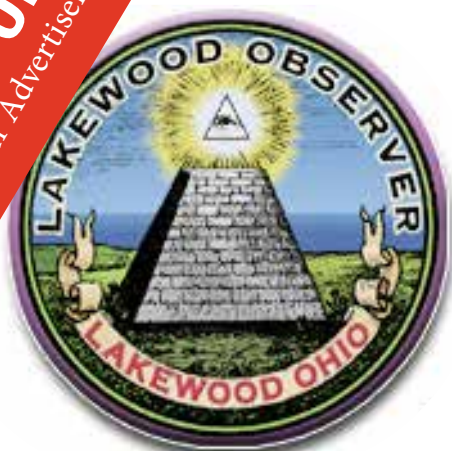


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Miguel De Unamuno

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Volume 12, Issue 2, January 19, 2016

Cleveland Clinic Announces End Date For Inpatient Services At Lakewood Hospital

Lakewood Hospital to End Inpatient Services in February; Emergency Department to Stay Open; Construction of New Facility to Begin in 4th Quarter 2016

by Heather Phillips & Angie Smith, CCF

Following Lakewood City Council's unanimous approval last month of a new Master Agreement between the City of Lakewood, Lakewood Hospital Association and Cleveland Clinic to bring in a new era of health-care to Lakewood, Cleveland Clinic is moving forward with changes to Lakewood's healthcare landscape and

announcing key details, including:

Inpatient services (those requiring an overnight stay) will begin transitioning out of Lakewood Hospital throughout the month of January and will end on Feb. 5, 2016.

The current emergency department at Lakewood Hospital will remain open and available 24/7/365 until the new family health center - with its own emergency

department - opens.

Construction of the new \$34 million, 62,000-square-foot family health center is planned to begin during the 4th quarter of 2016, at the southwest corner of Belle and Detroit avenues, across the

street from the hospital. The new facility is expected to open in mid-2018.

All (860) Lakewood Hospital employees are being offered jobs within the Cleveland Clinic health system. Approximately 200 of these

employees will continue to work in the emergency department and the outpatient services that will remain at Lakewood Hospital until the new family health center

continued on page 6

Diversity Potluck! Bon Appetit: Celebrating Diversity In Lakewood

by Bernadette Elston

The City of Lakewood Community Relations Advisory Commission is hosting its annual Diversity Potluck. Join your neighbors and friends at this family-friendly event which celebrates the diversity we know and enjoy in Lakewood. This exciting and fun event will take place Thursday January 21st, 2016 from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Women's Pavilion at Lakewood Park. Please bring a dish to share with 6-8 people which represents your family, cultural, or ethnic background. We are also collecting socks for our new refugee/immi-

grant friends and neighbors on behalf of Community West Foundation - so bring some!

State representative Nickie Antonio will be present, as well as representatives who do so much for refugee/transitioning individuals. Participating agencies include Community West Foundation, and Refugee Services Collaborative. It's always a good time, and we'd love to have you!

Bernadette Elston is a member of the city of Lakewood Community Relations Advisory Commission and an (almost) ten-year resident of the wonderful city of Lakewood.

RNC Host Committee Vice Chair Joe Roman Kicks Off Chamber Speaker Series

by Valerie Mechenbier

On January 22nd, 2016, the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce will host a luncheon with Mr. Joseph Roman, CEO & President of the Greater Cleveland Partnership and Vice Chair of the 2016 Republican National Convention Host Committee. Mr. Roman's presentation is titled "Your Business, Your Community

and the 2016 RNC."

The Republican National Convention expects to welcome an estimated 50,000 visitors, delegates and media to Cleveland. How can Lakewood participate in the activities surrounding the RNC? How can our community attract some of the visiting spectators, delegates, and media? What's the best way to bring RNC attend-

ees into Lakewood to shop & dine? Bring your questions to this event and learn first-hand about how to raise the visibility of your business.

Save these dates for the remaining events in the 2016 Speaker Series: Friday, April 15th: Stephanie Sheldon, CEO & Founder of The Cleveland

continued on page 12



The LHS swim team scored a win against Avon Lake, making both swimming and diving 7-1.

LHS Swim Teams Enjoying Near Perfect Season

by Christine Gordillo

The Lakewood High School boys' and girls' swimming and diving teams are enjoying their best season in years as three-quarters of the way through the season both have suffered only a single loss with 8-1 records. Both teams have seen a big turnaround from last season, when the boys went 4-5 and the girls 5-4.

Coach Allison Davila, in her third season with the Rangers, attributes the improvement from last year to good old hard work and a deeper talent pool that gives her more choices when planning her lineup.

"The swimmers have really stepped up their dedication," said Davila, who had her teams swimming four hours a day, four days a week over Winter Break. "We also have a lot more depth to the team and people are stepping up when needed. We have people that are able to swim multiple events when needed and who gain points where we used to have no one to fill the spots."

A larger, more skilled team has also allowed the coach to field more than just one team in the relay events, bringing in more points from the "B" relay teams and for the girls, even the "C" relays.

On the girls' team, Davila

relies on a solid core of veterans to provide consistency in points and leadership for the large group of new team members. That core includes senior Cate Schleckman, juniors Melina Lawrence, Maggie McHugh, Julia Neff, Kelley Reis - a State qualifier last year - and sophomore Ellen Riddle. "These ladies can all be flexible (with events) when needed," she said.

On the boys' team, Davila points to juniors Nick Ferrone, Evan Gainous and Preston Polen and sophomore Colman McGuan. That foursome is a little more than two seconds shy of breaking a decades-old team record in the 200-yard freestyle relay.

The swimmers Davila mentioned all earned their swimming stripes at various times with the Lakewood Rangers Swim Team, one of the many team programs of the Community Recreation

continued on page 4

LO Calendar

Wednesday, January 20

Mental Health & Aging: Creating a Compassionate Community

8:00 AM - 9:30 AM

Mental health issues for seniors aren't typically topics that get much coverage. That's one of the reasons Lakewood Senior Collaborative is hosting a panel discussion: to talk about it. Mental Health & Aging: Creating a Compassionate Community will also highlight trends and available resources.

Location: Lakewood Park Women's Pavilion, 14532 Lake Ave, Lakewood, OH 44107

Fun and Games

12:30 PM

College Club West will continue its monthly gathering. Take the opportunity to unwind after the holiday rush and meet new friends at a social gathering involving board games and cards. In addition to the monthly meetings, there are 39 smaller and varied special interest groups that meet separately. These smaller groups include tech connect, genealogy research, French, golf and bowling leagues to name a few. Membership is open to women who have a bachelor's degree. New members are welcome. Information can be found at www.collegeclubwest.org

Location: Umerley Civic Center, 21016 Hilliard Blvd, Rocky River

Thursday, January 21

Lakewood Community Relations Advisory Commission's annual Diversity Potluck!

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

The Lakewood Community Relations Advisory Commission is hosting its annual Diversity Potluck. We have a great time at this family-friendly and fun event. Nickie Antonio will be there as well as guest speakers from the Refugees Services Collaborative and Community West Foundation. Bring a dish to share as we dine on delicious dishes that represent our city's impressive diversity -all while Vibrant Wind dancers (belly dancers) show you how to whittle your waist in a fun way! We are also collaborating with Community West's sock drive, so please bring a fresh pair of socks to donate! GOOD FOOD, GOOD COMMUNITY, GOOD FUN!

Location: Lakewood Park Women's Pavilion

Monday, January 25

Hospice of the Western Reserve Volunteer Education Series

8:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Hospice of the Western Reserve is seeking volunteers to assist in private residences, nursing homes, assisted living communities, our two Hospice House locations, and hospital settings. As a vital part of Hospice of the Western Reserve's team, volunteers come from all walks of life and have a variety of skills, talents and abilities. Opportunities to serve are diverse: visit patients and families to provide companionship, socialization, and comfort; help with legacy work, transportation, light housework, and meal preparation; run errands; make phone calls; help with clerical work; attend health fairs; make presentations. Volunteers with specialized professional qualifications and training are also needed: attorneys, licensed hair dressers, massotherapists, pet therapy dogs and their handlers.

The next series of volunteer classes will be held at Hospice of the Western Reserve, Great Lakes Conference Room, 300 East 185th Street, Cleveland, 44119, on Mondays and Thursdays, January 25, 28, February 1 and 4, from 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Non-clinical volunteers attend only the first four hours on January 25, while most other volunteers attend all classes. Pre-registration is required. For more information, or to register, call the volunteer team at 800.707.8922 ext. 6881. It is required to wait 12 months after experiencing a significant loss before volunteering directly with patients.

Location: Hospice of the Western Reserve, Great Lakes Conference Room, 300 East 185th Street, Cleveland, 44119

Wednesday, January 27

Foster Care and Adoption Orientation Training

5:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Come join us for the first session of Foster Care and Adoption training to learn about opening your heart and home to children in need.

Location: National Youth Advocate Program, 1384 W. 117th St., Lakewood Ohio 44107

All Lives (Should) Matter

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

The Northeast Ohio Chapter of Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ) announces a public meeting entitled All Lives (Should) Matter on Wednesday, January 27, 2016 from 7-9 p.m.

Coming on the heels of recent events in the Tamir Rice case, this informational meeting will provide an opportunity to listen, learn, and ask questions about race related movements in our society and how white people can support racial justice. The presenters include: Avery Martens and Bridget Walland of Northeast Ohio SURJ and Erin Heaney, National Organizing Director of SURJ.

Location: West Shore Unitarian Universalist Church, 20401 Hilliard Boulevard, Rocky River, OH.

Thursday, January 28

Thomas Merton - Stories from the Road

7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

James Nagel, actor and playwright, will present a portrayal of the life and spiritual journey of Thomas Merton. Thomas Merton was a twentieth-century Trappist monk. He was also a bestselling author and was known as a poet, social activist and student of comparative religion. He was one of several people mentioned by Pope Francis during his visit to the United States. The performance will be held at St. Luke Church located at 1212 Bunts Road, in Lakewood on Thursday, January 28th at 7:00 pm. A good will offering will be appreciated.

Location: St. Luke Church, 1212 Bunts Road, Lakewood, OH 44107

Friday, January 29

Rx:Create!

6:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Art comes in many different forms, and at Rx: Create! 2016, you'll have the opportunity to win a unique piece of local art – and support health care in our community. Last year's event was a huge success and we're hoping you'll break out of the winter blues and join us for a laid back evening of art appreciation!

Same great event in a new venue!
Advance purchase: \$22
Day-of-event (if available): \$25

Location: Vosh,1414 Riverside Drive, Lakewood

Saturday, January 30

Magic Gives Back, Magic Show

7:00 PM

Las Vegas style magic show to benefit Garfield Middle School. Open to the public. Come see an amazing show with World renowned Magician and Guinness World Record holder, Rick Smith Jr and so much more. Tickets on sale now at magicgivesback.com

Location: Lakewood Civic Auditorium

Remember When Soiree Hosted by YPalz

(Young Professionals of the Alzheimer's Association)

8:00 PM - 12:00 PM

YPalz (Young Professionals of the Alzheimer's Association) will host its inaugural fundraising event Remember When Soirée on Saturday, January 30 at 8 p.m. The event will help raise awareness and critical funds for Alzheimer's care, support and research. The soirée, presented by Epiq Agency, will be a memorable evening complete with cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and raffles. A photo booth will be provided by T-time Photo Booth. Notable raffle items include a Great Lakes tailgate package (including trailer, television, grill, etc.), Cavs and Playhouse Square tickets. Music will be provided by DJ Fredi Mak.

Individual tickets are \$85 per person (\$33 tax deductible) but can be purchased for \$75 before January 1st (\$23 tax deductible). Admission includes hors d'oeuvres and unlimited drinks. For more information about tickets and sponsorship opportunities, please contact Donor and Events Manager, Kelly Needham at kneedham@alz.org or 216.342.5581.

Location: Lago Custom Events Riviera Ballroom located in the Aloft Hotel in the East Bank of the Flats



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Upcoming Submission Deadline

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February 7, 2016

Publish Date

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City News

New Year Brings New Leadership

The first Council meeting of 2016 was called to order by the longest serving Councilperson, Tom Bullock (At-Large), on the night of January 4 at 7:30 p.m. With no current Council President, the duty of chairing the meeting until one can be elected falls to the longest serving Council member, or in the case of this meeting, his designee. Immediately after calling the meeting to order, Councilman Bullock turned the gavel over to Councilman Sam O’Leary (Ward II).

The first item on the agenda was the election of Council President and Vice President. Taken in that order, Councilwoman Cindy Marx (At-Large) nominated Councilman O’Leary for the presidency. With no further nominations, Council then proceeded to elect Councilman O’Leary as President. Next, President O’Leary accepted nominations for Vice President. He nominated Councilman David Anderson (Ward 1). No other nominations were offered and Council proceeded to elect Anderson to the post.

The next item on the agenda was a communication from Councilman Bullock in regards to two Council organizational items. The first was to decide on a date the Council can meet to discuss the year’s agenda and organization for Council. The second item was for Council to begin discussions on

by Christopher Bindel



Ward 3 Councilman John Litten gets sworn into office by Municipal Judge Patrick Carroll at his home, as his family looks on.

how to best communicate with the citizens of Lakewood what is specifically happening during each of the stages of implementation of the Lakewood Hospital Master Plan and how it will affect them.

Council received and filed the communication.

The next several items on the agenda were open for Council appointments to different boards and commissions. Council referred all these to the Committee of the Whole, the committee that includes all members of Council, to discuss who they

should appoint to fill these positions. The openings include positions on the Civil Service Commission, the Nuisance Abatement Appeals Board, and three appointments for the Lakewood Hospital Association Governing Board (LHA). One of the LHA appointments is for a community member and the other two are to be filled by members of Council.

Councilman Bullock asked if, considering the changing nature of the relationship between the City and the Hospital, filling the vacant seats on the Lakewood Hospital Governing Board

was necessary. Council President O’Leary referred the question to the Law Director, Kevin Butler. Director Butler said that at this time of transition it is still important to have City Officials and community members on the board as the Hospital is still in operation and decisions will need to be made. In addition, things may come up that could impact the Master Agreement, including possible amendments. Therefore, having those representatives on the Board is advantageous, he said. Because the Board is still currently an active Board, Director Butler advised that the seats need to be filled.

The last item on the agenda was a proposed resolution that would approve an economic loan. The former Christian Scientist Building at 15422 Detroit Avenue has been vacant since 2009. A company called Roundstone Management is interested in the property; however, though the building is structurally sound, it requires upgrades to be used productively again. Roundstone plans to invest an estimated \$500,000 into rehabilitating the property. The City is offering a \$50,000 economic development loan that will help in assisting with the physical improvements to the interior and exterior of the building. This is being offered

continued on page 5

A Message to the Lakewood Community

For the past year, the City of Lakewood has been carefully discussing the need to ensure there is sustainable healthcare for the long term to meet the changing health needs of its residents.

In December, the Lakewood City Council unanimously approved the Master Agreement among the City of Lakewood, Lakewood Hospital Association and Cleveland Clinic to bring in a new era of healthcare to the city of Lakewood.

We appreciate this opportunity to continue to be the leading healthcare provider for Lakewood.

After thoughtful consideration, here is what you need to know about plans moving forward:

- Inpatient services (those that require an overnight stay) will end on February 5, 2016.
- The current Emergency Department will remain open as a full-service department, 24 hours a day, seven days a week to provide care for you and your family through mid-2018.
- We plan to break ground on the new \$34 million, 62,000 sq. ft. family health center in 4th quarter 2016. The new facility will feature a full-service, leading edge Emergency Department when it opens, which is anticipated to occur in mid-2018.

- Several outpatient services will continue to be provided at Lakewood Hospital until the new family health center opens:
 - Lab Services
 - Radiology
 - Cardiovascular Testing
 - Chronic Care Clinic
 - Diabetes Center
 - Teen Health Center
 - Senior Assessment Center
 - Women’s Center
 - Physical Therapy (In YMCA)
- We value our dedicated employees and each one is being offered a job within our health system.

For the latest updates about healthcare in Lakewood, please visit our website at ClevelandClinic.org/Lakewood.

Yours in good health,
Cleveland Clinic

Cleveland Clinic

Every life deserves world class care.

City News

2016 Kiwanis Pizza Bake Off

by David Norton

15 Pizza Vendors + 55" HD TV = Kiwanis Pizza Bake Off 2016

Yes, it's a Leap Year, so why not leap into Lakewood High School on January 21 and enjoy all you can eat pizza at the fourth annual Pizza Bake Off? Besides a full tummy, this year, you could also go home with a 55" Samsung HD Smart TV!

Fifteen of Lakewood's finest pizzerias will set up shop and offer slices of their products. Customers may return for as many samples as they can eat from as many stands as they wish. Coffee and a soft drink are included with your ticket.

Kiwanis will also raffle off a 55" HD TV! Raffle tickets are on sale now for \$5, or a special sale price of 5 tickets for \$20. The winner of the TV will be drawn at the Bake Off.

Due to extensive construction, the Pizza Bake Off will take place

in the west wing of Lakewood High School from 5 to 8 p.m. Tickets, available from LHS Key Club members, Kiwanis members, or at the door, are priced at \$10 for adults, \$5 for children age 6 to 12, and ages 5 and under are free. As always, all proceeds will stay in the city to support Lakewood Kiwanis programs for families and children in Lakewood. This year, the proceeds are designated to support development of an art and music therapy program partnership between Lakewood Recreation Department and the Beck Center for the Arts for children ages 6 to 13 with special needs.

Customers will be invited to vote for their favorites in five categories: People's Choice Pizza (overall best), Best Pepperoni Pizza, and Best Specialty Pizza, Best Franchise Pizza and Best Franchise Pepperoni.

Come and support our local piz-

zerias, vote for your favorites, and support Lakewood Kiwanis charities!

The establishments participating in the Bake Off are:

**Angelo's Pizza, 13715 Madison Ave.
Pizza BOGO, 15320 Detroit Ave.
Dewey's Pizza, 18516 Detroit Ave.
Domino's Pizza, 15315 Detroit Ave.
Donato's Pizza, 18100 Detroit Ave.
Hungry Howie's Pizza, 16210 Detroit Ave.**

**Italian Creations, 16104 Madison Ave.
Marco's Pizza, 14871 Detroit Ave.
Mama Lola's Pizza, 16813 Madison Ave.
Nunzio's Pizzeria, 17615 Detroit Ave.
Papa John's, 18400 Detroit Ave.
Papa Nick's Pizza, 11534 Clifton Ave.
Pepper's Italian Restaurant, 12401 Detroit Ave.
Pizza Hut, 1407 W. 117th St.
Roman Fountain Pizza, 15603 Detroit Ave.**

LHS Swim Teams Enjoying Near Perfect Season



photo by Clare Ciolli

Junior Emma Bressler

continued from page 1

and Education Department.

Davila is thrilled that the hard work she and assistant coach Adam Roark have seen consistently over the season is paying off.

"I feel as though our team works very hard when they are exhausted and feel like they have nothing left and then they surprise me meet after meet, and go best times or win unexpectedly," she said. "I am excited to see where this team goes this season."



photo by Clare Ciolli

Senior Maggie Kemp



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Lakewood Public Library

LPL Calendar Of Events

compiled by Elaine Rosenberger

Thursday, January 21

Booked For Murder: Murder in Motion

Lovers of mystery take to the skies, seas and rails this season. This Thursday’s book is “Mystery in White” by J. Jefferson Farjeon.
7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Meeting Room

Saturday, January 23

“Catch-22”

(1970) directed by Mike Nichols

After the critical and commercial success of The Graduate (1967), Mike Nichols and writer-actor Buck Henry teamed up again to adapt Joseph Heller’s satiric World War II novel for the Vietnam generation. The all-star cast includes Alan Arkin, Orson Welles, Art Garfunkel, Martin Sheen, Bob Newhart, and Jon Voight. Alan Arkin gives the best performance of his career as Captain Yossarian, a bombardier stationed in Italy who has come to the all-too-sane conclusion that he has to get out of the war because people are trying to kill him.
6:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

Sunday, January 24

Lakewood’s Tree Canopy

The tree canopy is the layer of leaves and branches that cover the ground when viewed from above. An analysis of Lakewood’s canopy shows more than a thousand acres of the city covered by trees. Representatives of the City of Lakewood Forestry Department and the Keep Lakewood Beautiful Tree Committee invite you to learn more about their work to increase the city’s canopy by ten percent over the next ten years. Whether you’re a business owner or a concerned resident, you can help Lakewood thrive economically and aesthetically.
2:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

Tuesday, January 26

Introduction to Ancestry: Library Edition

The Ancestry genealogy resource is free to use every day at the Library. 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. Space is limited, however, you are welcome to register with a partner and share a computer. Call (216) 226-8275, ext. 127 to register.
6:00 p.m. in the Main Library Learning Lab

Thursday, January 28

Meet the Author: “Father’s Day”

by Steven Wolotsky

Social worker Steven Wolotsky’s first novel is the story of Chaim Josef Singerman, a thirty-year-old man who inherits a fortune amassed by his father, a Holocaust survivor. His strange, wonderful journey begins in 1978. With all the money he could ever need, Chaim mysteriously chooses to move into a lower class, African American neighborhood. For the next twenty-five years he encounters betrayal, racial animosity and social ostracism on a regular basis. His very existence becomes threatened by his noble social experiment. Quixotic, innocent, and vulnerable, will Chaim survive? The answer is not entirely revealed until the very end of this heart-warming narrative of parental love. Books will be available for sale and signing at the event.
7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

Saturday, January 30

“All About Eve”

(1950) directed by Joseph L. Mankiewicz

The incomparable Bette Davis brought her stalled career roaring back to life with a star turn as Margo Channing in this back-stabbing backstage melodrama, nominated for a record fourteen Academy Awards. Surprisingly, the acid-tongued Davis does not play the backstabber. Margo worries that the sweet little war-widow she’s taken under her wing is trying to steal her career, her man and even her friends. One of the most sparkingly witty scripts ever written realizes its full potential in this perfect production.
6:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

Sunday, January 31

Great Lakes Light Opera: Gilbert and Sullivan

Gilbert and Sullivan had one of the most dynamic partnerships in the history of the theater with fourteen comic operas that were all the rage in Victorian England and are still just as hilarious today. G and S highlighted the absurdity of the day’s political and cultural obsessions with wicked parody, challenging Victorian notions of gender, race and politics. Enjoy selections from “The Pirates of Penzance,” “H.M.S. Pinafore,” “The Mikado” and the lesser known gem Thespis performed by dedicated professionals.
2:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

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LPL Children/Youth Events

compiled by Eric Knapp

Sunday, January 31

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.

Saturdays & Sundays

Family Weekend Wonders

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

New Year Brings New Leadership

continued from page 3

to secure the future stability of the building which is currently designated a historic property.
Councilman Anderson asked Director of Planning and Development, Dru Siley how many jobs Roundstone plans to bring to Lakewood. Director Siley said that they currently employ 45 people who they plan to bring to Lakewood with them, and also hope to grow with the move.
Council referred the matter to the Committee of the Whole for discussion.
Council reached the end of the

agenda at 7:45 p.m. Council President O’Leary then began calling up members of the public to address Council. With the Lakewood Hospital Master Agreement passed last month the number of Save Lakewood Hospital and Build Lakewood members present were greatly diminished; however, all seven members of the public who chose to address Council were members of Save Lakewood Hospital speaking on that issue.
Once everyone had a chance to speak, and with no further business before Council, President O’Leary adjourned the meeting at 8:26 p.m.

LAKESWOOD
PIZZA BAKE-OFF

Hosted by the Kiwanis Club of Lakewood

Vote for your favorites! All you can eat!
(Sorry, no carry out containers allowed.)

55” HD Smart TV Raffle at the Bake Off

Thursday, January 21, 2016

Lakewood High School

5:00 – 8:00

Adults \$10 ~ Children 6-12, \$5 ~ 5 and under FREE

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Lakewood Public Library

A Life Changed: “Father’s Day” By Steven Wolotsky

by Leana Donofrio-Milovan

What would you do if suddenly money were no object? Would you buy a mansion or go on a trip around the world? “Father’s Day” by local author Steven Wolotsky is about a man who chooses an entirely different, difficult and unexpected path.

“Father’s Day” is the story of Chaim Josef Singerman, a thirty-year-old man who inherits a fortune amassed by his father, a Holocaust survivor. His strange, wonderful journey

begins in 1978. With all the money he could ever need, Chaim mysteriously chooses to move into a lower class, African American neighborhood, despite the warnings of family, friends and his new African American neighbors. For the next twenty-five years he encounters betrayal, racial animosity and social ostracism on a regular basis, but does not budge. His very existence becomes threatened by his noble social experiment. Quixotic, innocent and vulnerable, will Chaim survive? The

answer is not entirely revealed until the very end of this heart-warming narrative of parental love.

Wolotsky is an Ohio Licensed Independent Social Worker. Since 1971, he has worked clinically and administratively. For many years, he taught social work at The University of Akron and was the chairperson of the National Association of Social Workers for the Akron and Canton area.

Meet Wolotsky as he discusses his first novel on Thursday, January 28 at 7 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium. Books will be available for sale and signing at the event.

To learn more about this program and all the other exciting things happening at your Lakewood Public Library visit www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.org.



Great Lakes Light Opera Performs Gilbert And Sullivan At LPL

by Elaine Rosenberger

A beloved musical duo, librettist W. S. Gilbert and composer Arthur Sullivan are renowned for their clever lyrics, haunting melodies, wicked parodies, and social satire. The Lakewood Public Library is pleased to welcome Great Lakes Light Opera (GLLO) back to the Library, where they will perform selections from Gilbert and Sullivan operettas.

Founded in 2012, GLLO is dedicated to bringing high-quality, professional-level performances to Cleveland audiences. The mission of GLLO is to allow everyone, both opera lovers and those who have never heard opera before, to understand and to enjoy opera. As part of their Gilbert and Sullivan program, GLLO will be performing selections from “The Pirates of Penzance,” “H.M.S. Pinafore,” “The Mikado,” and “Thespis.”

Great Lakes Light Opera’s performance takes place in the Main Library auditorium on Sunday, January 31 at 2 p.m. as part of the Lakewood Public Library’s Sunday with the Friends series. Admission is free and open to all. For more



GLLO’s special performance of the historic Gilbert & Sullivan is happening on January 31 at Lakewood Public Library.

information, visit www.lakewood-publiclibrary.org/programs.

Lakewood Area Collaborative Job Club Meeting

by Kathy Augustine

The Lakewood Area 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 January 26th, from 6-8 p.m. at the Lakewood Library. We will have a guest speaker, Kris McGuigan from Professional

Courage. The topic will be “Unleash your next Career Move”. 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 Rebeccacarlton12@gmail.com or 216-421-6685.

Cleveland Clinic Announces End Date For Inpatient Services At Lakewood Hospital

continued from page 1

opens.

In addition to the emergency department remaining open until mid-2018 at Lakewood Hospital, several outpatient services will also continue to be provided at Lakewood Hospital, including:

- Radiology
- Lab Services
- Cardiovascular Testing
- Chronic Care Clinic
- Diabetes Center
- Senior Assessment Center
- Teen Health Center
- Women’s Center (In Community Health Center)
- Physical Therapy (In YMCA)

“Lakewood Hospital has been an integral part of this community and our health system. We are proud to be the healthcare provider for the Lakewood community for nearly two decades,” said J. Stephen Jones, M.D., president, Cleveland Clinic Regional Hospitals and Family Health Centers. “Providing healthcare to this city is a vital part of our

mission and this new agreement strengthens Cleveland Clinic’s long-term commitment to Lakewood families.”

The new family health center will include many of the outpatient services Lakewood residents are using at the hospital currently and also focuses on primary care (family medicine, internal medicine and pediatrics) chronic disease management, population health management, including an LGBT clinic and many specialty services.

“We believe that better health of the community is not just taking care of you when you get to the hospital; it’s trying to prevent you from getting sick in the first place,” added Jones.

Cleveland Clinic will continue to make significant investments in Lakewood, including \$34 million to build the new family health center and emergency department; \$8 million to support the new community foundation; and a multi-million dollar investment to support the City

continued on page 13



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Lakewood Schools

District Artists/Writers Land Top Awards In Scholastic Contest

by Christine Gordillo

Students from Lakewood High School, West Shore Career-Tech and Harding Middle School earned a significant number of honors in the annual Scholastic Art & Writing Awards regional competition, including six Gold Key winners.

Winners of a Gold Key, the highest honor given, are seventh-grader Mira Getrost, eighth-graders Kitty Crino and Halina Dreger, freshman Seth Marroquin and seniors Alex Rosul and Owen Smith. Gold Key winners move on to be judged at the national level of the 92-year-old competition.

Lakewood students were also well-presented at the Silver Key and Honorable Mention levels. Five students won eight Silver Keys, including two by junior Ned Bruere. Twenty-six students earned Honorable Mention designations for their art or writing, including two mentions for Bruere and two for senior Zoe Budzar.

The Cleveland Institute of Art hosts the regional competition that recognizes creative achievement in area 7-12 grade students. The young artists compete for cash prizes, medals, and scholarship awards. A panel of



Gold Key winner photograph by Owen Smith.



Gold Key winner mixed media piece by Seth Marroquin.

- local professional artists, art educators, writers, and writing educators jury the exhibit and select the awarded pieces from nearly 3,000 entries. Students who receive Portfolio Awards and Gold Key Awards continue to the national competition held in the spring in New York City.
- This year's Regional winners in the art categories will be on display in the Art Gallery at the Cleveland Institute of Art this month. Congratulations to all the winners and teachers Dayna Kreider, Anne McQuay, Arline Olear, Autumn Sabin, Amy Sedlak, Jennifer Lewis and Ruth Pangrace.
- Gold Key Winners: (approximately 7-10% of regional entries)**
- Kitty Crino, 8th grade – Poetry
 - Halina Dreger, 8th grade – Short story
 - Mira Getrost, 7th grade – Science fiction/fantasy
 - Seth Marroquin, freshman – Mixed Media
 - Alex Rosul, senior – Painting
 - Owen Smith, senior – Photography
- Silver Key Winners: (approximately 10-15% of regional entries)**
- Ned Bruere, junior (2 mentions) – Drawing and Illustration
 - Grace Kraidich, 7th grade – Poetry
 - Isabel Ostrowski, 10th grade – Poetry
 - Willow Rosser, 7th grade – Short story
 - Olivia Nagy, sophomore – Mixed Media
 - Hannah Randall Nietzsche, senior – Photography
 - Isabel Romeo, senior – Drawing and Illustration
 - Madeline Schwartz, junior – Photography
- Honorable Mentions: (approximately 15-20% of regional entries)**
- Hannah Brown, sophomore – Drawing and Illustration
 - Ned Bruere, junior (3 mentions) – Drawing and Illustration, Comic Art and Digital
 - Dominic Brunori, senior – Digital Art; teacher
 - Zoe Budzar, senior (2 mentions) – Printmaking and Mixed Media
 - Ella Chanter, 8th grade – Poetry
 - Shaun Chapman, senior – Film & Animation
 - Amayah Coburn, sophomore – Photography
 - Halina Dreger, 8th grade – Flash fiction
 - Evie Gregg, senior – Short story
 - Claire Hylton, freshman – Mixed Media
 - Kazimir Klein, sophomore –

- Photography
- Halle Krebs, junior – Drawing and Illustration
 - Anastasiya Kurylyuk, senior – Drawing and Illustration
 - Jace Lee, junior – Design
 - Lauren Lowell, junior – Photography
 - Sara McMillen, junior – Drawing and Illustration
 - Jessica Paul, junior – Drawing and Illustration



Gold Key winner portrait by Alex Rosul.

- Hannah Randall Stars & Slurpees** – Film & Animation
- Trevon Rogers, senior – Photography
 - Isabel Romeo, senior – Art Portfolio
 - Zena Shean, sophomore – Mixed Media
 - Stephanie Shaffer, 8th grade – Short story
 - Laura Shields, 8th grade – Flash fiction
 - Genevieve Thurman, senior – Photography
 - Owen Smith, senior – Photography
 - Gabby Toms, 7th grade – Short story

Your Future Continues, Transfer Options For Tri-C Students

by Kristin Broka

Students and parents are invited to visit the Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C) Westshore Campus on Saturday, February 6, 2016 from 9 a.m. to noon for “Your Future Continues, Transfer Options for Tri-C Students.”

The event will provide students and parents with information about how credits earned at Tri-C will

- transfer to four year colleges/universities along with information about Cuyahoga Community College's Honors Program and scholarships. Tri-C has over 80 scholarships for fall 2016 which will cover full tuition costs for new students.
- This program will include sessions on the following topics:
- Honors Program – learn about Tri-C's Honors Program and Honors
 - Fellowship scholarships.
 - Essays – learn about writing effective essays for college admission and scholarships.
 - Dual Admission programs – learn about the opportunity to take four year college/university courses while enrolled at Tri-C and paying Tri-C tuition rates for these courses.
- continued on page 9**

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Lakewood Schools

Kindergarten Registration Starts February 12, Parent Meeting February 11

by Christine Gordillo

Lakewood City Schools kindergarten registration will take place at the Lakewood Board of Education 1470 Warren Road beginning Friday, February 12, 2016. Students must be five (5) years old on or before September 30, 2016 in order to be age eligible to enter kindergarten. There will be a Parent Information Night on Thursday, February 11 at 6:30 p.m. at Emerson Elementary School for interested parents to find out more about the program.

Registration packets are available at the Board of Education or online. **Registration will be by appointment only.**

After collecting all required documents and completing all registration forms, you may schedule an appointment to register your child. To schedule an appointment, please contact the registration secretary by phone at 216-529-4279 or by

e-mail at kyna.eldred@lakewoodcityschools.org.

Please Note: The Residency and Custody Affidavit included in the packet must be signed in the presence of a Notary Public.

The following documents must be presented at registration:

1. Child's birth certificate, original or certified copy; Passport or Visa
2. Child's immunization record, doctor's name and phone number
3. Driver's license or State ID of the residential parent/legal guardian registering the student
4. Proofs of Residency - provide 2 in the form of:
Utility Bills (gas, electric, water)
Pay stub
Valid signed lease
Business mail
Section 8 documentation
Voter registration card
Municipal Income Tax Return (RITA)

Valid driver's license with current address

OR: The Owner Affidavit form, which must be completed by the landlord, owner, or manager and signed in the presence of a NOTARY PUBLIC when no other proofs of residency can be provided.

Custody documents (If applicable) only legal residents who are the parent or legal guardian of the child may complete the registration process.

Applicable court documents must be a certified copy and contain any and all exhibits or attachments referenced to show custody.

Copy of a signed Current IEP and ETR (if applicable)

Children attending the Lakewood City School's pre-kindergarten program are enrolled in the District and do not need to re-register. Kindergarten information will be given to these families.

LHS Students Fill OU Honors Orchestra

by Christine Gordillo

Lakewood High will certainly have left its mark on the orchestra ensemble at Ohio University's annual Honor Choir & Orchestra Festival January 15-17 as nearly half of the musicians were from LHS, including all the principal chairs of the 54-person ensemble.

Twenty-three LHS musicians were accepted to the invitation-only festival, which is open to top high school players in Ohio and the surrounding regions. According to OU Orchestra Director Steven Huang, this is a record number from LHS. "Lakewood has always been a great supporter of our program," Huang said.

Besides joining with OU musicians to perform a challenging repertoire in concert on January 17, the LHS students had the opportunity to work with faculty in sectionals and master classes throughout the three-day festival, which had the theme of "Latin and Lovin' It."

"I am proud of how many Lakewood kids chose to audition and worked hard over (winter) break to do their best. We have high standards and it shows," said LHS Orchestra Director Beth Hankins. "This honors orchestra is a wonderful opportunity for our Lakewood students to work with a college orchestra director and college professors in a true college setting."

The following students were selected for the ensemble: Criztiana Brown, Zeke Dalisky, Ryan Detwiler (co-principal), Amanda Kantor, Abby LaForm, Hannah Salo, Muayad Shahin, Michael Dever, Jacob Forester, Ben Harvey, Mitch Murphy, Abigail Norman (principal), Naiomy Vega-Miranda, Eva Wynn, Grace Cooper, Jimmy Toner (co-principal), William Elaban, Thomas Grauel (principal), Clara McGuan, Violet Jourilles, Nina Zanghi, Hannah Masters and Erin Kelly.



Honored Lincoln mathletes (from left): Michael Klasa, Phineas Thompson, Eileen Brady, Anna Daso and Cal Holland.

Lincoln Students Among Top Math Scorers

by Christine Gordillo

Five Lincoln Elementary students were honored with medals and certificates recently for their outstanding performance in the national Noetic Learning Math Contest. The third- and fourth-graders were among the top 10% of the 3,995 and 4,732 students who competed in each respective grade.

Noetic Learning Math Contest is a national mathematics contest students in grades 2-8. The goal of the competition is to encourage students' interest in math, to develop their problem solving skills, and to inspire them to excel in math. More than 21,000 students representing 602 schools across the

country took part in this fall's contest.

The Lincoln students who won the National Honor Roll title for being among the approximately 10% of participants are third-graders Anna Daso and Cal Holland and fourth-graders Eileen Brady, Michael Klasa and Phineas Thompson. The students are led by their teachers Sonja Kreps (3rd grade) and Allison Martzolf (4th grade). Each of the National Honor Roll winners also earned medals for being the top scorer on their team.

More detailed information about the Noetic Learning Math Contest can be found at: <http://www.noetic-learning.com/mathcontest>.

Enroll in Lakewood Schools' 5-Star Preschool Program Today!

Lakewood City Schools' early childhood program is the best-kept secret in Lakewood! Our program has earned the highest rating from the state. The approximately 2,000 days in a child's life from birth to kindergarten are a critical time in a child's brain development. Make the pledge to have your child in a high-quality early learning environment today.

AM classes: Monday - Friday, 8:30 to 11:00 a.m.
PM classes: Monday - Friday, 12:30 to 3:00 p.m.

Locations: Horace Mann, Emerson, Hayes, and Harrison Elementary Schools.

Must be Lakewood resident and 3 years old by Sept. 30.

Spaces available! Call 216-529-4214 to register

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Lakewood Schools

West Shore Auto Students Earn Invitation To Compete In Regional Competition

by Lynn Foran

Congratulations to Jackson Nugent and Austin Slemc, West Shore Career-Technical Auto Technology seniors who have qualified to compete in the 24th Annual Greater Cleveland

Automotive Technology Competition on Sunday, February 28, 2016 at the Cleveland Auto Show. For 2½ half hours, Austin and Jackson will be working as a team to identify and address bugs/faults or repair issues on

an automobile while teams from other schools work on similar vehicles with similar issues. These teams were selected as the top performing schools based on a written exam completed earlier in the school year. Jackson and Austin, representing West Shore Career Tech, will be competing against

teams from Medina County Career Tech, Polaris Career Center, Portage Lakes Career Center and Valley Forge High School. The winners of the Greater Cleveland-area competition will participate in the National Automotive Technology Competition in New York City.

District Rolls Out Eye Exam Program

by Christine Gordillo

Lakewood City Schools recently launched a pilot in-school vision exam program with Ocular Services Management and Dr. Pete Mogyordy. Last month, 13 students at Emerson Elementary School received complete eye exams, and six of were given prescriptions for eyeglasses. The District is testing the program out at Emerson since it is the largest elementary school. The aim is to have Dr. Mogyordy and his team visit every school in the District by the end of the school year. An optician joins Ocular Services Management on its visits to assist students who need them in selecting eyeglasses. The optician will then return to school with

the glasses to ensure a proper fit. The exams are paid for by parents' insurance and government assistance programs and vouchers for those who do not have insurance. Dr. Mogyordy approached the District about instituting an on-site program after his company had success with the same type of mobile program at area nursing homes. "Our students can't achieve academic success if they are having trouble seeing. Data indicates that 80% of what a child learns in school is through their eyes" said Bob Del-Quadri, Coordinator of Student Services. "This program will help ensure that our students are as best prepared as they can be to learn."



West Shore Competition Team for Greater Cleveland Auto Show: Jackson Nugent and Austin Slemc.



Dr. Pete Mogyordy gives an eye examination to an Emerson student as part of the District's new on-site visual exam program.

Your Future Continues, Transfer Options For Tri-C Students

continued form page 7

- Selective College Admission – Case Western Reserve University and Oberlin College will present information on applying to selective colleges/universities and the Common Application.
- Phi Theta Kappa – learn about this international Honor Society and its scholarships.

- College Now Greater Cleveland scholarship programs
- Representatives from public and private four year colleges/universities providing information on how Tri-C credits apply toward four year degrees.

Students may register online for this program at www.tri-c.edu/Where-FuturesContinue. The Westshore Campus is located at 31001 Clemens Road in Westlake.



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Lakewood Cares

Lakewood’s Cub Scout Pack 68 Earns “Journey To Excellence” Award For High Quality Program

by Brian Fallon

Cub Scout Pack 68, sponsored by the Lakewood United Methodist Church, earned the prestigious Journey to Excellence Silver Award for 2015. The award recognizes Scout organizations that provide a high quality program for boys in the community. Pack leaders say they plan to earn the gold award in 2016.

“The Journey to Excellence Award is Scouting’s way to identify packs that provide an outstanding experience for boys throughout the Scouting year,” said Kevin Brown, Pack 68 Cubmaster. “It means that we have a great group of Scouts learning about character development, conservation, service, and citizenship from a dedicated group of adult volunteers.”

The Journey to Excellence Award evaluates 11 critical areas of a Cub Scout Pack, including volunteer lead-

ership, program measures, planning, budgeting and membership. Packs earning the award have adult volunteers who are trained in Youth Protection and outdoor activities. Packs demonstrate that a high percentage of the Cub Scouts advance throughout the year and the Pack retains members while growing as new Cub Scouts join.

“We have a strong program – with Scouts able to participate in two camp-outs a year, a rain gutter regatta, hayrides, winter activities, field trips, and den meetings,” said Matt Markling, Tiger Den Leader. “Plus, the Scouts participate in service projects right here in Lakewood.”

Brown said he was particularly excited that the Tiger Den has 17 new

Scouts. “Tigers are the youngest boys in the Pack – they are the first graders. It’s important for the pack to have a strong Tiger den because they can go through the program from year to year. They will keep the pack strong as the older boys move to the Boy Scouts,” Brown said.

Although Pack 68 is Lakewood’s oldest Cub Scout pack, Brown and Markling agreed the group is not resting on its laurels and has an active Spring program – with wintertime sledding, a weekend Spring Camp-out, the Blue and Gold Banquet, and the popular Pinewood Derby on deck.

“We’ll sled in the Metroparks on February 20, if we have snow,” Brown said. “We will also start planning for

the Pinewood Derby and see the cars the boys build. The new Star Wars movie should give the Scouts ideas.”

New members are still welcome to join, Markling stressed. “We still have a lot of Scouting left before the end of the school year and plenty to do. We’d love to have a few more boys – and their parents – join us so we finish strong and earn the GOLD Journey to Excellence Award in 2016.”

Pack 68 meets Tuesdays at Lakewood United Methodist Church. The pack meets Tuesdays at 7 p.m. Boys in Lakewood in first through fifth grade are eligible to join Cub Scouts. Boys older than fifth grade are eligible for Boy Scouts. For more information, visit the Pack at a meeting.

New Grief Support Group

by Daniel Wenger

Grief is the normal and natural reaction to loss. But most of us do not know how to “move beyond” our losses. The Grief Recovery Method® teaches that grief is emotional, not intellectual, and that unresolved grief is almost always about undelivered communication of an emotional nature.

Grief Recovery Method® Support Groups provide the tools to deliver the undelivered emotional communication and complete the pain around our losses. They teach how to complete and say good-bye to what or whom we have lost, in a way that allows us to move beyond the grief and the pain, and enter into life and joy again. They teach

how to be present with others in their grief so that they too may move into the future with hopefulness.

The Grief Recovery Method® is for those who desire to address the pain in their lives, due to loss. Developed by the Grief Recovery® Institute, this program is conducted by Certified Grief Recovery Specialists®. All are current or retired chaplains from Fairview and Lakewood Hospitals.

This Winter an 8-wk Support Group will be offered:

On eight Tuesdays, January 26, 2016 10:30 a.m. - Noon., and ending March 15 at the Fairview Hospital Wellness Center, 3035 Wooster Rd., Rocky River, OH 44116

Registrations requested by January 22.

(A Spring Group will be offered beginning April 6, 2016. Time and place TBA)

Call the Grief Recovery Phone line at Fairview Hospital 216-252-7901.



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Lakewood Cares

Magic Gives Back For Garfield Middle School With Magician Rick Smith Jr.!

by Rachel Vuyancih

Garfield Middle School is bringing a Las Vegas quality magic show to our community! Witness a production like no other with a variety of entertainment that will blow your mind! Led by world-renowned magician Rick Smith Jr., and his team of top-notch performers, your audience will experience a high-energy pro-

duction like no other all while raising money to benefit Garfield Students. With performers seen around the world and featured on programs such as The Tonight Show, The Ellen DeGeneres Show and America's Got Talent (just to name a few), nowhere but the "Entertainment Capital of the World" itself will you see such entertainment all in one night! Needless to say, this is not your "typical" school assembly. This is fun filled entertainment for the whole family and is open to anyone who wants to attend the show!



Rick Smith Jr., Magician

Please join us at 7pm on Saturday, January 30, 2016 at the Civic Auditorium for an amazing Las Vegas style magic show.

If we sell out the Civic we may have an opportunity for Shark Tank to come and film Rick Smith Jr. for one of their upcoming shows!

"LET'S SELL OUT THE CIVIC!"

Ticket prices range from \$15 for general admission seating, \$20 for preferred seating and \$25 for VIP seating.

Tickets are only available online at MagicGivesBack.com. Click on purchase tickets and follow the prompts for January 30th show. There is a seat-

ing guide to the Civic and you can choose your experience for the show while seats last! This show is for all ages! You won't want to miss this... Tickets are on sale now... Purchase your tickets today!

Any questions or more information, please contact Tony Chiaravalle, Garfield Asstant Principal at tony.chiaravalle@lakewoodcityschools.org or Rachel Vuyancih at jorz@att.net.

Thank you and see you at the show!

Tony Chiaravalle & Rachel Vuyancih

Chance To Win Cavs Tickets

by Elizabeth O'Brien

The winner of the North Coast Health Cavs Raffle will spend an evening watching LeBron, Kyrie, Kevin and company pound the boards against the Dallas Mavericks on Wednesday, March 16, 2016 courtesy of First Federal Lakewood.

Take a chance to win this four-pack of Cavs VIP tickets while supporting North Coast Health, a free and charitable clinic that has provided health care services for the uninsured and underinsured in western Cleveland for thirty years.

Raffle tickets are \$50 each and can be purchased at <http://northcoasthealth.org/event/cavs2016/> or by calling 216-228-7878 x114. Only 100 chances will be sold. The winner will be drawn on Friday, January 29 at "Rx:Create!" an art benefit at Vosh Lakewood. Winner need not be present at drawing.

As a public raffle, the North Coast Health Cavs Ticket Raffle is open to all purchasers 18 years and older. The cost of the raffle is not tax-deductible for federal or state income tax purposes as



a charitable donation.

All proceeds benefit North Coast Health and the life-saving health care we provide to our economically vulnerable neighbors in need. Our gratitude to First Federal Lakewood for supplying the tickets for this raffle.

About North Coast Health

North Coast Health is a faith-based charitable clinic that provides and optimizes access to health care for the medically underserved. Every day, people come to North Coast Health because they have no other option for affordable care. As a Patient Centered Medical Home, Level 3, as designated by the National Committee for Quality Assurance, we are able to provide individualized, comprehensive and coordinated care in a professional clinical setting. For more information visit www.northcoasthealth.org.

AARP Free Tax Aide Help

by Joan Miller

AARP free tax-aide brings you free electronic filing of your tax returns. The IRS-certified volunteers are ready to help income tax payers of all ages. You do not need to be an AARP member to receive this service. A photo ID and social security number are required at time of visit. Bring last year's tax return if possible.

AARP tax-aide is available Monday and Tuesday noon to 3:30 p.m. starting February 1, 2016 at the Lakewood Senior Center West, 16024 Madison Ave. Lakewood. A handicap ramp and stairs are located on the Northland side of building.

No appointment necessary. Walk ins welcome.

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Lakewood Is Art

Beck Center Presents Lin-Manuel Miranda’s “In The Heights”

by Pat Miller

Beck Center for the Arts is pleased to present “*In the Heights*,” the fifth annual collaboration with the esteemed Baldwin Wallace University Music Theatre program. The limited engagement runs February 12 through 28, 2016 on the Mackey Main Stage. Show times are 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 3 p.m. Sundays. Two Thursday performances will take place at 8 p.m. on February 18 and 25. Tickets are now on sale. Buy early and save with promo code: **BECKBW** to receive \$5 off each adult/senior ticket purchased by February 11.

Before the Broadway phenomenon “*Hamilton*...” there was “*In the Heights*!” This 2008 Tony® winning musical comes from Lin-Manuel Miranda, the creative mastermind and recipient of the 2015 MacArthur “Genius” Award. With a book by Quiara Alegría Hudes, this story explores the vibrant community of New York’s Washington Heights, a neighborhood on the brink of change. Filled with a Tony® and Grammy® winning score, “*In the Heights*” is about what it takes to make a living, the cost of having a dream, and where the biggest struggle can be deciding which traditions you take with you, and which ones you leave behind.

This locally-produced premiere is directed by Victoria Bussert, director of Music Theatre at Baldwin Wallace University. “*In the Heights*” features a talented ensemble of twenty-three actors from BW’s nationally recognized MT program. Professional actors Jessie Cope Miller and Jared Lead join the cast and appear courtesy of the Actors’ Equity Association. This production also includes musical direction by David Pepin and choreography by Gregory Daniels.

“I can’t think of a better way to present the fifth year of the Beck Center/Baldwin Wallace University collaboration than presenting



the locally-produced premiere of “*In the Heights*,” remarked Bussert. The collaboration has also brought highly-acclaimed productions of “*Spring Awakening*,” “*Next to Normal*,” “*CARRIE the musical*,” and “*Dogfight*” to

Beck Center stages. “We are so excited to perform the music and lyrics by Lin-Manuel Miranda, the creator of the hottest musical on Broadway, ‘*Hamilton*!’” Baldwin Wallace students from this collaboration have recently gone on to perform on Broadway and national television.

Tickets are \$31 for adults, \$27 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, February 11 is \$10 with general admission seating. Group discounts are available for parties of four or more. Purchase tickets online at 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 “*In the Heights*” is presented through special arrangement with *R & H Theatricals*. It is sponsored by the residents of Cuyahoga County through Cuyahoga Arts and Culture, and the Ohio Arts Council.

Windsong, Cleveland’s Feminist Chorus Presents Ebb And Flow

by Tim Tavcar

Join “Windsong,” Cleveland’s Feminist Chorus, for “Ebb & Flow,” Sunday, January 31, at 4 p.m., Lakewood Presbyterian Church, 14502 Detroit Avenue. With songs of challenge and change, the program affirms both our progress in creating a just society and how far we still have to go.

Included are Holly Near’s “Change of Heart” and “The Doors You Opened” by Eric Lane Barnes. Selections sung in Zulu and in Arabic lend an international flavor, along

with Celtic melodies and pieces by Australian composer Sheena Phillips.

Rooted closer to home are “Never Sit Down,” an updated take on the spiritual, “Sit Down, Sister,” and a stirring arrangement of “How Can I Keep From Singing,” plus settings of “This We Know,” Chief Seattle’s eloquent statement on interdependence, and William Penn’s simple admonition to “Let Peace Prevail.” The concert will be conducted by Acting Artistic Director Heather Russell, and accompanied by pianist Karin Tooley.

Premiering is Lakewood composer Jan C. Snow’s “Women Carry The Water,” a piece occasioned by

Sustainable Cleveland’s Year of Clean Water. Windsong’s Resident Composer since 2008, Snow has written a dozen works for the ensemble. Her choral music, both for women’s voices and for mixed choir, has been performed in venues from San Francisco to St. Petersburg, Russia, and published by the Signature Choral Series of Beacon Press.

Tickets for the concert are \$13 in advance, and \$15 at the door, \$13 for seniors. They are available from Windsong members and at the website: windsongchorus.org. For more information, call 216-521-5434. A reception follows the performance.

RNC Host Committee Vice Chair Joe Roman Kicks Off Chamber Speaker Series

continued from page 1

Flea, Thursday, July 14th: Meet The Brewers, and Friday, October 21st: Mr. Armond Budish, Cuyahoga County Executive. The Lakewood Chamber of Commerce is proud to host these four presentations that feature headline speakers who will discuss some of the region’s most interesting and relevant topics.

All of this - plus the Annual Awards Luncheon, the Taste of Lakewood, the New Teachers Luncheon and more - it’s a great time to be, or to become, a member of the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce. To quote our tagline, “We’re in business for your business.”

For more information on Lakewood Chamber of Commerce events visit lakewoodchamber.org/ events.

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Lakewood Is Art

The Review Column Comes Of Age This Week/Multiple References To Buddy Akita:

Reviews Of Recent Releases By Local Bands, Pt. 18

by Buzz Kompier

Obligatory Disclaimer: Record reviews are a tricky business. It's one thing to enjoy music, but to, like, pick out what you like about it? That being said, if I review your thing and I didn't like something, don't feel too bad. My opinion doesn't matter all that much.

Front Porch Lights - Front Porch Lights - self-released - 6 songs - CD, download

I gotta say, this isn't really my kinda thing. Kind of indie pop-ish I would say, very mainstream pop type stuff. I can see people liking this for sure, though. All the songs sound like they could be big radio hits in the current musical climate. My picks would be "Come The Light," which kicks from a slow beginning into a still slow but more upbeat end, and the closing track, "Dance With The Worst," which besides the good title also has a cool guitar line and an interesting melody. Again, this is not my particular cup of tea, but hey, if you like poppy melodies and poppy songs, it could be for you. 3/5

Rocket From The Tombs - Black Record - Fire Records - 11 songs - CD, LP, download

The legendary RFTT return for their third reunion record (fourth overall), and this one blows the previous two right out of the water. I think a part of this might be the

addition of new guitarists Gary Siperko and Buddy Akita, who replaced Richard Lloyd and Cheeta Chrome, respectively, and join original member Crocus Behemoth (aka David Thomas of Pere Ubu and 2 Pale Boys), pretty-near-original member Craig Bell (aka Craig Bell of The Down-Fi and Mirrors), and past-15-years-or-so member Steve Mehlman (aka Steve Mehlman of Roué). Aside from Mr. Akita, the rest of This Moment In Black History, Lawrence Daniel Caswell (Lives of the Saints), Lamont Thomas (Obnox) and Chris Kulcsar (Chargers Street Gang) are also featured on the record. I think their presence gives the songs a certain energy throughout. The album owes lots to the band's influences (see "Nugefinger" and their cover of "Strychnine" in particular), while still having a sound that's their own. My one objection is the remakes. Okay, it's great to hear "Read It & Weep," but did we really need yet another version of "Sonic Reducer"? Also, I'm not a fan of the new backing vocal arrangement on the latter, but that's being picky. I think the re-re-recordings lack energy and spirit compared to the newer ones, like the jumping "Welcome To The New Dark Ages" or the grooving closer "Parking Lot At The Rainbow's End," for example. But whatever. If you like good

rock music, this is it. Oh, and one more thing: I don't care what these "experts" say, the silver vinyl sounds like crap. It looks cool, but you can barely hear the backing vocals, especially on a song where they play a major role, like "Nugefinger." Get the CD instead. If vinyl is important to you, wait for the second pressing which will allegedly be out on black vinyl. 4.5/5

Various Artists - Back To Cleveland: Horsepower - RT956 Records - 31 songs - 2xLP

This is a compilation of "live on the radio" performances on the show Horsepower, dating from 1994 to ?? I don't believe this show is still on the air, so I have to assume those question marks mean that they're not sure when exactly the last included song dates from. The majority of the record is made up of bands who either never released anything, or released records that fell into obscurity. There are a couple more 'major' acts on there though, like 9 Shocks Terror or Wayne Kramer (who is not from Cleveland, but whatever). Oh, and Buddy Akita is in this week's column twice, because he's in RFTT and in The Spasms and Teenage Knockouts, two of the bands featured here. All of the compilation is loosely 'punk,' though falling into several different categories. A lot of it is retro-sounding, sorta Pagans-ish

'70s/'80s style, but there's a couple tracks that are in the more hardcore vein, and some that are way more weird. See, for example, the song "Polyurethane Passion," which is by a band whose name I don't believe I can say in a family paper. (D***head Red Co.) My favorites were The Mormons with "Mormons Theme Song/Your S**t," who were one of the representatives of the hardcore stuff, the two Haunted Head tracks, Teenage Knockouts' "Schoolgirl Desire," which was immensely catchy, "Come On Baby" by The Executives, and The Spasms' "Anarchy Till Curfew." I would say 9 Shocks as well, but everyone says 9 Shocks, and I already mentioned the other appearance of Steve Pepper...screw it, I liked the 9 Shocks track too. Some of it does get a bit repetitive, though as it was spread out over 4 sides of vinyl, it was more manageable. This review is getting long. I better give it a rating and shut up. 4/5

Are you a local-ish band? Do you have a record out? Email vaguelythreatening@gmail.com or send it directly to Observer headquarters: The Lakewood Observer, c/o Buzz Kompier, 14900 Detroit Avenue, Suite 205, Lakewood, OH 44107.

Cleveland Clinic Announces End Date For Inpatient Services At Lakewood Hospital

continued from page 6

of Lakewood in closing the building and preparing it for redevelopment, in order to leave the city with \$24.4 million for a health and wellness foundation. As part of the agreement, Cleveland Clinic also purchased the Columbia Road medical facility for \$8.2 million.

Healthcare is in the midst of unprecedented change, both locally

and nationally, with a dramatic shift away from inpatient care to outpatient care. Lakewood Hospital has experienced a steady decline in inpatient volume since 2005 – an average 5 percent decrease each year. In recent years, however, the decline has accelerated, as inpatient volume dropped 8 percent in 2014 and 12 percent in 2015. The majority of patients who live in Lakewood now use the hospital for outpatient services. Hospital opera-

tions lost an average of \$1 million per month in 2015.

The City of Lakewood – which will retain ownership of the hospital buildings and the 5.7 acres on which they sit – will have the opportunity to use the entire hospital property for future commercial redevelopment.

For details about outpatient services available at Lakewood Hospital and other updates, please visit clevelandclinic.org/lakewood.



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Business News

Interactive Video Event To Feature Retail Expert Bob Negen On February 19th

by Valerie Mechenbier

From hardware stores to gift stores to boutiques and beyond – every retail business faces challenges and opportunities. Take control of the trajectory of your retail enterprise – attend “A Championship Run For Your Business” on Friday, February 19th.

The Lakewood Chamber of Commerce and the University of Akron Lakewood will host A Championship Run For Your Business, featuring two 90-minute virtual training sessions with Bob Negen, retail business expert, bestselling author of “Marketing Your Retail Store in the Internet Age,” and founder of “WhizBang! Training.” Bob Negen has taken the customer-focused business philosophy he developed at his own retail business and applied it to the new realities of retail: increased competition, incredible price pressure, and the availability of 24/7 shopping online. Bob’s hard-hitting and often hilarious training stories come from over two decades in the retail industry building his own retail store into a multi-store, multi-million-dollar operation.

In keeping with the sports theme, and as the region watches

the Cleveland Cavaliers make their Championship Run, attendees will hear opening remarks at 8:00am by George and Greg Vlosich, Owners of GV Art + Design. Lakewood-based GV Art + Design has worked with professional athletes and teams throughout the country. GV Art + Design Apparel has garnered national attention from SportsCenter, TNT, MLB Network, and Jimmy Kimmel, and has been on the front pages of Yahoo, ESPN, NBA.com and Sports Illustrated. GV Apparel is featured in professional team shops and carried in dozens of stores throughout Northeast Ohio.

Registration begins at 7:30am,

opening remarks begin at 8:00am. The interactive training event consists of two 1.5-hour sessions beginning at 8:30am, with one 30-minute break. Breakfast is included, sponsored by the Downtown Lakewood Business Alliance.

Lakewood Chamber of Commerce and Downtown Lakewood Business Alliance members: \$50 for first attendee, \$30 each additional registration from the same business/organization. Non-Members: \$60, \$40 for each additional registration from the same business/organization.

This event is brought to you by the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce Education Task Force. For more



Retail Expert Bob Negen of WhizBang! Training.

information and to register: <http://lakewoodchamber.org/a-championship-run-for-your-business/>.

Lakewood Resident And Buckley King Partner Recognized Among Top Women Lawyers

by Susan Bielawski

The law firm of Buckley King is pleased to announce that Lakewood resident, Elizabeth A. Crosby, has been distinguished among the Top 25 Women Lawyers in Cleveland as well as the Top 50 Women Lawyers in Ohio for 2016 by Super Lawyers.

Buckley King attorneys made top lists across Ohio, with Rosemary Sweeney also recognized among the Top 25 Women Lawyers in Cleveland, and Brent M. Buckley and Harry W. Greenfield distinguished among the Top 50 Lawyers in Cleveland as well as the Top 100 Lawyers in Ohio.

These “Top” lists feature attorneys who have attained the highest degree of peer recognition for their legal excellence, professional achievements, and ethical standards. With more than 38,500 lawyers actively practicing in Ohio (according to a recent ABA Survey), making the “Top” lists is a singular honor.

Liz is a partner with Buckley King and focuses on counseling and representing management in labor and employment matters. She is a Board Certified Specialist in Labor & Employment Law as well as Workers’ Compensation Law (the first woman in Ohio to achieve dual Certifications).

Rosemary is the Firm’s Administrative Partner. She focuses her practice on business law, corporate and transactions, as well as real estate and commercial finance. She is also recognized by *Best Lawyers* as one of the *Best Lawyers in America*® in Banking & Finance Law.

Brent is Buckley King’s Managing Partner. He is nationally recognized for excellence in both corporate law and commercial litigation, including being named among the prestigious “Legal Who’s Who” as one of the nation’s top attorneys for “bet-the-company”/high-stakes litigation and distinguished as one of the *Best Lawyers in America*® in Corporate Law as well as Banking & Finance Litigation.

Harry is a partner with the Firm and focuses his practice on creditors’ rights law. He is nationally recognized among the *Best Lawyers in America*® in Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization



Lakewood resident Elizabeth A. Crosby

Law, Bankruptcy Litigation, as well as Banking & Finance Law.

About Super Lawyers

Super Lawyers (a service of Thomson Reuters) is a rating service of outstanding lawyers. Every year the attorney-led research team at Super Lawyers undertakes a rigorous multi-phase selection process that includes a statewide survey of lawyers, independent evaluations of candidates, a peer review of candidates by practice area, and a good-standing and disciplinary check. For more information visit www.superlawyers.com.

About Buckley King

Buckley King is a solutions-driven law firm. Our attorneys and professionals work hard every day, on every engagement, to provide outstanding client experiences based upon value, quality, efficiency and thought-leadership. We provide counsel that is objective, on time/on budget, and with an independence of “straight answers”. Rethink your outside counsel®. For more information visit www.buckleyking.com.

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Forum

Why A Referendum? Ask City Council

by Matt Kuhns

Throughout 2015 Lakewood officials encouraged us to have faith in their handling of Lakewood Hospital. They did so in general terms, often, insisting e.g. on their “due diligence” before finally endorsing a proposal to board up the city’s hospital. But they also made some very specific promises about their obligations as public servants.

In a May 22 letter to MetroHealth, Councilman Ryan Nowlin wrote that “We are... evaluating the nonbinding proposal advanced by

the Lakewood Hospital Association and the Cleveland Clinic, and we must do so with respect to any other proposals as well.”(1) Council, wrote Nowlin, was “perfectly free to consider any proposals regarding the future of healthcare in Lakewood, and indeed we are obligated to do so as community stewards if such a proposal is presented.” Emphases added]

Around the same time, Mayor Summers wrote that “I am duty-bound as mayor to explore every option available” to keep our community-owned

hospital operating.(2)

Based on these statements (and a hospital still open after months of warnings), Lakewood went into an election assured that if any possibility existed to keep the city’s hospital, then incumbent leaders would embrace it.

They didn’t. The overtures of Surgical Development Partners—including an initial offer for part of the hospital’s holdings nearly \$1 million higher than the final offer from Cleveland Clinic—were brushed aside with no pretense of the duties

or obligations alleged earlier in the year. After being re-elected on a platform of openminded dedication, officials quickly rubber-stamped a product of closed, noncompetitive negotiations. It was classic bait-and-switch.

City council’s 7-0 vote was not responsible, consensus decision-making but a reckless bluff. Council members approved a controversial agreement for which they did not have, or even bother to seek, public buy-in. Yet the provision for a citizen-initiated referendum was on the books and remains on the books. Council’s choice to pretend that they had authority to act without popular approval does not oblige us to agree with them; I could sign my brother’s name on a contract, but he would not be stuck with it unless he chose to be. We aren’t stuck with council’s agreement unless we choose to be.

Soccer Is Broken In Lakewood: My Open Letter Of Resignation

by Ted Nagel

My name is Ted Nagel, and I am the current Vice President of the Lakewood Soccer Association (LSA). Effective immediately, I tender my resignation to the Board of LSA. There are a number of reasons why I am doing this, and also, why I am doing it publicly. I will explain my reasoning below and end with a challenge to the people who are currently in positions of trust related to soccer in Lakewood.

First, I will discuss history, as I know it, although I have only been here for six years. Lakewood currently has two soccer organizations: The Lakewood Soccer Association (LSA) and the Ohio Rangers Futbol Club (ORFC). LSA has been operating for more than 30 years in Lakewood. They run the majority of the Recreational Level soccer and the Travel Level soccer in Lakewood. ORFC was created due to philosophical differences with LSA about 8 years ago, give or take. ORFC was started by the Lakewood High School Coach at the time, who has since moved on. Because the original teams and coaches of ORFC broke away from LSA, there was resentment. ORFC was begun as a Club Level orga-

nization, which is the highest level of play in NE Ohio. Under the original terms of agreement, ORFC would stay at the Club Level and LSA would stay at the Rec and Travel levels.

Switch to recent history. ORFC has applied to the Lakewood Board of Education Rec Department to be the city’s official soccer program. They now have a higher priority for fields and have decided that they will now have Recreational Level soccer and Travel Level soccer. Obviously, this puts them in direct competition with LSA for the same set of players. The organizations no longer operate under any agreement.

My analysis is that this is a horrible situation for the soccer families in Lakewood. If you ask anyone on either side of this situation, they will agree, probably to a person, that this unhealthy competition is hurting both the enjoyment and the development of soccer players in Lakewood. Limited resources are being squandered. High School Coaches do not have access to both sets of coaches or players, to give personalized training and set their training methodology at a young age. There isn’t a single adult from either

organization that will not say that they are putting the kids of Lakewood first and in their hearts, they truly believe it. But nothing has changed in at least the 6 years that I have been watching to fix this obviously broken situation.

As a result, and because I may now have been here long enough to be part of the problem, I take myself from this situation by resigning from LSA. BUT, I also challenge every adult in both organizations: If you believe that the future of your respective organization is more important than the future of fixing soccer in Lakewood, I hope that you follow me to the bench. There is a lot of young blood in both organizations, who look on and want to help. Get out of the way and let them solve this.

My fervent wish is that we have one soccer organization in Lakewood, not plagued by the history of conflict currently despoiling our kids’ love of this game.

Ted Nagel moved here with his wife (who grew up here) and family after retiring from the Army. He is a volunteer in the community primarily with sports but also through the Lakewood Congregational Church.

Insisting on a better course through a referendum will be an appropriate response, and an effective one. The complete disappearance of SB5 since its defeat in 2011 demonstrates that even when they don’t like them, politicians respect referendum results.

Council and Mayor Summers have made unambiguous pledges to explore alternatives, and they should keep them. For one reason or another, however, they obviously feel subject to conflicting priorities on Lakewood Hospital. As voters we have the right and the responsibility to tell them which priority to place first: **Don’t** feel obliged to accept limits that Cleveland Clinic wants to place on our options. **Do** pursue all options, openly and honestly.

1) Nowlin, Ryan. Letter to Kathy Bellflower, Executive Assistant to the President of The MetroHealth System. 22 May 2015. tinyurl.com/jhpd3k4

2) Summers, Michael P. Letter to Akram Boutros, President and Chief Executive Officer of The MetroHealth System. 18 May 2015. tinyurl.com/jec3ft9

Save Lakewood Hospital Group Needs To Do More!

by Jeanne Coppola

The Save Lakewood Hospital group is not doing enough to save the hospital. They should publicize their free public meetings with flyers and mailings. Their meetings are held at the Lakewood Public Library (15425 Detroit Ave.), on Sundays at 4 p.m. All supporters should attend these meetings, and be allowed to make suggestions. The group’s contact information is, Tom Monahan: 216-221-9202 or savelakewoodhospital.org.

Save Lakewood Hospital should also allow supporters to add their names to the current pending law-

suit, in the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas court (filed by attorney Chris DeVito, for 400 million dollars, against the Cleveland Clinic.) Save Lakewood Hospital is a Limited Liability Corporation (LLC), with about five owners. I believe all supporters should be able to add their names to the lawsuit (and also be allowed to become members). Otherwise the lawsuit might be thrown out of court (this happened to a previous lawsuit). There is strength in numbers.

Save Lakewood Hospital should do more! They should hold more public meetings and press confer-

ences, and have petitions and new candidates run for City Council. They should investigate why the Cleveland Clinic does not want another hospital group to run Lakewood Hospital (does the building have OSHA violations?) And lastly, they should request the topics of the recent City Council meetings (held behind closed doors--which might have been in violation of sunshine laws), to find the real reason why the Cleveland Clinic wants to close the Lakewood Hospital, and why Lakewood City Council is agreeing to negate the current lease, which is valid until 2026.

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Pulse Of The City

Our Friends Nearby...Franklin, And The Uniontown Heights Sunday School

by Gary Rice

There's a beautiful historic region in Venango County, Pennsylvania, where Dad (the late Robert Rice) and I were born. As far as I'm concerned, it's still one of the best kept destination secrets around.

Our historic home town, Franklin, Pennsylvania, sits where two rivers (French Creek and the Allegheny) merge. Well before America became a nation, that area was considered to be hugely strategic real estate by the French, Native Americans, and the British. Remember too, that you could hop on the Allegheny River with your canoe, and sooner or later, just by floating downstream, you'd come to the Ohio and Mississippi rivers and one day, end up down in New Orleans. In those days, control of those waterways was essential for commerce. When Great Britain and France fell into conflict for those lands in the mid-1700's, Native Americans were drawn into that conflict, and terrible wars ripped the land apart. All of that was in direct opposition to William Penn's original concept of wanting Pennsylvania to be a perpetual land of peace and love for all.

Over time, there were actually four different forts constructed in Franklin. Much prehistory and recorded history happened in the Franklin area. The huge "Indian God Rock" sits nearby on the Allegheny River, having mysterious prehistoric inscriptions. It was also one of the places where French explorer Celeron reportedly buried a lead plate, claiming the area for France. A young George Washington surveyed the area

for the British, and even John Wilkes Booth lived in Franklin for awhile.

Just before the Civil War, Col. Drake struck oil in nearby Titusville, and suddenly, high grade crude oil became virtually synonymous with western Pennsylvania. Boom towns sprang up, and just as quickly, disappeared, as oil leases flourished and dried up. Fortunes were made and squandered in those hills around Franklin. Some of America's wealthiest people set their sights on that area. Nearby Oil City was so named for its significant part in the great oil boom. Oil and mining-related industries developed quickly, and Franklinites soon found more work than they had ever imagined. With money flowing like the oil itself, Franklin's many antebellum homes and architectural wonders were preserved like the contents of a time capsule.

From the beginning, Franklin's people were a disparate lot of highly individualistic folks, many of whom had fled the onrush of civilization, as well as many who had fled religious or governmental persecution. One thing that I remember from my years there was that there was virtually no concern about where people "came from," or what their politics were. In Franklin, you were accepted for who you were, period. Your personal life was absolutely off-topic and would never be brought up, unless by yourself, and indeed, who would ever think to do so? It was the present that mattered in Franklin, as it was back then in much

of small-town America. There was no such thing as a segregated school house in those hills and dales either. Grades were together at Dad's old Bunker Hill School, and the students from those different grades helped each other with their lessons. In short, the epitome of melting-pot pre-war America was achieved in Franklin, to an extent that we could only marvel at today.

Just outside of Franklin was a small enclave of people in a micro-community called "Uniontown Heights." (Or Uniontown Hill.) Literally built onto the side of a hill, that's where Dad and I grew up, and where I lived until my seventh year, when we came to Lakewood. No one seemed to know much about the beginnings of Uniontown Heights, but many areas of the North were built up by returning Union soldiers looking for places to build homes and raise their families. Franklin contributed a high percentage of its young men to the Civil War, including my own great-great-great-grandfather. In the rafters of the ancient farmhouse where I grew up hung a blue Civil War uniform. No one could recall whose uniform it was, and it may still be hanging there to this day.

At the summit of Uniontown Hill stood (and still stands) the little Uniontown Heights Sunday School. The place served as a church and community center for the community. There were no regular preachers back then. About once a month, a visiting pastor might come around, but on the whole, you just went there with your



Emanuel Rice, Civil War veteran, and Gary's ancestor. (family photo)

friends and family and studied the Bible. The Sermon on the Mount (a timeless speech by Jesus concerning many answers to life) was a common theme, and a God of acceptance, inclusion, and love was emphasized over legalism and rules. Uniontown Heights Sunday School accepted everyone who walked in the door. Dad and I both agreed that few churches that we have attended since then ever came close to showing the accepting, positive, non-judgmental love of God and humankind that we experienced there. It was almost as if, coming home from the Civil War, so many of the war vets and their families wanted a place of unity, peace, and acceptance, for all to attend; so as to put the blood and the conflicts of inhumanity far away from their homes.

Over time, the economics of western Pennsylvania changed. Oil wells were capped off as the drillers went offshore. Local industries and businesses struggled to meet payrolls, and slowly, towns like Franklin began to shrink in size and start to decay, as young families like ours left the hills for work in the cities. Fortunately, these days, there are many people and groups who are working to preserve Franklin's unique beauty and history, as a visit to that town would readily attest. (Just over 2 hours from Lakewood.)

For me however, among all of Franklin's many attractions, that beautiful little Uniontown Heights Sunday School meeting house will always have a very special place in my heart.

(This column is dedicated to Gary's 3X Great-Grandfather, Emanuel Rice, who lost his leg while serving with Co. G in the 100th Pennsylvania "Roundheads")

Living Healing Art

by Ray Tapajna

Ray Tapajna, who had several businesses in Lakewood, is now an artist who produces Art that Heals. You can view it live yourself, and show it freely to others in need on any computer screen. When you feel like you need to take a break, come by and linger awhile and let the living waters come your way to refresh your spirits and your day. Show it to loved ones or others in need in hospitals, nursing homes, rehab centers, waiting rooms etc to help wash their troubles away. You can view these images live at Ray's bio pages <http://www.tapsearch.com/about-ray-tapajna>. For those spiritually in need, see <http://tapsearch.com/healing-prayer> which include Ray's healing in blue and other healing images, the healing prayer, the second touch prayer and more.

Ray's regular art gallery online is at <http://ray-tapajna-websites.com> which includes his healing art based on color therapy and imagery studies, his everlasting flowers, art that talks,



"Roots of Contemplation" photograph by award-winning photographer Aimee Tapajna McNamee who lives in Lakewood.

unique collectible sports art and roots of contemplation. News about his artwork is at <http://ray-tapajna-artist.websites.com/news.html>.

Ray also offers unlimited free services and tools to promote your

business, webpages, blogs, social media sites and more at <http://tapsearch.com> with links to more free sites. This is completely free courtesy of Ray's Tapsearch News and Tapsearch World advocacy for workers dignity sites.

Lakewood Living

How To Avoid Picking Up Bed Bugs

by Shawn Payne

Bed bugs are everywhere. You not only have to worry about picking up bed bugs in hotels these days. Authorities say the biggest cause of bed bug movement currently is from the used furniture trade. Children from bed bug infested homes are hopping out of bed and coming to school with them. It's fairly common, these days. So how do you protect your family? How do you prevent these parasites from making you their host?

In my opinion, the entire reason bed bugs are spreading is from lack of education. What happened when HIV hit mainstream? The schools created health class. What happened when the government started supporting way too many people on welfare? They formed Planned Parenthood. One can argue how effective Planned Parenthood is. Especially if it's the first thing that is always on the government budget cut list. And hey, maybe there was health class before HIV. I think that cable tv and air conditioning was invented in the 80's. That's when I my parents first invested in them.

My point being: If so many bed bugs are being found in schools, how come people are clueless when it comes to bed bug prevention? Next time you hear a cohort start complaining about people bringing bed bugs into schools, ask them if they themselves have mattress encasements on their beds? I would be willing to bet that the people who tend to feed the bed bug hysteria are pretty uneducated in the field of bed bugs. And please, do not listen to these peoples' advice. Do you know how many Lakewood residents drown their bedrooms in rubbing alcohol once they find out they have bed bugs? That is a horrible idea. Especially if you plan on performing some form of DIY heat treatment with the propane heater in your garage!

When you find yourself in a conversation about bed bugs in schools keep in mind a few things: It takes your skin a good amount of time to

develop a skin reaction to bed bug bites. One-third of the population does not have skin reactions to poison ivy or bed bug bites. That being said, it's understandable for people to unknowingly bring bed bugs into public places.

Do not assume that people are unnecessarily exposing you and your family to bed bugs. Do not think that the only reason bed bugs are found in schools are that families are too cheap to pay for bed bug control. This is a narrow way of thinking. Anyone can get bed bugs. We live in an eclectic city. We have families with a wide range of backgrounds. The one thing I noticed about Lakewood right off the bat is that people in Lakewood like to support Lakewood things. With the right direction, a program could be implemented in Lakewood and drastically reduce the spread of bed bugs in our town. Lakewood residents have a great deal of pride in supporting each other. That could go a long way in the fight against bed bugs.

Just keep in mind that anyone can get bed bugs. And if you like to discriminate against the lower income families that have bed bugs, just don't do it. Yes there are a great deal of families that care for someone with a mental or physical health condition. Somehow, somehow these families pick up bed bugs and struggle to get control. A lot of these households spend most of their waking lives in hospitals, where they probably picked up the bed bugs. The emotional stress these people carry around are as big of a burden as the cost of healthcare.

If you go into a retail store looking for bed bug control products, you see a wide variety of sprays and foggers. Do you know that nearly all of these products will not control a bed bug infestation? Bed bugs are resistant to pyrethroid insecticides. Look down the shelves and read the active ingredients of every product. Do they all end in 'thrin, or 'oid? Yep, and they all are just about worthless controlling a bed bug infestation. But

how is the general public supposed to know this? They trust what is supplied to them in stores. It's the same thing as trusting over-the-counter cold medicine to cure your cold. Professional bed bug treatments are detailed, time consuming and expensive. Do you think the family that spends half their life in the hospital can pay \$500 - \$1600 for a bed bug exterminator? I think a lot of people opt for the \$20 bug bomb, or a case of rubbing alcohol! That holds true for people with a line of credit or money in the bank.

So how do you prevent bed bugs from infesting your home? There are basically two kinds of pests. Perimeter pests, and pests that are imported from somewhere off your property. Brown recluse spiders, German cockroaches, and bed bugs fall into the latter category. With perimeter pests, the best way to prevent them from entering into your home is to exclude them. What happens when a rat comes into a home? We trap it and exclude any further rats from entering by sealing the entry point. (Usually an uncovered basement floor drain.) Ta da. No more rats. But exclusion does not work with imported pests.

To stop bed bugs from entering your home, you have to stop bringing them in. Do not go to the furniture outlet store and buy the couch with a slight tear up the back. And whatever you do, pick nothing up that is laying on the tree lawn (or "devil's strip" if you are from Akron). Okay you would never do that... But they are still everywhere, whether you they are at work or school.

This is what I can recommend. If you know you were exposed, change clothes outside before entering your home. Keep shoes and bags outside in the garage. If you cannot do this, keep them in a tightly sealed tote just inside the door. If you have a mudroom or porch, that is also a good place to store the tote.

Encase your boxsprings. Yes, if you were to choose one thing to encase, make sure you do the boxsprings. Compared to the mattress with around ten bed bug hiding places, box springs have about one-hundred! Encase both the mattress and box springs if possible. Change your sheets regularly and inspect each time. Keep your clothes and bedding in the dryer for one half hour after they are dry. You can also buy ActiveGuard mattress liners. This is one a very good way to prevent an infestation. It is like a fitted sheet lined with a pesticide. You attach it to the underside of the boxsprings.

You can also purchase bed bug traps like the Sensci Volcano and the Blackout trap. These are sold from the Bed Bug Central Website. Also pull out the bed from the wall and keep nightstands and everything else directly off the bed. The blackout traps go on the bed frame posts. Make the bed bugs crawl up those and nothing else... Although they have been known to drop down from the ceiling onto their host.

I hope this article was informative and entertaining. Please contact me through my business website at <https://www.lakewoodplantandpest.com/> with any questions.

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Lakewood Living

Former LHS Rugger Took His Lakewood-honed Grit To BGSU

by Ronald Ciancutti

Former LHS Rugby Team Captain Sam Ciancutti returned home to Lakewood over the holiday break bringing news of his freshman year experiences playing prop for Bowling Green State University Men’s Rugby Team this past fall.

Down 29 - 27 against Western Michigan with no time left, BG won a scrum at the 25 yard line and gathered a perfect bounce to score in the corner giving BG a 34-29 victory in the Mid American Conference (MAC) championship game and their 35th MAC championship in a row.

“To come into a program like BGSU has developed and find myself on a championship team after only 4 months on campus was like a dream,” Sam Ciancutti said. “The team has such heart and dedication and I felt right at home remembering the grit and integrity ground out on the fields of Lakewood. The brotherhood and ‘never-quit’ attitude that rugby brings about is an absolute life lesson.”

Ciancutti played with the

Lakewood High School Team in his last 3 years at LHS including summer tournaments with the “Lakewood Goon Squad.” He was recruited to Bowling Green by former Lakewood resident Roger Mazzerella who has been heavily involved in Bowling Green State University Rugby for more than 35 years, currently as their talent evaluator and general manager.

Sam returns to BGSU in mid-January to resume his studies and begin training for the Spring “Sevens” series where BG has also dominated historically. The current men’s squad is ranked 15th in the country.

The team will travel to Wales (where rugby is religion they say) this May for a ten-day “exchange” including coaching and drill sessions with the London Wasps and matches against Brunel University, Cardiff University and York University.

“Ruggers” endure 2 seasons during a given year: It is “15 on 15” in the Fall and “7 on 7” in the Spring thus the nickname “Sevens Series.”



Sam Ciancutti (far right) takes the field against the Ohio State University.

Hot Off The Deck

WHERE LAKEWOOD TALKS - <http://lakewoodobserver.com/forum>

Topic	Author	Posts	LO Reads	Date Posted
Query : Should the Deck Create a "Lakewood Hospital" Forum	Matthew Lee	54	2202	Fri Jan 15, 2016
Should LHA Trustees Be Prohibited From Serving On the New Foundation	Brian Essi	0	10	Mon Jan 18, 2016
BL Whistles a Happy Tune	Michael Deneen	63	2704	Mon Jan 18, 2016
Lakewood Crime Blotter	Lori Allen	5	391	Mon Jan 18, 2016
Two Robberies Sunday - Be Aware	Jim O'Bryan	0	1171	Mon Jan 18, 2016
Where's the Beef?	Brian Essi	12	795	Mon Jan 18, 2016
Cleveland (area) to become Title Town in 2016?	Corey Rossen	1	174	Sun Jan 17, 2016
Bullock loses Leadership Bid-- Is His Political Career Over?	Brian Essi	20	890	Sun Jan 17, 2016
Trust, Assurances & Micromanaging	Jeff Dreger	12	730	Sun Jan 17, 2016
"Grandest" City Corruption Scandal?	Meg Ostrowski	10	1380	Sun Jan 17, 2016 Cox
Cable Woes....	Tim Liston	26	1782	Sat Jan 16, 2016
"Catching the Light in Lakewood"	Alex Belisle	231	12765	Sat Jan 16, 2016
Shared driveway snow removal	Alex Belisle	3	392	Fri Jan 15, 2016
Seconds DO Count - ER Diversions	Bridget Conant	17	1543	Fri Jan 15, 2016 KP
Friends to elect officers	Dan Alaimo	1	251	Fri Jan 15, 2016 Fear
And Loathing In Lakewood	Bill Call	18	1328	Fri Jan 15, 2016
Spring Garden Avenue	Allison L Urbanek	1	525	Thu Jan 14, 2016
Businesses that ignore request to shovel sidewalk & more	Ryan Salo	24	2696	Thu Jan 14, 2016
Browns Survey	Michael Deneen	14	640	Wed Jan 13, 2016
Storm Causes Problems And Fire On Clifton Blvd.	Jim O'Bryan	4	1833	Mon Jan 11, 2016
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LAKEWOOD IS ART

Lakewood Living

Lakewood Posts Another Solid Year In Real Estate

by Chris Bergin

The results are in! Despite rarely having more than 100 homes for sale any given month, Lakewood posted another solid year in real estate sales!

The sale of Single Family Homes improved for the 4th consecutive

year. Closed sales improved by more than 5%, seeing sales improve from 447 homes to 472. In 2012 total sales were 394.

The Median Sales Price improved by 3%, with half the homes selling for more than \$135k and half for less. In 2012 the Median

Sales Price was \$108k.

Other key indicators improved as well. Cumulative Days on Market, the total number of days it took for a house to sell, improved from 83 days in 2014 to 73. Back in 2012 it took 121 days to sell! Another key indicator, the List-Price-to-Sales-Price Ratio

improved from 97% to 98%. Back in 2012 homes were selling for 96% of list price. It's no surprise that the total Sales Volume increased in 2015 from \$69.1M to \$77.6M. In 2012 the total sales volume was \$50.3M.

So how did Lakewood stack up against other west side communities? While Rocky River saw total sales increase by over 10%, the Median Sales Price declined by more than 7%. Bay Village had a great year. Total sales in Bay improved by 29% and the Median Sales Price jumped nearly 16%. Fairview Park, Westlake, and North Olmsted all saw the total number of sales improve with their sales prices remaining flat. For a copy of the full report email me at Chris@ChrisBergin.com.

Heading into 2016 Lakewood only has 83 homes on the market (as of January 11). There have already been 2 "closed" sales, with another 48 homes under contract. If the trend continues, buyers will need to continue to sharpen their pencils and make strong offers in order to secure the home of their dreams. Go to www.HomeValuesInLakewood.Info and stay up to date with neighborhood listings, sales, and activity.

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

Achieve Fitness Studio Moves To Lakewood

by Lisa DeSico-Boyd

Achieve Fitness Studio recently moved from its Rocky River location on Detroit Road to right down the street and across the bridge into Lakewood. "We offered personal training, nutritional coaching and small group training at our Rocky River studio. I wanted to expand and offer more to my clients," explains Lisa DeSico-Boyd, owner of Achieve Fitness Studio.

"Most of our clients come for personal training and go everywhere else for classes. I wanted to expand so that my clients can take all these classes under one roof. I hired the best instructors in the area. My clients can take these classes at Achieve with the instructors they know from Lakewood and Rocky River." Achieve now will offer Barre, Pilates, Kettlebell, Zumba, Yogalates, Yoga, Boxing, TRX, Circuit City, Training Day, R.I.P.P.E.D, PiYo, Bars/Plates/Core and Killer X Training classes.

Achieve offers classes for every fitness level. Anyone can take classes because exercises are modified for each client. Clients range from 15 years to 87 years old, with classes like Zumba Gold and Yogalates designed especially for active older adults. Lisa notes, "We love working with clients of all ages."

The studio has two private train-



The new Achieve Fitness Studio location - now in Lakewood!

ing rooms and one large fitness room for group classes. "It's great to watch people walk in and to see the shock on their faces when they take in how big the new Achieve Studio is. You can't gauge the size from the storefront; you have to come in."

Lisa adds, "I really wanted to WOW people, so finding the right space was important. After a year of searching, I got just that!"

Now through January 31, Achieve

Fitness Studio is offering eight 30-minute training sessions for \$250 and eight 60- minute training sessions for \$450. Lock in at \$89 a month for 12 months of unlimited classes. For more information, visit www.ruready2b-fit.com or stop in the studio for a complimentary fitness assessment/consultation. Call 216-465-9335 to schedule an appointment.

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At right: Owner, Lisa, knew this new space would be just what her clients would want.

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