

LAKEWOOD CBSERVER

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

Volume 12, Issue 6, March 15, 2016

All Eyes On Lakewood In Pivotal Ohio Primary

by Margaret Brinich, Editor-In-Chief

Even with Election Day still several days away, the tumultuous 2016 primary season came to a feverish peak over the weekend here in Lakewood as MSNBC crews descended on The Root Café for live onsite coverage of Ohio's impending primary election. By Monday morning the giant satellite truck was gone, the metered parking spaces along Detroit were back open, and the seating inside was once again filled with "the regulars". But the main event –

voting – was still to come.

After months of predictions, projections, and polling by the pundits, on Tuesday night we finally got down to the real numbers as voters in Ohio had their say. Candidates and issues on the ballot ranged from the high profile, i.e. the presidential primary, all the way down to an assortment of races and issues at the state, county, and even the individual precinct level. Although votes were still being tallied in some races when it was time to go to print, here are the highlights of the night at the



The Root Café's crew never missed a beat and kept everything moving for customers all weekend with MSNBC broadcasting live from right here in Lakewood. Great work everyone!

time of publication with 88% of precincts reporting. Projected winners are listed in *bold italics*. **President (D)**

Hilary Clinton: 56%

Roque "Rocky" De La Fuente: 1%

Bernie Sanders: 43%

President (R) Ted Cruz: 14%

John R. Kasich: 46%

Marco Rubio: 2% Donald J. Trump: 36%

Senate (D)

Kelli Prather: 13% P.G. Sittenfeld: 22%

Ted Strickland: 65%

Senate (R)

Don Elijah Eckhart: 18% Rob Portman: 82% Cuyahoga County Prosecutor* Timothy J. McGinty: 46% Michael C. O'Malley: 54%

Health & Human Services Renewal Levy:

Yes: 69%

No: 31%

For more photos and coverage of Lakewood's moment in the national limelight see page 5 inside this issue or visit the Observation Deck at http://lakewoodobserver.com/forum.

*With 50% of precincts reporting in Cuyahoga County, this race was too close to call at the time of publication.

Vosh To Host Flock Community Meal Fundraiser April 21

by Gretchen Bulan

Serving up delicious meals for the community each month has been a mission for a dedicated and always-growing group of volunteers from St. Luke and St. James parishes in Lakewood. Since 1999, the Flock Community Meal has been hosted at one or both of the parishes, without missing a month and serving about 250 meals per month, at no cost to guests.

The largest source of funds for the meals comes from an annual fundraising event, traditionally hosted at a Lakewood venue, thanks to the generosity of long-time supporter and restaurant owner, Mickey Kri-



 ${\it Kitchen\ crew\ prepares\ the\ monthly\ meal\ at\ St.\ Luke.}$

vosh. This year's event will be held at Lakewood's Vosh night-club at 1414 Riverside Dr. on April 21 from 6–9 p.m. Admission is \$10 with tickets available

at each parish office or after Masses on April 9 and April 16. Tickets can also be purchased at the door on the night of the **continued on page15**

LHS Model UN Club Reaps Top Awards

by Christine Gordillo

Congratulations to the Lakewood High School Model United Nations Club for an outstanding performance at the Cleveland Council on World Affairs Conference held March 2-3 at Notre Dame College. The team placed second out of 15 teams and juniors Rachel Daso (representing Bangladesh in the Committee on the Status of Women) and Ian Bell (representing Nigeria on the UN Refugee Committee) won the "Gavel" as the top individual delegates in their committees.

Rachel Daso also won the position paper award with fellow delegate freshman Elizabeth Halko. Winning the Superior Delegation Award were seniors Kate McHugh and Tess Marjanovic (representing South Korea in the United Nations Children's Fund). Winning an Excellent Delegate Award was junior Zack Dudzik (representing The Ukraine in the UN General Assembly). Winning an Honorable Mention Award were sophomores Abe Dalisky and Kevin Cush (representing Kenya in the Human Rights Commission).

All LHS students worked hard and competed well. Senior leaders Tess Marjanovic, Alex Figueroa and Kate McHugh were instrumental to the club's success, as were training consultants Zach Dudzik and Rachel

Daso. Advisor Dr. Chuck Greanoff would like to congratulate all Model UN students on an outstanding conference.

The club also did very well at the Carnegie Mellon Conference in Pittsburgh March 12, capturing more awards than any other team. Leading the way were juniors Zach Dudzik and Erica Farr-Mirallia, who each won the "Gavel" for the best delegates in their respective committees. Freshman Elizabeth Halko and sophomore Kevin Cush were named Outstanding Delegates in their committees, while junior Ian Bell and senior Zeke Dalisky were named as Commendable Delegates.

Curtis Block Receives Historic Designation

by Hilary Schickler

Lakewood's Planning Commission finally took action with the second vote required to designate the Curtis Block at 14501 Detroit Avenue historic under Chapter 1134 of local code. The property was deemed eligible for designation in May. A full eight months later, designation was unanimously approved at January's Planning Commission meeting. The structure is now protected

under local ordinance, adding it to the growing list of designated structures in our community. Per local code, designation requires two votes; the first vote is based on eligibility and the second is to actually approve designation. The ordinance was changed to this two-part process in part to address situations where an owner does not support the designation of their properties. As seen throughout

continued on page 14



If this building had historical designation this would never have been allowed. As we know, the Bailey Building was recently restored to how it looked originally. (from CSU's Cleveland Memory Collection)

LO Calendar

Saturday, March 26, 2016

American Red Cross Blood Drive 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Help save 3 lives by donating 1 pint! Lite lunch available for donors. Please make an appointment, by calling the Red Cross at 800-733-2767. You can also set up your appointment on-line at redcrossblood.org.

Location: Lakewood Seventh-Day Adventist Church, 1382 Arthur Ave (behind Taco Bell) Lakewood

Thursday, March 31, 2016

Friends Preview Sale

6:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Friends of Lakewood Public Library host the Friends Spring Book Sale on Saturday, April 2, 2016 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Lakewood Public Library, 15425 Detroit Ave., Lakewood, Ohio 44107. Members-only preview sale on Thursday, March 31, 2016 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Memberships may be purchased at the door.

Location: Lakewood Public Library, 15425 Detroit Ave., Lakewood





Hot Off The Deck

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

Topic	Author	Posts	LO Reads	Date Posted
Election Day	Amy Martin	8	315	Tue Mar 15
Car Into Store Shuts Down Madison, Another	Jim O'Bryan	8	874	Tue Mar 15
Without a Carrot and Stick: How will City Hall Heal the Wound?	Brian Essi	7	394	Tue Mar 15
Mayor Summers' Deposition	Jim O'Bryan	0	413	Tue Mar 15
March 3, 2015 Stein & City Leaders Developing Site Plans for Hospital Re	Brian Essi development	11	1174	Mon Mar 14
Clouds got in the way	Jim O'Bryan	293	41998	Mon Mar 14
Signs, Signs, Everywhere	Jim O'Bryan	118	16303	Mon Mar 14
MSNBC Morning Joe Live From The Root Cafe	Jim O'Bryan	27	5322	Mon Mar 14
Knowing Your Home: Kitchen Remodeling	Allison L Urbanek	0	215	Mon Mar 14
Supt. Patterson Joins In Call For Changes at Ohio Dept. of Edu	Christine Gordillo cation	0	130	Mon Mar 14
Election News/History Question		. 8	453	Sun Mar 13

Over 100,000 topics that Lakewood is talking about or was talking about. Join the Conversation today!







Your Independent Source for Lakewood News & Opinion

Published biweekly with a current circulation of 10,000+ copies. The paper is made available free of charge and can be found at over 130 business locations within the City of Lakewood and on our website. The views and opinions expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the publisher and staff. Copyright 2015 • The Lakewood Observer, Inc. All rights reserved. Any reproduction is forbidden without written permission.

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

Become an Observer!

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

Upcoming Submission Deadline

March 20, 2016 April 3, 2016

Publish Date March 29, 2016 April 12, 2016

www.lakewoodobserver.com - 216.712.7070 14900 Detroit Avenue, Suite 205, Lakewood, OH 44107

The Lakewood Observer is powered by AGS's:



PUBLISHER Iim O'Bryan

EDITOR IN CHIEF Margaret Brinich

ASSOCIATE EDITOR Betsy Voinovich

ADVERTISING Troy Bratz 216.712.7070

ADVISORY BOARD - Steve Davis, Heidi Hilty, Dan Ott, Jeff Endress, Steve Ott, Vince Frantz, Margaret Brinich, Betsy Voinovich

OBSERVATION DECK BOARD - Thealexa Becker, Nicole Boose, Margaret Brinich, Vincent O'Keefe, Heather Ramsey, Casey Ryan, Betsy Voinovich

WEBMASTERS - Raul Montejo, Dan Ott

ILLUSTRATIONS - Rob Masek

PRODUCTION - A Graphic Solution, Inc.

PHOTOGRAPHY - Mary Bodnar, Gretchen Bulan, Angel Criado, Mike Deneen, Christine Gordillo, Tamron Hall, Nestor Nazario, Jim O'Bryan, and Holly Shaheen.

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS - Mona Atfield, Kathy Augustine, Chris Bergin, Christopher Bindel, Mary Bodnar, Mark Brinich, Kristin Broka, Gretchen Bulan, Cree Criado, Mike Deneen, Brian Essi, Marge Foley, Christine Gordillo, Kayla Henderson, John Hueter, Genevieve Jaskulski, Amy Kloss, Eric Knapp, Kathy Kosiorek, Janet Miller, Joan Miller, Pat Miller, Gerald Phillips, Elaine Rosenberger, Nikki Salupo, Megan Scheer, Hillary Schickler, Holly Shaheen, Fr. Sean Templeton, Allison Urbanek, and Jody Wilkerson.

City News

West Shore Council Of Governments (WCOG)

Meeting March 9, 2016

by LWVGC observers Nikki Salupo (Fairview Park) and Kathy Kosiorek (Lakewood)

This report is not an official statement of the League of Women Voters. Mayor Bobst's office prepares official minutes.

Present: Mayors Bobst (Rocky River), Clough (Westlake), Summers (Lakewood), Patton (Fairview Park), and Sutherland (Bay Village). Mayor Kennedy (North Olmsted) was absent.

County Office of Sustainability Director Mike Foley spoke. His department, formed 13 months ago, was created to encourage use of greener energy. He spoke about the Clean Energy Finance Hub, which will help businesses, institutions, local governments, and homeowners reduce their energy costs and access affordable clean energy retrofits and renewable power supplies. This bundling would take advantage of a 30% tax credit for

solar power installations. His department will also help cities by performing energy audits.

Newly appointed County Chief

Economic Development Officer Ted Carter introduced himself. He is from Jacksonville, Florida. He outlined how the county can assist communities in economic development. He will attend the May WCOG meeting.

Bay Village Law Director Gary Ebert spoke about the Mutual Aid Agreement to provide security for the Republican National Convention. Cleveland has asked cities for use of half of their police force—especially those that are Westshore Enforcement Bureau (WEB) trained. He asked mayors to check with their law directors about their city's liability insurance.

continued on page 7

Lakewood City Worker Michael Wilburn Succumbs To Brain Cancer

by Terrence Martau

City of Lakewood employee Michael D. Wilburn lost his 1½ year fight with brain cancer March 2nd. He was 49 years old. After graduating from Lakewood High School in 1984, Michael joined the Army and served as an infantryman with the 82nd Airborne Division. Michael served Lakewood in several departments, working as the city carpenter before becoming ill. His family wishes to express its sincere thanks to Michael's co-workers and friends for their loving support. The family would also like to thank the

Hospice of the Western Reserve, Ames Hospice House in Westlake, OH.

Services were handled by the Busch Funeral Home in Avon, OH. Michael was interred at the Ohio Western Reserve National Cemetery March 11th, a military honor service at the cemetery followed by a Celebration of Life party at the East End in Lakewood. Dear son of Delmar Wilburn (Jeanne) and Susan Green (nee Alward), Michael was the beloved husband of Jennifer M. Baldesare-Wilburn, loving father to Owen M. and Liam R., brother to Michelle Martau (Terry), Melissa Wilburn, George Wilburn (Kellie), Mindy Overby (David) and Megan Wilburn, uncle to many. To help the young family with medical bills and other expenses associated with Mike's long illness, a friend has set up a gofundme.com page at https://www. gofundme.com/42s6d2yc.



Michael Wilburn with sons Owen and Liam.

DAN O'MALLEY
LAKEWOOD * WARD 4

Our Neighbor, Our Voice!

Choose a **UH doctor** in your neighborhood.



Good health starts with great primary care.

Now accepting new patients.

University Hospitals has the largest family and internal medicine network in Northeast Ohio. We are committed to building a healthy relationship with you and your family to detect and minimize long-term health issues.

All major insurance plans accepted, including Medical Mutual of Ohio (MMO) SuperMed

Westshore Primary Care | 440-333-1107

19800 Detroit Road, Rocky River, Ohio 44116

Rebecca Fredrick, DO David Gumucio, DO Colleen Staszak, DO

UH Ohio Medical Group | 440-414-9560

20006 Detroit Road, Suite 101, Rocky River, Ohio 44116

Philip M. Blitz, DO Julie D. Kayes, MD Stacy A. Schmotzer, MD



1-866-UH4-CARE (1-866-844-2273)
UHhospitals.org/PrimaryCare

Call or visit us online to make an appointment with a UH doctor.

© 2016 University Hospitals PCP 00021

City News

Council Places Petition Referendum On November Ballot

The March 7, 2016 Council meeting was called to order at 7:41 P.M. by Council President and Ward 2 Councilman Sam O'Leary.

The first agenda item addressed by Council was a resolution congratulating Lakewood Public Library on receiving a five-star rating from Library Journal. The rating is based on comparing libraries with similar budgets and service areas. Other five-star library systems in the area include Cleveland, Cleveland Heights—University Heights, and Cuyahoga County Libraries. However, Lakewood still remains one of the only libraries in the state that is open seven nights a week.

Councilman Tom Bullock (At-Large) said that though it is something they almost come to expect, it is important that the city does not take the caliber of the library we enjoy for granted, and that it's times like these that the city is reminded how lucky they are.

Councilman Ryan Nowlin (At-Large) said, "the Library is one of my favorite places in Lakewood." He said that he remembers spending lots of time there as a kid and now enjoys bringing his own.

Council passed the resolution.

Lakewood Library Director James Crawford was present to make a few remarks to Council. He thanked them for recognizing the Library for its achievement and informed them that the Library is celebrating its centennial as well, in 2016. He also mentioned that they have plans to concentrate on improving the Madison branch in the near future. The Madison Branch was designed by the same firm that designed Severance Hall, and recent inspections concluded that the building would last at least another 100 years. Last year the branch provided 2000 students with homework help, which is more than the Main branch. They also hosted over 7,800 people for various 12-step programs. A capital campaign will begin soon to raise money to help the Library replace aging heating, ventilation, electrical systems and all the windows.

The next item on the agenda was the referendum of the Lakewood Hospital deal. According to the rules guiding Council through this scenario, when a



by Christopher Bindel

citizen referendum is made, the Council is given the option to repeal their previous decision or send the issue to the voters. With the referendum being received by the City with the certified signatures early last month, this meeting makes the third reading of the resolution and the time Council can decide how they would like to act.

Councilman O'Leary opened the discussion of this resolution with a statement from the Committee of the Whole deliberations. He began by stating that they have had public meetings on this issue, both from the beginning and since the referendum, and he said that they have not heard any new information since the referendum that would cause them to question the initial actions of themselves or the Administration. Due to that, the Council has decided not to appeal the Master Agreement resolution from December. "The facts," he continued, "supported by Council, the Courts, and the voters support the reinvention of healthcare in the city. Facts support the closure of the Hospital in favor of more robust outpatient facilities."

He informed those assembled that the voters will have their chance to voice their opinion on the matter in November's election. This was not what many wanted to hear, hoping to have this issue decided sooner than that. However, a special election would cost the city nearly \$90,000 dollars. Councilman O'Leary said that "many on Council see [spending that kind of money] as an irresponsible use of taxpayer dollars and that it would be irresponsible for them to recommend such a thing when so many factors suggest November would be a better time." Most notably the fact that for an issue of such importance, one should want the highest percentage of the electorate to have their voices heard, and traditionally November general elections have much larger draws than primaries.

Once Councilman O'Leary was done making his statement, Councilman Bullock and Councilwoman Cindy Marx (At Large) both spoke about how they supported the decision to wait until November, also citing the cost of a special election, stating that it would be a poor way to spend money. Councilman O'Malley (Ward IV) made a statement lamenting the length of time between the primary and general election this year stating that it wasn't fair to make the citizens have to wait that long, however he did not make clear whether or not he supported the decision to place the issue on the November ballot.

Council President O'Leary then proceeded with the sign-up sheet for public comment on the resolution. Twelve people proceeded to speak, all have spoken several times at previous meetings. All but one were members or sympathizers of Save Lakewood Hospi-

tal. The public comment time, with some responses from members of Council and the Administration, lasted over an hour. Once everyone was given a chance to speak, Council voted on the resolution that would place the issue on the November Ballot, and passed it unanimously.

Next Councilwoman Marx asked Council to pass a resolution encouraging voters to support Issue 23 on the March 15, 2016 ballot. The issue is a tax renewal, with no increase, that supports the Cuyahoga County Health and Human Services Department. These specific funds are spent on the prevention, early intervention and trauma services including funding for Metro-Health Hospital for children at risk of abuse and neglect, as well as services that help keep seniors healthy and in their homes.

Council passed the resolution.

Director of Planning and Development, Dru Siley then asked Council to consider an ordinance that would allow the administration to sell various vacant lots they have acquired through the County due to tax foreclosure. All of them were nuisance properties which were subsequently demolished by the City.

Council referred the matter to the Housing Committee.

Director Siley then asked Council to consider passing a resolution that would allow him to enter into contracts for asbestos abatement and demolition of the Hilliard Theater. After slowly decaying for years, in 2012 the Theater received severe damage during Hurricane Sandy. With the owner of the property not able to properly fix and maintain it, the City declared it a public nuisance in September of 2013 and soon removed the unstable canopy that hung over the

road. They also closed the sidewalk due to the risk of debris falling from the façade. Due to the size of the building and the amount of asbestos contained within it the lowest bid the City could get for the removal was over half a million dollars. The Administration is asking for contracting authority for a million dollars for both the abatement and demolition, however the City will not take the full impact of that cost. The City has already been awarded a \$200,000 asbestos abatement grant for the project with the hopes of receiving further reimbursements after the project is completed. One grant requires the City to own the property to receive it. The City has been working on an agreement with the property owner to take ownership of it.

Council referred the matter to the Committee of the Whole.

The final item on the agenda was from Fire Chief Gilman asking Council to pass a resolution that would proclaim the week of March 20-26, 2016 Severe Weather Awareness Week in Lakewood. Lakewood would join the rest of the state in preparing for severe weather by participating in the statewide tornado drill and public education and outreach.

Council passed the resolution.

With all agenda items addressed, Council moved on to receiving public comment. Ten people spoke during the public comment section of the meeting, six of whom spoke earlier during the comment period on the referendum agenda item. All ten spoke on the hospital issue. The comments and responses from members of Council lasted 53 minutes.

Once all public comments had been heard, Council President O'Leary adjourned the meeting at 10:46 P.M.

Lucien Realty Celebrates 40 Years Of Service!

by Chris Bergin

On March 1, 1976 the partnership of Nick Hoty, Ron Lucien and Ted Bernet opened a real estate office under the name of Center Ridge Realty on Center Ridge Rd in Rocky River. Shortly thereafter, the name was changed to Century 21 Hoty Realty. In December of 1980, Ron Lucien took over sole ownership of the company, changed the name to Century 21 Lucien & Associates Inc. and moved to 14817 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood. The relationship with Century 21 lasted for 26 years in which time the company grew to one of the most successful franchises in Ohio. Committed to expanding services to their agents and clients, the company switched to Prudential Lucien Realty in 2002. With Prudential, the vision for the company expanded

and embraced advances in technology. When the Prudential Brand was purchased in 2010 by Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices, Lucien Realty enthusiastically joined the new franchise becoming Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Lucien Realty. Additional offices in Westlake and Amherst then joined the flagship Lakewood office.

Through all the transitions, the company maintained its core values of Trust, Integrity, Honesty and Caring.

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Lucien Realty is a family-owned and managed company with Ron Lucien and his son John heading up the family of agents who are truly committed to serving the needs of their clients. Berkshire Hathaway Home-Services Lucien Realty is very proud to have been a Lakewood institution for 40 years.

Election 2016

MSNBC, Root Café, Thank You For The Great Time

by Jim O'Bryan

A huge thank you to MSNBC and their road crew for stopping by Lakewood and setting up in what can best be referred to as the heart and soul of Lakewood, the Root Café! Likewise, thank you to Julie and Bobby for inviting them in, for what ended up being a great PR move for the entire city of Lakewood. The first day alone there were more than 25 mentions of the



Julie Hutchison, owner of the Root Café checks out the set.

City of Lakewood on air, even "City of Lakewood, a Great Place To Call Home". The entire 3-day ordeal went off without a hitch.

I've spent most of my life interacting with the media one way or another. From hotdog carts, to motor sports, to BP America to the Observer, interacting with media always seems to be a part of the job. So I have seen a lot of celebrities, and have seen a lot of media

rooms and location spots. I have to tell you, this MSNBC crew was the nicest and friendliest I have ever been around, and it was the little things that totally blew me away. Example, a young boy and his mother had been standing outside waiting to get in at the opening. There was no line, but they wanted to make sure they got good seats. So they looked around and picked one. A cameraman with the crew, who said that he grew up in Mentor, placed someone in the anchor's chair, checked the camera, walked back to the mother and said, "If we move this table left a foot, your son will be on TV all morning." When I commented on how nice he was he said, "Hell I have kids, I get it." I had never seen this before.

They set up a makeshift make-up area between the men's and women's bathrooms, and for hours people would watch pundits getting the glow knocked off their faces, and make-up being applied. In between work, the young women would look over and ask one of the kids, "You ready for make-up?" even getting them into the chair, and performing the ritual on them, as they giggled and their friends would squeal, "I'm next!" and often they were.

Most on-location crews are courteous good people, they realize that they are representing their companies when they are interacting with the public.

You could tell they truly enjoyed interacting with people and fans in a peaceful and friendly environment. I was there for a total of 6 hours over the two days. I must have seen Cleveland's own Chris Jansing and Tamron Hall pose for 300 selfies. No exaggeration. As long as the person was respectful and polite, they always got one. When



they are not working, they have no problem posing with kids, dogs, families, friends, staff whoever. BUT, we all need to remember they are working, it is their office, and they are trying to get through it, just like you and I when we are at work. Also, because they are celebrities and have not only opinions

but good looks, they have stalkers.

Above: Saturday morning some of the kids in the cafe were checking out the make-up center and plotting.

Left: Soon the woman smiled and said, "Who wants theirs done?" and Hazel jumped in, followed by friends.

Here in Lakewood, they were keeping an eye out for a person of interest who was following them from state to state, yelling at anchors while they were broadcasting about being unfair to Bernie. Another person of interest tweeted, "I am going to try to get close to Tamron Hall" on Sunday. Creepy stuff, so realize they also deal with sick people, respect their office, and respect their space, always.

How To Act Around Celebrities And Why It Matters

by Jim O'Bryan

Since MSNBC is coming back, along with other media, and we have movies filming and other celebrities here all the time, maybe a short list of do's and don'ts would be in order.

1) Celebrities don't owe you anything, treat them as people, and equals.

2) If you ask for a selfie, offer your phone to do it. Celebrities do this hundreds of times a day, and never get nervous. Also, they like to be in control of their images...

3) No flash photos.

4) Always ask, if you are approaching their space, to take a photo.

5) On a news or movie set, seek out security and/or the production manager, and tell them what you're looking for. They will often show you exactly where to stand to get a good photo and/or to talk or get autographs.

6) NEVER interrupt celebrities while they are eating or in a meeting.

7) Be nonchalant and open with a smile, expecting to hear "sorry not right now."

8) Wait to be invited into their space, as opposed to freaking out and jumping in.

9) Remember 1, and that every-

one has good days and bad days, good times and bad times. Enjoy the experience for what it is.

10) Media crashers just remember, you are reflecting on all of us.

Why does it matter? No matter how any of us feel about how the city is being run, the easiest and fastest way to evaluate the health of a city is through



Lakewood's Cowboy George, aka George Seres, owner of Blaze Gourmet hams it up while MSNBC's Tamron Hall works the camera. (http://blazegourmet.com)

home sales and home prices.

Cuyahoga County is still shrinking, losing about 4.5 people a day. We have been told that Downtown Cleveland is the fastest growing area. Through all of this, Lakewood has held its own, and done surprisingly well. Lakewood homes are selling over their asking prices, in days, not weeks



Being nice, friendly and open will get fun shots like this.

or months. Having the entire MSNBC crew broadcasting good things about Lakewood from the Root only made that better, showcasing Lakewood, Ohio in a positive light to the entire country. The MSNBC crew loved Lakewood and we loved having them and other film crews here.



OK you are out of here!

Lakewood Public Library

Spring Book Sale

by Genevieve Jaskulski

Come join us for our springtime book sale on Saturday April 2, beginning at 9 a.m., and continuing until 5 p.m. in our main library basement. As always, you may view the selection early, on Thursday March 31 from 6 to 9 p.m., at our preview book sale. All you need to do is become a member of the Friends of the Library. For those who wish to sign up, a membership fee is only \$2.00 a year.

The profit and hard work of each book sale goes into the programs and amenities we offer here at Lakewood Public Library, and there is so much the Friends do to make sure that there is an amazing selection of things to choose from at the sale. A membership may be purchased at our main circulation desk, through the mail, through the library's website at lakewoodpubliclibrary.org or even at the door of the book sale.

This time around our book sale features a very special first edition, an autographed copy of the book "The Wild Country" by Louis Bromfield, originally published in 1948 by the publishing company Harper and Brothers. Bromfield, born in 1896, was and still is very highly esteemed in the agricultural world, and had his beginnings right here in Mansfield, Ohio. He devoted a large amount of his life to the study of farming, many techniques he perfected are still used in harvesting our food today.

The sale will also have an amazing selection of classical and religious sheet music, donated from Pilgrim St. Paul's Lutheran Church, as well as sheet music from their choir collection featuring both children and adult choirs, which the friends are willing to donate to a good home that could use

them. This will be the last book sale where audiobooks are available on cassette tape. However, we will continue to stock audiobooks on CD.

As the weather warms up, and the world comes back to life around us, it's the perfect time to curl up outside with a good book, so come see us and find the perfect spring-time adventure!

America's Military: Too Big To Fail?

by Amy Kloss

Journalist James McCartney first experienced military life as a foot soldier in France and Germany during World War II. At 19 years old, he was marching past rotting corpses, dodging land mines and spending nights in a foxhole in six inches of freezing water. He later spent much of his life as a Washington-based writer covering national security, reporting on war and conflict from more than thirty different countries.

His unique understanding of military security and America's military involvements resulted in "America's War Machine: Vested Interests, Endless Conflicts." Although McCartney died in 2011 before he could finish the book, his wife, Molly Sinclair McCartney, completed his manuscript and published the book in 2015. Washington Post reporter Molly McCartney will appear Thursday, March 31 at 7 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium to discuss "America's War Machine."

In the book, the authors argue that defense spending is out of control because of political and economic forces that push us into wars and interventions. Members of Congress rarely oppose jobs created by defense spending and sometimes approve the building of weapons that the Pentagon does not want or need. This has resulted in record levels of defense spending, but has all this spending made the world safer? The authors argue that excess military spending erodes our democracy, leads to endless conflicts and adds to our national debt.

Join Molly McCartney on March 31 at Lakewood Public Library to hear her arguments on the perils of our military-industrial complex.



By supporting The Lakewood Observer, you are supporting free speech.

Carabel Beauty Salon & Store

Breaking News! New Green Wigs in for St. Pats Day, also in with more to arrive Anime Wigs added to our party wig selections.

Full service salon for females Call for an appointment for best service. Free Private Parking. Check with Id or cash

15309 Madison Avenue • 216.226.8616



Lakewood Public Library

Calendar Of Events

compiled by Elaine Rosenberger

Thursday, March 17

Booked for Murder: Murder by Any Other NameJoin us as we discuss "The Black-Eyed Blonde" by Benjamin Black.

7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Meeting Room

Saturday, March 19

"Cooley High" (1975)

Directed by Michael Schultz

Best friends Preach and Cochise hang out, play craps, pick up girls and make new friends—while trying to stay out of trouble. But things change when they cross paths with a pair of hardened criminals. Called the black "American Graffiti," "Cooley High" remains ahead of its time in introducing black teen comedy to American cinema.

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

Sunday, March 20

Sunday Cinema: "The Letter" (1940)

On a sultry Malaysian night Bette Davis, the wife of rubber plantation, shoots a man in front of their home. Although it seems a clear cut incident of Davis protecting herself, the attorney general in Singapore decides she should stand trial for the man's death. James Stephenson represents her in court and makes a strong case for self-defense... But was it? Barbara Steffek-Hill returns to the Lakewood Public Library to present a series of classic films chosen from her personal favorites.

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

Wednesday, March 23

Women in History: Margaret Manor Butler

Margaret Manor Butler was the forward-thinking Lakewoodite responsible for moving the Old Stone House from its original location to Lakewood Park. She enjoyed roaming the streets of Lakewood and became such an expert on Lakewood history that she wrote books on the subject, including "The Lakewood Story" and "The Romance of Lakewood Streets." A performer from Women in History will tell Butler's story in the first person, illuminating the story of the Library and the City along the way with warm anecdotes and vintage photographs.

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

Thursday, March 24

Meet the Author

"Heartworm" by Ben Vendetta

Britpop, booze, cults and a questionable Chinese restaurant bar? It's 1995 and small-time music critic Drew has a desire for destruction. While championing an underdog Irish band, Whipping Boy, he embarks on a voyage of sex and drugs from Boston to Belfast while burying memories of his estranged wife—who is now in danger. Books will be available for sale and signing at the event.

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

Tuesday, March 29

Introduction to Ancestry: Library Edition

Genealogist Deborah Abbott shows you how to unlock the secrets held by census reports, military records, birth certificates and death notices in this hands-on workshop. 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

Wednesday, March 30

Lakewood Historical Society

"Lost Cleveland: Seven Wonders of the Sixth City"

by Michael DeAloia

From Severance Hall, still home to the Cleveland Orchestra and the only structure in this collection that remains standing, to "Andrew's Folly," the grandest house built on the legendary Millionaires' Row, "Lost Cleveland" provides a revealing historical retrospective on the growth, development and ultimate decline of the North Coast's greatest city. Books will be available for sale and signing at the event.

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

West Shore Council Of Governments (WCOG) Meeting March 9, 2016

continued from page 3

Fiscal Officer Renee Mahoney presented WEB's January financials and consideration of new WEB pay rates.

Susanne Blackburn, CERT Coordinator candidate, was introduced and spoke briefly about her qualifications. The position will be 10-15 hours per week, with an office in Westlake.

NOACA will discuss the funding of Fix-It First project.

County Planning Commission—there is a need to train city's citizens

who volunteer for this job.

Cuyahoga County Mayors & Managers Association (CCMMA) will discuss the impact of loss of funding previously attained through the Local Government Fund. They will meet in Columbus to educate our state legislators.

The meeting was called to order at 9:31 a.m. and adjourned at 11:23. District 1 Cuyahoga Council Member David Greenspan and CCMMA Executive Director Lisa Barlow were also in attendance.

Children/Youth Events

compiled by Eric Knapp

Wednesday, March 16

Happy 100th Birthday, Beverly Cleary!

For the school-age children

Beverly Cleary turns 100 this year and we'll celebrate with fun activities based on her books. Registration required.

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

Saturday, March 19

Scales and Tails Reptile Demonstration

For the whole family

Get up close and personal with our cold-blooded friends! Free and open to the public. No registration required.

7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Multipurpose Room.

Sunday, March 20

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.

Scales And Tails: Reptiles

by Marge Foley

Scales and Tails of Northeast Ohio was started by Cleveland native Mike Easter as the culmination of a life-long fascination with lizards, snakes, turtles, and frogs. It was when he transferred to a college in south Florida that a life path started to form. Surrounded by the Everglades, Mike's passion for animals increased significantly. He has spent more than ten years working with exotic animals ranging from snakes and crocodiles to big cats and birds of prey. But his true interest is reptiles. Mike is now educating people of all ages about

these amazing animals through exciting, interactive demonstrations.

Bring your children to the Lakewood Public Library on Saturday, March 19, 2016 for the Scales and Tails Reptile Demonstration and learn to understand and appreciate a variety of cold-blooded reptilian friends. Generously funded by the Friends of the Lakewood Public Library, this program will take place in the Main Library Multipurpose Room, which is located in Children's and Youth Services. No registration is required. The demonstration will begin at 7:00 p.m.

Cleaning/Janitorial Opening At Lakewood Public Library

by Jody Wilkerson

The Lakewood Public Library is seeking an energetic, organized individual to perform maintenance routines including dusting; floor care; collecting trash; cleaning restrooms; shoveling snow; basic electrical and plumbing; must be able to lift 75 lbs. Valid Ohio driver's license required to drive Library commercial van. Day, evening, and weekend work. 40 hours per week. Salary is \$12 per hour. Application deadline is Friday, April 1, 2016. Qualified and interested applicant may call Jody Wilkerson at (216) 226-8275 ext.104 to arrange for an application.



18514 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood, OH 44107 phone: 216-521-7684

fax: 216-521-9518

West End Tavern presents:

"Saturday

Bloody Mary Bar"

envina Prostfort/I un o

Serving Breakfast/Lunch

featuring our famous Gourmet Meatloaf Stack and Savory Pot Roast

Savory Pot Roast Voted Best Hamburger On The Northcoast! "Sunday Brunch"

A 20-Year Lakewood Tradition

Eggs Benedict • Eggs Sardoux •
Stuffed French Toast • Pot Roast Hash
Omelets • Fritatas • and more!
featuring our famous
"Mega Mimosas"

Lakewood Schools

LHS Students' Work Chosen For State Art Show

by Christine Gordillo

Lakewood High art students fared extremely well in the Ohio Governor's Youth Art Exhibition regional competition, with four pieces of students' work selected to be part of the exhibition in Columbus next month.

"We have never had four winners at the state level," said Art Department teacher and facilitator Amy Sedlak. "This is truly exciting!"

Judges received more than 1,000 entries from high school students across

Northeast Ohio and from those, 126 were selected to join winners from the other Ohio regions to be judged at the state level to determine which pieces of art will hang in the James A. Rhodes State Office Tower in Columbus during the months of April and May. Of those 126 pieces, senior Isabel Romeo had two drawings selected for the exhibition, senior Alex Rosul had a painting selected and junior Ned Bruere a drawing.

In addition to those students whose art was selected to be shown in Columbus,

This bus scene painting by senior Alex Rosul will also hang in the State Office Tower in Columbus for the Governor's Youth Art Exhibition.

Annual LHS Physics Cardboard Boat Regatta



Students in LHS Physics classes competed in the annual Cardboard Boat Regatta on March 1. Students were required to build boats out of two materials: cardboard and packaging tape. Teams of two then attempt to cross the pool in the fastest time. It's always a fun exercise in physics principles and trying to stay dry!

seven other LHS and West Shore Career-Tech students' art was honored at the regional competition by being selected to be judged at the state level. The following students had their art work judged for possible selection into the exhibition: seniors Shaun Chapman and Owen Smith, juniors Jesse Miller, Madeline Schwartz and Maya Sutliff, sophomore Kazimir Klein, freshman Lillian Horschke. Their teachers are Dayna Hansen, Anne McQuay, Arline Orlear and Amy Sedlak.

From the 11,500 regional entries from the 15 regions, approximately 2,500 are selected to enter the state judging. State jurors then select 300 for the actual exhibition, with 25 of the 300 chosen to receive the Governor's Award of Excellence.

Scholarships are offered to seniors by over 30 universities and colleges of art. The selection of students to be offered scholarships is left strictly up to those institutions who offer them. The Governor's Exhibition is merely a vehicle through which schools and students are brought together.

The Ohio Governor's Youth Art Exhibition, now in its 46th year, is open to all of Ohio's 1,112 high schools, both public and private. Its purpose is to provide all budding young artists of the state with opportunities to advance their talent, whether that be through scholarships or simply experiencing the process of entering their work in a competition.

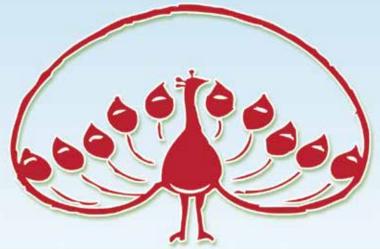


Junior Ned Bruere's drawing "Mutation" was one of four LHS pieces selected for display in the Governor's Youth Art Exhibition.



Dear Valued Customers of India Garden and Namaste,

Thank you Lakewood for your support and patronage in making India Garden and Namaste India Garden your favorite Indian Cuisine Restaurants in Northern Ohio.



OPEN EASTER | CLOSED EASTER

INDIA GARDEN

Lunch Buffet \$9.95 18405 Detroit Ave. 216-221-0676 Open Daily Lunch 11am - 2:30pm Sat. & Sun. 11:30am - 3:00pm Dinner 5pm - 10pm

NAMASTE INDIA GARDEN

Southern Indian Cuisine 14412 Detroit Ave. 216-221-4800 Hours: Monday - Closed Tuesday - Sunday 11:30am -9:30pm

Ask About Gift Certificates And Catering



Lakewood Schools

LHS Academic Challenge Team Takes Home Conference Championship

by Christine Gordillo

In its first year in the Southwest Conference, the Lakewood High Academic Challange team finished 9-0 to claim the coference crown. The team followed the regular-season title with a second place in the conference tournament, losing narrowly to Westlake. The team now moves into regional, state, and national competition. Over

the past four years the team has had an impressive interleague record of 36-3.

The varsity team is comprised of seniors Robby Fehrenbach (captain), Alex Grunder, Jon Pizzo, Fox Milenski and Zeke Dalisky; juniors Ian Bell and Evan Suttell; and sophomores Brian Donahoe and Kevin Cush.

Earlier in the year, Lakewood competed and won at a 12-team tournament in Warren, Ohio. On the strength of successes at that tournament and the recent conference title, Lakewood will again advance to a National Tournament in Washington, D.C. in early June.

Participation on the team has grown dramatically in the last few years. Starting with a nucleus of six members four years ago, the team now boasts 19 members, which allows

advisers Peter Petto and Robert Sedlak to enter two strong teams at events.

In addition to those listed earlier, other team members are: sophomores Abe Dalisky, Erika Hakko, Veronica Lee, Damien Jouriles, Calvin Dolatowsky, Seamus Holian, Andrew van Auken and Zach Howe; and freshmen Tim Daso and Jim Ferrone.

The team plans on sending two teams to the Washington, D.C. tournament June 1-3. Those wishing to aid the team in its annual fundraiser to finance the registration fees, hotel, food, and travel expenses for the trip, are encouraged to do the following: Send checks made out to the Lakewood Academic Challenge Team to the attention of either the Treasurer of Lakewood City Schools, 1470 Warren Road, or c/o Robert Sedlak, Lakewood High School, 14100 Franklin Blvd.

Lakewood High School Senior Earns Girl Scout Gold Award

by Mona Atfield

LHS Senior Claire Black has reached the highest achievement in Girl Scouting by earning her Girl Scout Gold Award. Claire joined Girl Scouts of Northeast Ohio's Troop #352 in 2005, as a Brownie in the 2nd grade. Claire's mother Diane Black, and Grandmother Irene Twohig, were also Girl Scouts. As a Gold Award recipient, Claire is part of an elite group of women as 2016 marks 100 years of extraordinary projects from extraordinary girls earning this award.

Claire completed a minimum of 80 hours of work in planning and completing her "Take Action" project, working with the Lakewood H20 counselors and campers, during the summer of 2014. Claire's project consisted of teaching counselors & campers how to build compost bins, while also emphasizing the importance of composting and recycling, for all 4 sessions of the H2O summer service camp, grades 6-9. Claire's project included a "Compost IS Right" game, Power Point presentation, YouTube video, brochure, & scrapbook documenting each step of the project. For more information about her project visit: https://m. youtube.com/watch?feature=youtu. be&v=8dpsrv8lKZg.

Gold Award requirements include planning and implementing an individual "Take Action" project that

reaches beyond the Girl Scout organization and provides a sustainable, lasting benefit to the girl's larger community. A project proposal must be submitted and approved by the girl's local council before starting the project and a final report, after the project's completion, must be submitted. As her GS leader, I accompanied Claire to her final review, which took place in downtown Cleveland on Thursday, February 18th, where she was granted this high honor. A ceremony will be held in June at the GSNEO council office in Macedonia, OH.

The GS Gold Award has inspired girls to find the greatness inside themselves and share their ideas and passions with their communities. Only 5.4% of eligible Girl Scouts successfully earn the Gold Award.

Claire is a member of the LHS Band, Chamber Choir, The Fourtes, Barnstormers (President), and is a captain for the LHS Track & Field team. Claire plans to attend college in the fall in the fields of neuroscience and psychology.

"Congratulations Claire! "I am so proud of you for following the Girl Scout law and for making the world a better place! You go girl!"

- Mona Atfield, GS Leader Ambassador Troop #352 & Cadette Troop #133

Mona Atfield is a Lakewood resident with two children who attend Lakewood City Schools.





Easter baskets with BLING! Nail polish- buy one, get second at 1/2 price. Cutest hair accessories: little bonnets on hair clips, bows.

Princess package!

Girls 4-11 years old- hair, nails & hair accessory \$11.80

Call for an appointment for best service.

Free Private Parking. Check with Id or cash

15309 Madison Avenue • 216.226.8616







Roman Fountain is one of the most well-known and loved pizzeria in Lakewood, Ohio. Roman Fountain has been serving up pizza since the mid 1950's with award winning pizza, calzone, stromboli, subs, pasta, wings, and salads.

Whether carryout or delivery, we provide your family with the freshest of toppings (over 25 to choose from) on our pizza. With dough and sauce made daily from our own recipe and freshly grated blend of mozzarella & provolone cheese, we provide a great pizza for you and your family

At Roman Fountain you can find all your favorites:

- Pizza
- Calzones
- Stromboli
- Wings
- Salads
- Appetizers Desserts

Subs

- Dinners

To see our menu or coupons please go to www.romanfountain.com Or stop by at 15603 Detroit Ave Near the corner of Lakeland Ave

Call us at 216-221-6633

Sports

High School Sports Notes:

Eagles Fall, Cheerleaders Plunge, Spring Blooms

by Mike Deneen

IGNATIUS KNOCKS OUT EAGLES AT WOLSTEIN CENTER

The St. Edward basketball season ended with a 58-51 loss to St. Ignatius on March 12 at the Cleveland State University Wolstein Center. The loss ended the season for the Eagles (16-8), who finished as district runners-up. Eagle guard Sean Flannery led all scorers with 16 points, including 6 in the final two minutes of a furious fourth quarter. However, it was not enough to prevent the senior's high school career from ending.

Ignatius jumped out to a big advantage early, leading 20-11 after the first quarter. They widened the lead to 31-16 with just over 3 minutes left in the first half, surprising the crowd of over 4,301 in attendance. The teams split two regular season games, each winning by only three points on their home court...no one expected this game to be a rout. St. Edward came alive in those final three minutes of the half, going on a 13-2 run led by senior Matthew Gonzalez who scored 7 points.

St. Edward continued their pace in the second half, going on an 8-2 to start the third. Junior guard Jack Sullivan hit a three-pointer to give the Eagles a 38-36 lead with 5:20 left in the period. This sparked rejoicing among the St. Edward fans in attendance, and set up a classic finish. The Wildcats regained their composure, taking a 43-39 lead by



Eagle center Kelvin Calhoun guards Wildcat big man Matt Devet.

the end of the third quarter.

The final quarter was a frantic battle, as the Eagles tied the game at 45 with just over three minutes left in the game. Ignatius retook the lead with two minutes to go, and Eagle leader Sean Flannery fought to get St. Edward back in the game. He hit a huge three-pointer and a pair of crucial free throws down the stretch, each keeping the Eagles within one score. However, the Wildcats hit key free throws in the final 25 seconds to put the game away.

LHS POLE VAULTER FINISHES THIRD IN STATE

LHS pole vaulter Jimmy Toner,

who last month set a new LHS boys indoor pole vaulting record, broke the record again on March 5 at the State Indoor Championships. Toner reached 15 feet, which placed him third in the state. Toner, a senior with aspirations of competing in college, moved on to compete in the national championships in New York City on March 12.

LHS TRACK AND FIELD PRACTICE UNDERWAY

The unseasonably warm March weather was a welcome sight for the LHS Track and Field teams, who started outdoor practice on March 7. It was 60 degrees on the first day of practice, a pleasant change from most years. Turnout for this year's squads was high. For example, the girls team has over 80 participants, up from only 50 members as recently as three years ago. Head Coach Stephanie Toole is pleased with the growth. "I tell them it won't be easy but it will be worth it," said Toole, who attributes positive word-of-mouth among students as a reason for the gains. "We work hard. But we have fun."

Both the boys and girls track and field teams will open the outdoor season against Berea-Midpark on April 7 at First Federal Stadium. Keep reading future editions of Lakewood Observer for updates on the teams.

CHEERLEADERS MAKE "POLAR PLUNGE"

The LHS Cheerleaders successfully completed their "Polar Plunge" on February 27, jumping into Lake Erie as part of the fundraiser for Special Olympics Ohio. The event happened at Breakwater Beach in Geneva-on-the-Lake.We are pleased to report that no one was lost during the plunge, although lots of blankets and a heated tent were needed after they came out of the frigid water.

The Cheerleaders have raised \$745 so far for the plunge. Donations can still be made for the next forty days. If you would like to contribute, visit the LHS Cheer Facebook page, which is titled "Lakewood Rangers Cheerleaders."



 $St.\ Edward\ students\ chose\ a\ "toga"\ theme\ for\ the\ big\ game.$



LHS Cheerleaders warm up after jumping into Lake Erie on February 27 to raise money for Special Olympics.





Lakewood Cares

How To Have A Safe & Sane Kielbasafest This Year

by Joe Gombarcik

Hallelujah, the season is finally here! Along with this most holy time of Easter comes another fond, though obscure, tradition. Yes, it is once again time for the beloved Kielbasafest, that legendary ethnic event, the news of which is spreading fast across the continent. An Old World tradition updated, this family-friendly, non-alcoholic, creative celebration is held every year on Holy Saturday (or Sausage Saturday as some good-natured "Link"In-connoisseurs have named it).

Along with singing, gaming (word search contests being the traditional competition of choice) and general camaraderie, the evening concludes with the prized highlight of the festival: the solemn Tasting of The Kielbasa! An abundance of samples gone wild, this remains a studied, critical evaluation of different pork-like types by the very best judges culled from all your dinner guests willing to evaluate several tasty samplings.

And, if that were not enough, a full dinner is prepared afterward, the centerpiece being a cake in the shape of a lamb. The size and composition varies, depending on the baker. It is an event that goes beyond a mere pre-Easter supper.

But how can you, an ordinary neophyte in the ways of kielbasa, show the very best experiences to every participant during this honored celebration of All Things Kielbasa?

You have already warmed up your audience with the traditional Singing of the Polkas by the host and hostess. Now what do you do?

Here are some helpful tips:

Experts tell us that a few choice suggestions for the novices that are present will greatly help to enhance their experiences while easing expected tensions. Exposure to bold, sometimes-unusual initiations into the Wonderful World of Spiced Sausage may be a bit daunting at the start, but first-timers will soon be having a dobré jedlo with the best of them, if assisted by the welcoming tutorage of you, the host or hostess.

Certain bizarre rituals – felt pen drawings on plates to lamb cakes to washer tray organizers on tables – seem overwhelming at first, but little assurances can prevent most panic attacks.

At the table for the "first eating," your patience and direction is needed the most! So, if many of your guests are kielbasa newbies, you may first want to give a quick tasting lesson:

Demonstrate how to raise your sausage sample to properly assess clarity and color.

Swirl a bit on the plate to show the kielbasa's "legs" – how much the grease

Explain to your guests the need to "play" with their food. Roll the sample gently between the thumb and forefinger. Consider the texture. Listen for the crackle of a crisp skin.

Smell the bouquet. Then, take several small, slow bites to determine the richness factor. Linger before swallowing.

Tell them to freely express their like (or dislike) of the morsel, punctuated with a smile (or frown). Invite guests to describe mouth feel of each delectable bite, and whether they detect woodiness, floral notes, savory aftertaste, etc.

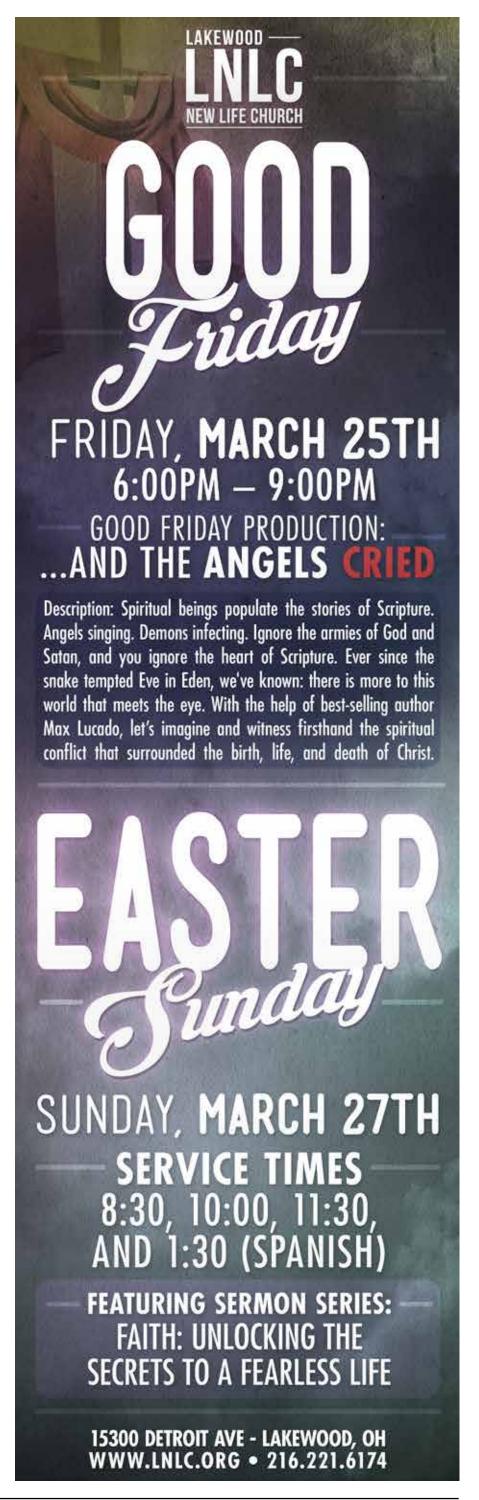
Several times during the dinner caution each participant to "always taste responsibly." Evaluating 15-25 samples is normal, so warn the guests to pace themselves sufficiently or suffer the consequences. Offer a designated driver for after hours.

And, of course, always suggest that they should fill out their scorecards with as much detail as possible. Emphasize intensity, complexity, balance and finish.

Remember, the tasting is merely an introduction to the meal to come – it is exactly the way it has been practiced since the first shepherd said to another, "Here, taste this!"

With a little preparation, you, too can have a well-organized, successful Kielbasafest celebration – one that everyone will be talking about in the days to come. Especially the morning after, waiting by the bathrooms.

Joe Gombarcik is an artist and amateur author who has been involved in local community events for many years. He is a member of Lakewood Neighborhood Block Watch.



PLEASE MAKE AN APPOINTMENT TO SAVE LIVES!! American Blood Drive The need is constant. The gratification is instant. Give blood. Saturday March 26th *NEW TIME 11:00am to 3:00pm 1382 Arthur Avenue (behind Taco Bell) Please contact the Red Cross at 800-733-2767, or schedule online at http://www.redcrossblood.org/make-donation (click Refine Search) Walk-ins are also welcome Lite lunch available for all donors!

BLOOD SHORTAGE - URGENT NEED

Lakewood Cares

Peace, Love & Party Ball 2016

by Cree Criado

On February 7th, Lakewood's very own Rhythm & Grace Ballroom Dance studio, owned by Angel & Cree Criado, held their first ever Peace, Love & Party Ball which was met with an outpouring of support and love.

Over 100 people from all over Northern Ohio packed the Grand Ballroom ready to have fun and show off their dance skills. Some 75 plus dances were executed in front of British and U.S. Champion Kimberley Mitchell, with all dances scoring in the mid and high 90s! After 5 amazing hours of dancing, everyone came together for a nice sit-down dinner and the evening highlights.

First, was a fundraising danceoff to help raise funds for Determined Daddies, a group of fathers who joined forces to raise funds and awareness for children with Type 1 Diabetes. With 30 people entered, \$500 was raised, which Angel & Cree Criado matched, raising a total of \$1,000 for the Determined Daddies. Angel and Cree, along with those associated with Determined Daddies, could not be more thankful to everyone who donated and danced in the Dance Off!

To top off the evening, there was an outstanding professional show danced by Cleveland's own rising stars, Milagros Lareto & Kevin Ubil-



A look onto the dance floor as dancers are getting ready!

lus. They stunned the crowd dancing 3 amazing dances ending the event with their authentic Peruvian Salsa

which brought the crowd to their feet and filled the Grand Ballroom with applause and screams.

The event was an amazing success and Angel & Cree couldn't be happier with the turn out. "We were overwhelmed by the amount of support we received from the community and other Northern Ohio Studios! We couldn't have asked for better people to join us on our first ever event as Rhythm & Grace! Thank you and LOOK OUT, as we plan to make our Peace, Love & Party Ball an annual event!"

To see more about this year's Peace, Love & Party Ball and to stay updated on next year's event, please check out www.facebook.com/peacelovepartyball and www.rhythmandgrace.com.

Angel and Cree Criado are the owners of Rhythm & Grace Ballroom Dance Studio located on Madison Avenue in Uptown Lakewood, Ohio.

Polaris Westshore Career Fair

by Kathy Augustine

Cuyahoga County Job and Family Services and Polaris Career Center will be hosting the 2016 Polaris/Westshore Neighborhood Family Service Center Career Fair, at Polaris Career Center at 7285 Old Oak Blvd in Middleburg Hts, Ohio, 44130, on Wednesday, March 23, 2016, from 9 a.m. to noon.

This free event, designed to foster the development of a competitive and productive workforce, will provide a

vital link between employers, job seekers, community organizations and government agencies. The 2016 Polaris/ Westshore Career Fair will have more than 75 companies and 500 job seekers. In addition, representatives from Polaris, and local community based organizations will be on-hand, providing access to educational resources, job search assistance and much more.

Employers who will be at the Career Fair include the Hilton Hotel (downtown Cleveland) with 300 job openings, Quadax (Middleburg Hts) with 200 job openings and Swagelok with 75 job openings.

The Career Fair is a collaborative effort between Cuyahoga Job and Family Services, Polaris Career Center, Westshore Neighborhood Family Service Center (NFSC), Middleburg Hts Chamber of Commerce, City of Middleburg Hts, City of Berea, Berea City School District, North Olmsted School District, City of Strongsville, Ohio Means Jobs, Pipefitters Local 120, Lakewood Area Collaborative and WIRE-Net.

For information http://www.cjfs. cuyahogacounty.us/. For additional information visit www.polaris.edu.

PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 20 The Very Rev. Tracey Lind, preaching

8 a.m. **Early Eucharist** 9 a.m. **Mostly Jazz Mass** 11:15 a.m. Choral Eucharist

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23

6 p.m. **Tenebrae Service**

Trinity Chamber Singers sing music by Allegri and Poulenc

MAUNDY THURSDAY, MARCH 24

12:10 p.m. Healing & Eucharist Service Last Supper, Potluck, Garden of Repose

GOOD FRIDAY, MARCH 25

Solemn Liturgy 12 p.m.

Good Friday Blues & Lamentations 1 p.m. Music by the Gateway Band

1 p.m. Children's Good Friday Program

(Childcare available 12 – 2 p.m.)

7:30 p.m. Good Friday Concert

Requiem, Op. 48, and Cantique de Jean Racine by Gabriel Fauré

Trinity Cathedral Choir and Trinity Chamber Orchestra Quatre Motets pour un temps de Pénitance

by Francis Poulenc Trinity Chamber Singers, Todd Wilson, conductor

EASTER SUNDAY, MARCH 27

6 a.m. The Great Vigil of Easter **Contemporary Festival Eucharist** 9 a.m.

Music by the Gateway Band

10:10 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt for children grades preK-5 11:15 a.m. Festival Eucharist

The Trinity Cathedral Choir with brass and timpani

The Very Rev. Tracey Lind, preaching at all services.

TRINITY CATHEDRAL

The Cathedral of the Episcopal Diocese of Ohio located in downtown Cleveland



2230 Euclid Avenue • Cleveland, OH 44115 • 216.771.3630 • www.trinitycleveland.org

FREE PARKING AT PROSPECT AND EAST 22ND ST.

Lakewood Area Collaborative Job Club Meeting At Lakewood United Methodist Church

by Kathy Augustine

The Lakewood Area Collaborative is hosting a monthly Job Club at the Lakewood United Methodist Church (LUMC) at 15700 Detroit Ave (new location). The next Job Club meeting will be held on Tuesday March 22nd, from 6-8 p.m. at the Lakewood United Methodist Church. We will have a guest speaker, Barbara Palmer from the Encore Network Program, Division

of Mature Services. The topic will be the Encore Program, which connects individuals (ages 50+) to part-time positions within nonprofit and government agencies. 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 216-221-1723.



Lakewood Cares

Holy Week For The Ordinary Life

by Fr. Sean Templeton

March 15, 2016

Steve Sink, the owner of Belle Barber, was cutting my always-overgrown curly hair. "I think I saw you in your robes the other day with your congregation out in the courtyard of the church." "Was it a wedding?" I asked. "Perhaps," he replied. "Were we walking around with Palms?" I continued to guess. No, that wasn't it. "Was there a lot of smoke? Was I lighting a fire?" He wasn't sure. After some conversation we settled on the idea that it must have been a procession of some sort, the haircut continued, and the conversation moved on.

Being the Vicar and founding priest of Lakewood Anglican has taught me a great many things since our first service in October 2014. Some have been practical, such as how not to catch your robes on fire when surrounded by candles on Christmas Eve. Others have been cultural, like seeing the glowing reactions of children from all religions and backgrounds amazed at seeing the "real Saint Nicholas" at Light Up Lakewood. (No, it's just me - your local Anglican Vicar in a fake beard...but don't tell them.) But most of my learning experiences have just been human interactions in everyday life in our wonderful city. Living life together, in a community of front porches and sidewalks, lends itself to bringing our Lord Jesus into everyday life in an especially human way. After all, that was and is precisely Jesus' mission and method. He brought and continues to bring God's power and love into ordinary life. He did it by bringing normal people - fishermen, tradesmen, a historian, a tax collector, amongst others - into the will of God.

There are many reasons that I love being a Christian and a priest in the Anglican tradition. First and foremost, I cling in certain faith to the truth that, like those ordinary people two thousand years ago, God loves me so much that he came to rescue me. He rescues me from what the Book of Common Prayer terms, "the deceptions of world, the flesh, and the devil," all of those things that tempt me. He saves me from my selfishness and those things that make me ashamed of myself and regretful. When I get stuck in sin and



Holy Week services at Lakewood Anglican.

trapped in the mire of habits of life that are the results of that disobedience, I am not alone. Because of Jesus, I can turn to God the Father and the Holy Spirit for help. It is what Romans 5:1-2 means when it says, "Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand."

God sent his son Jesus to allow me to once again approach God as a son, not a stranger or an enemy. But that relationship is costly. I particularly feel the power of Jesus' extraordinary actions in the midst of ordinary life during Holy Week, when simple things are made holy. At this time the ancient church invades modernity as the time-transcending story of God's love is once again told. But in our tradition it's not just told, but replayed and re-enacted. The special thing about Lakewood Anglican is that we do not just remember by passively witnessing this story, but by participating in it. On Palm Sunday we walk outside waving palm branches and shout "Hosanna" while in the courtyard as we greet Jesus, our God and King. Then, as part of a humanity that wants God on our own terms, we shout out "Crucify Him!" right along with those who stood before governor Pontius Pilate

some two thousand years ago.

During the Tenebrae service on Holy Monday, we see the world plunged into darkness as the story of humanity - and the story of each one of us - is told. Disobedience of God's word and commandments reigns. Repeatedly God warns us to turn from our disobedient ways, and we ignore him. Despite this, he continues on his way to the cross, willing to suffer the consequences for our disobedience and that of the world.

As we continue on to Maundy Thursday, we gather with Jesus in the upper room. As he washed his disciples' feet, he showed them - and us - how the breaking of his body on the cross and the shedding of his blood will make peace between God and mankind. We then leave the church in silence as Jesus goes to pray before his trial and death.

On Good Friday we walk with Jesus through his accusation, trial, suffering, humiliation and death. Classical pieces of music accompany the Stations of the Cross. We are then invited to meditate on the hard wood of the cross, the cross which Jesus used to saved us.

Easter celebration Lakewood Anglican is held on Saturday in the form of the Easter Vigil. The service is dramatic with candles, noise-makers, singing, and even building a fire in the courtyard. It tells the story of a world lost in death awaiting the resurrection of Jesus. His resurrection is represented by the lighting of a large candle from which we light our own candles. From death to life, Holy Week tells my story and the story of all Christians. I hope you will come walk Jesus' steps with us and see to what extent God loves you and wants to walk through ordinary life with you.

Father Sean Templeton is the Vicar of Lakewood Anglican which meets in Gethsemane Lutheran Church (14560 Madison Ave). Holy Week takes place this year from March 20-27. To learn more see their ad in this paper or go to www.lakewoodanglican.com



Holy Week at **Lakewood** ANGLICAN

March 20 - Palm Sunday, 4:00 PM

March 21- Tenebrae, 7:30 PM

March 24 - Maundy Thursday, 7:00 PM

March 25 - Stations of the Cross, 5:00 PM

March 25 - Good Friday, 6:30 PM

March 26 - Easter Vigil, 4:00 PM

Maundy Thursday service held at Bay Middle School - 27725 Wolf Rd, Bay Village All other services held at Gethsemane Lutheran Church - 14560 Madison Ave, Lakewood For more information visit lakewoodanglican.com

Lakewood Is Art

Kids Rock Summer Camp Coming To Lakewood

by Janet Miller

Something brand new is happening this summer! It's called Kids Rock Summer Camp and it's located inside Gethsemane Lutheran Church and Lakewood Lutheran School at 14560 Madison Avenue in Lakewood.

Kids Rock Summer Camp begins the week of June 6th and ends on July 29th. Campers will build solid relationships, learn through interactive projects; like a community garden, enjoy field trips to places such as Sterns Farm, Malley's Candy Factory, NASA Space Center, and Cleveland Museum of Natural History. Parents will have peace of mind knowing that their kids are enjoying summer in a safe and fun environment.

Here's the scoop!!

- Registration began on March 1st.
- For campers ages 6-12.
- A \$25 non-refundable/non trans-

ferable per week registration fee is required.

- Cost is \$130 per camper, per week.
- All snacks, field trips, transportation, pool pass, and activities are included.
 - Campers will bring a packed lunch.
- Experienced, certified, caring and fun staff.

Anyone interested in learning more may contact the Lakewood Lutheran School/Gethsemane Lutheran Church office at 216-521-0434. If you wish to speak to Janet Miller, Director of Kids Rock Summer Camp, call 216-926-6239 or email janet.miller@ameritech.net.

Lakewood Lutheran School is hosting an Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday March 19th from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. Families are welcome to join in the fun as we search for Easter eggs and enjoy snacks. Parents may tour the school and meet our faculty as well. Lakewood Lutheran School has open enrollment now for K-8 for the 2016-2017 school year. Call the school office for more information at 216-221-6941.

Gethsemane Lutheran Church invites you to join us for Holy Week Services; the days and times are as follows:

Palm Sunday

8:30 a.m. Celebration Service 10:30 a.m. Traditional Service

Maundy Thursday

7:30 p.m. Communion Service **Good Friday**

7:30 p.m. Tenebrae Service

Easter Sunday

8:30 a.m. Celebration Service 9:15 a.m. Easter Breakfast 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship

Janet Miller is a retired training coordinator for the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo, an author and the director of Kids Rock Summer Camp.

Conor McPherson's 'Shining City' Makes Regional Premiere At Beck Center

by Pat Miller

Beck Center for the Arts proudly presents the regional premiere of "Shining City" April 1 through May 1, 2016 in the intimate Studio Theater. Showtimes are 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, and 3 p.m. Sundays. Tickets are now on sale. Buy early and save with promo code GHOST to receive \$5 off each adult/senior ticket purchased by March 31, 2016.

Written by the Tony®-nominated and Olivier®-winning playwright Conor McPherson, this haunting play begins when a guilt-ridden man reaches out to his therapist after seeing the ghost of his recently deceased wife. Wrestling with his own demons, the therapist can only do so much to help. Their sessions soon reveal parallel journeys of self-discovery. Praised by The New York Times, "Shining City" is "as close to perfection as contemporary playwriting gets."

Having previously performed at Beck Center, the award winning Bernadette Clemens now returns as director for this psychological thriller. "McPherson is a known playwright, and audiences will walk into the Studio Theater assured of his proven gifts," said Clemens. "What they may not be prepared for, is this gem of a play." The talented cast of four includes Ursula Cataan, Nicholas Chokan, Robert Hawkes, and Adam Heffernan. Cataan and Heffernan appear courtesy of the Actors' Equity Association (AEA). "Three men and one woman manipu-

late our allegiances from one scene to the next," Clemens continued. "Shining City' ultimately leads us to the final moments of the play with a hair-raising, mind-bending twist."

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, March 31 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 "Shining City" is presented through special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc. It is generously sponsored the residents of Cuyahoga County through Cuyahoga Arts and Culture and the Ohio Arts Council.

Curtis Block Receives Historic Designation

continued from page 1

our country, property rights can be the reason for a lively debate.

Preservation and historic designation are not dirty words and should not be viewed as infringements on personal property rights. Unfortunately, there is a lot of confusion and misunderstanding in our community about what our local ordinance does and doesn't do. At the end of the day, to be clear, our local ordinance does not prohibit a property owner from changing their structure or even tearing it down. It does not make anyone do anything to their property. However, most exterior changes do require additional review for appropriateness. Just horrible! To expect current owners to be stewards for future generations! Not to mention, the fact that historic or architectural elements and details are what make properties and our community, so special and VALUABLE. In fact, did you know that Lakewood, as an entire community, is eligible to be a national historic district? Can you imagine the crazy marketing we could do with that?!

The results of preservation are impactful: stable and increased property values, job creation, sense of place to name a few. I have personally been involved with enough projects to know first-hand; there is nothing greener than working with an existing structure. Speaking as one who has met challenges that others thought were crazy, I can say that there is an incredible sense of satisfaction on many levels in saving what was destined for a landfill. While some projects were extreme, even projects

saving little details proved worthwhile.

A sense of where we came from is important to the success of our future. During the proposed demolition of the Detroit Theater for the relocation of McDonald's, I remember a city leader telling me he could care less about the past, his concern was the future. I contend you can't successfully do the future without regard to the past. Owners come and go but structures stand the test of time. We are only stewards for future generations.

I would like to thank everyone who supported the designation of the Curtis Block. I am also grateful to the administration for their commitment to seeing the structure get back to productive use. Designation of the Curtis Block, in addition to the many other worthy Lakewood structures, is long overdue. There are so many properties, and districts, that should be designated; there is much work to be done. The city does not prepare nominations; it is up to individual property owners and volunteers to research and complete the necessary application for designation. Through the Lakewood Historical Society, volunteers have been working to forward preservation efforts in Lakewood. If you are interested in helping or learning more, please email your contact info to museum@lakewoodhistory.org.

Hilary Schickler serves on the Board of Trustees for the Lakewood Historical Society and on the City of Lakewood Heritage Advisory Board. The opinions expressed in this article are those of the author and not necessarily any group she is associated with.

The Lakewood Observer Digital Subscription Pilot

The Lakewood Observer is committed to the continuation of the print edition available around town, the PDF edition online and respecting your inbox. But now in our 11th year, with digital lives taking over, it is time to revisit electronic distribution with our readers.

Throughout 2016 we will be conducting a digital subscription pilot. If you would like to receive a message and link to the online edition via email on publication dates throughout the year, please send a request to thelakewoodobserver.digital@gmail.com so as not to miss the hyper local news, events and opinions that impact you most.

Otherwise you can continue to pick up the print edition around town or visit http://lakewoodobserver.com/download-issues/ of your own initiative to access issues in PDF.

Regardless of your preference, there is no cost to our readers. We simply ask that you consider our advertisers for your needs.



HOME ALONE

PET SITTING, INC.

While You Are Away
Experienced

Veterinarian Technician

Bonded & Insured 216-548-1543 d.hokin@sbcglobal.net homealonepetsittinginc.com

Lakewood Is Art

Beck Center Dance Education Presents

Native American Legend 'Princess Scargo'

by Pat Miller

March 15, 2016

Beck Center Dance Workshop and Dance Education proudly present the legendary "Princess Scargo" with excerpts from "Swan Lake," April 16 – 17, 2016. Show times are 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Saturday, April 16, and 3 p.m. on Sunday, April 17. Performances will be held in the Mackey Theater. Tickets are on sale now.

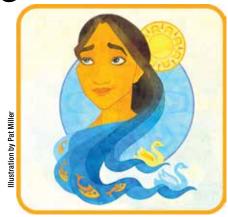
"Princess Scargo" is the touching story of young Native American girl who gives up a precious birthday gift in order to save her village. Based on a popular Native American legend, this enchanting adaptation embodies the true spirit of selflessness. Original choreography by Associate Director of Dance Education Melanie Szucs will be performed by 80 Beck Center students along with excerpts from the classic ballet "Swan Lake."

A sensory-friendly performance of "Princess Scargo" will be staged for audience members with special needs on Friday, April 15. "Our sensory-friendly performances are welcoming and impactful for those on the autism spectrum or with developmental disabilities," said Beck Center's Director of Education, Ed Gallagher. "This performance will be an inclusive and safe environment for those with special needs,

and is a meaningful way to open yet another door to arts participation for many in our community." For additional information about this special production, please contact Ed Gallagher, Director of Education, at 216.521.2540 x12.

Tickets are \$12 for adults/seniors and \$10 for students/children 18 and under. Ticket prices include service fees. For tickets, visit beckcenter.org or call Beck Center Customer Service at 216.521.2540 x10. Beck Center is located at 17801 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood, just ten minutes west of downtown Cleveland. Free onsite parking is available.

Beck Center's production of "Princess Scargo" is made possible through the generous support of the Ohio Arts Council and the generous funding provided by the citizens of Cuyahoga County through Cuyahoga Arts and Culture.



Vosh To Host Flock Community Meal Fundraiser

continued from page 1

event

Featured entertainment will be provided by Cleveland tribute band The Rat Pack. Additional activities will include sideboards, a Chinese raffle and a silent auction. Food and drink can be purchased from Vosh's menu, separate from admission. Vosh will donate 15% of all event food sales back to the Flock Community Meals. Funds raised will benefit the meals at both locations, St. Luke and St. James.

History of the Flock Community Meal

The Flock Community Meal began at St. James parish in 1999. When St. James was closed by the diocese in 2010, organizers worked with St. Luke pastor Father Francis Walsh and parish leadership to move the meal to the new location that very same month. Serving an average of 120 meals each month, the meal at St. Luke continued to serve guests until joined by a second community meal when St. James re-opened and reinstated its meal, doubling service to the community.

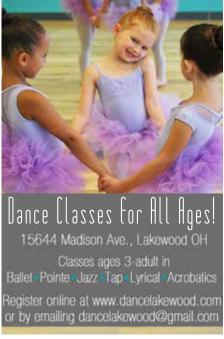
Thanks to strong partnerships and local support, in the past five years, the meals' organizers have secured and distributed donations of items including wool socks, blankets, coats, toiletries and periodic take home meals. Guests enjoy musical entertainment each month by guitarist/vocalist Jack Mizenko, and regular performances from student musical groups from many area

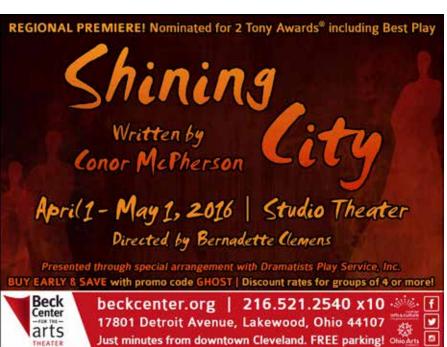
schools. The meals are staffed by a large volunteer group, including multiple area Catholic parishes, the St. Edward Hockey Team and Boy Scout Troop 287.

The St. James community meal is served on the second Wednesday of each month. The St. Luke meal is scheduled on the third Wednesday of each month. A free community meal can be found in Lakewood on nearly every day of the month, hosted by churches of several different faiths.

Gretchen Bulan has been a Lakewood resident for 12 years and works as a freelance communications consultant. Also a personal trainer and lifestyle coach, she divides her time between both types of work that she enjoys.





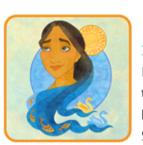


Arts in Bloom



Visual Arts Session 2 Beginning throughout the week of April 4

There's still time to discover your inner artist this spring! Classes are offered for all ages and abilities on different days and times of the week to accommodate your schedule. Full catalog at **beckcenter.org**.



Princess Scargo

3 p.m. & 7 p.m. April 16 | 3 p.m. April 17 Beck Center Dance Workshop & Education present this original ballet based on the Native American legend with excerpts from the classic *Swan Lake*. \$10 Students (18-Under) | \$12 Adults/Seniors.



Summer Camps

Varying start dates in June, July & August Create, explore, and enjoy a variety of half-day and full-day camps in dance, music, theater, and visual arts for ages 5 - 19 of all abilities. Popular camps fill-up quickly...enroll today!











beckcenter.org 216.521.2540 x10 17801 Detroit Ave. in Lakewood

Business News

Driving With That Pet On Your Lap? Don't Do It!

by Mary Bodnar

Driving around Lakewood all the time, I see a lot of pets on drivers' laps. We at Gordon Tower Insurance want you to be safe and want to help you avoid accidents while driving keep Fido off your lap! We love our pets too, but you need to be concentrating on driving around our busy vibrant community, not distracted by your beloved pet. Also, on long road trips, learn to pull over when you need to. Do not drive tired. It's just not worth it. Get plenty of sleep before you drive.

Do not drive impaired. Even many prescription drugs can negatively affect your driving ability. Don't drink alcohol, take drugs, or drive when you're sick. Your judgment is not as good when you have a cold or bacterial infection

Pay maximum attention while driving. You are much more likely to make a grave error when distracted. Not only is texting illegal, but receiving a text prompt can be disturbing. Turn off your cell phone, and ladies, put your makeup on at home please! Make sure your makeup is okay before you leave so you're not checking the mirror repeatedly. Read your newspaper with your cup of coffee before you leave, set your radio dial before you pull out of the driveway. You really need two hands to steer so don't let go of the steering wheel to eat, drink, or do other things that you shouldn't be doing while driving.

Make sure if your vehicle is overloaded for a road trip that you have plenty of elbow and head room to drive. Also, don't be tempted to stick extra items down by the driver's side floor. You need substantial room around you while maneuvering your car.

Make sure you stay visually alert to everything around you, not just what's ahead. Keep your eyes moving. Don't just fix your gaze straight ahead and get visually lazy - check your mirrors often and look out your side windows occasionally. You need to maintain an

awareness of everything that's developing outside your car.

Use your turn signal any time you are switching lanes, exiting the highway or turning. If other drivers understand what you're doing, they're less likely to get in your way. Many accidents could have been avoided if drivers made using their turn signals a habit!

Make sure you are well-acquainted with your car. Know your vehicle intimately. How far is the front bumper from that car in front of you when you are parallel parking? How far out do your rear view mirrors extend? Do your tires have the proper air pressure? Make sure the car is serviced properly. Keep up with regular maintenance on your vehicle. Check tires, engine light, oil pressure, temperature etc.

Let people who want to drive faster pass you. Don't worry about speeding up to accommodate them. Who cares if they beat you to your destination? At least you will arrive in one piece! So what if you have to wait an extra light to get through the intersection. If someone blows their horn why not just let them pass? Be polite – let pedestrians have the right of way. Let other drivers merge in when waiting in a long queue. You are a better person for it. In other words, relax. It doesn't pay to be angry. You will be more relaxed when you reach your destination and will have avoided an accident!

Lakewood resident, Mary Bodnar, is Marketing Manager for Gordon Tower Insurance as well as a professional freelance writer who has been published in a wide range of newspapers and magazines — Great Lakes Mariner Magazine, Your Boat Connection, Cleveland/Akron Family Magazine, Lake Erie Living Magazine, CBC (Cleveland Business Connect) Magazine, Cleveland Jewish News and many other newsletters and publications over the years.



Pictured above: Mo is now almost 14 years old - a youngster by turtle standards. Bet you were expecting a picture of a dog?

The Reserves Network's Lakewood Office Accepting Harvest For Hunger Donations!

by Megan Scheer

The Reserves Network, a regional staffing service for the office, industrial, professional and technical markets, will be collecting donations for the 2016 Harvest for Hunger campaign at its Lakewood branch from March 11-April 11.

Harvest for Hunger is one of the largest food and funds drives in the country. Suggested food donation items include: canned soup and vegetables, peanut butter, tuna fish, and cereal; suggested household product donations include: laundry detergent, shampoo, soap, toilet paper, tooth brushes and toothpaste.

Items can be dropped off daily from 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. throughout the month at The Reserves Network's Lakewood branch, located at: 13609 Detroit Ave, Lakewood.

"The Reserves Network is proud to be a part of this year's Harvest for Hunger campaign," says Kim Hancock, Branch Manager for The Reserves Network. "This is an extremely important cause that in some way touches each of us within our community. In addition to the donations we will be making as a company, our hope is that our office location will provide a convenient drop-off point for anyone looking to make contributions."

Harvest for Hunger provides critical resources to local hunger relief organizations in twenty-one counties in Northeast and North Central Ohio. Last year, businesses, supermarkets, schools and individuals across the region came together and contributed enough resources to provide over 15 million meals.

Each of The Reserves Network's eight Northeast Ohio office locations will be serving as donation dropoff centers throughout the month, including the company's Corporate Headquarters in Fairview Park. For additional information, you can contact The Reserves Network's Lakewood office at 216.227.3600 or lakewood@TRNstaffing.com.

About The Reserves Network

The Reserves Network is a regional staffing service for the office, industrial, professional and technical markets. Founded in 1984 and headquartered in Fairview Park, Ohio, the provider of 'Total Staffing Solutions' has won multiple honors for outstanding sales growth and management excellence. System-wide, the company expects to place nearly 25,000 employees annually at its more than 30 office locations in Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana, Illinois, Pennsylvania, North Carolina, Georgia, Florida and Wisconsin. This includes temporary, temporary-to-hire and direct-hire placements. For more information on The Reserves Network visit www.TRNstaffing.com.

THE DESK SET

Fine Stationery • Gifts • Greeting Cards

19920 Detroit Road, Rocky River | 440.333.0457 www.thedesksetrockyriver.com

NOW HIRING!

Independence & STORYPOINT Village of AVON LAKE

345 Lear Rd., Avon Lake, OH 44012

Looking for dedicated

Entry Level Nursing Assistants & Caregivers

Candidates please e-mail resume to jobs@seniorvillages.com or call (248) 769-6974.

Tri-C Program Examines Ways To Build Wealth

by Kristin Broka

The Westshore Campus of Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C®) will examine investment strategies as part of its free "Learning for Life" lecture series at 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 23.

The program — "How to Invest Wisely" — features Paul Fleming, director of research and investment solutions with Mirador Family Wealth Advisors. He will discuss how to build an investment strategy, multiply your wealth and take safer financial risks.

The lecture is free and open to the public, with no reservation required. The event will take place in the Westshore Campus Atrium, 31001 Clemens Road in Westlake.

The program is part of a wideranging education series taking place this year at Westshore Campus and Corporate College® West. The series includes brown bag lunch discussions and interactive evening lectures.

For a full schedule of events, visit www.tri-c.edu/LearningforLife

Forum

Bad Government: Startling Lack Of Public Records Exposes Cover-Up Of Sham Bid Process

by Brian Essi

Regardless of where you stand on the hospital issue, it is hard not to argue that the whole hospital debacle represents bad government.

It has been established that Lakewood Hospital was an asset owned by the city that had an estimated fair market value of \$120M (FMV). It is a given that you cannot obtain FMV if you don't test the market. Our city government failed to test the market.

On December 10, 2015, the terms of the Master Agreement were announced. Per that agreement, the city would receive money and property estimated to be only \$20M. \$5.7M of that amount is the estimated value of the empty gutted hospital building and land the city gets in the deal which is subject to a restrictive non compete covenant and parking lot rights in favor of CCF. So the \$5.7M estimate is likely too high and the city will likely get much less than the estimated \$20M.

The Master agreement gave the Cleveland Clinic (CCF) \$70M of the Hospital's value as a "dissolution distribution" (cash, accounts receivable, bed licenses, equipment, fixtures, a non-compete covenant, discounted prices of buildings and land, and the balance of the \$50M investment portfolio, etc.) in exchange for the "risk" that CCF might have to pay some "wind down" expenses.

On December 13, 2015, Sum-

mers told the Plain Dealer that "\$12 million of the hospital's \$78 million in wind down costs would be borne by the Clinic." That same day, I made several records requests seeking records of any estimated wind down costs.

The Master Agreement was passed on December 21, 2015, but there was no public discussion at all concerning the estimated wind down costs.

On January 4, 2016, I spoke at the City Council meeting and asked for information on the wind down costs. City Hall remained silent.

On February 3, 2016, the city responded to my records requests made back on December 13, 2015 by stating, "The city bears no written record of the Cleveland Clinic's or LHA's wind-down costs, although much information was exchanged during the parties' negotiation of the master agreement."

On February 4, 2016, CCF closed the hospital cutting their costs and losses to nearly nothing. The Master Agreement reflected that the hospital was losing less than \$500K per month in 2015 so it's hard to imagine they lost \$1M in closing it in less than 2 months.

On March 7, 2016, I spoke again at the City Council meeting asking for details concerning the wind down costs. City Hall remained silent again.

So our city official gave \$70M of value to CCF based upon a "information exchanged" in conversations

behind closed doors concerning \$78M in undocumented estimated expenses and they won't tell us what those expenses are.

What could be worse government than that?

At a special council meeting on February 11, 2016, Law Director Kevin Butler announced his legal argument that the Master Agreement had been structured in such a way that the anticipated voter referendum to challenge it could not stop the agreement from proceeding even if it passes. He went on to say it was the city's legal position that the city would ignore the will of the people if the referendum passes.

What could be worse government than that?

Back in 2012-2013, Mayor Summers, Council President Madigan and Councilman Bullock were our representatives and trustees on LHA. They were among 19 individuals interviewed by the healthcare consultant to develop a "framework for evaluation of options"-10 of the other 16 were CCF executives, CCF doctors and/or trustees on CCF's board. Even before the consultant had made its recommendations on the "options," a CCF/Summers proposal for an outpatient family health center (FHC), demolishing the Hospital, creating a new foundation, and converting land for other economic development was already drafted. The early plans also

included a recreation wellness center---a goal of Summers. Not surprisingly the number one option developed was precisely what ended up in the Master Agreement.

In late 2013-2014 Summers formed and led the "Step 2 Committee" to whitewash the CCF/Summers proposal. Step 2 consisted of 5 LHA trustees chosen by Summers that included Summers, two trustees from CCF's board, and a conflicted physician who had lucrative business with CCF. Why did Summers choose three men aligned with CCF to evaluate bids on CCF competitors' proposals? Under Step 2's direction, the consultant issued a blind "Preliminary Memorandum" to only 10 parties in which it represented that the city "was only interested in proposals to operate the Hospital as an inpatient facility with substantially similar services as those offered today and for a period of no less than twenty (20) years." Why were only ten other parties contacted?

CCF was the only "bidder" that was allowed to "bid" on an FHC and "bid" on hospital assets to liquidate the hospital. Why weren't other parties allowed to bid on the number one option proposed by the consultant? It is clear that the CCF was not in the "bid" process at all, because Summers and his colleagues collaborated with CCF in formulating the "winning" proposal.

At a special council meeting on February 11, 2016, Mr. Butler, stated "I don't think we can ignore the fact that [City Hall] relied on the expertise of those who had spent so many years in the room trying to figure this out." Mr. Butler added that public bidding mechanisms can be done in many ways, "many of which resemble the process that LHA went through." Its hard to image a legal public bidding process that resembles what our elected officials led and participated in at LHA.

Throughout 2015 and into 2016, various elected officials made gestures that if other bidders would come forward, they would be considered. The fallacy of these empty gestures were exposed by Councilman David Anderson's comments on December 21, 2015: "LHA had no interest in reopening the process for a new [bid process] nor in allowing City Council to wrestle the process away from LHA." Since Summers, Madigan, and Bullock were a major part of LHA, it is clear that they prevented an open, honest and fair process to market the hospital and its assets.

Since all of our elected officials who were involved in supporting the Master Agreement now remain silent on key information concerning the basis for transferring \$70M of value to CCF, it would seem that all now embrace the sham process and all are now involved in a cover-up.

Now that's really bad government.

Reasons For Starting Over

by Gerald Phillips

Addressing Lakewood City Council last Monday evening, attorney Gerald Phillips lent his support to repealing ordinance 49-15, which closed Lakewood Hospital, and "starting all over." Mr. Phillips roundly criticized the ordinance, which will go before Lakewood voters in November.

The following are examples of malfeasance, misfeasance and non-feasance of the City Council and the Mayor of Lakewood:

I. The complete failure to provide for the waiver of facility fees for Lakewood residents who are unable to pay for them;

II. The complete failure to provide for a guarantee amount of charity care for Lakewood residents; in the past as much as \$7 million was provided through Lakewood Hospital; none is guaranteed by the Master Agreement;

III. The complete failure to enforce the breach of the lease agreement by the Lakewood Hospital Association and the breach of the Definitive Agreement by the Cleveland Clinic; no consideration at all was received in light of their material breaches as part of their fraudulent plan to close Lakewood Hospital;

IV: The inclusion of a completely illegal and unlawful restrictive covenant prohibiting competition for vital inpatient and hospital services on the land

belonging to the City of Lakewood, such restrictive covenant violates the anti-trust laws and the state anti-monopoly laws;

V: The complete failure to comply with the mandatory bidding procedures for the real estate, personal property, and intangible assets of Lakewood Hospital;

VI: The use of the Lakewood Hospital Foundation investments funds of \$50 million to bootstrap the construction of the Cleveland Clinic wellness center of approximately \$34 million dollars; in essence the Cleveland Clinic is using the Lakewood Hospital Foundation investment funds to finance their construction;

VII: Pursuant to Section 2.1 of the [1996] Definitive Agreement the complete release of the Cleveland Clinic obligation to fund any and all cash flows deficits for the remaining years of the lease, a potential \$30-50 million estimate based upon the outrageous projections of the Lakewood Hospital Association and the Cleveland Clinic;

VIII: Pursuant to Section 2.1 of the Definitive Agreement the complete release of the Cleveland Clinic obligation to make capital expenditures of \$5 million per year on a 10 year rolling average, and \$3 million per year on three year rolling average; the Cleveland Clinic has not made any capital expenditures for the last four to five years; it is estimated that the Cleveland Clinic was let off and released of obligations under this capital expenditure provision of between \$30-50 million;

IX: An illegal joint venture and loaning of credit between the City of Lakewood and a private entity in violation of Article VIII, Section 4 of the Ohio Constitution;

X: The transfer of any and all tangible personal property of the City of Lakewood and the Lakewood Hospital Association for nominal consideration, no competitive bidding, transfer not at fair market value; \$20-30 million gift;

XI: A meaningless Option to Repurchase the Cleveland Clinic Wellness Center at fair market value, meaning that the Cleveland Clinic get full value for the Cleveland Clinic Wellness Center, and the City of Lakewood gets no benefits;

XII: The Cleveland Clinic has made absolutely no guarantee commitment to construct the Wellness Center or to keep it open for any guaranteed period of time; it is an illusory promise and commitment; a guaranteed period should have been negotiated and a firm absolute commitment to construct should have been negotiated;

XIII: The Master Agreement is nothing but a money grab.

Lakewood Living

Cleveland West Road Runners

Second Annual Spring In The Park Race

by Mark Brinich

Cleveland West Road Runners Club, one of Cleveland's oldest running clubs, is sponsoring its 2nd annual running of the "Spring in the Park Women's-only 10K" on Sunday April 3rd at 8:30 a.m. starting at South Mastick Picnic Area in Cleveland Metropark, Fairview Park. The course is the same as last year, and is a fast one on the Metroparks main road.

Race director Joanna Brell is excited about this year's race: "the CWRRC Spring in the Park Women's 10K is a little earlier than our inaugural race last year, but spring appears to be well on it's way." CWRRC has been sponsoring races for nearly 40 years; however, Joanna notes, "The 10K distance is unique for this area and there even fewer races for women only. Allowing women to run with their peers is makes this race enjoyable for the competative runner as well as those who are new to the distance." The new Spring in the Park 10K creates a middle-distance race for women who love to run in the MetroParks, and celebrates women runners of all ages and speeds. "A run in the park with girlfriends is one of the best ways to welcome spring," adds Joanna.

In addition to the race, there

will be a happy hour at Second Sole (19341 Detroit Ave., Rocky River, OH 44116) on Friday April 1st from 5:30-8 p.m. featuring wine and finger foods. Entrants will also get a 20% discount on shoes and apparel at Second Sole, and a chance to meet up with fellow runners to share their running stories and get advice from area runners.

The race is chip timed for accu-

rate and timely results, and there will be refreshments at the end of the race. Awards include handmade necklaces for first place overall, master, and grand master winners. Additionally, there will be bracelets for the first four finishers in each age group. Gifts from local businesses will be raffled by bib number after the awards ceremony.

Cost of the race is \$35 through thru 3/17, \$40 3/18 to race day, and \$45 on day of race. The first 300 registrants will get arm sleeves. As is tradition for all CWRRC races, entrants 14 and under are free, but receive no swag.

More information, on-line registration, course map, and a PDF file for mail in registration are available at: www.clewestrunningclub.org.

Join Us On Race Day!

by Kayla Henderson

On Sunday, May 15th, 2016 the Rite Aid Cleveland Marathon will be coming through Lakewood! Our mission is to provide a running experience for all individuals who want to participate, regardless of their abilities and we are so happy our runners get to experience running through your city! We are excited for another great event and are happy to be running through your neighborhood.

If you are looking to register to run or volunteer, please visit our website or call our offices. We can never have enough volunteers and our race cannot happen without the help of volunteers. You can help out with your group or as an individual at a water stop, our Health & Fitness Expo, the start and finish line, have a cheer group and



much more!

If you are interested in running one of our events, we have several to choose from. On Saturday, May 14th we have our 5K, 8K and Kid's Run at Edgewater Park and then on Sunday, May 15th we have the 10K, half marathon and full marathon. We also have a new Challenge Series this year where you can run one event on Saturday

and one event on Sunday and get extra swag, medals and shirts when doing so!

Please contact us at (216) 464-5510 or at info@clevelandmarathon.com. Happy Running!

AARP Free Tax Aide Help

by Joan Miller

AARP Tax-Aide brings you free electronic filing of your tax returns.

The IRS-certified volunteers are ready to help income taxpayers of all ages. You do not need to be an AARP member to receive this service.

A photo ID & Social Security # are required at time of visit. Please bring last year's tax return if possible.

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

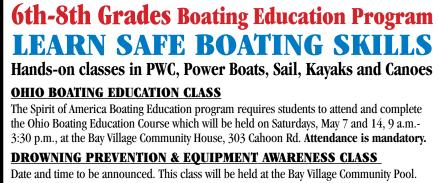
No appointment necessary. Walkins welcome.











Students will learn to properly fit and use personal flotation devices (PFD), upright and

overturn sailboat, and learn other water safety skills.

ON-THE-WATER CLASSES The on-the-water classes will be held on Mondays, June 13, 20 and 27, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m., at Whiskey Island Marina near Edgewater Park.

Cost for entire program is \$20.

Application available at bayvillageschools.com, Bay Library, Bay Rec Dept., or email cuyahoga@spiritofamerica95.org. Deadline April 22.

Resources Division of Watercrap

funded by the Safe Boating

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

Lakewood Living

Knowing Your Home:

Planning & Prioritizing Your Repairs Recap

by Allison Urbanek

The LakewoodAlive Housing Outreach Program is a one-stop for your housing repair needs. Lakewood's homes are beautiful and they are old. Doing basic home maintenance can help homeowners avoid costly repairs down the road.

Knowing Your Home-Workshop #1 February 25, 2016

By: Allison Urbanek -aurbanek@ lakewoodalive.com

On February 25, LakewoodAlive hosted our first "Knowing Your Home" workshop of the season at Buckeye Beer Engine on Madison Avenue. Each year we kick the season off with a workshop that provides an overview of our housing stock and highlights the major systems of our homes. This year we partnered with

Aaron Westerburg of Inspection Tech. Aaron has been in the home inspection business for over 10 years. He has a wealth of knowledge about the main systems of the house and did an awesome job explaining and highlighting them. He also included home repair information for people who are looking to buy or sell a home, providing examples of the do's and don'ts of repairs to explain where you get the most bang for your buck!

Here are a few of tips that he shared with the group:

There are 12 major systems of a

- Exterior

- Attic Spaces

- Roofing
- Garage

Lakewood Soccer Association:

Spring Saturday Soccer Kick-Off Camp

by John Hueter

On March 19th at the Rocky River Force indoor facility, Lakewood Soccer Association Spring Saturday Soccer Kick-Off will be held. The Force Rocky River facility is located on 21220 Center Ridge Road, in Rocky River.

The camp is open to all players from the age groups of U05 to U08. The schedule of the camp as a follows:

U05-U06: 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. U07-U08: 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Girls and boys will be trained separately. Please wear cleats/shin guards and bring a water bottle & soccer ball. The cost of the camp is \$5.00.

Training the girl campers will be Ryko Marich. Coach Marich holds a USSF C License and a USSF National Youth License, played collegiate soccer at the University of Akron from 1990 to 1994, where he was an All Mid-American Conference selection. He was drafted by the Canton Invaders of the National Professional Soccer League and played there in 1994 and 1995.

In 2011, Coach Marich was named assistant coach of the Case Western Reserve University men's soccer team. Coach Marich was instrumental in helping the team post a 15-5 record that season, including advancing to the second round of the NCAA Division III tournament. He received honors that season as part of the University Athletic Association Conference Coaching Staff of the Year.

Coach Marich has been involved in several youth soccer programs in Northeast Ohio including Brecksville, BSA Academy, Shaker Travel Association, and PFC. Currently, Coach Marich is the Director of Coaching of the Lakewood Soccer Association Girls Travel Program. Coach Marich and his wife Sandy live in Lakewood and has two daughters playing in the Travel program.

The boys will be trained by Coach

Andrew Toth and Coach Attila Nagy.

Coach Toth has been the varsity boys' head soccer coach since 2005 at Lakewood High School, his alma mater. He played at Lakewood from 1982 to 1984 and served as captain of the team in 1983 and captain and MVP

At New Hampshire College, Toth captained the men's soccer team in 1988. He also earned honors as a National Soccer Coaches Association of America All-New England player in 1987 and 1988, a New England Collegiate Conference All-Conference Player in 1987 and 1988, and an NCAA Division II tournament player in 1986, 1987, and 1988

Toth holds numerous coaching licenses and certifications, including: NSCAA Advanced National Diploma; NSCAA National Diploma; NSCAA National Youth License; USSF National D License; USSF National F License; NFHS First Aid Certificate; NFHS Fundamentals in Coaching; Concussion in Sports Certificate; and AED/CPR Certificate.

Coach Toth lives in Lakewood and has been actively involved with Lakewood Soccer Association for many years as the LSA Boys Technical Director. He currently runs the Off-Season Travel Training and Travel Footskills.

Coach Nagy is the Director of Coaching of the LSA Boys Travel Program and the Lakewood High School Junior Varsity Coach. Coach Nagy has his USSF National D License and has been a coach at LSA for over 10 years as a Saturday Soccer and Travel coach. Coach Nagy lives in Lakewood with his wife Mary Lou. Their son Attila and daughter Olivia play on the Lakewood High School soccer teams, and their son Zoltan plays for LSA Travel. Coach Nagy played for the Cleveland Magyars in the Lake Erie League.

For more information, please visit www.lakewood-soccer.com.

- Interior Rooms
- Bathrooms
- Kitchen
- Appliances
- Foundation and Structure
- Electrical System and Panel
- Plumbing System & Water Heater
- HVAC System

When considering a roof replacement, you need to take your materials into consideration-- i.e. if you have a slate roof has it been maintained well? Perhaps with a proper maintenance plan it can be affordably maintained or if it hasn't been maintained, is the cost to repair it going to be a realistic repair?

Attic Spaces-- If you are considering a new roof, make sure to research ventilation options and what will work best for your home-- Box vents, ridge vents and do you have proper soffit ventilation?

Bathrooms-- Do you have proper ventilation? Do you have a fan to take out the heat and moisture? Does the vent go outside or does it vent into your attic space causing mold and mildew?

Structural Issues-- Do you have cracks in your foundation? Are they vertical or horizontal? Horizontal cracks are concerning, call a professional to come and have a look at them. Vertical cracks may just be the house settling. Keep an eye on them and notice what is happening around them-- Is there water after a big rain? Are you seeing efflorecence or other bubbling, peeling or buckling?

These are just a few tips and thoughts for consideration. You can view the entire presentation at our website http:// www.lakewoodalive.com/housing-outreach/repair-tips/ or call our office and we would happy to mail a copy to you.

A huge thank-you to Buckeye Beer Engine, Inspection Tech and our generous sponsors Citizens Bank, the City of Lakewood, Cleveland Lumber, First Federal Lakewood, Remax Beyond 2000 and Third Federal Savings & Loan for their support.

Our upcoming workshops are:

March 19-- Kitchen Remodeling at Cleveland Lumber 10am-12pm

April 7-- Masonry Basics at 1st Choice Roofing 7-9pm

April 21-- Home Maintenance for the 21st Century at University of Akron Lakewood

Visit our website www.lakewoodalive.com for our full schedule.

Allison Urbanek is the Housing Outreach Director for LakewoodAlive. Allison is a housing advocate and enjoys working with homeowners to help make homeownership easier. She and her husband Dave live in Lakewood and love being a part of the Lakewood community.







The Back Page

