive terms of this deal and not to negotiate with any other hospital; it becomes the responsibility of City Council to protect the citizens of Lakewood. It is imperative that Council exercises its due diligence as outlined.

Remember, any decision to close the hospital has significant economic consequences to the citizens of Lakewood. Our public hospital has been an integral part of this successful and vibrant community for over 100 years. Our City needs to reassert control over this crucial community resource. City Council should evaluate all financial and legal options available. The Cleveland Clinic has a responsibility to honor the promises and commitments it made to our community. I urge you to reject the Letter of Intent.

# Lakewood Public Library

## LPL Calendar Of Events

compiled by Elaine Rosenberger

### Wednesday, March 18

#### Word Processing Basics

Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. in the Main Library Learning Lab  
March 18, April 15, May 20, June 17, July 22 and August 19

### Thursday, March 19

#### One-On-One Job Search

Spend a half hour with an instructor polishing your resume, brushing up on computer skills and exploring employment websites.  
Appointments are available Thursdays between 10:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.  
March 19, April 9, April 23

### Meet the Author: “Deep Cover Cleveland,” Volume I

#### 99 Little Known Things About Northeast Ohio by Laura Peskin

The first of a series by Ohio Archeologist and Ohio Cardinal contributor Laura Peskin, this plucky volume explores overlooked local phenomena that will leave even the most knowledgeable Northeast Ohioan gazing at the surrounding landscape with fresh, new eyes. Peskin uncovers forgotten facets of our region’s changing landscape, prehistory, Native American heritage, and unique architecture. Lakewoodites will be especially interested to learn about Maude Comstock, the trailblazing activist who pushed for women’s suffrage in the early twentieth century. Other topics include the roots of Methodism, Pearl Road, Justin Holland, Elyria High School, and onions. Books will be available for sale and signing at the event.  
7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

### Booked For Murder: Genres within Genres

#### “The Winter People” by Jennifer McMahon

This time around, the ladies of murder mystery and mayhem will explore niche mysteries with animal sleuths, steampunk, a caper story, robot detectives, locked room mystery and a psychological ghostly thriller.  
Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Meeting Room

### Saturday, March 21

#### Lakewood Public Cinema: “Club Paradise” (1986)

##### Directed by Harold Ramis

To mourn the passing of our captain Robin Williams, we have chosen a trio of his smaller films. This bright and sunny comedy also serves double duty, honoring the passing of director Harold Ramis. Robin Williams plays a Chicago firefighter who is sick of being cold and wet all the time. He moves to a tiny island in the Caribbean and opens up a resort with reggae star Jimmy Cliff, who also provides the soundtrack. Comedy legends Andrea Martin, Rick Moranis, Eugene Levy and Twiggy stop by to soak up the rays and play with Robin. Peter O’Toole, too!  
6:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

### Sunday, March 22

#### Sunday with the Friends: The Squirrel Hillbillies

From deep within the urban forest of Pittsburgh’s East End, the Squirrel Hillbillies emerge to share their eclectic mix of folk, country and blues. The duo has been writing, arranging and performing original music since 2010, with appearances at the Three Rivers Arts Festival, the Pittsburgh International Children’s Festival and the Folk Alliance International’s annual conference. Through a collaborative, nonlinear songwriting process, duo partners Jenny Wolsk Bain and Gary Crouth draw from personal experiences, third-hand stories and vivid imaginations to craft songs that are unpredictable and quirky, yet widely accessible.  
2:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

### Hands-On Help with eReaders

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

### Tuesday, March 24

#### The Great Lakes Theater Presents: “The Great Globe Itself”

##### A Touring Production Written and Directed by David Hansen

As the Great Lakes Theater gets ready to premiere its production of William Shakespeare’s The Tempest, the Bard’s glorious final gift to the world of theater, David Hansen and the Great Lakes Theater’s Touring Outreach Company return to the Library to present an original one-act play to whet your appetite for the main event. Inspired by real events in Cleveland history, the imaginary story of the play concerns the majesty of the Globe Theatre, the once and future home of Shakespeare’s greatest triumphs. In 1936, a replica of the original playhouse was built on the shores of Lake Erie for the Great Lakes Exposition. Many years later, one man’s experience performing on that sacred stage inspires the construction of a permanent replica on the shores of London’s River Thames. But what must one man give away to ensure the legacy of what he has created? From Shakespeare’s London to Cleveland and back again, what’s past is truly prologue in this inspiring tale of three stages.  
7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

### Thursday, March 26

#### Computer Basics

Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. in the Main Library Learning Lab  
March 26, April 16, April 30, May 14

### Meet the Author: “The Odyssey of a Cardiologist”

#### by Dr. Richard W. Watts

Dr. Richard Watts, born in Lakewood in 1921, chronicles his career in his autobiography, Odyssey of a Cardiologist. His work has taken him to the Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan, Japan, Korea, Hong Kong and Australia. From 1948 to 1950 he served in the Army Medical Corps as the laboratory officer of an Army hospital in Tokyo and was the prison doctor

for Sugamo Prison, where over a thousand Japanese war criminals were held. He began his practice of internal medicine and cardiology at Kamms Corner and joined the medical staffs at Lakewood, Lutheran and Fairview Hospitals. In 1964, he opened one of the first coronary care units in the country at Fairview Hospital and then went on to begin one of the first paramedic programs in the area in 1973 in conjunction with the North Olmsted Fire Department. Since 1993, he has presented yearly programs on progress in cardiology. He is now an emeritus assistant professor of medicine at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine.  
7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

### Friends Spring Book Sale –Members Only Preview

6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

### Saturday, March 28

#### Friends Spring Book Sale

9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

### Lakewood Public Cinema: “Cadillac Man” (1990)

##### Directed by Roger Donaldson

In this minor comic gem, Robin Williams sinks his teeth into an irresistible character—Joey O’Brien, a slick, car salesman who’s made the fatal mistake of buying into his own line of nonsense. Joey has problems. He has to sell twelve cars in one day in order to keep his job. But before he can do that, he has to reassure each of his girlfriends that she is the only one. He owes the Mob twenty grand, and his ex-wife wants money, too. But then, a miracle in the form of Tim Robbins crashes through the showroom window on a motorcycle.  
6:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

### Tuesday, March 31

#### Ancestry Online: Library Edition

How far back would you like to trace your family tree? Genealogist Deborah Abbott will show you how to unlock the secrets held by census reports, military records, birth certificates and death notices in this hands-on workshop. Unravel your history with professional results.  
Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m. in the Main Library Learning Lab  
March 31, April 28, May 26, June 30 and August 25

## LPL Children/Youth Events

compiled by Eric Knapp

### Saturday, March 21

#### Outback Ray

##### For the whole family

Outback Ray brings an exciting menagerie of exotic animals from hissing cockroaches to blue-tongued skinks.  
7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room.

### Saturday, March 28

#### Teen No-Sew T-Shirt

##### For students in fifth through twelfth grade

If you have a favorite t-shirt that no longer fits, we’ll help you craft it into something new so you can still keep the awesome design... all without sewing a stitch! Registration required.  
4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room.

### Sunday, March 29

#### Sensory Story Time

##### For you and your 3-7 year old child

This story time program can be enjoyed by all children, but it is specifically designed for young children with special needs, autism or those with sensory processing challenges. Registration required.  
3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. in the Main Library Toddler Story Time Room.

### Lakewood Lego® League

#### For youth in kindergarten through fifth grade (caregivers welcome)

Use LPL’s collection of Lego®Bricks and your own imagination to create fabulous new structures and designs each month. No registration, but numbered tickets will be given out first-come, first-served.  
6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. in the Main Library Activity 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

### Saturdays & Sundays

#### 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

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

# Lakewood Public Library

## The Squirrel Hillbillies: Down Home And Heart-felt

by Michael Dirse

One thing for sure that we are proud of here at The Lakewood Public Library is that we can offer such a wide range of music presentations via our Sunday with the Friends series. If ours is to add and enhance to our com-

munity’s cultural experience through literature and the arts, then we are pleased that so many musicians choose to perform here.  
Furthermore, musicians want to return to play again and again as the overall experience for both artist and

audience is always an afternoon to remember. A case in point is the Squirrel Hillbillies who will be here and stirring things up in our Main Auditorium on March 22nd at 2 p.m.  
Now if you are wondering what “Squirrel Hillbilly” music sounds

like, I can tell you this. The music of both Jenny Wolsk Bain and Gary Crouth mirrors their love and passion for authentic stories and imaginative renderings cradled in passages and arrangements that come from a down home and heart-felt mix of folk, country, and blues. Just as blended ingredients make for a recipe that is perfect in the way those ingredients are slowly introduced to one another, so are these eclectic styles of music blended to create something that mere words can’t quite explain other than it is delicious, leaves a great taste, and a desire for more.  
Our Sunday with the Friends concerts are free and open to the public. We look forward to seeing everyone there.

## Lakewood Cardiologist Recounts Global Journey

by Samiha Abusharekh

It is always inspiring to see someone from your hometown lead a long, successful, and interesting life. Lakewood’s rich and diverse community has, no doubt, served as home for many great personages. One notable figure is cardiologist Dr. Richard W. Watts, M.D. born in Lakewood in 1921. He has detailed his remarkable life and career in his autobiography, “Odyssey of a Cardiologist,” and will be speaking about it at Lakewood Public Library.  
His childhood home was on Bunts Road across from Lakewood High School, where he watched teams play from the roof of his porch. We’ve all driven or walked on that street, I’m certain. It is humbling and inspiring that someone from our very neighborhood, from a house we can still pass by, went on to become a cardiologist and travel the world during a turbulent period of history. From Lakewood,

Dr. Watts has traveled the world and has lived quite an adventure. Specializing in cardiology, Dr. Watts graduated from Case Western Reserve University of Medicine and went on to join the Army Medical Corps at an army hospital in Tokyo from 1948 to 1950. Some of his responsibilities involved serving as a prison doctor for Japanese war criminals.  
He eventually returned to the United States and his impressive repertoire includes opening one of the first coronary care units in the nation at Fairview Hospital in 1964. Dr. Watts also helped establish one of the first paramedic programs in Northeast Ohio with the North Olmsted Fire Department in 1973. Additionally, he practiced internal medicine and cardiology at Kamm’s Corner and at Lakewood, Lutheran and Fairview Hospitals. Dr. Watts gives yearly presentations on the progress of car-

diology with nationally renowned experts. He has given medical talks in the Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan, Japan, Korea, Hong Kong and Australia, and will be speaking at our very own library! Come hear about this amazing life from the very man who lived it on Thursday, March 26 at 7 p.m. at the Main Library Auditorium.

## Wallace Coleman: The Best Friend Blues Could Have

by Michael Dirse

The blues have been around for over a century or more. That’s a long time. We tend to forget things that existed but a year ago much less anything from a century past. That is unless there is someone who becomes a spokesperson, an ambassador if you will for one of our most beloved forms of music. Someone who through sheer grit and determination insists on keeping something alive for others to reap its benefits.  
It is here that Wallace Coleman comes to mind. This suave and towering figure will pull up a chair, give a 4 count and deliver to us the blues with a casual presence that makes us feel confident that each and every note has seen the truth and will set us free. You see, for so

many, the blues is a forgotten art that we know is the foundation of every genre of music that has passed through its halls.  
But oh, the blues is sacred only in its own bed with only itself to comfort as time slips on and new sounds take its place in our lives. Worry not dear blues, you are safe and will live forever thanks to those who understand you and champion you and who remind us all of our roots and of our kindred connection to something far greater. Yes, sweet blues, you are still relevant in these crazy and complicated times thanks to the best friend you could ever have.  
Wallace Coleman performs here at The Lakewood Public Library March 29th at 2 p.m. in the Main Auditorium. We look forward to seeing everyone there.

## Outback Ray

by Marge Foley

The Lakewood Public Library is pleased to announce the upcoming performance of Outback Ray. Have your children ever seen a fennec fox, blue-tongued skink, or 13-foot python? Bring them to this educational and fun program and give them the opportunity to see these and other exotic animals.  
Outback Ray has had a passion for animals since he was a child and has been doing live animal shows since 1987. He has appeared on television, radio talk shows, and has trained animals for commercials. Outback Ray shares his knowledge with the audience

as he tells fascinating facts about each of his beloved animals.  
All of Outback Ray’s animals live in his home as pets and are given the greatest care possible. The animals are trained and handled daily to ensure the safety of the audience as well as the animals.  
Outback Ray will be entertaining families at the Lakewood Public Library on Saturday, March 21st. 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. Come see the animals up close and learn something, too.

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## Lakewood Schools

# LHS Artist Earns Regional Best In Show

by Christine Gordillo

LHS art students fared extremely well in the Ohio Governor's Youth Art Exhibition regional competition, led by senior Rachael Parks whose painting "Subway Blues" won Best in Show.

Judges received 1,500 entries from high school students across North-east Ohio and from those, 300 were selected to move on to state-level judging to determine which pieces of art will hang in the James A. Rhodes State Office Tower in Columbus during the months of April and May.

In addition to Parks' work, the artwork of 14 LHS students was chosen to move on to state judging next week. Senior Kaitlin Stanaitis' print "Mar-



Above: Senior Rachael Parks' "Subway Blues" painting won Best in Show of 1,500 entries.

Left: Senior Kaitlin Stanaitis' print of her cat "Marzipan" was selected as one of the top 25 best in the competition.



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#### DROWNING PREVENTION & EQUIPMENT AWARENESS CLASS

Date and time to be announced. This class will be held at the Bay Village Community Pool. Students will learn to properly fit and use personal flotation devices (PFD), upright and overturn sailboat, and learn other water safety skills.

#### ON-THE-WATER CLASSES

The on-the-water classes will be held on Mondays, June 15, 22 and 29, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m., at Whiskey Island Marina near Edgewater Park.

**Cost for entire program is \$20.**

Application available at [www.spiritofamerica95.org/cuyahoga](http://www.spiritofamerica95.org/cuyahoga) or email [cuyahoga@spiritofamerica95.org](mailto:cuyahoga@spiritofamerica95.org). Deadline April 24.

Sponsored by the Spirit of America Foundation and in association with the Bay Village Schools



This program is partially funded by the Safe Boating Education Grant from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources - Division of Watercraft.

## West Shore Culinary Team Rounds Up Regional Awards

by Christine Gordillo

Months of training and preparation paid off for West Shore Culinary students at the regional Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) competition on February 28. West Shore earned five Gold Awards and one Silver Award across four categories with the Senior Culinary Team of D'Nautica Davis and Katherine Renaudin also earning a spot in the State Competition this April in Columbus.

West Shore's Gold Award winners are: Senior Culinary Team – D'Nautica Davis and Katherine Renaudin. This dynamic duo competed as a two-person team against other three-person teams after learning their third team member would not be able to compete due to a family issue less than a week before the competition. D'Nautica and Katherine redistributed their work load and learned a new recipe in one week's time. Competing as a two-person team is the equivalent of playing tennis dou-

bles with just one person!

Junior Gabriel Antos in the Pastry Cake category.

Senior Sierra Henderson in the Pastry Tray category.

Junior Marlayna Fulkerson in the Pastry Tray category.

Junior Stephen Watkins in the Garde Manger category.

Receiving a Silver Award is the Junior Culinary Team of Shelby Hurd, Maxwell Masarik and Cameron Thompson.

Both culinary teams were required to demonstrate three different knife cuts and prepare four identical plates of the Appetizer, Entrée & Dessert from a FCCLA-determined menu within 90 minutes. Each Garde Manger competitor demonstrated three different knife cuts and created an appetizer-themed tray of two-three different items within 75 minutes.

"This year we earned more Gold

zipan" was selected among the Top 25 best pieces in the show. Several students had multiple pieces move on to Columbus. Senior Madeline Litkowski has four pieces advancing, Stanaitis has two and senior Cooper Robar has two moving on.

"I am thrilled with our showing," said LHS Art Department teacher and facilitator Amy Sedlak. "We've never had a Best in Show before."

From 12,000 regional entries from 15 regions, approximately 2,500 are selected to enter the state judging. State jurors then select 300 for the actual exhibition, with 25 of the 300 chosen to receive the Governor's Award of Excellence. Scholarships are offered to seniors by over 30 universities and colleges of art.

The Ohio Governor's Youth Art Exhibition, now in its 45th year, is open to all of Ohio's 1,112 high schools, both public and private. Its purpose is to provide all budding young artists of the state with opportunities to advance their talent, whether that be through scholarships or simply experiencing the process of entering their work in a competition.

Awards than we ever have received in our history of this competition. We are excited that our students showcased their skills and talents so superbly in such high pressure situations. Maintaining a level head while working under pressure will serve them well in their culinary career," commented Chef Instructor Devan Corti.

"We are especially proud of the students' 'off-field' behavior. Our students went beyond expectations in sportsmanship and maturity helping other teams with the packing of their equipment, friendly conversation and positive attitude. As always our success is because of all the support of the West Shore Career Technical Department and Administration," shared Chef Instructor Rob McGorray.

This year's regional competition was once again held at Cuyahoga Community College's Culinary Institute in downtown Cleveland.

## LHS Model UN Team Earns Most Awards

by Christine Gordillo

The Lakewood High School Model United Nations Club finished a close second (out of 18 competing schools) at the Spring Cleveland Council on World Affairs Model United Nations Conference held March 5-6. Lakewood won more awards than any other school and was runner-up to Orange High School, which earned a few more of the highest awards.

Junior Alex Figueroa, representing Guatemala in the Committee on Narcotics and Drugs, was the only delegate out of over 300 to win the "Gavel" for best in his committee while also winning the Superior Delegation Award (with sophomore Evan Suttell) and the Position Paper Award for his committee. Senior club President Renee Klann also won a Gavel, representing Denmark in the Economics and Social

Council, and the Position Paper Award.

Sophomores Rachel Daso and Zach Dudzik both won the Superior Delegation Award and the Position Paper Award representing Poland in the Human Rights Council. Senior Co-President Laert Fejzullari and sophomore Ian Bell won a Superior Delegation Award and the Position Paper Award representing Denmark in the UN Environmental Programme Committee. Honorable Mention awards were won by: Junior Co-Vice Presidents Kate McHugh and Tess Marjanovic representing France in the highly competitive Security Council; seniors Abby Shuga and Parker Smith representing Denmark in the Committee on the Status of Women; and freshmen Abe Dalisky and Kevin Cush

**continued on next page**

# Lakewood Schools

## LHS Academic Challenge Headed To Nationals Again

by Christine Gordillo

The Lakewood High Academic Challenge team has had a stellar season, topped off by its third straight invite to the National Academic Tournament. The team earned its third straight West Shore Conference Championship, finishing the regular season 7-0 and then going undefeated at the conference tournament with another 7-0 record. Over the past three seasons, the team has earned an astounding 27-1 record. This is the last season in the West Shore Conference for the team as the district becomes a member of the Southwestern Conference beginning next school year.

A highlight of the team's season was its victory over Strongsville and Massillon Jackson high schools in its round of the NewsChannel 5 Academic Challenge show, taped February 22.

## Rotary Recognizes 16 Outstanding West Shore Students

by Lynn Donaldson

West Shore Career-Technical District Outstanding Student Award recipients were honored by the Rotary Club of Lakewood and Rocky River at its noon luncheon on March 16 at the Don Umerley Civic Center.

The 16 students, top performers in their career-technical programs, were chosen for their exemplary accomplishments in the classroom, school activities, clubs, athletics and service in the community. Each student exemplifies traits of leadership, dedication, responsibility, caring, community involvement, and initiative.

"These West Shore students have achieved top results in the classroom and workplace," remarked Linda Thayer, West Shore Career-Technical District educational coordinator. "They have already started on their career path earning college credit, industry credentials, and workplace experience through their West Shore experience. This sets them apart from their peers as they head out into the post-secondary and workplace world."

Parents, employers, work supervisors and guests were among those in attendance. According to Rotarian Nancy Ralls, West Shore Career-Technical District career development coordinator, this is the 18th year the club has honored the Outstanding Student Award winners.

## LHS Model UN Team Earns Most Awards

**continued from previous page**

representing Germany in the World Health Organization.

Club adviser Chuck Greanoff is very happy with his club's showing: "Even though we didn't quite win the bowl as the top school, I have never been more proud of our club," he said. I'm especially pleased that we won four of the nine Position Paper awards — the students took the research seriously."

The show will air on News Channel 5 on May 2. The TV team was composed of senior Ben McKinsey, junior Robbie Fehrenbach and sophomore Ian Bell.

For the past two years, the team competed in the National Academic Tournament in Washington, D.C. This year, the team will travel to Chicago June 6-8 for the tournament. A finish in the top third of teams in last year's tournament earned Lakewood the right to return this spring.

Besides the three who competed on the TV show, other team members are varsity members Jamie Fesko, Alex Grunder, Renee Klann, Fox Milenski and Jon Pizzo. Junior varsity members are Kevin Cush, Abe Dalisky, Calvin Dolatowski, Brian Donaohoe, Seamus Holian, Erika Hakko, Damian Jouriles, Lucy Kress and Veronica Lee.

The Rotary club will present each student with a gift card and a plaque to honor their achievements at West Shore's annual Career Passport and Student Recognition Assembly on May 19. Each award recipient is automatically nominated to receive the "Career-Technical Student of the Year Award" which will be announced at West Shore's Career Passport and Student Recognition Assembly.

West Shore districts are Bay Village, Lakewood, Rocky River and Westlake. This year West Shore is serving 507 students in its workforce development programs.

The 2014-15 Outstanding Student Award recipients are: Alan Baker, automotive technology; Renee Klann, biotechnology; David Antz, business management; Sean Collins, community-based training at Bonne Bell; Colin Murphy, community-based training at Rae Ann; Marta Myers, community-based at the Marriott; Elijah Plumley, construction trades; Katherine Renaudin, culinary arts; Megan Knott, early childhood education; Darius Rogers, electronic technology; Mohamed Saed Alodat, health careers technology; Jacob Corder, interactive media; Ulmas Fayzulova, medical office management; Aaron Swartz, networking/Cisco; Laert Fejzullari, Project Lead the Way; Eric Van Keuls, service occupations training.

"This year's leadership group — Co-Presidents Charlotte Hisel, Laert Fejzullari and Renee Klann, along with Vice President Devon Chodzin — worked well together and led by example. The same is true of Vice Presidents Kate McHugh and Tess Marjanovic, who will join Evan Suttell, Ian Bell, Zach Dudzik and Alex Figueroa on next year's leadership group," Greanoff said.

## Ask Roxann Ramsey

by Roxann Ramsey,  
Assistant Superintendent  
Lakewood City Schools

**LO:** Parents of high school kids and middle school kids on their way to high school next Fall want to know how much longer the kids will be having to walk back and forth across Franklin Ave between classes to get to the modular units and back.

This has been especially difficult this year because, while other Lakewood school district kids are safe in their warm schools on sub-zero days, high school kids continue to be out in the weather all day long, some crossing more than 5 times a day, and with 6 minutes between classes, no matter where your class is, or what building it's in, they don't have time to put hats and gloves on.

**RR:** We are confident that by the



Fall of 2017, the modular units will no longer be necessary at Lakewood High School. There is a very small chance that we could open the new academic until by January of 2017, but the target is set for August of 2017 to begin the school year.

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Sports

# Ranger Season Ends At “Battle Of Lakewood”

by Mike Deneen

The Lakewood boys’ basketball team won its sectional at the OHSAA basketball tournament, setting up a district semifinal game against cross-town rival St. Edward on March 11. The matchup created a lot of interest since the two schools have not played in several years. The game, which took place at Brecksville-Broadview Heights High School, drew a huge crowd and significant online buzz. Lakewood fans were especially enthusiastic, as LHS students packed the student section for the game.

Unfortunately for Ranger fans, St. Ed’s took no prisoners in the long-awaited “Battle of Lakewood.” The defending state champion Eagles beat Lakewood 75-31 in a game that quickly got out of hand. As expected, the Eagles dominated the paint due to their size. However, they also used strong perimeter defense and court pressure to disrupt Lakewood’s backcourt and affect the Rangers’ three-point shooting. Eagle coach Eric Flannery, himself a Lakewood native, made defense of the Ranger backcourt a priority for his team.

St. Edward quickly set the tone for the evening, feeding the ball to 6’9” center Derek Funderburk down low in the first quarter. The Rangers (affectionately known as “the Runts from Bunts”) lacked any player over 6’3” in uniform. The Eagles took a 14-0 lead behind seven quick points from the junior standout. Lakewood didn’t score until nearly halfway through the first quarter, when Desmond Rollins put in a layup. Despite a late bucket by Ranger guard Malik Leisenger, the Eagles carried a commanding 22-4 lead at the first quarter

break. The Rangers tried to get back in the game behind a couple early second quarter baskets by Wes Gerhardt, but never got the lead to less than 14. Funderburk made an old-fashioned three point play (lay-in plus three throw) late in the 2nd quarter to give the Eagles a 28-8 halftime lead.

The second half started just like the first, with a scoring barrage from St. Edward. However, in the second half it was 6’7” senior Kip-

per Nichols leading the attack. He hit two three-point baskets in the first minute of the third quarter that extinguished any faint hopes of a Ranger comeback. Nichols scored 14 of his 16 points in the third quarter. The 6’1” Leisinger, who for much of the night had the inenviable task of guarding Funderburk in the Rangers zone defense, fouled out midway through the third quarter. With the game already decided, both teams

pulled their starters early in the fourth quarter.

Funderburk led all scorers with 17 points and was a major force on defense. His shot-blocking ability forced the Rangers to adjust, thereby resulting in many missed baskets. Jack Witri led the Rangers with nine points, including a pair of three-pointers. Another standout for Lakewood was the student section, which remained loud for the entire game.

## Rangers Sweep Parma To Win Sectional

by Mike Deneen

The St. Edward game was a bitter end to a nice playoff run for the Rangers. They defeated both Parma and Normandy on the way to winning the sectional title. The opening game was a hard-fought 62-58 victory over Parma at Harding Middle School. The game started slowly for the Rangers, who trailed 14-8 after the first quarter. However, their outside shooting heated up in the second quarter, giving the Rangers a nine point halftime lead. Parma made a run in the second half, but Lakewood held on to get the victory. Wes Gerhardt led the Rangers scoring with 17 points, with Joe Malone and Malik Leisenger contributing 13 and 12 points, respectively.

The Parma win set up a sectional championship game against Normandy. The Invaders, who had home court advantage for the game, were the higher-seeded team and had a bye in the first round. Not traditionally a basketball power, Normandy won the first Northeast Ohio Conference division title in the program’s history.

Although Normandy had a strong regular season, the Rangers took advantage of the Invaders’ playoff inexperience. Unlike Normandy, the Rangers had already played a tournament game and they had extensive playoff experience from last year’s tournament run. The teams battled toe-to-toe in the first quarter, which ended in a 19-19 tie. Lakewood missed a few three-point shots early in the quarter, but stayed in the game via some tough defense and by making steals. The Rangers, spurred by a pair of Leisinger three pointers, built a four point halftime lead.

The Rangers stretched their lead to as much as eight during the third quarter, but a late Invader surge cut the lead to two in the final minute of the quarter. Lakewood pulled away in a frenzied fourth quarter. The environment got so tense that one Normandy fan was ejected by the referee midway in the fourth quarter. Lakewood pulled away to complete a 69-54 win. Leisinger led the game in scoring with 26 points, including five key free-throws that sealed the game in the final two minutes. Gerhardt and Malone each contributed 11 and 10 points, respectively.

## Girls Hoops Eliminated By Westlake

by Mike Deneen

After winning their first two OHSAA tournament games, the Lakewood girls basketball team lost the district semifinal to Westlake at Elyria Catholic High School. The Demons beat the Rangers 42-36 in a defensive struggle.

Lakewood senior Madison Clause scored the first four points of the game, giving the Rangers a 4-0 lead. Lakewood held the lead throughout the first quarter, carrying an 11-8 edge into the first period break. The game remained tight throughout the second quarter, with ten lead changes. Senior Mikayla Harper scored seven points in the period, but Westlake took a narrow 24-22 lead into the locker room.

Things went awry for the Rangers in the third quarter. Both teams struggled to score through most of the period, with Westlake stretching the lead to 30-22 on a pair of three pointers. Lakewood struggled mightily with turnovers against a ramped-up Westlake defense. When Lakewood did get shots, they rimmed out. Sophomore Christina Kamkutis finally broke a seven minute scoring drought with a put-back layup with three minutes left in the third quarter. Lakewood’s aggressive defense kept the game from getting away, holding Westlake to a manageable ten point lead at the end of three quarters.

The fourth quarter also started slowly for the Rangers, and Westlake seemed to put the game away with two

unanswered buckets in the first three minutes of the period. The Rangers were down by 15 with only five minutes to play....and they had only scored two points in the previous 13 minutes. However, they pecked away at the Demon lead, getting it down to only six points with 43 seconds left in the game. Harper hit a three pointer inside the final 30 seconds to cut the lead to four, but Westlake was able to hold on for the victory.

Clause and Harper were the leading scorers for the Rangers, with 12 points each. Sophomore Ryann Greenfield contributed six points. Lakewood finished the season with a record of 17-7.

### BASKETBALL NEWS & NOTES

This season was the final year of competition for both boys and girls hoops in the West Shore Conference (WSC), where Lakewood has competed for the past three years. Lakewood, along with fellow WSC members Avon, North Ridgeville, and Midview, are moving to the Southwestern Conference (SWC) for 2015-16. Current SWC members include Amherst Steele, Avon Lake, Berea-Midpark, Brecksville-Broadview Heights, North Olmsted, Olmsted Falls, and Westlake.

Due to construction at Lakewood High School, this was the first basketball season played at Harding Middle School. The season went relatively smoothly at the facility, and it is expected to be used again next year.

## Making A Splash At State



photo by: Woodard Photography

by Christine Gordillo

Lakewood High sophomore swimmer Kelley Reis competed in the State Championship Tournament meet February 27 & 28. Reis finished 12th in the 100-yard-backstroke and set a new school record with a time of 57.77 seconds. She also swam 50-yard freestyle and finished 17th. Diver Allen VanHouten also qualified for the meet but had to withdraw due to an injury.

Lakewood Is Art

Buy Early & Save For Comedic  
“Lend Me A Tenor” At Beck Center

by Pat Miller

Beck Center for the Arts is pleased to present the classic farce, “Lend Me a Tenor,” March 27 through April 26, 2015 on the Mackey Main Stage. Show times are 8 p.m. Friday and Saturdays, and 3 p.m. Sundays. There are no performances on April 4 and 5; an 8 p.m. performance has been added on Thursday, April 23. Tickets are now on sale. Buy early and save with promo code: TENOR to receive \$5 off each adult/senior ticket purchased by March 26.

“Lend Me a Tenor” takes place in a zany 1930s hotel filled with

mistaken identities, misunderstanding, mixed signals, and doors...lots of doors. This comedy follows the fiery-tempered, world famous Italian superstar, Tito Merelli, as he arrives in Cleveland to make his debut with the local opera company. When Tito goes missing, the show’s producer must find ways to cover-up the absence, placate the superstar’s wife, and distract the passionate fans. Chaos of operatic proportions ensues! USA Today hailed “Lend Me a Tenor” as “Uproarious! Hysterical,” while Variety said there’s “nonstop laughter.”

“It is my great joy to direct this side-splitter again 23 years after my first encounter with it,” said Director Scott Spence. Originally produced at Beck Center in 1992, the current production stars Matthew Wright in the operatic role of Tito Merelli. Wright appears courtesy of the Actors’ Equity Association. “Lend Me A Tenor’ is a beautifully constructed piece of theatre that aims to do one thing---make you laugh. And laugh you will. Your ribs will actually be sore the next day, but it will be worth it!”

Tickets are \$29 for adults, \$26 for seniors (65 and older), and \$12 for students with a valid I.D. A \$3 service fee per ticket will be applied at time of purchase. Preview Night on Thursday, March 26 is \$10 with general admission seating. Group discounts are available for parties of four or more. Purchase tickets online at [beckcenter.org](http://beckcenter.org) or call

Customer Service at 216.521.2540 x10. Beck Center for the Arts is located at 17801 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood, just ten minutes west of downtown Cleveland. Free onsite parking is available.

This production of “Lend Me a Tenor” (Ludwig) is presented through special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc. It is generously sponsored by Cox Communications, The Dependable Painting Company, the residents of Cuyahoga County through Cuyahoga Arts and Culture, and the Ohio Arts Council.

*Beck Center for the Arts is a not-for-profit 501(c)3 organization that offers professional theater productions on two stages, arts education programming for all ages and abilities, including dance, music, theater, visual arts, and creative arts therapies for individuals with special needs, outreach education, and free gallery exhibitions.*



A stunning frost design on the photographer’s attic window.

Some Lakewood Photoart

by Alexander Belisle

As a recent addition to Lakewood from NYC where I was a member of their press corps (WSJournal, NYPost, BXTimes), NYFW photographer, and sports photographer for NIKE Basketball, I bought a beautiful Victorian home on Grace Ave. Needless to say, my wife who was raised here, is thrilled! So I decided to keep a Facebook photoblog/journal entitled “Catching the light in Lakewood.” (<https://www.facebook.com/alexbelisleinlakewood>).

I’ve taken a few photos while here (since January 9) but the one that has most intrigued me and close to 250+ viewers on Facebook is a photo of a frost design on one of my attic windows. It is so beautiful, it appears as if it was engraved on the glass and then frozen over but I checked repeatedly and it’s the work of Mother Nature. My question to her is, “How did you learn to draw so perfectly and with such grace?”

I’ve added the photo above.

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Lakewood Cares

Rotary Foundation Awards Nearly \$51,000 In Grants

by Lynn Donaldson

Nearly \$51,000 in grants from the Lakewood-Rocky River Rotary Foundation will be used to provide scholarships, recognize student achievement, purchase dictionaries for third graders, and help fund worthy programs by community organizations.

The awards focused on three main areas – community health and wellness, food and nutrition, and programs that encourage and foster youth leadership.

The Rotary Club of Lakewood and Rocky River will award \$10,000 in scholarships to high school seniors in May, and \$4,750 to student winners in the club’s annual speech, music and art competition at the Beck Center on March 30.

The Beck Center received \$3,000 for visual arts scholarships and Bike for Beck, and \$1,920 was used to continue the club’s commitment to provide a dictionary each year to every third grader in Lakewood and Rocky River.

Other grants for youth-related programs were awarded to: Mathew’s Lending Library, Recovery Resources, H2O (Help to Others), Bridge Avenue School, Girls with Sole, Magnificat High School, Lakewood Foundation Supplies 4 Success, and the American Youth Foundation programs at Lakewood and Rocky River high schools.

Lakewood Community Services Center received a \$3,350 grant for programs to help its clients move toward self-sufficiency. Cornucopia Inc. (Nature’s Bin) was awarded \$2,065 for its job training and placement program.

Additional community service grants were awarded to: North Coast Health Ministry, Barton Center, Providence House, Rocky River Senior

Center, Trinity Lutheran Community Outreach, Rocky River Assistance Program, Lakewood Foundation for the Commission on Aging, Lakewood Charitable Assistance Corp., and Meals on Wheels in Lakewood and Rocky River.

The club Foundation’s assets grow each year as the result of gifts, donations and bequests by members and friends of the club.

The local club was chartered in 1926. Rotary International is the world’s first service club organization, with more than 1.2 million members in 33,000 clubs in more than 160 countries worldwide. Rotary, along with its partners, has reduced polio cases by 99 percent worldwide since its first project to vaccinate children in the Philippines in 1979.

St. Mark Shave Event Looks To Raise \$50K

by Heidi Martin

The St. Baldrick’s Foundation, a volunteer-driven charity dedicated to raising money for childhood cancer research, will host one of its signature head-shaving events at St. Mark School in Cleveland on March 27, 2015, where more than 100 students, staff and parents will shave their heads in solidarity with kids with cancer and raise money to conquer childhood cancers.

St. Mark last year raised \$42,000 in its debut St. Baldrick shave event and this year organizers have set a goal of \$50,000 and are more than a third of the way to meeting that goal. Besides donations from individuals, area businesses such as Merry Arts and Quaker Steak & Lube in Lakewood are selling “lucky charms” to customers to post on the store walls. Participants are also

holding bake sales and restaurant fundraisers in support of St. Baldrick’s and the Shave Your Mane event.

“The response by our community businesses has been fantastic, whether it be an in-kind donation or willingness to sell our lucky charms,” said event coordinator and St. Mark parishioner Heidi Martin, who was inspired to stage last year’s St. Baldrick’s shave event by her nephew Gavin Cole, who died last year at 16 months from a rare pediatric cancer. Gavin will be an honoree this year along with Michael Orban, who passed away last year shortly after the St. Mark shave event, Shane Haddad, Alex Haylor and Liam Waldron, nephew of a St. Mark teacher.

This year’s event will be emceed by Mark “Munch” Bishop of ESPN Cleveland radio on WKNR-850. Rainbow Babies & Children’s Hospital oncologist and St. Baldrick’s Scholar Dr. Peter

deBlank will also be there to offer some insight into just how the dollars raised by St. Baldrick shave events impact cancer research and patients.

Worldwide a child is diagnosed with cancer every three minutes, and one in five children diagnosed in the U.S. will not survive. With only 4 percent of all federal cancer research funding dedicated to pediatric cancer research, St. Baldrick’s Foundation volunteers, supporters and donors are needed to continue the battle against this devastating disease.

If you would like to contribute to the St. Mark event, visit [www.stbaldricks.org](http://www.stbaldricks.org) and search for St. Mark Shave Your Mane on March 27. The event organizers are also seeking barbers and hair stylists to volunteer their time. Local hair establishments such as Lakewood’s Revelations have already committed stylists for the event. Interested, contact Heidi Martin at [Heidi.martin1119@gmail.com](mailto:Heidi.martin1119@gmail.com).

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER  
AT TRINITY CATHEDRAL



PHOTO CREDIT: TRACEY LIND

**PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 29**  
*The Very Rev. Tracey Lind, preaching*  
8 a.m. Early Eucharist  
9 a.m. Mostly Jazz Mass  
11:15 a.m. Choral Eucharist

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1**  
6 p.m. Tenebrae Service  
Couperin: *Leçons de ténèbres*  
Margaret Carpenter and Madeline Apple Healey, sopranos

**MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 2**  
12:10 p.m. Healing & Eucharist Service  
6 p.m. Last Supper, Potluck, Garden of Repose and All-Night Vigil

**GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 3**  
12 p.m. Solemn Liturgy  
1 p.m. Good Friday Blues & Lamentations  
Music by the Gateway Band  
1 p.m. Children’s Good Friday Program  
(Childcare available 12 – 2 p.m.)  
7:30 p.m. Good Friday Concert  
J.S. Bach: *Passion According to St. John*  
Trinity Cathedral Choir and the Trinity Consort  
Todd Wilson, conductor

**EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 5**  
6 a.m. The Great Vigil of Easter  
*The Very Rev. Tracey Lind, preaching*  
9 a.m. Contemporary Festival Eucharist  
Music by the Gateway Band  
*The Very Rev. Tracey Lind, preaching*  
10:10 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt for children grades preK-5  
11:15 a.m. Festival Eucharist  
The Trinity Cathedral Choir with brass and timpani  
*The Rt. Rev. Mark Hollingsworth, Jr., preaching*



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# Lakewood Cares

## Cleveland West Road Runners Starting A New Tradition

by Mark Brinich

Cleveland West Road Runners Club (CWRRC), one of Cleveland's oldest running clubs, is sponsoring the inaugural running of the "Spring in the Park Women's only 10K" on Sunday April 19th at 8 a.m. starting at South Mastick Picnic Area in Rocky River Reservation. The event celebrates the active woman, with a fast course on the newly paved road.

Race director Joanna Brell enthusiastically stated, "The CWRRC Spring in the Park Women's 10K means spring is here, so let's go for a run." While that may seem hard to fathom with this winter, the snow will be gone before you know it. Joanna went on to say, "The new Spring in the Park 10K creates a middle-distance race for women who love to run in the MetroParks, and brings together women runners of all ages and speeds who enjoy those early spring days in our Parks. A run in the park with girlfriends is one of the best ways I know of to welcome a new season."

In addition to the race, there will

be a happy hour at Second Sole (19341 Detroit Ave., Rocky River, OH 44116) with packet pick-up and registration on Friday April 17th from 5-8 p.m. featuring wine and finger foods from Grady's Fine Wines of Rocky River. Entrants will also get a 20% discount on shoes and apparel at Second Sole, a chance to meet up with fellow runners, and tips from yoga and fitness

instructors.

The race is chip-timed for accurate and timely results, and there will be refreshments at the end of the race. Awards include handmade necklaces for first place overall, master, and grand master winners. Additionally, there will be bracelets for the first four finishers in each age group.

Cost of the race is \$40 through

4/18, and \$45 on day of race 4/19; the first 300 registrants will get arm sleeves.

As is tradition for all CWRRC races, entrants 14 and under are free, but receive no swag.

More information, on-line registration, course map, and a pdf file for mail in registration are available at: [www.clewestrunningclub.org](http://www.clewestrunningclub.org).

## Tri-C Westshore Campus Offers Financial Aid Workshop

by Kristin Broka

The Westshore Campus of Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C®) will host a free financial aid workshop at 6 p.m. Thursday, March 26, to show the resources and options available to help pay for college.

The "Everyone Can Afford College" workshop will include panel discussions covering topics such as available scholarships, student loans, savings plans and financial aid eligibility requirements.

The event will be held in the atrium at Westshore Campus, 31001 Clemens Road in Westlake.

"At Tri-C, we understand how students and their families can struggle to pay for tuition and books," said Sarim Spetz, director of financial aid and scholarships at Westshore Campus. "This is why the College is committed to providing the resources needed to help students manage the maze of financial aid options."

Advance registration is requested for the workshop. Visit [www.tri-c.edu/financialaid](http://www.tri-c.edu/financialaid) to register.

For additional information, contact Spetz at 216-987-2031 or [sarim.spetz@tri-c.edu](mailto:sarim.spetz@tri-c.edu) or Karen Dickerson at 216-987-3897 or [karen.dickerson@tri-c.edu](mailto:karen.dickerson@tri-c.edu).

The event is being presented by Tri-C's Westshore Campus, College Now Greater Cleveland and Ameriprise Financial.

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Lakewood

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March 30 - Tenebrae, 7 PM

April 2 - Maundy Thursday, 7 PM

April 3 - Stations of the Cross, 3 PM

April 3 - Good Friday Service, 5 PM

April 4 - The Easter Vigil, 3 PM

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# Business News

## Polaris Westshore Career Fair

*by Kathy Augustine*

Cuyahoga Job and Family Services and Polaris Career Center will host the Eighth Annual Polaris/Westshore Neighborhood Family Service Center Career Fair on Wednesday, April 1, 2015, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Polaris Career Center, located at 7285 Old Oak Blvd in Middleburg Hts, Ohio, 44130, will host this event.

Free and open to the public, the fair is designed to foster the development of a competitive and productive workforce, while providing vital links between employers, job seekers, community organizations, and government agencies. More than 100 companies will gather to meet the needs of an estimated 600 job seekers. Representatives from Polaris

Career Center and local community based organizations will be on-hand providing access to educational resources, job search assistance, and much more.

The Career Fair is a collaborative effort between Cuyahoga Job and Family Services, Polaris Career Center, Westshore Neighborhood Family Service Center, Middleburg Hts. Chamber of Commerce, City of Middleburg Hts, Berea City School District, North Olmsted City School District, the City of Strongsville, WIRE-Net and the Lakewood Family Collaborative.

For additional information visit [www.polaris.edu](http://www.polaris.edu).

Registration for employers: <http://www.cjfs.cuyahogacounty.us/>.



Friends enjoy Frozen Yogurt together with the official Ambassador - Menchie- at O'Neill Healthcare Lakewood.

## Lakewood Menchie's Brings The Taste Of Spring To Residents

*by Sarah Rohland*

Spring is coming and residents at O'Neill Healthcare Lakewood celebrated the warmer weather with the sweet taste of frozen yogurt from Menchie's in Lakewood. Menchie's in Lakewood brought the party to us and provided delicious frozen yogurt cakes as well as a visit from their fun-loving Ambassador, Menchie! All in attendance had a great time and are ready for the warm weather to begin!

## Lakewood Collaborative Job Club Meeting

*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 March 31st, from 6-8 p.m. at the Lakewood Library. We will have a guest speaker and the topic will be Power Networking: the Dale Carnegie Way. 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.

For information contact Becky Carlton at [R.Carlton@csuohio.edu](mailto:R.Carlton@csuohio.edu) or 216-421-6685.

## Lakewood Fire Department Cools Off



Last week, Lakewood Fire Department chopped through 2' of ice to practice ice water rescues. They all took turns getting in the icy water and getting out and helping others get out as they would in rescue situations. Good work LFD!



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Opinion

# Response To: RTA’s “Harshes Critics”

by Eugene Kramer

As one who usually admires Jim O’Bryan’s journalistic efforts, I was especially disappointed in his February 3 “RTA’s 55 Ridden By Two Of RTA’s Harshes Critics.” Would a publisher select as his restaurant critic someone who never patronizes eating establishments but knows they all are bad, or a theater critic who claims to hate plays and never attends them? This piece just plays into the prejudices of those snobs who regard riding a bus or a train as beneath their economic or social status. And why would anyone who wants to report on public transit or the state of Downtown Cleveland choose December

30, of all days, as if it were a typical day? Try riding the bus and walking on Euclid Avenue on a normal weekday when the temperature is above zero and the experience would be quite a bit different.

How and to whom is the 55 line “now infamous?” Many people have long regarded that route as the premier service of Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority. Even before the advent of the new buses, shelters, and other improvements, the 55 line for decades has been providing affordable and reliable access for people in Lakewood to Downtown Cleveland and other points both west and east. One of the reasons for development of the improved system was to

address overcrowding and delays during rush hours. Service during non-rush hour periods would be more frequent if the federal and state governments had not been reducing for decades the level of operating support that used to be provided. (Ohio ranks near the bottom among the states in support of public transit, and a recent study commissioned by the Ohio Department of Transportation shows a very great need for increases in both capital and operating support on the part of the state government to meet the needs of the people throughout Ohio for improved public transportation service.)

Mr. O’Bryan should know that Lakewood was built around quick and

convenient public transportation on Detroit Avenue, Madison Avenue, and Clifton Boulevard. We would all be better off if streets that were built when more people regularly used public transportation were not clogged with parked cars. He should be aware also that the kind of young people who are now populating places like Lakewood and some areas of Cleveland and other urban areas are increasingly attracted to those areas by the ability to walk, use bicycles, and travel by public transportation. Lakewood can only benefit from increasing the availability of convenient and affordable service of the kind provided by GCRTA. We should work to find ways to restore local circulator bus service in the city to further reduce dependence on the automobile and to serve those who by reason of age or infirmity need that kind of service to get around.

The piece also suggests surprise that the buses are clean and comfortable and that the drivers are helpful and courteous. This does not come as news to those who use RTA regularly. Of course there sometimes are exceptions, but those generally are the fault of some of the riding public, just as driving can be made unpleasant, and even dangerous, by the actions of rude and ignorant drivers.

One of the most inexplicable claims made by Mr. O’Bryan concerns his and his companion’s inability to find a place to eat on Euclid Avenue. During my decades of experience of working in Downtown Cleveland, I have seen more changes than Mr. O’Bryan apparently has, and one of those changes is the large number of restaurants and eating establishments that one currently finds on Euclid Avenue and surrounding areas. Our intrepid travelers on their trek from East 23rd and Euclid Avenue to Public Square must have been so blinded by hunger that they failed to notice that about half the storefronts on Euclid near Cleveland State University are restaurants catering to students; that there are at least a dozen restaurants around Playhouse Square; and that from East 6th Street to Public Square to Public Square are at least twenty or more eating establishments, not even counting the great places on East Fourth Street and the Tower City restaurants and food court. Probably the last place anyone familiar with Downtown Cleveland would think of as a place to eat would be the casino.

Please spare us from any more pieces that play into suburban prejudices about public transit and Downtown Cleveland, both of which are critical to the future of Lakewood.

Gene Kramer is a 40-year Lakewood resident and an attorney with an office in Downtown Cleveland.

## Vision 2018: The American Youth Business Center Of Lakewood

by Michael Lauer

Optimism in the future for the investment of human capital resonates with absolute power from those citizens who lead with prudence, capacity, and resolve for its youth.

As a community, let’s continue to invest in human capital by exploring the idea of establishing the first American Youth Business Center of Lakewood to help reduce the unemployment rates and skills gap among our youth ages 16-24.

The Center for American Progress: “The High Cost of Youth Unemployment 2013” stated that unemployment is a major problem for our youth ages 16-24. They further stated that nearly 1 million young Americans who experienced long-term unemployment during the worst of the recession will lose more than \$20 billion in earnings over the next 10 years. Moreover, over the past several decades, employment and labor-force participation among American youth ages 16-24 have declined, while the unemployment rate for this group has risen.

A 2013 study commissioned by the White House Council on Community Solutions estimated that the fiscal cost of the 6.7 million American youth ages 16-24 who are neither working nor attending school is \$1.6 trillion over their lifetimes. The study also concluded that failing to create jobs for unemployed young people today will leave taxpayers with a huge bill down the road.

In September of 2009, The Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America: “Study Finds Correlation between Rapid Rise in Unemployment and Alcohol Abuse” found that a rapid rise in unemployment can be linked to an increase in suicides, homicides, and alcohol abuse.

On August 13, 2014, The Bureau of Labor Statistics released the “Employment and Unemployment among

Youth Summary.” The report mentions that unemployment among youth ages 16-24 rose by 913,000 from April to July 2014, compared with an increase of 692,000 for the same period in 2013. The number of unemployed youth ages 16-24 was 3.4 million in July 2014, down from 3.8 million a year earlier.

On March 15, 2014, Cuyahoga Community College co-hosted by David Pattinson’s American Future, a Washington, D.C. based youth unemployment advocacy group, discussed ways to lower high joblessness among teens and young adults. David Pattinson, founder and CEO of dpaf, said that he was pleasantly surprised that representatives from business and education wanted to work together in addressing the skills gap. Susan Muha, executive vice president of Tri-C’s workforce and economic development division mentioned it was important for educators to make sure that students are prepared to land jobs. Muha also mentioned that, unfortunately, resources were limited. “Instead of serving 100, how do we scale these programs up to serve 5,000?” Muha said.

Ronald Register, president of the Cleveland Heights-University Heights school board stated, “Schools have to do a better job of exposing students to careers and instilling in them that they do have viable options, especially those students who may not be college bound.” Melissa Yasinow, a Cleveland Heights Council woman said, “Successfully tackling high youth unemployment by addressing the skills gap will require evolving strategies.” Michelle McCall, CEO and Founder of BOLD Guidance said, “Because of the skills gap, it is often difficult to find jobseekers with at least some of the necessary skills.”

The American Youth Business Center can help reduce the skills gap and

the high unemployment among our youth ages 16-24 by providing employment and training for the community of Lakewood with quality, light industrial subcontracting services and youth apprenticeships on site.

Industrial subcontracting services at the Center would employ youth ages 16-24 in a facility that typically has less environmental impact than those associated with heavy industry, and zoning laws are more likely to permit light industry near residential areas. It is the production of small consumer goods that may include manufacturing of clothes, shoes, furniture, consumer electronics and home appliances. Light industries also require only a small amount of raw materials, area and power. Last, the value of the goods is low and they are easy to transport.

Youth Apprenticeships at the Center exists for the sole purpose of preparing students academically and technically to successfully participate in the workforce. It integrates school-based and work-based learning to instruct students in employability and occupational skills defined by the American Youth Business Center of Lakewood. Programs provide training and paid on-the-job work experience based on local youth apprenticeship guidelines, endorsed by local businesses and industries. Students are instructed by qualified teachers and skilled worksite mentors who also provide the knowledge and skills needed to progress within a youth support role. Areas covered include encouraging youth ages 16-18 in their personal, social and educational development.

Together, with a broad public consensus to support this effort, our community can successfully reduce the skills gap and unemployment for our youth.



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## Letters To The Editor

# Help Save Lakewood Hospital

by Tom Monahan

The punch in the gut to Lakewood residents by Mayor Mike Summers and the Cleveland Clinic has started a firestorm of concern for our oldest and dearest asset, Lakewood Hospital.

More than 1,000 employees and 52,000 residents were told on Jan. 15th that the hospital would be closed, sold and replaced with a 64,000 square foot family health center and free a standing emergency room.

This was after months of denials by both Mayor Summers and Council President Mary Louise Madigan. According to The Plain Dealer on Dec. 31st the city was alive with rumors about the possible closing and Council President Madigan said no decision had been made. She said that there would be some form of health care in Lakewood but did know what it would look like.

At four Meet-the-Mayor sessions, my wife, Marianne, asked Mayor Summers what was the status of the hospital. Each time he talked around the issue and gave no direct answer.

These are two of the three people who sit on the Lakewood Hospital Association Board. Both knew what was going on and refused to tell the citizens of Lakewood what the Clinic was planning. Mayor Summers has been on the LHA since being named and re-elected as Mayor. Council President Madigan has been on the LHA Board for several years. The third person is

Councilman Tom Bullock.

Lakewood Observer's Jim O'Bryan did a great job of exposing the cracks in the armor of the Lakewood Hospital Association, the Clinic and Mayor Summers' role in hiding the fact that there have been long-range plans to close the hospital.

It was disingenuous of our elected officials to say they knew nothing about the plans to shutter the hospital.

The Mayor and members of City Council were elected by and represent the people of Lakewood, not the Clinic.

At one of the earliest presentations by the city and the Clinic, a schematic of where the Clinic wants to put its "world class" family health center (aka office building) was unveiled. Those plans don't come about overnight.

In fact at various times the Mayor has said that they (Clinic and LHA), have been working on this plan for over two years, or on another occasion, for over three years.

So, the public's question is: "Who do you believe?"

Along with the bombshell announcement came a Letter of Intent (LOI), that is very lopsided and favors the Clinic in almost every aspect, and the Mayor wants Council to approve it.

The Clinic, in its LOI, has set the parameters for the agreement and leaves a few financial crumbs for the City, and no hospital to service us. Instead the Clinic has said that a new

health center will be the envy of the entire country, if not the world.

At the same time, the Clinic is building a 122-bed hospital in Avon to service 22,000 residents. That 122-bed number is significant because according to statistics that is the same number of beds Lakewood should have, instead of the 233 beds it now has.

One of the articles in the LOI states that the Clinic demands exclusive right to the city-owned land where it wants to build its family health center. No competing healthcare system can build anywhere near the planned healthcare facility. The city should not approve this possible restraint of trade to exclude competition -- by denying the approval of the LOI.

The long and short of this situation is that Council should reject this LOI and demand answers as to how the Mayor and the LHA got us into the situation that the Clinic has put us in.

There has been a refusal by the LHA and Mayor Summers to allow anyone to see the meeting minutes of the Hospital Association, saying they are not public records. How can they not be public records when you are dealing with a public hospital?

The Clinic in this case is a renter of our hospital, and they believe that they are the owner and will tell the city what to do.

Council should remind the Clinic that they came to us with a lease in 1996 that spelled out specifically what type of services the people of Lakewood needed and that they would provide. That lease will expire in 2026. If the Clinic had no intention of honoring that lease, they should tell us that upfront.

Lakewood Hospital is the only one of the 60 or so hospitals and healthcare facilities in the Clinic system that they do not own. In this proposed agreement the Clinic would own 2½ acres of prime real estate on which it will build its Family Health Center.

Because we firmly believe that Lakewood Hospital can be saved, a coalition of Lakewood citizens have formed a working committee to identify options and save our hospital as a fully-functioning, full-service community hospital here in our hometown.

"Save Lakewood Hospital" welcomes new participants. We invite your participation by attending meetings, learning about our options, sharing with your friends and neighbors and contributing time and expertise.

Our next meetings will be at the Lakewood Library (Detroit) Multi-Purpose Room on Saturday, March 21 at 4 p.m. Call Tom Monahan at 216-221-9202 for more information.

## Save Our Hospital:

# Degrading Our City

by Joe Gombarcik

With all the money that Lakewood gets, with the pride that Lakewood claims to have in this city, with all the desired growth in our neighborhoods; and, of course, with all the higher taxes, the community should never lose its main touchstone of progress: its full-service hospital!

It is the mark of a caring city, in touch with its people. This decision affects every part of our community, including our all-important school system, since it directly impacts the health and well-being of Lakewood children!

Some decision makers want to force away our hospital, an institution as solid as the dedicated staff which serves it. It is devastating to hear this downsizing proposal: ambulances have to travel three

times as far for emergencies, risking lives.

A smaller staff must cope with the same full-sized population which still depends on it for help. Good quality care requiring overnight testing will be virtually eliminated -- places like the "Gold Coast," Clifton Blvd, Lakewood High School will especially suffer -- and, worst of all, potential residents to our city will think twice before settling here, turning a growing city into a "quaint, backwater village." In time, we will lose residents.

It is a sad commentary on our leadership. Is this what higher property taxes bring us? This is usually a portent of worse trouble to come, like city cutbacks. We deserve a hospital, not a diminished service center. Now the words, "We can't do that here," will be heard much more often!

## Spring Into Savings, With Our Springtime Book Sale

continued from page 2

The Friends spend countless hours every week in preparation for our sales. The main sale takes place on Saturday, March 28, and lasts from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

With summer coming up, the Library is especially grateful for the Friends of the Library and for the time they put in. Their effort to bring you the best quality, at an insanely affordable price, is actually what funds all of the other programs we are so thrilled to be a part of here. Spring and summer

concerts are just around the corner, and there is so much to anticipate now the warmer season is finally upon us. We are looking forward to every single program, not to mention a little more sunshine here and there.

If you have any questions about our book sale, or any of the other fantastic programs coming up, please take a look at our website, <http://www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.org>, or ask one of our helpful and enthusiastic librarians.

Happy spring, everyone!

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Lakewood Living

# Who, What & Why – Key Players In A Real Estate Transaction

by Michelle Mehaffey Taylor

Ever wonder how many people are involved in a real estate transaction? Believe it or not, a typical sale today involves more than 20 steps and can require over a 100 different people. Less than 20 years ago, a property could be bought with a simple two-page contract. Today, there are better laws to protect the consumer, which include mandated disclosures; environmental and structural reports; and other legal documents that make a transaction more complex. Several professionals with different skills and expertise are needed to ensure that the buying and selling transaction goes smoothly, on schedule and conforming to the legal requirements. Whether your contemplating buying your first property or hundredth, it's a good idea to be familiar with some of the key players who

may work directly with you or behind the scenes.

**Mortgage Lender:** Is a company that provides home loans using its own money. The lender will also describe the terms of the loan and determines the monthly payments. Mortgage lenders offer many different types of mortgage products to fit the financial situation of the buyer. Examples are banks, saving and loans and mortgage bankers.

**Mortgage Underwriter:** This individual evaluates a loan application to determine if it meets the lender's standards.

**Realtor:** Is a licensed professional who is a member of the National Association of Realtors and upholds the standards of the association and its code of ethics. Realtors can represent Buyers, Sellers or both parties in a

transaction. They can provide knowledge of the local market, protect their client's interest, manage terms of the contract and resolve unexpected issues.

**Home Inspector:** A professional inspector determines the condition of all mechanical and structural aspects of a home. The inspection is a summary of the property's condition and may point out areas that need repair or attention in the future. A General Home Inspector may request additional experts for extenuating circumstances such as a Structural Engineer or Pest/Wood Inspector.

**Title Company:** A company that conducts a title search, which is research done to trace a title back to its original owner or back to some date dictated by statute. A title search is done before the sale of property to ensure that there are no competing claims.

**Appraiser:** An Appraisal is an objective, impartial opinion of property value in the market place as of a specific point in time. An appraisal protects both real estate buyers and lenders.

**Home Insurer:** Owners and buyers can purchase various types of insurance: hazard, private mortgage and earthquake. The policies guarantee compensation for specific losses.

**City Inspector:** Some cities require a Point of Sale inspection by the Building Department as a condition of title transfer. The City of Lakewood requires a Point of Sale on rental and commercial properties.

**County Recorder and Auditor:** To establish your clear title to the property, the deed and mortgage must be filed and recorded in the Recorder's office of the county where the property is located. The Auditor's office provides information regarding the taxable value of a home and real estate property taxes.

**Surveyor:** A licensed surveyor will provide a precise measurement of a piece of property if actual pin survey is required. In most transfers you will hear the term "ALTA survey" which does a general over view of property lines for encroachments and a drawing of the structures on the lot, but is not a pin survey.

*Michelle Mehaffey-Taylor is a Lakewood resident and licensed Realtor with Keller Williams EZ Sales Team - Michelle@EZSalesTeam.com; MyLakewoodLiving.com.*

## Lovin' The Lake House Cafe

by Ingrid Dickson & Irene Joyce

A "Sauce on the Side" reader recommended an original, comfortable place to enjoy breakfast, lunch, or dinner with an amazing view of Lake Erie. This out-of-the-way gem: The Lake House Cafe, is tucked quietly in the back of the Lake House Condominiums on Edgewater Drive. We Taster Twins stopped in for lunch on one of the coldest days of the year and found ourselves warmly welcomed and remarkably well-fed in a bright, clean dining room.

Nothing soothes the soul and warms the heart better than homemade chicken noodle soup, which was served immediately. Although the soup could have been a little hotter, we enjoyed the rich noodles and bountiful chicken and vegetables in a flavorful broth. Next up was the crispy-on-the-outside, tender on the inside calamari rings, served with a delightful Cajun/garlic/lemon mayonnaise sauce and traditional marinara sauce. The rings were large and plentiful, more than enough for three! We were exceedingly pleased with our savory, perfectly prepared entrees. The Lobster & Shrimp pasta in a blush, Alfredo based sauce was chock-full of succulent shrimp and luscious lobster. The Fresh Lake Erie perch was delicately breaded, making it moist and flaky, perfectly complemented by tasty pierogies with sautéed onions. As regular readers know, we do not pass on dessert. We finished off our lovely lunch with a bowl of housemade

rice pudding topped with an abundance of cinnamon and real whipped cream. Comfort food at its best!

Our food was excellent, but--believe it or not--it was not the best part of our meal! The service was beyond exceptional, attentive and friendly without being cloying or artificial. Our server, Patrick, was genuinely convivial while being totally efficient. He shared his knowledge about the menu and we were pleased with his recom-

mendations. Our beverages never went unfilled and our table was never left cluttered. He quickly and unobtrusively anticipated our every need, down to the last detail of offering us bags for our take-home containers. We have always said that outstanding service makes a good restaurant great. The delicious food and the marvelous view are reasons to come to The Lake House Cafe, but the extraordinary service is the best reason to return.

## Rotary Foundation To Award Four Scholarships

by Lynn Donaldson

The Lakewood/Rocky River Rotary Foundation is offering grants for study in any accredited post-high school educational institution. Four grants of \$2,500 will be awarded toward the cost of one year's tuition.

Applicants must be a member of the 2015 graduating class of any accredited high school and be a resident of Lakewood or Rocky River; have an academic rank in the top one-third of his/her high school class; have applied to a specific college, university, community or junior college, or trade or professional school; and have no direct relationship to a Rotarian or Honorary Rotarian.

Applications must be received by 3 p.m. Monday, April 13. The awards will

be presented on June 8.

Required information must be submitted on the application form that can be downloaded or completed online at <http://www.lakewoodrockyriverrotary.org>.

Guidelines for submitting the application, as well as other criteria, are included.



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continued on next page

Lakewood Living

Tenebrae - The Service Of Shadows

by Holly Shaheen

*“Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil...”*

When I first joined the Anglican Church, I felt a bit like a schoolchild who showed up for a vocabulary test and hadn’t been privy to the study materials. As someone who had attended church her entire life and felt well-educated, there was an element of unexpected culture shock. Thankfully I was not being graded, and I had teachers not only willing but excited to help me learn these new terms. I began to understand the foreign traditions, their roots in both scripture and the traditions of the ancient church, and they enriched my faith in new ways.

One of these learning experiences was the service of Tenebrae, which I attended for the first time last year. The word “tenebrae” is Latin for “darkness” or “shadows,” and it describes the service well. A tradition established during medieval times, Tenebrae takes place during Holy Week, occurring on different days of the week depending on the Christian denomination. Holy Week is full of traditions that are sensory – the washing of feet on Maundy Thursday, partaking in remembrance of the Last Supper, the songs of joy on Easter Sunday. Tenebrae is a very visual service, gradually plunging the congregation into darkness as it progresses.

Tenebrae, at its core, is a funeral



The shadowy Tenebrae service.

ceremony. A dark sanctuary is lit only by candles, and passages of scripture are read that address the suffering of Christ during the last days before his death. After each passage is read, a candle is put out. The candle holder is called a “hearse” – a triangular frame to convey death, not unlike the more recognizable definition of hearse. The candles are snuffed one by one, until a single candle remains. The pastor removes the candle and hides the light from it, so that the sanctuary is in total darkness. After several moments of darkness, a door is slammed, symbolizing the great earth-

quake that occurred at the resurrection of Christ. The last candle is returned to the altar of the church. The darkness has not prevailed.

The Bible speaks at great length about light, darkness and shadows. As a modern Christian, I find it difficult to focus on the dark aspects of Holy Week. I know how the story ends, I know that “the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.” (John 1:5) But by ignoring the suffering of Christ, by glossing over his temptation and his suffering, by not mourning his tribulations, I found

that I was missing out. Other than his humble birth, these passages of scripture are some of the best examples of the humanity of God. I may not have walked on water, but I have suffered pain. My priest, Rev. Sean Templeton, said it this way, “...we walk with Jesus through the shadows of anxiety and pain of Jesus’ betrayal, isolation, and death. As the candles are extinguished we’re plunged into the reality of death. But that is not the end. The reverse comes with the Easter Vigil as the hope and new life of Jesus shines forth.”

Tenebrae is an opportunity to mourn. I mourn not only the suffering of Christ, but that he needed to suffer on my behalf in order to provide a perfect redemption. I am grateful to have had this learning experience, and now cannot imagine a Holy Week without a Tenebrae service. My celebration of his miraculous resurrection can be richer by my participation in true mourning of his death.

*Lakewood Anglican Church will be holding a Tenebrae Service at 7 p.m., Monday, March 30th at 14560 Madison Avenue in Lakewood. All are welcome to attend. For more information regarding Holy Week services at Lakewood Anglican, visit [lakewoodanglican.com](http://lakewoodanglican.com) or email [office@lakewoodanglican.com](mailto:office@lakewoodanglican.com).*

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Tri-C Student From Lakewood Named Ohio's 2015 New Century Scholar

by John Horton

Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C®) student Hannah Kiraly has been named Ohio's 2015 New Century Scholar after posting the state's top application score among nominees to the All-USA Community College Academic Team.

The Lakewood resident is one of only 50 New Century Scholars from across the United States and American Samoa. More than 1,700 students from more than 1,000 community colleges were nominated for the honor.

Judges with the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society scholarship program considered grades, leadership, activi-

ties and — most importantly — how students extend their intellectual talents beyond the classroom.

Given that, it's easy to see how Kiraly rose to the top.

Kiraly spent the past year as president of the Chi Omega Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa at Tri-C's Western Campus in Parma. As leader of the 200-member group, she organized multiple community service projects, including a fundraiser with deep personal meaning.

Money raised at the chapter's fall haunted house went to the Alzheimer's Association. Kiraly's grandmother lives with the disease.

"You don't understand the impact on a family until you have been through it," Kiraly said. "My grandmother has influenced me in so many ways. I wanted to give back to the Alzheimer's Association, which has helped her."

Kiraly also ran for Tri-C's nationally ranked women's cross country and track teams and shaved nearly four minutes off of her personal best time in the 5,000-meter run.

Between those responsibilities, she also juggled part-time jobs to pay her tuition and developed her photography talents — all while earning stellar grades and making the dean's list every semester.

Kiraly will graduate from Tri-C in May with an Associate of Arts degree. She intends to continue her studies



Tri-C's Hannah Kiraly

and pursue a bachelor's degree in sustainable agriculture from Chatham University in Pittsburgh.

As Ohio's New Century Scholar, Kiraly will receive a \$2,000 scholarship and represent the state during the American Association of Community Colleges annual convention in April.

The New Century Scholars Program is sponsored by The Coca-Cola Foundation, The Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation, the American Association of Community Colleges and Phi Theta Kappa.

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Lakewood Living

Taking Care Of Your Home:

Six Home Repairs To Budget For

by Chris Bergin

So you’ve bought a new home, moved in, and are ready to be a home owner. If you are like many home owners, you will file away the report from your home inspection, never to be seen or read again. Experts suggest, however, that you prioritize needed repairs as identified in your home inspection report and set a budget and timeline to address any items. In addition, new home owners should budget and save 1-3% of their purchase price for future, yet-to-be identified repairs. Here are some common repairs that new home owners can expect in the first few years of home ownership.

Toilets: Let’s face it, the toilet is probably the most used fixture in your home. Over time the inner workings of the toilet will break down. When you hear the constant running of water it is time to replace the fill valve. Do it yourself and spend about \$25. Hire a plumber and expect to pay as much as \$200. Whichever path you take, do it soon, not only is the noise of a constantly running toilet annoying, but you are literally losing real money down the drain.

Faucets: While we are on the

topic of water, let’s tackle a leaky faucet. The constant dripping of a faucet can cost you big bucks in water bills if not repaired. Sometimes it is as simple as replacing old washers or an o-ring. Sometimes you may need to replace the faucet. If the repair is as simple as washers and o-rings your material costs will be a few dollars. If the faucet needs to be replaced the cost could go into the hundreds depending on the type and quality of the faucet. Hire a plumber and the cost could climb by another \$100 or more per hour of work.

Ceiling Fans: Constant use of your fan adds wear and tear to the motor and at some point it will need to be replaced. If you have expensive tastes expect to spend over \$1000 for a new fan. Some basic models can be purchased for under \$100. If you do not have the skills to do it yourself add another \$75-200 to have an electrician or handyman install it.

Plaster & Drywall: At some point you will have damage to a wall or ceiling. If you have the skill, patching and painting are inexpensive. You’ll be able to do it yourself for less than \$100. Professional painters will either charge you by the hour or per

square foot. Expect to pay up to \$60 an hour for a pro, and budget, for an average size repair, about 4 hours--the painter will need to patch, sand, prime, and paint and of course allow for dry time in between.

Caulk, Caulk, and more Caulk: Caulking is the water proof seal you’ll find around sinks, showers, tubs, and countertops. Over time caulk can dry out, crack, and peel away from the surface you are trying to keep dry. Removing old caulk is fairly easy and straight-forward. Resealing with new caulk can take some skill and patience. Consider practicing first to get the hang of it or hire a handyman to tackle the job. A handyman may charge upwards of \$100.

Windows: Over time window glazing and sash cords will deteriorate from exposure to the weather and from use. If you have some basic tools and skill you can re-glaze your windows and repair broken sash cords yourself. With this repair however, you’ll probably want to hire a pro. A handyman who has experience with window repairs can often complete this job in a fraction of the time it takes a novice home owner. And the quality of the work will often be supe-

rior. Budget to spend at least \$75 an hour for a pro, and plan for at least a few hours per window.

These are just a few home repairs to plan and budget for over time. If you are disciplined and budget properly you’ll be prepared to tackle these and other repairs as they arise.

Chris Bergin is a licensed real estate agent with Berkshire Hathaway Lucien Realty in Lakewood and can be reached at [Chris@ChrisBergin.com](mailto:Chris@ChrisBergin.com).

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Around the Corner, 18616 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood

RSVP [Info@NortheastOhioAgent.com](mailto:Info@NortheastOhioAgent.com), or 216.650.0365 (text or call)

Register soon, seating is limited

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LAKEWOODITES

ROB MASEK

HAPPY SUNSHINE WEEK! A NATIONAL INITIATIVE CREATED BY THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF NEWS EDITORS TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF AN OPEN GOVERNMENT AND THE DANGERS OF EXCESSIVE AND UNNECESSARY SECRECY.

DURING SUNSHINE WEEK, HUNDREDS OF ORGANIZATIONS ENGAGE IN PUBLIC DISCUSSION ABOUT THIS VERY IMPORTANT TOPIC THROUGH NEWS ARTICLES, OPINION COLUMNS, BLOGS, EDITORIAL CARTOONS AND PUBLIC SEMINARS.

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